U.S. citizens were held in Pakistan, says administration

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Body

The Bush <u>administration</u> disclosed Tuesday that two <u>U.S. citizens</u> of Afghan origin were detained in <u>Pakistan</u> last month for immigration violations along the Afghan border, and that one was deported to the United States last weekend.

But officials <u>said</u> that neither man had any suspected link to al-Qaida or terrorism and that the man deported to the United States was not under arrest or any form of detention here.

The announcement came Tuesday after senior <u>administration</u> officials, responding to reports from Pakistani authorities, repeatedly insisted that they had no information about any detained Americans. Compiled from Times Wires

Officials here explained that apparent contradiction by <u>saying</u> that the Pakistani authorities' earlier reports had suggested detainees with links to al-Qaida, a profile that did not fit these cases.

Compromise would let

250 pilots carry guns

WASHINGTON - Key Democratic and Republican lawmakers in the House Tuesday agreed to a proposal that would allow 250 airline pilots to carry guns during a two-year experimental program.

The plan, which is scheduled for a vote today by the House aviation subcommittee, is a compromise that was reached to address concerns by some members of Congress that arming pilots might inadvertently endanger passengers or other crew members.

Since the Sept. 11 hijackings, pilots have lobbied aggressively for the right to have guns in the cockpit.

Travelers soon will have to

open checked bags

WASHINGTON - Millions of airline passengers will soon be asked to open their checked bags for explosives inspection, federal officials <u>said</u> Tuesday as they outlined new details of plans to complete the government'<u>s</u> planned takeover of airport security by year's end.

The added inconvenience to travelers, experts <u>said</u>, will be the price of trying to meet a Dec. 31 congressional deadline for screening all checked bags with explosives detection equipment.

The security checks should take no more than two to 2 1/2 minutes, officials promised, citing results from a pilot program at the Norfolk, Va., airport.

The luggage policy will be phased in as uniformed federal passenger and baggage screeners begin staffing airport checkpoints in force later this summer, transportation officials *said*.

Also . . .

MOUSSAOUI SHOWS DISDAIN: Zacarias Moussaoui, accused of conspiracy in the Sept. 11 attacks, <u>says</u> his judge is mentally ill, his former lawyers are bloodsuckers and Jews are his enemies.

He also <u>says</u> he wants his trial moved from Northern Virginia, near the Pentagon, to Colorado, where there are fewer government workers.

LIMITS ON INSURERS' LIABILITY: With the White House prodding reluctant Republicans, the Senate on Tuesday passed legislation that would bail out insurance companies with taxpayers' money in the event of a devastating terrorist attack.

The insurance industry sought the protection after the Sept. 11 hijackings, **saying** that commercial property and casualty insurance companies would stop issuing terrorism coverage without it.

The Senate vote was 84-14, but it'<u>s</u> uncertain the legislation will ever reach President Bush'<u>s</u> desk. The Senate measure differs sharply from the House of Representatives' version, mainly on the controversial issue of restrictions on lawsuits stemming from terrorism attacks.

Florida Sens. Bob Graham and Bill Nelson, both Democrats, voted for the bill.

VATICAN DONATION: Following Pope John Paul II's wishes, a Vatican charity has donated \$50,000 to a New York hospital that cared for victims of the Sept. 11 terror strikes. L'Osservatore Romano, the Vatican newspaper, reported Tuesday that St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Center in Manhattan was the recipient of the funds from the Vatican's charity arm.

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<u>ADMINISTRATION</u> (78%); INSURANCE REGULATION & POLICY (78%); WAR RISKS & TERRORISM INSURANCE (77%); REAL ESTATE (74%); AIRLINE EMPLOYEES (73%); INSURANCE COVERAGE (66%); EXPLOSIVES (64%); COMMERCIAL LINES INSURANCE (63%); COMMERCIAL PROPERTY INSURANCE (60%)

Person: GEORGE W BUSH (58%)

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