

Foes Mount Attack

The Making of a Park — Nevada Style

By MAURA DOLAN, Times Staff Writer

BAKER, Nev. — A light mist curls around the crags and cliffs of the south Snake Mountains, bathing one ridge after another in whiteness before drifting on. The aspen form redcedar rivers of yellow, lime green and red through the pine-covered canyons. Below, a landscape of low, wide mounds fans gently to an open desert floor of sage and cactus.

The setting would seem to be the stuff that national parks are made of: diverse and untrammeled scenery, fresh air and miles of hiking trails. But one man's splendor is another man's curse. As the history of this lonely stretch of mountains on the Utah border proves, the making of a national park is a lot more than a beauty contest.

Gearing Up for Battle

For the fourth time in this century, Congress is on the brink of declaring this rugged corner of Nevada the Great Basin National Park. And the effort has rekindled a battle whose intensity rivals the recently successful fight to keep an MX missile launching system out of here.

"I sometimes think our people are in the same position that Afghanists people were in when the Russians rolled through," said George Swallow, 78, who has a mining claim on some of the land under consideration for the park and staunchly opposes its creation.

Resistance is ingrained because the park appears to threaten the ways of life for some who live here. Men who have hunted, trapped, ridden horses, run cattle, parked their trailers where they chose for years upon years cannot abide the thought of federal uniforms, federal fences, federal rules.

Economic, Political Roles

Economics and politics have traditionally stilled attempts to add some spectacular sites to today's select list of 48 national parks, just as they have elevated some less-deserving sites to that special status.

Beyond beauty, a park must represent a "true, accurate, essentially unspoiled example of natural history," according to National Park Service policy. In addition to those natural attractions, most successful candidates for national park status have also had the support of state and local officials, plus the endorsement of a unified congressional delegation.

Cost is crucial, too, so land not already owned by the federal government is generally off-limits. Historically, some parks have made the list primarily because they had an influential owner willing to donate them. Areas often have

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United Way Officials Cleared in Investigation

The second of two investigations into financial dealings of Los Angeles United Way cleared officials of any legal wrongdoing in lending money to the charity's executives. (Part II, Page 1.)

Credited With Major Archeological Find

Incas: UCLA Student May Have Opened a New Door

By LEE DYDE, Times Staff Writer

A UCLA graduate student who carried a class project to extremes is being credited with an archeological discovery in Peru that could prove of major importance in understanding the perplexing history of the Incas.

Although an official announcement from the Peruvian government last week said Reynaldo Chohfi made the discovery while clearing the area, Chohfi said in an interview that he actually found the ruins last winter while on the Westwood campus studying 30-year-old aerial photographs of the region.

He recently returned from Peru, where he hacked his way through the jungle to confirm what he had already concluded had to be there, climaxing a feat of scholarship and

Shuttle Flight Set for Feb. 18, 1988; 16 a Year Possible

By RUDY ABRAMSON, Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The National Aeronautics and Space Administration plans to launch the space shuttle again on Feb. 18, 1988, and gradually work up to as many as 16 flights a year, with military satellites and space station hardware occupying cargo holds once reserved for commercial payloads.

After months of deliberation and a detailed review by the White House, space-agency officials disclosed a flight schedule calling for the shuttle to fly six times during its first year back in action.

NASA Administrator James C. Fletcher and the shuttle program chief, Rear Adm. Richard H. Truly, estimated that all but 19 or 20 of the flights would be in action.

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Insurers Split as a Few Firms Get Big Tax Break

By TOM REDBURN, Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — It began as an effort to win legitimate relief for the life insurance industry to protect it against an abrupt change in the tax laws.

But when the dust cleared last month after the final frantic hours devoted to writing the massive tax overhaul bill, only 15 big insurance companies were granted about \$100 million in special tax breaks — and the rest of the industry was left out in the cold.

"It's outrageous to give benefits to just 15 companies," said Walter Gerken, chairman and chief executive of Pacific Mutual Life Insurance in Newport Beach, Calif. "For a problem that applies identically to hundreds of firms in the industry."

The tangled tale of this "transition rule" — one of hundreds in the tax bill — comes down to a collision between economics and politics. And politics won.

O'Neill Role Reported

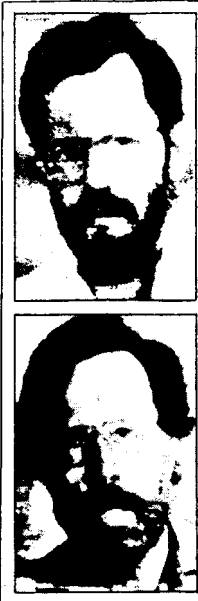
House Speaker Thomas P. (Tip) O'Neill Jr. (D-Mass.), according to congressional sources, had advised John Hancock Mutual Life that he would fully protect the Boston-based insurance giant from a new tax provision affecting discount bonds held in its portfolio.

When staff members discovered that the \$100 million allocated for that transition rule was not big enough to spread around to the entire industry, O'Neill's promise to John Hancock forced tax writers to handpick a number of favored firms instead of allocating more limited tax relief to the entire industry. Tax analysts estimated that it would cost \$350 million to provide such treatment to all firms affected by the new law.

In most cases, those who received the benefit were those who had lobbied the issue heavily with well-connected lawmakers.

It was a last-minute decision, Rep. Pete Stark (D-Oakland) said recently. "I pushed for a generic rule (applying equally to everybody), but the staff was squeezed

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President Reagan outside White House discussing a videotaped message from Lebanon hostages Terry Anderson, top, and David Jacobson in which they appealed for U.S. help.

U.S. Hostages in Beirut Issue Appeal to Reagan

Chide Him for Lack of Action, Cite Quick Release of Daniloff; President Angrily Rejects Charge

By CHARLES P. WALLACE, Times Staff Writer

AMMAN, Jordan — Two American hostages being held captive by Muslim extremists in Lebanon appealed to the Reagan Administration on Friday to work as hard to free them as it did to bring about the release of reporter Nicholas Daniloff from the Soviet Union.

Their appeal, set forth in a 10-minute videotape delivered to Western news agencies in Beirut, included a statement by Terry A. Anderson, 38, chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press. Unlike other hostages, Anderson, who was abducted in March of 1985, had not appeared in earlier taped messages.

"How can any official justify the interest, attention and action given in (the Daniloff) case and the inattention given ours?" Anderson asked.

In Washington, President Reagan angrily rejected the hostages' suggestion that he is less interested in their fate than he was in Daniloff's.

"There's no comparison between the two situations," a visibly upset Reagan told reporters as he departed for the presidential retreat at Camp David. In Daniloff's case, "we were dealing with a government that had arrested one of our citizens, we think unjustly," while the hostages in Beirut "were not seized by a government. We don't know who is holding them."

"There has never been a day that we have not been trying every channel to get our hostages back from Lebanon," he declared, adding, "I have a feeling they were doing this (making the videotape) under the order of their captors."

The videotape, along with a written statement, was delivered by a terrorist group or groups that takes the name Islamic Jihad, or Islamic Holy War. Islamic Jihad is holding three Americans and three French nationals in an attempt to

secure a \$200-million aid package for the financially strapped Philippines as it finished work on a record \$558-billion spending bill that would fund most government operations in fiscal 1987.

Wrapping up five days of debate, including a marathon 21-hour stint that left Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Mark O. Hatfield (R-Ore.) croaking with laryngitis, the Republican-dominated chamber voted 82 to 14 for the bill.

But the opposition to the additional grant diminished after Democratic and Republican leaders agreed on a revised formula to take the money in small amounts from a wide variety of foreign aid grants, rather than virtually wiping out a few nations' allotments.

Backers of the additional Philippine aid said its approval would send a strong signal of support to Aquino and help bolster her bid

to win a second term. "It will become more difficult to convey direct signals to Kadafi."

The next time the United States tries to send an oblique warning to Kadafi, the Libyan leader may decide that the U.S. action is merely more information and disregard it, he said.

"What we wanted to be a clear signal is now, at best, ambivalent," the official said.

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Senate Reverses Itself, Votes Philippine Aid

By BOB SECTER, Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The Senate reversed itself Friday and endorsed a special \$200-million aid package for the financially strapped Philippines as it finished work on a record \$558-billion spending bill that would fund most government operations in fiscal 1987.

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South Africa Feels Impact of Sanctions

Export Contracts Canceled, Painful Reappraisal Starts

By MICHAEL PARKS, Times Staff Writer

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — The new U.S. economic sanctions hit South Africa on Friday as coal and steel exporters reported cancellations of multimillion-dollar export contracts, fruit growers predicted "zero sales" next year to the American market and the national airline moved to cancel its four times-a-week flights to New York.

But the true impact of the U.S. legislation, enacted over President Reagan's veto, was largely political and psychological — a warning to white South Africans that they stand increasingly isolated in clinging to apartheid — racial separation and minority white rule.

Partly Blamed

Critics of President Pieter W. Botha's government blamed the sanctions on the ruling National Party, particularly the slow pace of its political, economic and social reforms, and called for faster and broader changes. "Not so much to meet the demands of the foreigners," as one editorial put it, "but to meet the needs of the country."

Against the congressional action, a painful political reappraisal was under way as a result of the U.S. congressional action. "It is apartheid, not some mindless and irrational hatred of South Africa, that has brought sanctions upon the country," the Argus newspaper said in a typical editorial in Cape Town. "It must go."

And black leaders, including Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, held the congressional action as a declaration that the United States long perceived as the principal protector of the white-led minority government, had now taken up the demand of the country's black majority for equal rights.

"The (U.S.) Senate has taken a moral decision," Tutu said in Cape Town on Friday, a day after the senators voted, 78 to 21, to override Reagan's veto of the sanctions. It is anti-injustice, anti-apartheid. It is pro-South Africa and for justice, freedom and democracy."

Positive Response Urged

Similar statements came from the two major black labor union federations, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the Council of Non-European South Africa, which had both backed international sanctions despite government assertions that black jobs were at stake.

P.W. Botha can still avoid sanctions by ignoring the reasonable and realistic demands of the people," the Congress of South African Trade Unions said, noting that the new U.S. law calls for the punitive measures to be lifted in response to certain South African actions. "This means dismantling apartheid, lifting the state of emergency, releasing Nelson Mandela and other prisoners and detainees and unbanning the African National Congress."

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Jumped Aboard in Desert

3 Marines Suspected in String of Train Robberies

By LOUIS SAHAGUN, Times Staff Writer

In a throwback to the days of Jesse James, Southern Pacific Railroad detectives have nabbed three Marines suspected of leaping onto slow-moving freight in the California desert and looting them of television sets, radios and other goods.

One of the suspected train robbers, all of whom were stationed at the Marines Corps Air-Combat Training Center at Twentynine Palms, is believed to have inadvertently derailed a Southern Pacific train near Palm Springs on Aug. 23, causing \$3.5 million in property damage and killing a man who was aboard, railroad officials said at a press conference Friday.

"They were out to make a little spending money and have a good time," said Joe S. Harlan, special agent for the Southern Pacific

Transportation Co. After interrogating the suspects, railroad detectives believe that the train robbers included as many as nine people from the Marine Corps Air-Combat Training Center. Instead of horses, walkie-talkies and flashlights instead of colored bandanas, and bolt-cutters instead of dynamite to board, enter and freight cars laden with electronic goods, authorities said.

Harlan estimated that the ring has robbed 20 trains since June and made off with \$30,000 or more worth of goods, much of which was sold in an "underground market" in the region. Palms area or to other Marines.

"Some stuff they didn't use, like ladies shoes or large sweaters, they would give to the Salvation Army," Please see MARINES' Page 32

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WEATHER

U.S. Weather Service forecast.	
Today through Sunday — mostly clear, but some morning cloudiness.	
	Highs Lows
Friday	71 53
Saturday	72 54
Sunday's forecast	72-76 54-58
Oct. 3 last year	96 71
Record high Oct. 3, 1958	102
Record low Oct. 3, 1984	44
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Credited With Major Archeological Find

Incas: UCLA Student May Have Opened a New Door

By **LEE DYE**, *Times Science Writer*

A UCLA graduate student who carried a class project to extremes is being credited with an archeological discovery in Peru that could prove of major importance in understanding the perplexing history of the Incas.

Although an official announcement from the Peruvian government last week said Reynaldo Chohfi made the discovery while flying over the Andes, Chohfi said in an interview that he actually found the ruins last winter while on the Westwood campus studying 30-year-old aerial photographs of the region.

He recently returned from Peru, where he hacked his way through the jungle to confirm what he had already concluded had to be there, climaxing a feat of scholarship and

adventure.

Chohfi, a native of Brazil who has been in this country for 10 years, is credited with discovering the remains of a large settlement a few miles from the most celebrated of all the Inca ruins, the village of Machu Picchu.

It was a personal triumph for the 31-year-old archeology student, but his hands still hurt from insect bites. And he will never forget the big, black snakes.

Chohfi was joined on the expedition by a friend, Octavio Fernandez, an archeologist with Peru's National Cultural Institute.

The two men traveled by train up the narrow twisting gorge toward Machu Picchu last month, and when it reached the end of the

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INCAS: Ruins Near Major Site Discovered

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line, they set out on foot. The jungle was so thick in some areas that they had to use machetes to hack through the dense vegetation, Chohfi said.

Insects tore at their flesh, leaving wounds that have not healed. At one point, Fernandez nearly put his hand on a "big black snake," one of several deadly reptiles they encountered as they made their way through the thick brush, Chohfi recalled.

After climbing for several hours, the two men came into a flat area that Chohfi had identified from the photographs.

Even Chohfi admits that he was startled by what they found.

Massive, Ancient Wall

A massive, ancient wall stretched along one side of the plateau.

"I had never seen anything like it," Chohfi recalled.

The wall, he said, measured more than seven feet thick and it was at least that high.

Chohfi and Fernandez took a few pictures and then hacked at the thick vegetation as they traced the wall. Chohfi said they were stunned when they realized that it was more than 1,000 feet long.

Near the great wall, they also found the top of the walls of a small structure, which has been nearly buried under soil and rich vegetation. Chohfi is convinced that the wall and the building are part of what was once a major settlement.

The discovery "could be quite significant," John Hemming, director of London's Royal Geographic Society and an expert on the Incas, said in a telephone interview. He added that the importance of the site will not be known until it can be excavated.



TONY BARNARD / Los Angeles Times

Reynaldo Chohfi with shards of pottery found at ancient site.



REYNALDO CHOHI

A double mortar made of granite is one of the unusual items found near Machu Picchu, Peru.

Fascination With Architecture

Several other experts agreed.

Chohfi, who is working toward a master's degree in archeology while pursuing an advanced degree in architecture, said he has been studying Machu Picchu since 1978 because of his fascination with architectural structures that maximize renewable resources, such as solar energy.

Nestled amid towering peaks at an elevation of 8,000 feet, Machu Picchu, the holiest shrine of the Incas, has long mystified historians. Its buildings, constructed of carefully cut stones reflecting an advanced stage of craftsmanship, have been dated as far back as 650 A.D., Chohfi said.

Although there is general agreement that the site was abandoned by the Incas during the Spanish

conquest in the 1500s, there has been considerable disagreement over the role Machu Picchu played in the Inca civilization, a debate that started with its discovery by Yale historian Hiram Bingham in 1911. Bingham initially said he had discovered the Lost City of the Incas, the central governing seat of the sprawling Inca empire.

Religious Center

That accolade has gone now to a large settlement found a decade ago near the city of Cuzco, but most authorities still believe Machu Picchu was the Incas' religious center.

Chohfi said he decided to study Machu Picchu because the Incas' religious beliefs undoubtedly carried over into their architecture.

"The sun was their primary god," he said in an interview at UCLA, adding that they also apparently revealed other aspects of nature.

"If they worshiped the natural environment," he added, they probably designed their city to gain the maximum benefits from the sun.

Three years ago, he visited the site as part of an expedition led by Reiner Berger, chairman of the archeology program at UCLA, and he found that Machu Picchu lived up to his expectations.

"It was a natural greenhouse," he said. "It is all oriented to the sun."

One of the things that struck Chohfi while there was the isolation of Machu Picchu. Since it is

perched on the edge of a rock cliff, it would not have been possible to grow all the crops necessary to support the people of the village, he said.

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INCAS: Ruins Found by UCLA Student

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That, in turn, led him to conclude that there were probably other villages some distance away that supported Machu Picchu. Although numerous smaller sites have been discovered in the area immediately around Machu Picchu, Chohfi was convinced there had to be others.

"We looked around that mountain site," said Berger, who is Chohfi's adviser. "There were some localities that looked like they might have ruins."

But the area around Machu Picchu is largely inaccessible and covered with dense vegetation, thus denying them a chance to check out their theory. However, Chohfi made up his mind to continue his work after returning to UCLA.

Last year he enrolled in a course on remote sensing, the burgeoning science of using photographs from the air or space to study objects on the ground. The course was taught by Norman Thrower, director of UCLA's Center for 17th- and 18th-Century Studies.

Aerial Photographs

During the course, Chohfi acquired aerial photographs of the Machu Picchu region.

The photos, taken for a topographical study of the Peruvian Andes, showed a gentle slope on the opposite side of a deep gorge northeast of Machu Picchu. The photographs were taken from such a high altitude that details on the ground were hard to detect, but Chohfi was sure of one thing. Across one end of the slope was a straight line.

"The natural environment doesn't have straight lines," Chohfi said.

So last month Chohfi flew back to Peru and was joined by Fernandez for the trip up the mountain.

After they hacked their way through the jungle, Chohfi found the straight line he had seen on the photographs. It was the massive wall.

Equally intriguing to Chohfi was the rich, dark soil of the area. Holding a small plastic bag of dirt that he brought back to study, Chohfi marveled at his own discovery.

"The agricultural productivity must be fantastic," he said. "They had the water, the sun and the soil. What else do you need?"

He also found numerous grinding stones scattered throughout the area, further evidence that the new site was a major agricultural satellite for Machu Picchu.

He plans to do scientific dating of some small samples of pottery shards he found at the site, but he believes that the new discovery dates back to the same time frame as Machu Picchu.

Chohfi and Fernandez named their village Maranpampa—"maran" means grinding stone and

"pampa" means soil.

After hiking back down the trail, the two men reported their findings to Peru's National Cultural Institute, and the Peruvian government immediately announced that a major archeological site had been discovered. That announcement included several errors, including a statement that the men had not actually reached the site on foot. But Chohfi has a series of photographs to prove that he was, indeed, there.

Although people in the immediate area undoubtedly had stumbled across the ruins, the site was not known to the scientific community, according to several experts.

"I think it's tremendously important," UCLA's Berger said. Chohfi's work, he said, "is quite a feat."

Chohfi's dream now is to return to Maranpampa and use modern archeological techniques that were not available when Machu Picchu was discovered three quarters of a century ago. He hopes that when he is through, the world will have a better understanding of a people who made the most of what they had.