

## NATION/WORLD DIGEST

### Former VP Cheney Hospitalized

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Vice President Dick Cheney was admitted to the hospital Friday after experiencing discomfort, the latest health scare for the 69-year-old Republican leader who has a long history of heart disease.

Cheney was expected to remain at George Washington University Hospital over the weekend, said spokesman Peter Long. It was not immediately clear whether Cheney's health concern was related to his previous heart troubles. He sustained his last heart attack, deemed a mild one, in February.

Cheney was not feeling well on Friday and went to see his doctors at George Washington University. On their advice, he was admitted to the hospital for further testing.

Cheney's heart attack earlier this year was his fifth since age 37. A heart attack occurs when blood flow to the heart muscle is blocked. In that episode in February, Cheney underwent a stress test and a heart catheterization.

### GOP: General Won't Testify Against Kagan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans have abruptly scrapped plans for a retired Army general who cast the war on terrorism in religious terms to testify against Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan.

A GOP aide says it's clear that Lt. Gen. William G. "Jerry" Boykin's 2003 church speeches would be used to distract attention from Kagan's actions as dean of Harvard Law School.

Stephen Boyd, a spokesman for Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions says Republicans are looking forward to calling three other military witnesses to talk about Kagan's decision to bar military recruiters from Harvard Law's career services office.

Boykin later apologized for speeches in which he painted the war on terror as a Christian fight against Satan and suggested that Muslims worship idols.

### N. Korean Damages Claim 'Preposterous'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is ridiculing North Korea for claiming the U.S. owes it \$65 trillion in Korean War damages.

A State Department official said Friday the communist nation is an economic "basket case" due its own failed policies and called the compensation claim "preposterous."

Marking the 60th anniversary of the start of the conflict, State spokesman P.J. Crowley said North Korea had no one but itself to blame for its isolation and said the North should abide by agreements to give up nuclear weapons and stop threatening its neighbors.

On Thursday, North Korea said the monetary cost in its suffering from the conflict amounted to \$65 trillion — five times the U.S. national debt.

### IRS Wants Cut From BP Payments

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Internal Revenue Service wants its cut from oil spill victims who receive BP payments for lost wages.

The agency says that under current law, BP payments for lost wages are taxable — just like the lost wages would have been. The IRS says payments for physical injuries or property loss are generally tax free.

BP officials have agreed to create a \$20 billion fund for spill victims, as well as a \$100 million fund to support displaced oil rig workers.

The IRS is planning to hold forums in seven cities in the Gulf region on July 17 to help oil spill victims with tax troubles or questions.

### Dems Settle For Medicare Fix

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional Democrats are looking for ways to salvage their election-year jobs agenda after the Senate failed to pass a bill extending unemployment payments.

Senate Democrats cut billions from the bill to attract enough Republican votes, but they fell three votes short Thursday of the 60 required to crack a GOP filibuster.

The demise of the bill means unemployment benefits will phase out for more than 200,000 people a week. Governors who had been counting on federal aid will now have to consider a fresh round of budget cuts, tax increases and layoffs of state workers.

Congressional Democrats did manage a smaller victory, pushing through a bill temporarily sparing doctors from a 21 percent cut in Medicare payments.

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# World Summit: Fakelakegate Takes The Cake

BY ROB GILLIES  
Associated Press Writer

TORONTO (AP) — It was dubbed Fakelakegate, but the water feature inside the media center for the global summits is more like a wading pond, incapable of creating much of a splash.

Except, perhaps, as a headache for Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper, who has been criticized for the cost of the G-8 and G-20 summits.

The fake lake is a few inches deep and about 10 meters across at its widest. It cost \$55,000 and is part of a nearly \$2 million mini theme park that will be torn down when the summits end.

Organizers wanted to showcase Canada's tourist appeal by building a media center that includes an artificial lake with canoes and deck chairs along its "banks."

Most of the 3,700 journalists



TYLER ANDERSON/CANWEST NEWS SERVICE/MCT  
A man argues with a police officer after a series of violent altercations between protesters and police during a protest march on College Street in Toronto, Canada, June 25, 2010.

covering the G-20 summit here aren't allowed to go the smaller G-8 summit in picturesque, tourist-friendly Huntsville. So they are covering the proceedings from Toronto, only blocks from a real lake—in fact, one of

the Great Lakes — Lake Ontario. The fake lake in the Toronto media center has come to symbolize how much Harper's Conservative government has spent on the summits — at least \$1 billion. Canada spent a mind-boggling \$900 million on security alone. Ironic, considering leaders discussed reining in deficits.

Opposition parties and journalists say the fake lake takes the cake.

"It's what everybody will remember from the summits," said Canadian Broadcasting Corp. journalist Don Newman, a veteran of Canadian politics.

British Prime Minister David Cameron, of course, has access to Huntsville and the cool waters of Muskoka Lake. He took a dip early Friday under the watchful eyes of massive security forces.

"I think it's the safest swim I'm ever going to go for," Cameron told Canadian broadcaster CBC. "There were about two police ribs," he said, referring to rigid inflatable boats. "I don't know if there were actually frogmen under the water, but I wouldn't have been surprised."

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