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'Congress may decide to sanction the stations individually.'

KEN JOHNSON
Spokesman for W. J. Tauzin

Penalties on WGBH are called possible

By Anne E. Kornblut
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON - WGBH-TV, whose practice of exchanging donor lists with the Democratic Party has prompted a furor over public broadcasting, could face retroactive penalties, several House Republicans said yesterday.

A House Commerce subcommittee addressed the list-swapping controversy at a hearing, questioning top officials of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting about how widespread the practice is. Members of both parties demanded strict laws to prevent similar trading in the future, especially as officials revealed that 26 of 75 public television stations surveyed so far appear to have swapped donor lists with politicians or political parties.

Representative W. J. "Billy" Tauzin, Republican of Louisiana, and chairman of the subcommittee that oversees funding for public broadcasting, said future violators could be punished with a fine or jail.

But the possibility of punishing past offenders also was raised. Representatives Christopher Cox, a Republican from California, and Barbara Cubin, a Republican from Wyoming, favored investigating WGBH and issuing sanctions if wrongdoing is found. Tauzin also said he would not oppose investigating the previous activity at WGBH, even though the station says it has implemented tougher standards.

"Congress may decide to sanction the stations individually, by withholding federal funds for a period of time," said Ken Johnson, a spokesman for Tauzin.

Meanwhile, public broadcasting officials revealed that at least seven public stations - including New Hampshire Public Television - swapped donor names with Republican groups, including the 1996 presi-

WGBH, Page A24

Pinpoint hunt, but no recovery



Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg biked with her husband, Edwin, near their Bridgehampton, N.Y., home yesterday.



The sun began to set over the USS Grasp yesterday as authorities completed a fourth unproductive day searching several miles off Martha's Vineyard.

JFK Jr.'s last maneuvers are detailed

By Mitchell Zuckoff
and Matthew Brelis
GLOBE STAFF

MENEMSHA - Investigators yesterday located what they believe was the "splash point" where John F. Kennedy Jr.'s plane plunged into the ocean, but a rapid deployment of scuba divers to two nearby targets failed to turn up bodies or wreckage.

The site 7½ miles southwest of Aquinnah on Martha's Vineyard was pinpointed using a new and more chilling account of the plane's final moments.

As he navigated through the inky night, Kennedy began an unexplained right turn, then suddenly dived toward the water at roughly 10 times the normal rate of descent, even faster than previously believed.

Some aviation authorities said the new information suggests Kennedy's plane corkscrewed into a "graveyard spiral," but investigators declined to comment.

Investigators also declined to speculate on the force of the impact or its effect on the plane or its passengers. However, chief investigator Robert Pearce of the National Transportation Safety Board said: "I'm sure you can draw a conclusion by the debris we've been bringing in, which is fragmented."

A source familiar with the investigation said searchers "are not very hopeful about the condition of the bodies."

Coast Guard officials said the two SEARCH, Page A13

The many facets

Watched, mourned by many: John F. Kennedy Jr.'s death places him in a pantheon of icons for the celebrity age. A10.
Charitable endeavors: Kennedy worked quietly with groups that have donated millions of dollars in New York. A11.

The Friday night call: Federal Aviation Administration officials defend the actions of a worker who seemed to ignore an inquiry about the flight. A12.
Coverage, A10-13.

Faith a sustaining force for Kennedy family

By Thomas Farragher
GLOBE STAFF

President Kennedy leaned on it during the Cuban missile crisis. His mother found solace in it after gunshots in Dallas. And now the Kennedys seek its sustenance through a grim vigil in Hyannis Port.

Both lightning rod and source of comfort, their Roman Catholic faith has been the spiritual fuel that has propelled the Kennedys through tragedy and turmoil across generations.

A belief that human destiny is ultimately in God's hands - that one's true and eternal reward comes after death - has influenced the way many Kennedys have conducted their lives.

"They know at a deep-heart's level that this life is not the be-all and the end-all," said Thomas Groome, a professor of theology and religious education at Boston College. "You would think that people who have so much money and power and fame would. But they have this genuine faith that for those who have passed on, life has changed - not ended. The Irish wake is as big a

celebration as the Irish wedding."

As a weekend of celebration became cloaked in grief after the news that John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife and sister-in-law were lost in a plane crash at sea, the family used a wedding tent as a makeshift church to celebrate Mass and pray for divine mercy.

"I'm sure that the faith that Rose Kennedy held so intensely is part of her legacy to her children and her grandchildren," said Bishop Sean P. O'Malley of the Diocese of Fall River. "So I'm not FAITH, Page A12

Spurning corporate Japan

For some, lifetime jobs lose appeal

By Sharon Moshavi
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

TOKYO - Takuya Kumagai had achieved the Japanese dream: a degree from prestigious Tokyo University, a solid marriage, and a job with Sony Corp. Each morning, he dutifully put on his blue suit and white shirt, and commuted to his engineering job. If he had followed the script, he steadily would have climbed the ranks at Sony before retiring.

But Kumagai did something most Japanese still consider a bit crazy. He started his own business.

"I didn't just want to follow a

stupid boss's decisions," explained Kumagai, 45, president of his own Web design firm with a staff of 10. "I wanted to create something with my own hands."

Kumagai is among the small but growing ranks of Japanese entrepreneurs who are turning their backs on the comfortable-yet-stifling conformity of corporate Japan, including its most coveted practice: shushinkuyo, or lifetime employment.

"Lifetime employment just means lifetime endurance," said Hiranao Shinada, who left a job at Konica to start a photographic reproduction company from an old garage. "It doesn't give you peace of mind."

JAPAN, Page A21



Some Japanese are breaking the corporate mold, on display at a recent college job fair in Tokyo.

'Collegial' monitoring of hospitals hit

By Richard A. Knox
GLOBE STAFF

During a regular hospital inspection, the surveyor from the national accrediting agency spotted potential trouble in a graph charting staff performance. But when he got no explanation, he dropped the matter.

In another hospital, a surveyor expressed surprise that nobody had pulled the medical records he had requested. But he didn't insist on getting the requested files.

These and other anecdotes illustrate the "collegial tone" and "non-challenging manner" that characterize the nation's principal mechanism for monitoring hospital quality, federal investigators said yesterday.

"The system to control quality in hospitals has some serious flaws that need to be corrected," said George Grob, deputy inspector general in the US Department of Health and Human Services. "If a hospital

Truth and consequences

On April 1, 1998, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations said it would no longer penalize self-reports of serious errors, such as unexpected deaths, permanent disabilities, and wrong-limb surgeries.

Since the change, the number of mistakes reported has increased...

Serious errors reported by hospitals: 36 (two years before policy change), 115 (since change through Jan. 7)

...While the number of hospitals penalized has decreased

Hospitals placed on "accreditation watch": 35 (two years before policy change), 3 (since change through Jan. 7)
Downgraded accreditation status: 3 (two years before policy change), 146 (since change through Jan. 7)

KEY: ■ The two years before policy change ■ Since change (through Jan. 7)
SOURCE: Office of the Inspector General, US Department of Health and Human Services GLOBE STAFF CHART

doesn't want you to find a problem, you won't find it."

A four-volume report issued yesterday by Grob's boss, Inspector General June Gibbs Brown, is a provocative contribution to an ongoing

national debate about "collegiality" versus "regulation" as the best way to improve the safety of medical care.

The movement toward collegia- HOSPITALS, Page A24

Nation A

Tax-cut fight
Jockeying continues as the House nears a vote on a plan for the largest reductions in nearly a generation. A3.

Metro/Region B

Statewide test results
More third-graders are reading at the highest levels, but a quarter are at the lowest levels and are in danger of falling behind, data show.

Business D

Dow drops 191.55
The stock market has its fifth-biggest point drop of the year as uneasy investors cash in their profits.

Living/Arts E

Charm and resolve
Journalist Florence Graves presents a demure manner - and functions as an old-fashioned investigative tiger.

Food F

Farmers' markets: The produce sells so fast that freshness is certain.

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