

Date and Time: Saturday, May 4, 2024 1:49:00AM EEST

Job Number: 223497153

Documents (100)

1. [MEXICO](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

2. [Datelines](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

3. [Datelines](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

4. [Arabs fight to save town torn apart by peace](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

5. [Iran 's Govt attempts to reassert control](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

6. [Datelines](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

7. [LEBANESE PRESIDENT HAILED IN TOWN / HE WAS CHEERED BY HUNDREDS TWO DAYS AFTER
ISRAELI -BACKED MILITIAMEN WERE EVACUATED.](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

8. [BLOOD RUNS WHERE WATER TURNED TO WINE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

9. [MCCARTNEY LEFT LEGACY OF BREAST CANCER SUPPORT](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

10. [CANADA BRIEFLY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

11. [SOUTHERN LEBANON HERALDS RETURN OF NATION'S OWN TROOPS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

12. [NEWS SUMMARY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

13. [NEWS IN BRIEF](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

14. [Lebanon and Israel agree to cease-fire](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

15. [HIJACKED AIRLINER FLOWN TO NORWAY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type

Narrowed by

News

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

16. [Iran - Libya - Syria triangle: marriage of convenience](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

17. [AROUND THE WORLD](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

18. [WORLD IN BRIEF; Paraguayan terrorists target U.S.](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

19. [Is the US ruthless enough?](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

20. [LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

21. [*Khomeini backs reformists / New government formed in Iran*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

22. [*Shiite cleric says paper made up Terry Waite story*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

23. [*Muslim group pleads for release of Soviet envoys held in Lebanon : The Beirut kidnappings*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

24. [*LEBANESE FORCES GET WARM WELCOME AS THEY ENTER SOUTHERN ZONE BUT ISRAEL ISN'T: CONVINCED THE TROOPS CAN CONTAIN MUSLIM GUERRILLAS*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

25. [*Fighters take battle to Web*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

26. [*Israel 's air force lifts veil of secrecy*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

27. [*Spy gets suspended sentence*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

28. [*THE WEEK THAT WAS*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

29. [*World round-up*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

30. [*The freedom to oppose*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

31. [*Gunfire returns to border with Lebanon MIDDLE EAST*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

32. [Datelines](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

33. [Error suspected in tourist killings](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

34. [World round-up](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

35. [LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

36. [NOBEL CEREMONY FAILS TO PRODUCE A PEACE ENCORE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

37. [NEXT MOVE, PLEASE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

38. [Death passage; CHILDREN OF THE SIEGE, by Pauline Cutting. \(Heinemann, £12.5; Pan, paper, £3.50\)](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

39. [Gorbachev's interest in ending Gulf, Afghan wars](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

40. [BEIRUT'S BOMBS AND BULLETS MEAN SANTA STAYS AWAY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

41. [Books: Death passage / Review of 'Children of the Siege' by Pauline Cutting](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

42. [TWA hijack trial opens today](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

43. [Palestinians vow to turn on Tel Aviv](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

44. [Key ingredients for peace in Middle East](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

45. [DO ISRAELIS HAVE A RIGHT TO KILL WITHOUT FEELING GUILT? guilt?](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

46. [NO HEADLINE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

47. [Israel frees prisoners for return of navigator](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

48. [Free speech in Arafat's Gaza: no lights, no camera.](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

49. [FICTION; NIGHT & DAY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

50. [WHO'S WHO IN THE IRAN CRISIS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

51. [Age of discontent](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

52. [Foreign Briefs](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

53. [*WORLD IN BRIEF; London police rule out terror in market blast*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

54. [*POPE'S MESSAGE ONE OF RECONCILIATION*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

55. [*Foreign Briefs*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

56. [*NEWS IN BRIEF*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

57. [*TELEVISION REVIEW; Ticktock, Ticktock, Habits of the Wily Croc*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type

News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

58. [*Shiites ambush Israeli patrol*](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

59. [*U.S. worker killed in Somalia*](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

60. [*Women refugee rules ignored, immigration activists charge*](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

61. [*VINE OF ISLAMIC MILITANCY TAKES ROOT IN SUDAN*](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

62. [*BRIEFS; NATION U.S. MAIL SUBSIDIES COST HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS*](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

63. [*Bomb destroys embassy; 11 die as car-bomb targets Israelis in Buenos Aires*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

64. [*NATION & WORLD BRIEFS*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

65. [*Rally in Tehran Pays Lip Service To the Revolutionary Zeal of '79*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

66. [*How Easily We Killed Them*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

67. [*Turkey 's Effort to Quell Rebel Kurds Raises Alarm in Ankara and Europe*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

68. [*LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

69. [Essay: Office Pool, 2001](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

70. [THE YEAR THAT MIGHT BE; WILLING TO WAGER ON THE HOT STORIES OF 2001?](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

71. [Presidential candidates maintain civility, humor in second meeting](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

72. [TRAVEL: SOMETHING TO DECLARE; THE COLUMN THAT SAVES YOU MONEY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

73. [WORLD IN BRIEF](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

74. [*Youth celebrate 'where God was'*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

75. [*Foreign Affairs; Muffled Militants*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

76. [*NATION IN BRIEF*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

77. [*NEWS IN BRIEF*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

78. [*NEWS IN BRIEF*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

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News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

79. [NEWS SUMMARY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

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Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

80. [WORLD IN BRIEF; Terrorism group role alleged](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

81. [NEWS IN BRIEF](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

82. [BRIEFLY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

83. [U.S. Iran beginning to talk after years of confrontation](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

84. [World Digest](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

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News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

85. [NEWS IN BRIEF](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

86. [U.S. , Iran beginning to talk after years of confrontation](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

87. [Gunmen kill 11 in South Africa](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

88. [Elite police stand by as hijackers negotiate; Plane flown to France after 3rd passenger killed; ISLAMIC MILITANTS](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

89. [Extinguishing the fires of radical Islamic politics](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

90. [U.S. PUSHES ISRAEL ,EMBRACES SYRIA](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

91. [BRIEFLY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

92. [Zeitgeist](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

93. [Modernists take on Iran 's mullahs](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

94. [LETHAL WEAPON](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

95. [Arts: Giant steps; Throughout the civil war in Lebanon , Caracalla kept the spirit of the dance alive. But can Beirut's current cultural revival survive the rebirth of Muslim fundamentalism? By Michael Church](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

96. [Briefly](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

97. [The Globe at a glance](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

98. [Anti- U.S. Fever: Arab Bitterness and Boycott Talk](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

99. [WORLD](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

100. [In Brief](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to
Dec 31, 2000

MEXICO

The Toronto Star

August 30, 1999, Monday, Edition 1

Copyright 1999 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

Section: NEWS

Length: 519 words

Body

SIDEKICK PLEADS INNOCENT

The sidekick of a murdered television entertainer has pleaded innocent to charges that he was involved in the killing. Mario Rodriguez Bezares denied all the accusations at a hearing Saturday night. Four others charged in the June 7 killing of Paco Stanley also entered innocent pleas. The midday shooting outside a restaurant along a busy highway angered many who saw it as one of the most shocking examples of crime in Mexico City.

Serbia

KOSOVO SECURITY STABILIZING

The security situation in Kosovo is stabilizing and some Serbs were beginning to return to homes they had fled, British Lt.-Gen. Sir Mike Jackson, who heads the NATO-led KFOR peacekeeping force, told reporters yesterday. Only about 20,000 to 30,000 Serbs and other minorities are thought to remain in Kosovo, which has an ethnic Albanian majority, compared to about 200,000 in March.

29 DEAD IN ROAD CRASH

A commuter van and a pickup truck collided head-on on the main thoroughfare from Dar es Salaam killing 29 people and injuring 20 others, officials said yesterday. A local medical officer said in a statement that one child, 21 men and seven women were killed in the crash.

Colombia

ILLEGAL GANG MEMBERS KILLED Government troops have killed at least 10 members of an illegal ultra-right death squad that recently massacred scores of peasants in the northeast, an army general said yesterday.

Despite pledges to clamp down on the right-wing gangs, which have some 5,000 combatants, army and paramilitary units rarely clash.

Human rights groups accuse the military of sponsoring the extremists in their "dirty war" against Marxist rebels and their suspected civilian sympathizers.

Lebanon

MEXICO

EIGHT INJURED IN MORTAR FIRE

Four civilians and three **Hezbollah** fighters were injured yesterday when mortar rounds fired from Israel's south Lebanon occupation zone rained on a the town of Mansouri, security sources said. A fifth civilian was hurt in a separate incident in a different sector of the zone. Sources said about 25 mortar bombs exploded in the town, a few hundred metres north of the Israeli- occupied zone, soon after guerrillas from a Shiite Muslim group fired at Israeli positions inside the zone opposite Mansouri.

Russia

TROOPS CLASH IN DAGESTAN

Troops clashed with militants yesterday after government forces tried to confiscate weapons in a Dagestani village where Islamic rebels have imposed strict religious laws. Russian helicopters fired rockets at the rebels outside Karamakhi, about 80 kilometres east of the villages where government troops and Islamic rebels battled for more than two weeks earlier this month. Several troops were wounded, the interior ministry said.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH VANDALIZED

A Christian church was vandalized by suspected Hindu villagers in a revenge attack after the desecration of a temple, newspaper reports said yesterday. The roof of the church was partially shattered by at Bendawar village, 160 kilometres southeast of Katmandu, the Katmandu Post reported. Last week, local temple-goers found someone had defecated on the idol of Hindu God Shiva.

From The Star's wire services

Load-Date: August 30, 1999

Datelines

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

April 21, 2000, Friday

Copyright 2000 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

Section: WIRE;

Length: 515 words

Body

Mexico

MEXICO CITY -- Six former Mexico City police officers convicted of robbing and killing an American student have been sentenced to between 68 and 99 years in prison. Frederick McPhail, 27, of New York City, was found in his parked car in Mexico City in November 1998. He had died of alcohol poisoning.

Pakistan

ISLAMABAD -- Pakistan's military ruler declared 2000 the Year of Human Rights in a country with a grim history on the topic. He vowed to promote women's rights and to try to end child labor and abuses of blasphemy laws.

Italy

ROME -- Treasury Minister Giuliano Amato, nicknamed "Dr. Subtle" for his skill at trimming government spending, is on track to become Italy's next premier in an effort to avoid early elections.

Vatican City

VATICAN CITY -- Pope John Paul donned simple black vestments and heard the confessions of ordinary Catholics in a Good Friday ceremony at the Vatican.

Slovakia

BRATISLAVA -- About 2,000 supporters of former Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar protested against his detention after police seized him from his home on suspicion of abuse of power.

France

PARIS -- McDonald's Corp. will not close outlets in northwest France, despite Wednesday's bombing that killed a woman at one of its restaurants, an executive from the world's largest fast food chain said.

Philippines

MANILA -- Air Philippines said it had hired five British forensic experts to help identify badly charred bodies in the country's worst aviation disaster, which killed 131 people on Wednesday.

Germany

Datelines

BERLIN -- Right-wing extremists set fire to a synagogue in the city of Erfurt late Thursday, German police said. Local residents managed to extinguish the flames before any serious damage was done, police said.

England

LONDON -- The opposition Conservative Party has called for a Europe-wide ban on French beef after reports said that mad-cow disease is rising in France.

Czech Republic

PRAGUE -- Prime Minister Milos Zeman was hospitalized with acute back pain due to a kidney problem, a senior aide said.

Lebanon

BEIRUT -- Israeli helicopter gunships struck suspected guerrilla hideouts in southern Lebanon, killing a Hezbollah guerrilla, officials said.

Greece

ATHENS -- Chinese President Jiang Zemin arrived in Greece on a three-day state visit to develop commercial and diplomatic ties between the two countries.

Cambodia

PHNOM PENH -- Prime Minister Hun Sen received a letter from U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan on plans to try former Khmer Rouge leaders blamed for an estimated 1.7 million deaths from 1975-79, Cabinet Minister Sok An said.

China

YANGON -- China, Laos, Myanmar and Thailand have reached an agreement on commercial navigation on the Mekong river after five years of talks, state-run newspapers in Myanmar reported. The agreement was expected to promote trade and tourism in the region.

India

BHOPAL -- A bus ran off a mountain road in central India today killing 16 people and injuring 62, police said.

Nigeria

LAGOS -- Dozens of passengers were missing and feared dead after an overcrowded boat carrying up to 500 villagers sank in a Nigerian river, according to news reports.

Load-Date: April 21, 2000

Datelines

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

February 2, 2000, Wednesday

Copyright 2000 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

Section: WIRE;

Length: 546 words

Body

Scotland

EDINBURGH -- The two Libyan defendants charged in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, pleaded not guilty Wednesday at a pretrial hearing in the Scottish High Court.

Iran

TEHRAN -- An empty Iran Air jet and an Iranian military plane collided and caught fire on the tarmac of Tehran airport on Wednesday, killing eight people, an official said.

South Africa

JOHANNESBURG -- South Africa's police watchdog recommended on Wednesday that the country's chief policeman be prosecuted for intimidating a fellow officer.

Germany

FRANKFURT -- Prosecutors said Wednesday they are seeking to lift the legal immunity of Greens leader Daniel Cohn-Bendit, who could face charges for aiding a terrorist suspect linked to Carlos the Jackal.

India

NEW DELHI -- Indian trade unions on Wednesday said a one-day token strike by state industrial workers had been successful and warned of an indefinite agitation if the government did not agree to their demand for higher wages.

NEW DELHI -- The Indian navy has begun a bigger than usual annual exercise in the Arabian sea and will soon conduct exercises with the French navy, officials said on Wednesday.

CALCUTTA, India (AP) -- A British arms dealer and five Latvians were sentenced to life in prison for smuggling arms intended for a revolution against India.

Nepal

KATMANDU -- Nepal on Wednesday urged the National Geographic Society to share information supporting its claim that Mount Everest is 7 feet taller than previously calculated. Until then, it's sticking to the old figure.

Japan

Datelines

TOKYO -- Japan's ruling coalition faced down an opposition boycott of parliament on Wednesday, ramming a controversial seat-cutting bill through the Upper House, a move likely to aggravate political turmoil and force early elections.

Syria

DAMASCUS -- Syria's official media dismissed on Wednesday Israeli calls to curb deadly Hezbollah guerrilla attacks on Israeli troops in Lebanon.

Vatican

VATICAN CITY -- Pope John Paul paid tribute on Wednesday to Roman Catholic missionary priests and nuns who were killed for their faith recently in East Timor, Africa, Latin America and India.

Egypt

CAIRO -- A telephone bomb hoax delayed the sixth plane in three months at Cairo airport, airport sources said on Wednesday.

Sierra Leone

UNITED NATIONS -- Rebel elements in Sierra Leone continue to loot villages, burn houses, rape women and abduct and mutilate civilians in some areas despite a peace accord, a report from U.N. human rights experts says.

Vietnam

HANOI -- At a patriotism celebration, Vietnam's Communist Party chief spoke out against freeing up world trade, accusing imperialists of pursuing "absolute profits" at the expense of developing nations.

Tajikistan

DUSHANBE -- At least five people were killed and 22 were injured when a city bus exploded on the outskirts of the Tajik capital on Wednesday, police said.

Britain

LONDON -- British Agriculture Minister Nick Brown was smeared with a chocolate cake while he was attending a farmers' conference Wednesday. Brown laughed off the incident, saying he was "not a particularly brave man, but not afraid of a chocolate eclair."

Kenya

NAIROBI -- Nearly 3 million people in Kenya's arid northern and eastern regions desperately need food to avoid starvation, the United Nations said Wednesday.

Load-Date: February 2, 2000

Arabs fight to save town torn apart by peace

The Times (London)

June 9, 2000, Friday

Copyright 2000 Times Newspapers Limited

Section: Overseas news

Length: 492 words

Byline: Sam Kiley

Body

YOUNG men with thick wooden staves manned burning barricades at every entrance to Ghajar yesterday as old women yelled their encouragement and elders vowed that United Nations plans to cut their town in two would be "over our dead bodies".

The 1,700 residents of Ghajar, who until this week thought they lived in Israelioccupied Syria, are victims of peace in Lebanon. They swore they would go to war before they allowed UN bureaucrats and Israeli officials to split their town, divide their families and put up a fence between farmers and their land.

Their tragedy is that, for the UN to certify that Israel has withdrawn from Lebanon and officially ended its 22-year occupation of its northern neighbour, in line with UN Resolution 425, Israel must pull back behind borders drawn by an Anglo-French team in 1923.

By an accident of cartography, two thirds of Ghajar appears to be inside Lebanese territory, even though all its 1,700 citizens belong to the Syrian Muslim Alawite sect, which counts President Assad of Syria among its members. Many have documents showing that they built their homes with the permission of Syrian authorities, some have Syrian identity documents and this year 20 students from Ghajar are studying in Damascus, where they are considered to be Syrian citizens.

Yesterday, on the 33rd anniversary of the day Israeli troops drove Syrian soldiers out of the town in the 1967 Six-Day War, residents more used to serving food to Israeli tourists began a mini-intifada.

"It's a crime to separate our families and our farmers from their land. We can never allow it," the principal of the local school said as he rushed to a barricade on the main street, which is likely to be used as the border between Israeli-held Syria and Lebanon.

Shaul Mofaz, Israeli Chief of Staff, paid a visit to the town on Wednesday. Yesterday Ayoub Kara, of the right-wing Likud party, predicted that the violence would intensify if the UN did not back down.

Nevertheless, Ehud Barak, the Israeli Prime Minister, mindful that any concession on land considered part of the Golan Heights by Israelis would undermine his position at future negotiations with Syria, yesterday insisted he would not hand the town to Lebanon. If he wants to get UN endorsement for his withdrawal, however, and remove any excuse for Hezbollah attacks on Israel, he will be forced to cave in to the UN and hand at least a piece of the town to Lebanon.

Arabs fight to save town torn apart by peace

Wael Salman, a civil engineering graduate from the Haifa Technikon in Israel, said: "We don't care if we are in Lebanon or Syria, but we will not allow ourselves to be cut up, to be divided just because of an ancient map."

Like all the town's residents, he stuck carefully to the "politically correct" line that he was a Syrian, but admitted that "everyone here speaks Hebrew, carries Israeli identity cards and even votes".

The school principal said: "We voted for Barak, and look what he gives us - division and desperation."

Load-Date: June 12, 2000

End of Document

Iran's Govt attempts to reassert control

The New Zealand Herald

July 14, 1999 Wednesday

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Section: NEWS; World

Length: 553 words

Body

State radio and television, controlled by the conservative faction, repeatedly aired a speech by the country's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who blamed the unrest on outside "enemies," mainly the United States.

A leading hardline newspaper denounced the students for trying to overthrow the Islamic system. "Without a doubt, this is not a logical and lawful protest to safe-guard freedom but has all the characteristics of a movement aimed at overthrowing the holy system of the Islamic Republic," leading hardline newspaper Jomhuriye Eslami said in an editorial.

Baton-wielding police lobbed tear gas canisters in a raid on Monday night to clear the campus area.

Ambulances evacuated around 50 injured demonstrators, including 20 women. Most suffered from beatings and tear gas. Police apparently gave other students safe passage off the campus.

Tehran's governor issued a ban on all demonstrations on Tuesday.

"No group or organisation will be given a permit for a rally or pro-test march (on Tuesday) and any protest march is illegal," the governor's office said in a statement carried by the official IRNA news agency late on Monday.

"The ministry of interior has ordered the police to create order and stability and to prevent any unlawful gatherings," state television said.

The campus had witnessed five days of student protests following a police attack last week on a rally in support of press freedom and a subsequent raid on the nearby dormitory complex.

The crisis has shaken the Islamic republic and put pressure on President Mohammad Khatami to accelerate his promised reforms in the face of consistent challenges from his powerful conservative clerical opponents. Conservative religious and political organisations - largely caught off guard by the unrest - have begun to issue statements supporting Khamenei's stance on the crisis.

The radio repeatedly broadcast an announcement from the Islamic republic's main propaganda machine, the Islamic Propagation Organisation, calling for a massive demonstration on Wednesday to counter student demands.

The dominant theological school in Qom, run by the conservative clergy, also issued a statement warning against efforts by the "enemy" to mislead the country.

In Washington on Monday, a US State Department spokesman urged the Iranian government to protect the demonstrators and to respect international human rights standards, including the rights to freedom of expression,

Iran 's Govt attempts to reassert control

association and assembly. Ansare Hezbollah vigilantes, armed with stones, sticks and meat cleavers, helped police take control of the area around the university dormitories.

Students fled back inside the complex or took refuge in nearby homes. Dozens were arrested. Vigilantes on motorcycles and trucks patrolled streets near the university.

"You can smell gunpowder everywhere," one cameraman said. "Everything is burning and the air is white with tear gas. Police are everywhere".

At least one bus was burning outside the campus, windows were smashed in many nearby buildings, including a state bank.

Inside the campus, a Reuters correspondent said medical students tried to treat the injured at the campus mosque. They complained they only had water and gauze.

"We were attacked by police with batons, as they tried to disperse students," one of the wounded at the mosque said. - Reuters

Load-Date: December 18, 2002

End of Document

Datelines

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

January 17, 2000, Monday

Copyright 2000 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

Section: WIRE;

Length: 519 words

Body

Iran

TEHRAN -- Iran's intelligence chief has said it is time for the secret service to abandon strong-arm tactics and overhaul its approach to security matters.

South Africa

JOHANNESBURG -- South Africa's first black national police commissioner, whose appointment was intended to soothe tension within the strife-torn service, was found guilty on Monday of calling a **female** subordinate a "chimpanzee."

Israel

HADERA -- A bomb explosion wounded 16 people in the northern Israeli city of Hadera on Monday in what police said was an apparent Palestinian militant attack.

Germany

BERLIN -- A Berlin court convicted Johannes Weinrich of murder and attempted murder Monday and sentenced him to life in prison for the 1983 terrorist bombing of a French cultural center in then-West Berlin, an attack that killed one person and injured 23.

Spain

MADRID -- The Spanish government said on Monday it had sent to Britain a judge's request that Augusto Pinochet undergo new medical tests to determine whether the ex-Chilean dictator is truly unfit to stand trial.

Sri Lanka

COLOMBO -- A parcel bomb was delivered to Sri Lankan President Chandrika Kumaratunga's office on Monday and defused by the bomb disposal squad, state radio and officials said.

Brazil

SAO PAULO -- One inmate was killed and three police officers were injured when prisoners staging a rebellion at a jail in Sao Paulo state took at least 50 people hostage, including guards and visiting relatives, police said Monday.

Datelines

England

LONDON -- Thousands of English millennium babies are being given hand-written birth certificates until a computer glitch can be fixed.

Lebanon

MARJAYOUN -- A Hezbollah roadside bomb killed a pro-Israeli militiaman in the western sector of the Jewish state's south Lebanon occupation zone Monday.

Libya

TUNIS -- Improved weather conditions Monday allowed rescue services to resume a search of the Mediterranean Sea for five people missing from a plane crash last week off Libya.

South Korea

SEOUL -- South Korean President Kim Dae-jung on Monday ordered his party to rework a controversial package of revisions to the country's election law to appease voters fed up with politics-as-usual before April elections.

Algeria

ALGIERS -- Algerian Muslim rebels killed two government soldiers and wounded several others in an ambush after their movement pulled out of amnesty talks with the authorities, El Watan newspaper said on Monday.

Pakistan

KARACHI -- A judge Monday adjourned a hearing into allegations that deposed Premier Nawaz Sharif committed treason and hijacking, giving his defense time to receive additional evidence.

Italy

AVELLINO -- A set of quintuplets was born in low-birthrate Italy Monday, just two days after another Italian woman gave birth to sextuplets.

Ecuador

QUITO -- Around 30,000 police and army troops fanned out across Ecuador Monday bracing for what indigenous groups say will be the start of road blocks and marches aimed at toppling the Andean country's government.

Yugoslavia

PRISTINA -- Three Serb men returning to Kosovo were shot dead close to the provincial boundary with the rest of Serbia, international authorities said Monday.

Load-Date: January 17, 2000

**LEBANESE PRESIDENT HAILED IN TOWN / HE WAS CHEERED BY
HUNDREDS TWO DAYS AFTER ISRAELI-BACKED MILITIAMEN WERE
EVACUATED.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer
JUNE 6, 1999 Sunday D EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer
Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A13

Length: 502 words

Byline: Ahmed Mantash, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dateline: JEZZINE, Lebanon

Body

Hundreds of residents ran into the streets of Jezzine yesterday, in a spontaneous celebration as President Emile Lahoud entered the southern Lebanon town two days after Israeli-backed militiamen evacuated.

Lahoud arrived in the early morning unannounced in a small motorcade. But word spread quickly through this Christian town, church bells tolled, and hundreds gathered at the town square outside the stone-walled Government House, where the president met with local officials.

Men, women, the elderly and children mobbed Lahoud. A woman hugged the smiling president; others wept with joy or showered him with rice and flowers in the traditional Arab welcome.

The president, a Christian who has enjoyed wide popularity since assuming office in November, smiled and waved his fist in the air.

The visit marked the return of state control to this mountain town north of the buffer zone Israel occupies in South Lebanon.

Israel has controlled parts of southern Lebanon on its own or through proxy Lebanese militias since a 1978 invasion. It invaded again in 1982, going as far north as the capital, Beirut, and pulled back into the area it now occupies in 1985.

The Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army, which occupied Jezzine for 14 years, evacuated Thursday, saying guerrilla attacks were taking a heavy toll.

Fighting between the SLA and Lebanese guerrillas has left only about 5,000 of the estimated 80,000 previous residents remaining in Jezzine and about three dozen predominantly Christian villages nearby.

LEBANESE PRESIDENT HAILED IN TOWN / HE WAS CHEERED BY HUNDREDS TWO DAYS AFTER
ISRAELI -BACKED MILITIAMEN WERE EVACUATED.

The Lebanese army has not deployed in the area. The government does not want to be seen as using its army to provide security guarantees long sought by Israel as a precondition for its withdrawal from Lebanon. However, police units have taken control of the villages.

"You should encourage all to return to Jezzine," Lahoud told local officials and politicians yesterday.

Lahoud said the 200 former SLA militiamen who stayed behind would receive fair treatment. From 60 to 100 of the ex-fighters have surrendered to authorities since Friday, according to Beirut newspapers.

Under Lebanese law, contact with Israel is a crime.

Brig. Gen. Binyamin Gantz, head of Israel's liaison unit in southern Lebanon, met Friday with the families of 25 SLA militiamen who have resettled in the Israeli-occupied zone, according to an SLA statement.

"Israel and the South Lebanon Army will provide all the necessary help in all fields to the families who have moved from Jezzine into the security zone," Gantz said, according to the statement.

The SLA was set up, trained and financed by Israel to help protect its northern border. Its 2,500 members help 1,500 Israeli soldiers patrol the occupied border zone.

Elsewhere in southern Lebanon yesterday, Israeli warplanes attacked near the village of Jbaa in Iqlim al-Tuffah, the Hezbollah guerrilla mountain stronghold south of Jezzine. Lebanese security officials said the jets fired one missile on suspected guerrilla positions, but there was no immediate word on casualties or damage.

Load-Date: October 22, 2002

BLOOD RUNS WHERE WATER TURNED TO WINE

THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN

April 20, 1996, Saturday

Copyright 1996 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Length: 489 words

Byline: JIHAD SEQLAWIN

Body

WEEPING relatives and shocked United Nations peacekeepers staggered through a mass of dismembered bodies yesterday after a compound where frightened villagers had sought refuge was turned into a bloodbath by Israeli shelling.

Screaming and beating their heads in anguish, survivors of the massacre looked under blankets to try to find out whether their loved ones were among the 100 or more killed under the hail of shells.

Horrified peacekeepers and rescue workers wept as they collected torn-off limbs and pieces of flesh in plastic bags, the smell of blood overpowering.
AFP

The compound set up by Fijian UN peacekeepers at their headquarters at Cana was packed with hundreds of Lebanese who had fled their homes for what they assumed was safety when it was hit by Israeli shells late Thursday. About 100 were wounded, many of them children who were terribly burned or had legs and arms ripped off in the explosions.

"I saw the massacre of the market in Sarajevo on television, and it's nothing compared to what I saw in Cana," a peacekeeper told AFP in the smoking ruins of the compound.

In front of a pre-fabricated building destroyed by the shells, Mr Mohammad Ghassan, 55, collapsed to the ground.

"My wife, my three daughters and my two sons are dead inside. I made them sleep here so that they would be safe, and I stayed in my house in the village," he cried. "What do I have left, what good does it do me to still be alive?"

The village of Cana, near Tyre in southern Lebanon, was where Jesus Christ was said to have performed his first miracle, turning water into wine, according to the Bible.

It became the scene of the worst tragedy so far in Israel's Operation Grapes of Wrath, launched to hit at **Hezbollah** guerillas. Virtually all of the 145 killed in eight days have been civilians.

Decapitated bodies and pieces of flesh were strewn inside the building where the refugees slept.

Screaming mothers tearing their hair tried to enter the building to see whether their children were inside, but UN soldiers firmly held them back to save them from the horrific scenes.

Mattresses lined up neatly inside the building were soaked in blood.

BLOOD RUNS WHERE WATER TURNED TO WINE

Some 150 villagers from Cana, about 10km south of Tyre, spent the night in the building, which was a soldiers' canteen before it was turned over to the refugees.

In another, smaller building also hit by shells, seven charred bodies of children and women lay on the ground.

Mr Ali Ftoune, 50, sobbed: "I fled this morning from Siddiqine with my wife and four children, and we went to find shelter with the UN peacekeeping force."

Lying bloodstained in a corridor at Najm, in the port city of Tyre, with scores of other wounded, he said he did not know the whereabouts of his family.

An Islamic ambulance rushing to Cana to help evacuate the wounded was hit by a missile from an Israeli helicopter, but the driver and rescue workers managed to fling themselves out of the vehicle to safety.

Load-Date: March 1, 2002

End of Document

MCCARTNEY LEFT LEGACY OF BREAST CANCER SUPPORT

Spokesman Review (Spokane, WA)

October 19, 1998, Monday,

SPOKANE EDITION

Copyright 1998 Spokane Spokesman-Review

Section: IN LIFE,; PEOPLE; COLUMN

Length: 449 words

Byline: Compiled from wire reports by Tom Bradford.

Body

Linda McCartney's death from breast cancer earlier this year had a "staggering" impact on women living in fear of the disease, a leading cancer charity says.

During the week after the wife of former Beatle Paul McCartney died, the number of daily calls to CancerBACUP doubled, says the charity's chief executive, Jean Mossman. Calls relating to breast cancer in particular went up 64 percent, she says.

"This surge in demand shows just how powerful an effect a celebrity's death can have on the public," Mossman writes in a British medical journal.

Many women calling the charity were in a highly anxious state, especially those diagnosed at the same time as Linda McCartney who were forced to face their own mortality, the charity reports.

"The result was a tremendous need for information, emotional support and reassurance," Mossman says.

Loose talk

"Titanic" star Kate Winslet, on being voted "Body of the Year" in a women's poll: "Why do we keep talking about women's bodies all the time, particularly actresses? I'm a normal human being, and we all go up and down."

Marvelous Marv to take a spin with Fox

Marv Albert and Michael J. Fox will bump into each other at Madison Square Garden on an episode of "Spin City." It should be an easy role for the sportscaster - he will play himself. The episode hasn't been shot, and an air date hasn't been set. Albert's career as an NBA play-by-play man collapsed last year after he pleaded guilty to biting a lover, but he landed a job last month with cable's MSG network.

Pacino gets the scoop on Mideast woes

Al Pacino has taken to the dusty streets of Arab towns to film "Man of the People." Pacino plays a "60 Minutes" producer who interviews a leader of the guerrilla organization Hezbollah. When plans for filming in Lebanon fell through, mostly Arab towns in Israel were chosen instead.

Redford doing his part for environment

MCCARTNEY LEFT LEGACY OF BREAST CANCER SUPPORT

Twenty-six years after "The Candidate," Robert Redford is on the stump again. He is promoting Alabama congressional candidate Joe Turnham in radio spots focused on clean water and is also campaigning in Wisconsin for Democratic Sen. Russ Feingold.

Gen. X rockers will be rocking a little one

Jamiroquai bassman Stuart Zender has quit the band to spend more time with All Saints' Melanie Blatt, who is due to have their child next month. She's taking a break from her group, too, but said she'll return after delivering.

The birthday bunch

Actor John Lithgow is 53. Singer Jennifer Holliday is 38. Singermusician Todd Park Mohr of Big Head Todd and the Monsters is 33. Actor Omar Gooding ("Hangin' With Mr. Cooper") is 22. Singer Pras Michel of the Fugees is 26. Actor Benjamin Salisbury ("The Nanny") is 18.

Graphic

2 Photos;

1. Linda McCartney;
2. (photo of Kate Winslet)

Load-Date: October 22, 1998

End of Document

CANADA BRIEFLY

The Ottawa Citizen

March 29, 1993, Monday, FINAL EDITION

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Section: NEWS; CANADA BRIEFLY; Pg. A3

Length: 526 words

Byline: CITIZEN NEWS SERVICES

Body

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Summit spurs massive security effort

VANCOUVER -- The RCMP and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service are mounting one of the largest security operations in Canadian history to protect the presidents of Russia and the United States at next weekend's Vancouver summit. Nearly 1,500 Mounties, Vancouver police and CSIS personnel will be part of the elaborate security blanket. Security services say the biggest threat to U.S. President Bill Clinton is Middle East groups such as Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah and Al Jamaa Al Ilam Iya. The threat to Yeltsin comes from disaffected former residents of Soviet satellite states, separatists within Russia and hardline KGB agents in Canada.

Peacekeepers afforded hero's welcome

VICTORIA -- A cheering crowd of women and children greeted 177 Canadian soldiers as they returned from peacekeeping duties in the former Yugoslavia. The soldiers, from the Third Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, returned Saturday night following six months in western Croatia.

ALBERTA

Callers laud man charged in shooting

EDMONTON -- A man charged in a vigilante-style shooting of a suspected teenaged thief says he has had dozens of calls from strangers applauding the action he's accused of. "On Thursday when I came home, I had 17 calls from people I don't even know, said Erwin Simon, 57. "On the 26th (Friday) I had 16 calls. Simon said he took at least eight more phone calls from strangers Saturday. He was arrested after two shots were fired early Monday at four youths believed to be breaking into vehicles outside an apartment building. One 16-year-old boy took a .22-calibre slug in the head and spent two days in hospital.

NOVA SCOTIA

Deadline won't halt Westray probe

HALIFAX -- RCMP will decide whether to lay charges in the Westray mine disaster before a judge's deadline forces them to return evidence to the company, a police spokesman said Sunday. A court ruling that investigators must return seized goods within one month "does not alter our investigation at all, said Sgt. Bill Price, an RCMP

CANADA BRIEFLY

spokesman. "We'll undoubtedly come to some kind of conclusion within 30 days anyway. Spokesmen for families of the 26 miners killed in the underground explosion last May 9 have expressed concerns the investigation is being botched.

NATIONAL

Chinese dissident praises MPs' role

MONTREAL -- A prominent Chinese dissident says three Canadian MPs expelled from China last year helped rather than hindered the fight for human rights in his country. Canada must continue to apply pressure to the Chinese government "to help in the fight for human rights and the democratization of China, said Guo Luo-Ji, 60. NDP MP Svend Robinson, Liberal Beryl Gaffney and Conservative Geoff Scott were expelled from China for "activities incompatible with their status -- which to the Chinese meant trying to talk to relatives of some of the students imprisoned after the 1989 Tiananmen Square uprising. News of what the MPs tried to do "spread throughout China and had a profound effect on the common Chinese people, Guo said.

(Citizen news services)

Load-Date: March 30, 1993

End of Document

SOUTHERN LEBANON HERALDS RETURN OF NATION'S OWN TROOPS

The Philadelphia Inquirer
AUGUST 10, 2000 Thursday SF EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer
Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A02

Length: 501 words

Byline: Hussein Dakroub, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dateline: MARJAYOUN, Lebanon

Body

Church bells rang, drivers honked their horns, and women offered sweets and kisses to soldiers yesterday as Lebanese security forces moved into southern Lebanon for the first time since the 1970s.

But the arrival of about 1,000 soldiers and police officers did not convince officials in neighboring Israel that there would be peace along the border.

The Lebanese force's commander, Police Brig. Gen. Nazih Abi Nader, said his men would not take up positions at Fatima Gate, the closed crossing point that has been the scene of stone-throwing and occasional shots since Israel withdrew its troops May 24. Israel had occupied southern Lebanon as a buffer against cross-border attacks.

Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Ephraim Sneh said the Lebanese force was not large enough to contain the Muslim guerrillas who took over southern Lebanon after the Israeli pullout.

"Just as we withdrew to the last millimeter, the Lebanese army needs to ensure security until the last millimeter of the border," Sneh said on Israeli army radio.

Three guerrillas were eating breakfast at Fatima Gate, where flags of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group flew. Elsewhere, however, the guerrillas kept a low profile, appearing unarmed and in civilian clothes, in compliance with their leaders' pledges to recognize the Lebanese government's authority.

"The deployment is the first step toward the gradual restoration of Lebanese authority over southern Lebanon," U.N. spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva said in New York.

Policemen in gray camouflage fatigues and soldiers in armored vehicles drove into the former Israeli-occupied zone at dawn.

"We have been waiting for you!" Antoinette Shahin shouted as a convoy passed through the Christian village of Qlaiaa. "We haven't slept all night!"

SOUTHERN LEBANON HERALDS RETURN OF NATION'S OWN TROOPS

Shahin went into her grocery store, grabbed a bag of rice, and ran out to toss it on the troops. Other villagers threw rose petals.

"There is no substitute for the army," said Jamil Jouki, 51, as he pressed baklava, a sticky Middle Eastern treat, into the soldiers' hands.

Two Muslim women in Bint Jbeil lunged at the soldiers, trying to kiss them. Shouts of "Allahu akbar," or "God is great," rang out as the first convoy went through the town, followed by residents honking the horns of their cars.

Church bells tolled when the units arrived in the nearby village of Ein Ibl. Men performed the dabke, a foot-stomping dance, in the square.

In a move laden with symbolism, the security forces set up base at the former Lebanese army barracks in the town of Marjayoun. The compound had served as headquarters of the pro-Israeli local militia, now disbanded, and of the Israeli military.

Israel invaded Lebanon in 1978 and 1982, setting up an occupied zone in the south in 1985 that it maintained with the militia's help until May.

U.N. peacekeepers moved into the former occupied zone Saturday - a step that Lebanon had insisted on before its own deployment. Lebanese Interior Minister Michel Murr says it is up to U.N. peacekeepers to police the border.

Load-Date: February 4, 2002

End of Document

NEWS SUMMARY

The New York Times

May 31, 2000, Wednesday, Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2000 The New York Times Company

Distribution: Metropolitan Desk

Section: Section A;; Section A; Page 2; Column 3; Metropolitan Desk; Column 3;; Summary

Length: 1300 words

Body

INTERNATIONAL A3-14

Beijing Steps Up Expulsion Of Illegal North Koreans

The Chinese police have sharply increased their efforts to expel North Koreans living under cover in China in recent months, creating fear along the border and fueling a potentially explosive refugee crisis. A1

Prison for Chinese Capitalist

China's most celebrated private entrepreneur, Mou Qizhong, 58, was sentenced to life imprisonment for fraud, ending a remarkable chapter in China's fitful march toward a market economy. A12

Hezbollah Gets Busy

Hezbollah has started to operate in southern Lebanon much as it does elsewhere, as a kind of parallel government offering social services, development loans and reconstruction aid, following the Israeli pullout. A3

Effort to Restart Peace Talks

Prime Minister Ehud Barak of Israel and the Palestinian Authority leader, Yasir Arafat, are taking steps to revive their stalled peace talks, which were overshadowed for the last week by Israel's abrupt withdrawal from Lebanon. Negotiations are expected to resume this weekend or sooner. A9

Clinton Arrives in Portugal

President Clinton became the first president to visit Portugal since Ronald Reagan in 1985, and he will confront the same major issues on this European trip that Mr. Reagan faced -- trade and missile defense. A10

French Fraud Inquiry Widens

Fifteen Paris officials, including the mayor's top aide, were put under investigation for election fraud. The news was another blow to the Gaullist party of President Jacques Chirac, which is trying to hold on to the mayor's office, one of the France's most prestigious political posts. A4

NEWS SUMMARY

The French Parliament adopted some of the toughest restrictions on news photography in the West. A4

Aristide's Party Gains in Haiti

The party of former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide gained firm control of the Senate in the May 21 election, preliminary results showed. A7

U.S. Softens Stand on Peru

The Clinton administration backed away from its own harsh assessment that the presidential runoff election on Sunday was invalid, as American officials privately expressed misgivings over competing United States priorities in Peru. A5

An Offer by Ethiopia

Ethiopia took a step toward ending the war with Eritrea by saying it would withdraw troops from territory captured in western Eritrea in the last 18 days. The offer came as peace talks opened in Algeria. A8

Fiji's Constitution Revoked

The new military leaders threw out the Constitution and began negotiating with rebels who were holding the prime minister and other hostages in the Parliament complex. (AP)

World Briefing A6

NATIONAL A16-23

Gore Expands Clinton Plan For Preserving Forests

Vice President Al Gore pledged to put 43 million acres of undeveloped national forests off limits to logging as well as road-building. And he strongly suggested that he would extend the same protections to the Tongass, where conservation efforts have been opposed by Alaska's influential Congressional delegation. A1

Gov. George W. Bush challenged Mr. Gore's fitness to serve as commander in chief, citing what he said was an erosion of might and morale under the Clinton-Gore administration. A20

U.S. Official Guilty of Espionage

Mariano Faget, 54, an acting deputy director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service with 34 years of service in Miami, was convicted of disclosing official secrets, making personal use of those secrets and lying to federal investigators about his foreign business ties and meetings with a Cuban diplomat. He faces up to 10 years in prison. A16

Boycott of Federal Labs Urged

The Association for Asian American Studies, a group of scholars and educators, urged Asian-Americans not to apply for jobs at federal laboratories. The group cited what it said was racial bias in the treatment of Dr. Wen Ho Lee, charged with mishandling nuclear secrets, and in the application of security rules to Asian-American scientists. A23

Opening Oregon Adoption Files

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor rejected an emergency request from birth mothers to delay a state law giving adult adoptees access to their birth records. Officials said application processing would begin today. A16

NEWS SUMMARY

Broader Review of Clean Air Act

The Supreme Court expanded its review of the Clean Air Act by agreeing to decide if the statute requires looking beyond the public health benefits of reducing air pollution to consider the economic costs as well. The appeal was filed by the United States Chamber of Commerce and a group of regulated industries. A19

Pie Flung at Cabinet Officer

An advocate of animal rights threw a pie at Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman at a meeting on nutrition. The pie grazed his coat. Federal officials charged the protester with assault of a cabinet official. A16

NEW YORK/REGION B1-8

G.O.P. Nominates Lazio To Oppose Hillary Clinton

The New York Republican Party, meeting in Buffalo, unanimously selected Representative Rick A. Lazio of Long Island to be its candidate for the Senate. Mr. Lazio, who portrayed himself as a moderate, promised a hard-hitting campaign and accused Hillary Rodham Clinton of practicing "the politics of division." B1

Corzine Paid for Inquiry

Jon S. Corzine acknowledged that he had paid at least \$200,000 for a lawyer who had private investigators conduct an inquiry into Jim Florio, his opponent in the Democratic primary for Senate, and members of Mr. Florio's campaign staff. B5

SCIENCE/HEALTH

Effort on Hospital Safety

The nation's 172 veterans hospitals hired NASA to do for medical safety what it does for aviation: set up a system in which errors can be reported without fear of penalty and use the data to improve safety. A21

OBITUARIES A25

Robert P. Casey

The governor of Pennsylvania from 1987 to 1994, whose strong opposition to abortion put him at odds with the Democratic Party, was 68. A25

EDUCATION B8

Boys, Girls and Geography

A gender gap in the study of geography is now so wide that boys are 45 times more likely to be finalists in the National Geography Bee. A1

ARTS E1-10

SPORTS D1-8

Blazers Upset Los Angeles

NEWS SUMMARY

The Portland Trail Blazers stunned the Los Angeles Lakers, 96-88, at the Staples Center and forced the Western Conference finals to a Game 6. D3

Devils Lead Stanley Cup Finals

The Devils stunned the defending champions, the Dallas Stars, 7-3, in Game 1 of the N.H.L. finals. D1

BUSINESS DAY C1-24

Broadcast Limits Reconsidered

The F.C.C. proposed easing several decades-old regulations on broadcasters, including one that prevents companies from owning a broadcast station and newspaper in the same city and another prohibiting a company from owning more than one national television network. A1

Technology Stocks Ignite

The Nasdaq surged to its biggest percentage gain (7.9 percent) and the second-largest point gain (254.37) in its 29-year history, to close at 3,459.48. But even with the gains, the Nasdaq is still down nearly 15 percent so far this year. The Dow gained 227.89 points, or 2.2 percent, to 10,527.13, and the S.& P. 500 rose 44.43 points, or 3.2 percent, to 1,422.45. C1

Overhaul at Sara Lee

The giant consumer goods company, whose products range well beyond cheesecake to include underwear, leather goods and sporting apparel, said it would reorganize its operations and divest itself of four divisions in an effort to re-energize the company and improve earnings and stock growth. For more than two decades, the company has acquired major brands, and annual revenue is now about \$20 billion. C1

Business Digest C1

DINING F1-12

EDITORIAL A26-27

Editorials: Demanding new elections in Peru; the latest gun killings; bipartisan Medicare approaches; work-release for battered women.

Columns: Paul Krugman, Maureen Dowd.

Crossword E9

TV Listings E10

Public Lives B2

Weather D8

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Graphic

NEWS SUMMARY

Photos

Load-Date: May 31, 2000

End of Document

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Philadelphia Inquirer

MARCH 9, 1998 Monday SF EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer

Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A04

Length: 522 words

Body

IN THE NATION A man who had been kicked out of a New York City nightclub returned 15 minutes later with a semiautomatic weapon and opened fire early yesterday, wounding 10 people. One woman who was shot several times was in critical condition at Bellevue Hospital; the others injured - a woman and eight men - were listed in serious condition at various hospitals. Police were reviewing videotapes from a surveillance camera to try to identify the shooter, who fled the Sugarhill Club in Brooklyn.

More than a foot of wind-driven snow paralyzed travel across the central Plains and Midwest yesterday, filling roadside motels with idled motorists and stranding others in their cars. One traffic death was blamed on the storm. A 250-mile stretch of Interstate 80 across Nebraska was closed for a second day, with other roads closed in Kansas. Drifts were reported up to 8 feet high in Des Moines.

Alabama Gov. Fob James declared a state of emergency yesterday because of severe flooding in the south of the state. Many roads were impassable because of heavy rains that caused extensive flooding in Covington, Conecuh and Escambia counties in the southwest of the state.

Almost a dozen buildings in Atlanta's busy Buckhead business district were evacuated for almost two hours Saturday after police received a report of a suspicious package near an abortion clinic. The object turned out to be a toolbox left behind by a construction worker. Authorities said a 911 call reporting the box was taken seriously because of the bombings of Centennial Olympic Park, a nightclub and an abortion clinic during the last two years.

IN THE WORLD Philippine police yesterday shot dead eight prisoners holding five women hostage in a jail, but one of the women was stabbed to death by her captors during the police attack. Three other hostages were wounded as police smashed their way into the prison compound in Panabo near Davao, bringing the four-day hostage drama to a bloody end, police said.

Seventy people were killed by an avalanche that crushed a village in northern Afghanistan, officials said yesterday. The avalanche Saturday night nearly destroyed the village of Darbandi, about 50 miles north of the Afghan capital in the Hindu Kush mountains. Soldiers using picks and shovels to dig through the snow found 50 survivors.

Israeli forces killed two Shiite Muslim guerrillas during a weekend air and land attack in Israel's border occupation zone in southern Lebanon, the Israeli army announced yesterday. There were no Israeli casualties, the army said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli soldiers and their Lebanese militia allies patrol a 9-mile-deep zone in South Lebanon; the Iran-backed **Hezbollah** group is fighting a guerrilla war to oust Israel from the zone.

Iranian President Mohammad Khatami, trying to court millions of Iranians living abroad, has told embassies to ease their return home and plans a special address to them this month, a Tehran newspaper reported yesterday. Iran witnessed a "brain drain" of technocrats and professionals after the 1979 Islamic revolution, and the recently elected Khatami has previously called on Iranian expatriates to return.

Load-Date: October 24, 2002

End of Document

Lebanon and Israel agree to cease-fire

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

May 6, 2000, Saturday

Copyright 2000 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

Section: WIRE;

Length: 530 words

Byline: Associated Press

Body

BEIRUT, Lebanon -- After two days of tit-for-tat attacks that killed an Israeli soldier and two Lebanese civilians, Lebanese guerrillas and Israel both said Friday they would hold their fire.

The separate announcements came after Israeli warplanes left a deep crater in the highway from Beirut to the Syrian capital of Damascus on Friday and knocked out power stations in the Beirut suburb of Bsaleem and in the northern port city of Tripoli.

The latest round of retaliatory strikes -- the worst in nearly a year -- began Thursday when two Lebanese women were killed in shelling by Israel's allied militia in southern Lebanon.

Hezbollah responded with its fierce rocket attack on Israel's northern border, killing a soldier and wounding 26 other people.

Fighting continued Friday, with Israel bombing major Lebanese cities and Shiite Muslim guerrillas sending more rockets into northern Israel. Israel briefly responded before deciding during a closed-door, high-level meeting not to retaliate because no one had been killed in the Friday morning rocket attack.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan issued statements urging both sides to stop the fighting. The statements blamed neither side.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak warned that Syria would not be immune from attacks if the Lebanese guerrillas it backs continue to rocket Israeli towns after Israel withdraws its forces from Lebanon in July.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa condemned the Israeli attacks in telephone conversations with Albright and Annan, Syria's official news agency SANA reported.

Despite the attacks Friday, Lebanon, raised on civil war and regular Israeli air raids, carried on nearly as usual.

"Power cuts? We are used to power cuts," said Hermineh Aslanian, a jewelry store owner in the capital's commercial Bourj Hammoud district.

"The Israeli strikes were harmful because they came on the eve of the summer season during which Lebanese expatriates and foreign tourists visit Lebanon and spend a lot of money," said Mustafa Asfahani, 40, who owns a Persian carpet shop in the shopping district of Hamra.

Lebanon and Israel agree to cease-fire

Lebanese have lived through a devastating 1975-90 civil war and Israeli raids in 1999 and 1996 that destroyed power stations. As a result, few homes or businesses lack their own source of electricity through private generators or neighborhood services.

"We weren't affected because things are available for us and we are used to it -- the power cuts," said Fadi Qadi, 29, who lives in a building that has its own generator.

The Damascus-Beirut highway was reopened to normal traffic after swift repairs late Friday. Children in Beirut went to school even as jets could be heard overhead. Traffic was stifling as usual and most businesses opened, although many reported fewer customers.

"People are afraid that the cycle of violence might continue," said Darwish Samouri, owner of a women's clothing shop.

George Mouawad, director general of the Electricity Company, said power would be rationed once again in Beirut and other areas because six new transformers at Bsalem were destroyed. Mouawad said installations in Tripoli would take up to two years to fix.

Load-Date: May 6, 2000

End of Document

HIJACKED AIRLINER FLOWN TO NORWAY

The New York Times

September 16, 1993, Thursday, Late Edition - Final

Copyright 1993 The New York Times Company

Distribution: Foreign Desk

Section: Section A;; Section A; Page 5; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Column 1;

Length: 480 words

Byline: Reuters

Dateline: OSLO, Norway, Thursday, Sept. 16

Body

Three men, armed with grenades and explosives and believed to be Iranians, hijacked a Russian airliner with 50 people aboard to Norway Wednesday. The hijackers later surrendered and asked for political asylum, a spokeswoman for the Justice Ministry said today.

"The crisis is over," the spokeswoman said. "They've given themselves up."

The men walked out of the plane onto the tarmac and a waiting police car with their hands over their heads. The Norwegian news agency said there may have been four, not three, hijackers. All of the passengers were released unharmed.

"The only guarantee they have been given is that they will be treated as normal asylum-seekers and will be allowed to stay in the country until their application has been dealt with," said Kirsti Skjerven, an official with the crisis unit handling the hijacking.

Flight From Azerbaijan

The Tupolev 134 airliner landed at Gardermoen, north of Oslo, late Wednesday after a stopover in Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, with 44 passengers and six crew. The twin-engined Aeroflot aircraft was seized on a flight from Baku, the Azerbaijan capital, to the Russian city of Perm in the Urals.

The hijackers earlier released 12 people from those aboard the aircraft.

A fleet of ambulances drove along the runway shortly before midnight here, carrying six women, five children and one man who were freed by the hijackers.

It was not immediately clear if Norway's secret role in brokering the peace agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, had influenced the decision of the hijackers to fly to Oslo.

Before the plane touched down at Gardermoen, Norwegian special forces wearing bulletproof vests had taken up positions around the airport, which is about 25 miles north of Oslo. Fire engines and several ambulances were brought out onto the runway.

HIJACKED AIRLINER FLOWN TO NORWAY

Police chief Knut Austad said one hijacker was allowed to visit the control tower shortly after landing to confirm the plane was indeed in Norway.

Hijackers Make Demands

In radio conversations with officials at Kiev, the hijackers identified themselves as Muslim fundamentalists and initially demanded a Farsi-speaking interpreter and a crew capable of flying the short to medium-range airliner outside of what used to be the Soviet Union.

Ukrainian security sources said two of the men were brothers, longtime Iranian residents of Azerbaijan and sympathizers of the Iranian-backed Party of God, or **Hezbollah**.

An Iranian diplomat in Oslo, Mohammad Nikkah, told the Norwegian news agency that the Foreign Ministry telephoned him about the hijacking. He said he could not comment on the reports the hijackers were Iranian.

Norway's only previous hijacking was in 1985 by a drunk 24-year-old man brandishing an air pistol on a domestic flight. He demanded cold beer and, on getting it, gave himself up on landing at Oslo. He was later sentenced to three years in jail.

Graphic

Map of Norway showing locations of Oslo and Baku.

Load-Date: September 16, 1993

End of Document

Iran-Libya-Syria triangle: marriage of convenience

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

April 25, 1986, Friday

Copyright 1986 The Christian Science Publishing Society

Section: International; Pg. 11

Length: 919 words

Byline: By Claude van England, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

Dateline: Tehran, Iran

Highlight: US-Libya tension gives Iran chance to criticize Arabs, US

Body

A new wave of anti-American feeling has swept Iran, sparked by last week's American air strike against Libya.

Before the traditional Friday public prayers last week, hundreds of thousands of worshippers - including many schoolchildren - marched through the streets of several Iranian cities. They chanted slogans in support of the Libyan people and condemned the "barbaric US aggression" against Libyan civilians.

On the official side, Iranian leaders have clearly voiced their support for Libya, which, along with Syria, has been Iran's staunchest ally since the Islamic revolution in 1979. For several years, Syrian President Hafez Assad and Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi have sold Soviet-made weapons to Iran. The three countries' foreign ministers meet often to coordinate policies. Iran, Syria, and Libya oppose any concessions to Israel on the Palestinian homeland issue and have vowed to combat US influence in the Middle East.

But Iran's alliances with these two pro-Soviet nations are marriages of convenience rather than love matches, analysts say. Western observers here note that Iranian leaders and editorialists have refrained from praising Colonel Qaddafi specifically.

A highly placed Iranian official says privately that Iranian leaders have reservations about Qaddafi's policies. Iran is sincere in its condemnation of US policy toward Libya and supports Libya's claim to sovereignty over the Gulf of Sidra, the official says.

However, "Qaddafi's regime is not really Islamic," he continues. "He is often surrounded by a swarm of young, unveiled **female** bodyguards and we know that many Libyan Muslims disapprove of his socialist ideas."

Iranian officials believe Qaddafi has made political mistakes in recent months, a well-informed Iranian journalist says.

"Qaddafi has allowed Palestinian leaders to announce in Tripoli that they would hijack American and Israeli airplanes and that they would attack American civilian targets," the journalist says. "The Iranian government believes such acts tarnish the image of Islam."

In the past, he says, the Iranian government has reluctantly been dragged into hijackings by Arab Islamic groups. "But nowadays, Iran is trying to convince its allies throughout the world to renounce blind violence," he says. "In

Iran - Libya - Syria triangle: marriage of convenience

other words our government tells its friends that the bombing in 1983 of the American Marines headquarters in Beirut was a victory for Islam but that the hijacking of the TWA aircraft in June 1985 was a mistake."

(Iran is alleged to have close links with extremist Shiite Muslim groups in Lebanon that have claimed responsibility for the kidnapping and murder of several Westerners in the past 18 months.)

Iranian officials believe their brand of Islamic ideology stands to gain from the US-Libya confrontation.

"The American attack will help us to convince the Islamic masses throughout the world that the United States is the source of all terrorism on this planet and that it is the main enemy of Islam," a senior Foreign Ministry official says.

The crisis in the Mediterranean has also offered the Iranian leadership an opportunity to criticize its enemies in the Arab world. Iranian editorials have aimed their criticism mainly at Arab states that have not condemned strongly enough April 15 American raid.

"Before the attack," writes one Tehran daily, "Vice-President George Bush obtained the consent of Saudi Arabia and its Persian Gulf allies. The puppet rulers of those countries didn't even recall their ambassador from Washington after the raid." The Iranian press also bitterly criticized Egypt and Jordan.

The Iranian leadership is divided over Iran's relations with Syria. Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Vellyati leads the so-called pro-Syrian lobby. As this group sees it, Iran should maintain close ties with Syria for several reasons:

- * Early in the 5 -year-old Iran-Iraq war, Syria closed the pipeline linking Iraq's northern oil fields to the Mediterranean. Also, Syria sells weapons to Iran.
- * Syria has allowed several hundred Iranian Revolutionary Guards to maintain a presence in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.
- * Syria supports Iranian positions at Arab League meetings.

Several Iranian ministers and deputies, led by Ahmad Azizi, chairman of the parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, reject these arguments. Mr. Azizi regularly stresses that:

- * Syria has failed to reimburse Iran for a \$1 billion oil bill.
- * Iraq is now able to exports its oil through a pipeline that crosses Saudi Arabia, so Syria's blockage of the other pipeline is moot.
- * Syria sells only light and outdated weapons to Iran.
- * The Syrian Army has prevented Iranian Revolutionary Guards in Lebanon from participating in any serious military activities.
- * Syria's secular regime is widely reported to persecute Islamic activists.

Western diplomats also say Iran and Syria have conflicting long-term goals in Lebanon. Syria, these diplomats say, wants a peaceful Lebanon under its sponsorship. Iran supports the fundamentalist **Hizbullah** movement, whose aim is to set up an Islamic republic in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, events in the Mediterranean seem to be the main topic of conversation here. Many Tehran residents expressed shock at the US raid on Libya and anger at the British decision to allow US jets to take off from air bases in Britain.

However, different opinions were heard in Tehran's better-off neighborhoods. Some residents discretely expressed the hope that some day the US Air Force might bomb the headquarters of Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

Graphic

Picture 1, Khomeini has reservations about . . . , AP; Picture 2, Qaddafi's support for terrorism . . . , AP; Picture 3, and is at odds with Assad over Lebanon, SWEN SIMON; Picture 4, Pro-Khomeini demonstration in Iran, GAMMA/LIAISON

End of Document

AROUND THE WORLD

The Ottawa Citizen

May 24, 1992, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

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Section: FORUM; (NEWS); AROUND THE WORLD; Pg. B7

Length: 535 words

Byline: CITIZEN NEWS SERVICES

Body

ITALY

@brief18 = Anti-Mafia crusader, wife, killed in blast

PALERMO, Sicily -- An explosion blamed on the Mafia killed Italy's leading anti-Mafia crusader, his wife and at least three others as they drove on a crowded highway outside Palermo Saturday, police said.

The assassination of Giovanni Falcone was the most sensational Mafia hit in 10 years and shocked the political establishment in Italy, which is without a permanent head of state or premier for the first time since the Second World War.

The blast injured at least nine people, police said. It pulverized 366 metres of two-lane highway, twisting guard rails and covering the carcasses of cars with rubble.

KENYA

@brief18 = Church calls for government to resign

NAIROBI -- The Roman Catholic cardinal and Kenya's 18 Catholic bishops said the government had lost its right to rule and suggested that it resign.

The church hierarchy's warning delivered Friday increases pressure on President Daniel arap Moi, whom the clerics severely criticized three weeks ago, blaming him and his officials for repeated episodes of ethnic strife. In their new statement, the clerics said the government was turning a blind eye to "trained warriors" responsible for the violence.

LEBANON

@brief18 = Thousands flee war zone

JARJOUH -- Thousands of villagers fled the war zone in southern Lebanon Saturday, the fifth day of shelling duels between Israeli forces and pro-Iranian guerrillas.

Israeli artillery opened up against guerrilla-held areas north of the Jewish state's self-declared "security zone" in Lebanon and gunners from the Shiite Muslim Hezbollah, or Party of God, fired on Israeli positions.

AROUND THE WORLD

Security sources said the bombardment gradually eased in the evening, but the more than 14,000 villagers who fled were still cautious about returning home.

IRAN

@brief18 = Professor fired for sex teachings

NICOSIA, Cyprus -- A Tehran University professor has been fired for preaching premarital sex and other "cheap western" values in his lectures, Iran's official news agency reported Saturday.

The university's social science department fired the part-time professor, identified only as Zarrinkelk, following complaints from students, the agency said.

"He is said to have been ridiculing the Islamic culture and encouraging his students to follow cheap western cultural values. He has been advocating premarital relations between female and male students and cohabitation," it said.

Iran observes strict Islamic laws which forbid premarital sex, mixed parties and women showing more than their face and hands in public.

BELGIUM

@brief18 = Plane drops sandbags on store, injures 6

BRUSSELS -- Six people shopping at a home repair store were injured when a Belgian military transport plane dropped eight tonnes of sandbags and rocks on the building near the city of Charleroi Saturday, witnesses said.

Two of the injured were admitted to hospital after being hit on the head by sandbags.

The crew of the Hercules C-130, which was taking part in an exhibition over Charleroi Airport, took a few seconds too long to drop its load and missed the practice target, the witnesses told Belgian television.

Graphic

(Giovanni) Falcone: On highway

Load-Date: May 25, 1992

WORLD IN BRIEF;
Paraguayan terrorists target U.S.

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution

November 6, 1996, Wednesday,

JOURNAL EDITION

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Section: FOREIGN NEWS; Pg. 06A

Length: 1141 words

Byline: From our news services

Series: This story also ran in the Today's News edition of The Atlanta Journal.

Body

American facilities in Paraguay are the target of a terrorist threat, State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said Tuesday. He called it a "very worrisome" situation.

Burns advised U.S. citizens to take precautions in the South American country, especially if they visit U.S. government offices.

The State Department advised Americans to vary their travel routines and be alert to surveillance. U.S. officials said the threat was mounted by a group that operates on a global basis, but they declined to provide details.

Last week, the State Department warned U.S. citizens in Israel to be on the alert. On Monday, the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh warned Americans in Saudi Arabia to be vigilant against possible attacks.

THE AMERICAS Taped sensors?

Aeroperu officials had no comment on a report that duct tape mistakenly left on crucial sensors on a Boeing 757 after cleaning led to a crash off the coast of Peru that killed all 70 people aboard. Victor Girao, the former president of the Faucett Pilots Association, however, said the report that workers put tape over the sensors was an unsubstantiated rumor that has been circulating since the Aeroperu jet crashed Oct. 2 shortly after taking off from Lima.

Soccer official held

Guatemalan police have arrested the man who was in charge of ticket booths and gate personnel at the Mateo Flores National Stadium, where a stampede last month left 84 people dead. It wasn't clear whether Augusto Arroyo Hernandez had been charged with anything, but prosecutors said they were seeking 10 other people. In addition to those killed, some 195 people were injured as soccer fans at a World Cup qualifier match between Guatemala and Costa Rica converged in a stadium tunnel. Exactly what prompted the stampede remains unclear.

WORLD IN BRIEF; Paraguayan terrorists target U.S.

Arms tracing planned

The U.S. government has agreed to help Mexican authorities trace thousands of firearms they have seized recently, largely as part of their war against drug-related crimes. At the request of Mexican officials, the Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms will try to determine whether nearly 4,300 weapons recently confiscated in Mexico came from the United States.

Election truce called

The newly emerged Popular Revolutionary Army has declared a unilateral truce for Sunday's elections in the state of Mexico, the *la Jornada* newspaper reported. The truce is to extend from Tuesday through Nov. 17, the paper said, citing a rebel communique. At stake in Sunday's elections are 122 mayoralties and the 75-seat local congress.

EUROPE 50th peacekeeper dies

A British soldier is the 50th peacekeeper to die while serving in the NATO-led force in Bosnia, NATO officials said Tuesday. The soldier, Cpl. Stephen Thirwell, died when his vehicle slid down a 40-foot embankment in a northwestern area of the country. Seven American servicemen have died since U.S. troops joined the force. No soldier serving in the peace force has been killed by hostile fire from any of Bosnia's former warring factions.

Glacial flooding

Volcanic eruptions beneath Europe's largest glacier melted the cap of the icy mass Tuesday, unleashing floodwaters that swept away two bridges in Iceland. Floodwaters from the Vatnajökull glacier destroyed the 1,233-foot-long Gigja Bridge as well as another 164-foot bridge along the country's southern coast.

Pit bulls voted down

Breeding pit bull terriers as well as importing or exporting the dogs would be illegal under a measure passed by Hungary's Parliament Tuesday. With the steep rise in crime in Hungary, especially robberies, pit bulls have become the guard dog of choice for the newly wealthy. The legislation is a response to public outrage over several recent incidents in which dogs attacked people, including small children.

ASIA Soldier found dead

A South Korean soldier missing for two weeks was found dead on a mountain slope today, apparently killed by North Korean infiltrators from a submarine that ran aground in September. The body was discovered a day after South Korean troops shot and killed two North Korean agents, one of whom was wearing Pyo's uniform. He had been strangled several miles from where the two communist agents were killed in a gun battle, Defense Ministry officials said. He was the 13th South Korean killed since 26 North Koreans came ashore from a submarine stranded on the east coast Sept. 18. So far, 24 of the North Korean intruders have been killed or found dead. One has been captured and another is still missing.

Smoke forces landing

Smoke inside a Northwest Airlines jet headed to Honolulu forced the pilot to make an emergency landing today in Tokyo. The Boeing 747-400 landed safely, and none of the 371 people aboard were injured, airport police said. The flight from Osaka was over the Pacific Ocean when the pilot reported the smoke. Airport officials believe the smoke was caused by air conditioning problems, police said. The flight was scheduled to continue to Honolulu later today, Northwest Airlines said.

WORLD IN BRIEF; Paraguayan terrorists target U.S.

Travel rules eased

China is making it easier for citizens to go abroad, but gaining permission to travel outside the communist state will remain a complicated process. State-run media reported today that the government will simplify approval procedures for overseas travel and prohibit arbitrary treatment, an apparent attempt to discourage corrupt officials from demanding bribes. Still, Chinese can only get an application form for overseas travel by justifying their reasons for leaving and submitting an identity card, the official Xinhua News Agency reported today. The new rules will make passports valid for five years, and no official will be allowed to shorten that term.

Scarves OK in military

Reversing a month-old ban, the Malaysian government reportedly has decided to allow Muslim women in the military to wear traditional head scarves. Women may wear scarves "as long as it does not affect their official duties," Deputy Defense Minister Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan was quoted as saying by the New Straits Times. Under a Sept. 30 order, women in the military were prevented from wearing the tudung, which leaves only the face exposed. They were required to wear military caps.

MIDDLE EAST Rebels get rockets

Iran has produced a long-range rocket and Western experts believe Hezbollah guerrillas are using it against Israeli forces and their militia allies in southern Lebanon, according to Jane's Defense Weekly. The 240mm artillery rocket has a range of more than 25 miles, the magazine reported Tuesday. In September, the Israeli military said Hezbollah, an avowed enemy of the Jewish state, had acquired a powerful new rocket system with a range of 27 miles. Jane's - an international authority on weapons systems - said it obtained a brochure from the Iranian defense industry with photos and details of the unguided multiple rocket system called FADJR-3.

Graphic

Photo: Veterans of the International Brigade stroll Tuesday across the Arganda Bridge outside Madrid, where they defended the capital during the Spanish Civil War. / PAUL WHITE / Associated Press

Load-Date: November 7, 1996

Is the US ruthless enough?

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

February 12, 1987, Thursday

Copyright 1987 The Christian Science Publishing Society

Section: Opinion; Pg. 15

Length: 890 words

Byline: Dimitri K. Simes; Dimitri K. Simes is senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Body

DOES the United States possess the determination and ruthlessness necessary for a superpower? It would be nice if this country could protect its global interests without hurting a single innocent. But that is simply not in the cards. There is no international supergovernment to compel aggressors, terrorists, and perpetrators of other hostile acts to refrain from abusing America and Americans. Whatever virtues the Organization of United Nations may have, the power to enforce international law is not one of them.

Accordingly the US has three options: to reduce the scope of its involvement in the world; to communicate through both words and - most important - deeds that pushing the US around may be deadly; or to risk a great deal of damage to its prestige and the effectiveness of its foreign policy. It is unfortunately the third option that has been pursued by default by all administrations since the defeat in Vietnam. Few highly visible military actions such as the invasion of Grenada and the raid on Libya were directed against regimes so isolated and weak that they could be performed quickly and on the cheap. When confronted with more formidable opponents in Damascus and Tehran, US foreign policy was reduced to a pitiful mixture of bluffing in public and appeasement in private. No wonder hard-nosed rulers of Syria and Iran were not impressed.

And so we stand today, grateful that the kidnappers of American professors in Lebanon, citing "repeated calls of the hostages themselves for a deferment of the deadline, mounting pleas by their families and national Lebanese bodies as well as the Indian government," have agreed to postpone the execution of their victims. Is there anything the US can do to put a stop to this endless humiliation? The answer depends upon the price we as a society are willing to pay for protecting our positions and dignity.

It is hard to be certain regarding the identities of the kidnappers. It is even harder to undertake a military mission against them without risking the lives of hostages and innocent Lebanese, including women and children. There would be nasty pictures the next day on TV. There would be angry demonstrations in Arab capitals. And there would be the possibility that the Soviet Union would exploit the situation to its advantage. If such costs are prohibitive, the US could, despite all its military hardware, expect to be treated as a hapless giant. That would not happen always, or everywhere. But there would inevitably be plenty of instances when the US became a target.

By that logic, of course, it was a mistake to drop atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, or, for that matter, to carpet-bomb Dresden and other German cities. To be blunt: If protecting enemy civilians is the highest priority, military operations cannot be conducted. Conversely, if Americans do believe that enough is at stake in the fight against terrorism to justify hurting the innocents, the US has formidable instruments to project its will.

Is the US ruthless enough?

I am not talking about a token retaliation against terrorist camps in the Bekaa Valley. To bomb them would be a cop-out for domestic consumption. The destruction of the camps resolves nothing. It would not frighten President Assad or Ayatollah Khomeini. And the supply of fanatics in the Middle East makes certain that dead terrorists would be quickly replaced.

If the US is serious about making the difference, it may start by issuing a deadline of its own: Release our hostages fast or else. If they are not out in 24 hours - so go Hizbullah party installations all over Lebanon. If they are not out in 48 hours - so go fortified Syrian positions in the Bekaa Valley. If they are not out in 72 hours - so go the Iranian Navy, Air Force, and oil processing facilities. And let those on the receiving end guess what might come next. All these things and beyond are militarily perfectly feasible. The risk of a direct confrontation with the Soviet Union would be minimal. Moscow could be relied upon to launch a propaganda crusade, offer post facto assistance to those under a US attack, all the while carefully avoiding a military clash with another superpower.

A brutal punishment of US enemies would not necessarily save those who are now hostages. And it would not instantly put an end to terrorist attacks against the US. On the contrary, initially a massive US operation would run the risk of triggering more of them. In the long run, however, terrorist groups cannot operate for long without support of governments. And governments - the Iranian and Syrian regimes are no exception - rarely take unnecessary chances if their very survival is clearly at stake. And the demonstration of US ruthlessness might encourage US friends, give a pause to US opponents, and, even by upping the ante, contribute to more moderate geopolitical conduct by the Soviets.

A brutal display of force is not a panacea. It is not a substitute for an understanding of local sensitivities, for a creative diplomacy, for patience, or - yes - for generosity. And blessed are the nations that can live happily and proudly without hurting a single innocent. Tragically, superpowers do not enjoy such luxury. An intellectually honest case can be made that it is better for the US to be a model of morality than an effective superpower. The point is that it cannot be both.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

April 24, 1996, Wednesday, FIVE STAR LIFT Edition

Copyright 1996 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

Section: EDITORIAL; Pg. 6B; LETTERS

Length: 1190 words

Body

Israel Bombing Just Repayment

The United Nations has condemned in the "strongest terms" the daily bombing of unarmed refugee camps by Israel. In World War II, I helped liberate German death camps. It was a horrible thing to gas women and children.

It was an even worse thing to see arms and body parts flying through the air from shelling and rockets during heavy fighting in World War II. Twice wounded, I tried to forget what I saw and did.

The United States has always poured multi-billions into Israel, plus massive weapons shipments. This is being used to blow women and children limb from limb.

Has this unrestrained flow of aid without preconditions brought more killing than peace? Every time they do this, I urge the United States to permanently cut welfare to any country that uses our tax dollars this way!

Robert V. Benz

Glendale

Otis Pike's April 19 Commentary article concerning Israel's attacks on Lebanon is simply naive and uses the same flawed reasoning that failed the United States in Vietnam. Israel has been the victim of Iranian- and Syrian-supported terrorist attacks from Lebanon for more than two decades.

Israel's recent retaliation is not a campaign against civilians but one to rid Hezbollah from Lebanon. Pike's article seems to support the U.S. policy of letting the politicians run the Vietnam War by trying to selectively hit military targets. The U.S. military personnel were often told not to harm civilians - by Pike's analysis - a workable policy.

While this is certainly a noble goal and one shared by Israel, the fact of the matter is that civilians die in war. In this case, a war clearly instigated by the constant barrage of rocket attacks by terrorists on northern Israel. If Cuba began launching attacks on the United States, I can bet Pike would not put his energy into making sure Cuban civilians were not injured during our retaliation.

A country must be able to defend itself in the strongest way. The only party to blame for the terrible deaths of children is Hezbollah.

Jeffrey H. Kass

Creve Coeur

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

I am proud to say that the Post-Dispatch seems to be one of the few members of the national media that has taken a proper perspective on the Israeli bombing of the U.N. shelter in Lebanon. It is sad to see most of the rest of the media, both print and television, trying to justify Israel's government terrorism.

Clearly the editorial writers of the Post-Dispatch have taken a realistic and moral view of this act, and I commend them for that. It is time the rest of the media stopped catering to the Israeli lobby and began thinking independently and fairly. These efforts to justify the unjustifiable must stop if there is to be any equity in the world. The same applies to our government.

Roger Othman

Ballwin

School To Work

The Carnahan Tax Plan of 1993 has already been imposed on Missourians without the promised voter approval. Now Gov. Mel Carnahan wants to take over all Missouri Education with his so-called "School-to-Work Roadway to Success" plan. Not only are parents denied a vote on this Carnahan plan, the Missouri House and Senate, your local school board and even private schools will have no vote or have any meaningful input.

If you believe that Carnahan and his bureaucrats know what is best for our kids, you have nothing to worry about. I would like to know what is in the plan before making up your mind call (573) 751-4212 and ask a free copy of "Missouri's Roadway to Success" plan. It's an eye-opener.

John F. Adam

Ladue

GOP's Gay Card

The April 16 editorial, "GOP Plays The Gay Card," misses the point. It asks: "What is marriage? What is the state's interest?" It says that opponents of gay marriages latch onto the issue of procreation as the overriding reason it should be illegal. Not so!

Marriage is a divine institution, a one-flesh union between one man and one woman (Genesis 2:24). Some things are not up for a vote. If 100 percent of voters decided to repeal the law of gravity, it wouldn't change anything. Just as God has established physical laws that cannot be broken, so too he has established moral laws. If we break them, we will ultimately be broken by them. This is true for the institution of marriage.

In 1885, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that states must anchor their marriage laws "on the basis of the idea of the family, as consisting in and springing from the union for life of one man and one woman in the holy estate of matrimony; the sure foundation of all that is stable and noble in our civilization, the best guaranty of that reverent morality which is the source of all beneficent progress in social and political improvement" (Murphy vs. Ramsey).

Elected representatives have the right and responsibility to determine what is harmful to the health and morals of the public. Those trying to radically redefine the holy institution of marriage need to read and submit to the only owner's manual of the world - the Bible. It is the perfect law of freedom.

W.H. Bell

Ballwin

Congratulations on the April 16 editorial, "GOP Plays The Gay Card." If this is the strategy of the "Grand Ole Party," I've had it. I've voted Republican in every presidential campaign since Wendell Wilke.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

However, I couldn't vote in 1992 for George Bush, as the federal deficit under Ronald Reagan and Bush was inexcusable. And now, if they attempt to show this hatred, I'm sure even Abe Lincoln, who believed in tolerance, would not cast his vote for them, as I don't think I will.

James S. Dickerson

Kirkwood

Technology Victims

I couldn't agree more with Charles Guenther Jr.'s April 18 Commentary article about technology victimization. My family used to own a large wagon manufacturing company in St. Louis. They employed hundreds of carpenters and blacksmiths. They built wagons that helped settle the west, build St. Louis and fight the Civil War.

It was a shame to lose all of those jobs and our family business to the automobile industry. Perhaps Guenther would help me lead the fight to outlaw motor cars so we can bring back the horse and buggy. It just warms my heart to see pictures of Haiti and other Third World countries where the peasants are pushing carts around in order to move their belongings.

Also, it was such a shame for Guenther to choose a profession such as engineer during this age of high technology. What could he have been thinking when he made his career decision?

Ted Engler

University City

School Politics

Imagine if Rev. Pat Robertson were invited to speak to a St. Louis County public school student audience. In his talk, he speaks against Democratic politicians and urges the students to become politically active by joining the Christian Coalition, registering to vote and supporting Republican candidates.

Would there not be objections by the Post-Dispatch as to a violation of church/state separation or improper political advocacy by the school administration?

Yet when Rev. Jesse Jackson visited a public school in East St. Louis, speaking against Republican politicians and urging students to join the Rainbow Coalition, register to vote and support Democratic candidates, there is no objection raised. Is there a double-standard here? Kent Weber

St. Peters

Load-Date: April 24, 1996

Khomeini backs reformists / New government formed in Iran

The Sunday Times (London)

October 27 1985, Sunday

Copyright 1985 Times Newspapers Limited

Section: Issue 8412.

Length: 501 words

Byline: RACHEL RILEY

Guests: DUBAI

Body

Iran is likely to pursue a more revolutionary line in its economy after the victory of the prime minister, Hussein Moussavi, in a clash last week with President Ali Khamenei over the formation of a new government.

The prime minister and the president had been at odds last week after Khomeini had refused to endorse half of the 24 men Moussavi wanted to appoint to his new cabinet. Under the constitution, the president has to approve all ministerial candidates.

This deadlock had threatened to prevent Iran from getting a new cabinet by the end of this month when, by law, a new government should be approved by parliament. But Khomeini has now given his backing to the prime minister, so few people expect any problems when the names of the new cabinet are submitted to parliament early this week.

The president and the prime minister are at opposite ends of the political spectrum on economic policy. The radical Moussavi believes that priority should be given to satisfying the needs of the Mostazafin, 'the dispossessed'. He supports land reform, the confiscation of businesses whose owners are considered un-Islamic and the establishment of large state organisations.

President Khomeini, in contrast, belongs to the conservative faction, which is heavily supported by businessmen. This group believes that businessmen should be allowed a greater role in the economy's management. It argues that radical reforms on property rights smack of socialism and are therefore un-Islamic. In this, it is supported by powerful religious leaders who are ultra-conservative in their views.

In the past two years, the conservatives have had the upper hand and they form the majority in the 270-seat Majlis, or parliament. They have also frequently demonstrated their muscle by calling their Hezbollah (party of God) supporters into the streets. In the past year there have been numerous demonstrations by the Hezbollahi against women whom they consider to be inadequately covered.

Now there has been a backlash against the conservative faction. Leading mullahs have protested against moves by the conservatives to hand businesses back to their original owners.

At the onset of the revolution, thousands of businesses were seized in the name of 'the dispossessed'. Since then the war against Iraq and the burden of debt left by exiled Iranians have made it difficult for the state charity organisations to put these companies back on a viable basis.

Khomeini backs reformists / New government formed in Iran

Now it appears that the reformists have won the day. Iran's ruling circles clearly believe that pandering to the interests of rich landowners and businessmen at a time of economic hardship for the Iranian is inappropriate.

Ayatollah Khomeini has thrown his support behind the prime minister on two occasions in the past month. He criticised parliamentary deputies for not supporting Moussavi in a recent vote of confidence. One third of the 270 members had voted against him or abstained. Deputies were told to support their government and avoid any show of disunity.

Load-Date: September 21, 2000

End of Document

Shiite cleric says paper made up Terry Waite story

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

January 18, 1988, Monday, City Edition

Times Publishing Company

Section: NATIONAL; WORLD DIGEST; Pg. 9A; DIGEST

Length: 540 words

Dateline: BEIRUT, Lebanon; ISLAMABAD, Pakistan; BONN; CAPE TOWN, South Africa; NICOSIA, Cyprus; OSWIECIM, Poland

Body

BEIRUT, Lebanon - A pro-Iranian Shiite cleric has denied telling a British newspaper that Anglican church envoy Terry Waite will not be freed before President Reagan leaves office. The Sunday Express stood by its story. In a statement, Sheik Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of Hezbollah, or Party of God, said: "The Sunday Express report is fabricated, false and baseless." In another development, a senior Moslem militia security source said prospects for Waite to be released soon are dim because the British government refuses to bargain and because of his value to his abductors. "Every hostage has his government or party to negotiate his freedom - Waite has no one but God," the source said.

Pakistan: No bomb material

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan - Pakistan's official news agency published a denial Sunday of charges that material for making nuclear bombs had been smuggled from West Germany to Pakistan. It quoted an official source as saying the charges were part of a calculated campaign to malign Pakistan and reiterated that Pakistan's nuclear program is purely for peaceful purposes.

Shevardnadze flies to Bonn

BONN - Eduard Shevardnadze began a three-day visit to Bonn on Sunday, the first in five years by a Soviet foreign minister and the first ever by a top-ranking emissary of Mikhail Gorbachev. The Soviet Union has been wooing West Germany in recent weeks as differing opinions on key security issues emerge between West Germany and other NATO partners, particularly the United States.

Baby born with two heads

Shiite cleric says paper made up Terry Waite story

CAPE TOWN, South Africa - A **female** baby with two heads was born in South Africa on Saturday night and is still alive in serious but stable condition, a hospital spokeswoman said Sunday. The baby was delivered by Caesarean section. "This is not a case of Siamese twins," said Dr. Marie Potgieter of Tygerberg Hospital. "The child definitely has two heads and only one body, that's all we want to say at this stage."

Iran may ship food via Syria

NICOSIA, Cyprus - Iran said Sunday it has held talks with Syria about increasing exports to Europe. Ahmad Madani, an Iranian transportation official, discussed setting up two Iranian-Syrian companies to handle sea and land transport, Iran's national news agency IRNA reported.

Madani said it was planned to transport Iranian goods, including fresh fruit, dried fruit and vegetables, to Europe through Syria. The agency did not explain the reason for the arrangement but Iraq, at war with Iran for seven years, repeatedly attacks Iranian merchant shipping in the Persian Gulf.

Wiesel, Walesa meet

OSWIECIM, Poland - Elie Wiesel embraced Lech Walesa before a monument at the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp Sunday and promised that a gathering of Nobel laureates would proclaim that human beings have a right not to suffer. It was only the second time Wiesel had returned to the camp where he was imprisoned as a young boy. Today is the 43rd anniversary of the camp's evacuation by the Nazis. The meeting was the symbolic start of a four-day symposium of nearly 80 Nobel Prize winners that begins today in Paris.

Load-Date: November 10, 1992

Muslim group pleads for release of Soviet envoys held in Lebanon: The Beirut kidnappings

The Times (London)

October 10 1985, Thursday

Copyright 1985 Times Newspapers Limited

Section: Issue 62265.

Length: 511 words

Byline: From Our Correspondent

Dateline: BEIRUT

Body

A Muslim fundamentalist group yesterday appealed for the release of three Soviet diplomats kidnapped in Beirut last month, but the call came amid a new spate of sectarian abductions in the Lebanese capital.

On Tuesday, gunmen released two British **women** held hostage in Beirut for 13 days. Miss Hazel Moss, aged 42, from Derby and Miss Amanda Magrath, aged 28, from Portsmouth, told reporters they did not know who had kidnapped them.

Yesterday's appeal was made by the spokesman of the pro-Iranian **Hezbollah** or 'Party of God', Sheikh Muhammad al-Amin who said 'suspicious organs' trying to put the blame on Islamic groups were behind the kidnapping of the Soviet diplomats.

'We hope all will cooperate in bringing about the safe and prompt release of the Soviet hostages now that the crisis of Tripoli has been resolved,' Sheikh al-Amin said in a statement published by Lebanese newspapers.

A previously unknown group calling itself the Islamic Liberation Organization admitted responsibility for kidnapping four Soviet diplomats in Beirut on September 30. The group still holds the Soviet Embassy press attache, Mr Oleg Spirin, commercial attache, Mr Valery Mirikov, and the embassy doctor, Dr Nikolai Sversky. The fourth man, a consular section secretary Arkady Katkov, was shot dead and his body found in West Beirut last week.

The kidnappers had demanded Soviet pressure on Syria, its main Middle East ally, to end the 19-day siege on the Lebanese city of Tripoli by leftist, pro-Syria militias fighting Sunni Muslim fundamentalists of the Tawheed, or unification movement.

Meanwhile, police said gunmen briefly kidnapped five Christian Lebanese journalists, the wife of one of them and their Muslim driver after they crossed into the city's mostly Muslim Western sector going to work at the independent French language L'Orient-le Jour daily.

Police said they were freed unharmed four hours later after direct intervention by Mr Nabih Berri, Lebanon's Justice Minister and leader of the Shia Muslim Amal militia.

They were the latest victims of the current round of sectarian abductions. More than 70 other people have been abducted on both sides of Beirut's dividing green line in the last three months.

Muslim group pleads for release of Soviet envoys held in Lebanon : The Beirut kidnappings

MOSCOW - The Soviet Union is continuing its unusually frank coverage of efforts to save the three kidnapped Soviet Embassy employees. Breaking with tight-lipped tradition, the Kremlin has printed daily reminders of the kidnapping and subsequent killing of Mr Katkov.

In two separate reports from Lebanon, Tass carried local condemnations of the attack and calls for efforts to locate the missing Soviets. 'The wave of indignation with this crime which swept Lebanon is a manifestation of the true attitude of the Lebanese people to the great Soviet friend,' said a statement from the Lebanese Community Party carried by Tass.

The Soviet public has still not been told the identities of the three men still held. 'The Russians are treating it seriously, there is a steady media coverage, but at the same time it is not front page news,' said a western diplomat.

Load-Date: September 21, 2000

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**LEBANESE FORCES GET WARM WELCOME AS THEY ENTER SOUTHERN
ZONE BUT ISRAEL ISN'T;
CONVINCED THE TROOPS CAN CONTAIN MUSLIM GUERRILLAS**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

August 10, 2000, Thursday, FIVE STAR LIFT EDITION

Copyright 2000 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

Section: NEWS, Pg. A2

Length: 551 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Dateline: MARJAYOUN, LEBANONJEWS; ARABS; MUSLIMS; MILITARY; GUERRILLAS; DEPLOYMENT
TERRITORY

Body

Church bells rang, drivers honked their horns and women offered sweets and kisses to soldiers Wednesday as Lebanese security forces moved into south Lebanon for the first time in some 20 years.

But the arrival of a mere 1,000 soldiers and police officers did not convince officials in neighboring Israel that there would be peace along the border.

The Lebanese force's commander, police Brig. Gen. Nazih Abi Nader, said his men would not take up positions at Fatima Gate, the closed crossing point that has been the scene of stone-throwing and occasional shots since Israel withdrew its troops May 24.

Israel had occupied south Lebanon as a buffer against cross-border attacks.

Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Ephraim Sneh said the Lebanese forces weren't enough to contain the Muslim guerrillas who took over southern Lebanon in the wake of the pullout.

"Just as we withdrew to the last millimeter, the Lebanese army needs to ensure security until the last millimeter of the border," Sneh said on Israeli army radio.

Three guerrillas were eating breakfast at Fatima Gate, where flags of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group flew. Elsewhere, however, the guerrillas kept a low profile, appearing unarmed and in civilian clothes, in compliance with their leaders' pledges to recognize the Lebanese government's authority.

"The deployment is the first step toward the gradual restoration of Lebanese authority over southern Lebanon," U.N. spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva said in New York.

Policemen in gray camouflage fatigues and soldiers in armored vehicles drove into the former Israeli-occupied zone at dawn.

"We have been waiting for you!" Antoinette Shahin shouted as a convoy passed through the Christian village of Qlaiaa. "We haven't slept all night!"

LEBANESE FORCES GET WARM WELCOME AS THEY ENTER SOUTHERN ZONE BUT ISRAEL ISN'T;
CONVINCED THE TROOPS CAN CONTAIN MUSLIM GUERRILLAS

Shahin went into her grocery, grabbed a bag of rice and ran out to toss it on the troops. Other villagers threw rose petals.

"There is no substitute for the army," said Jamil Jouki, 51, as he pressed baklava, a sticky Middle Eastern treat, into the soldiers' hands.

Two Muslim women in Bint Jbeil lunged at the soldiers, trying to kiss them. Shouts of "Allahu akbar," or "God is great," rang out as the first convoy went through the town followed by townspeople honking the horns of their cars.

Church bells tolled in the nearby village of Ein Ibl when the units arrived. Men performed the dabke, a foot-stomping dance, in the square.

The deployment particularly pleased Christians, who have been worried about Muslim guerrillas taking control. Many Christians are pro-Israel, and some 6,000 Lebanese, mainly Christians, fled the zone to Israel just before the withdrawal.

The security forces set up base at the former Lebanese army barracks in the town of Marjayoun. The compound had served as headquarters of the pro-Israel local militia, now disbanded, and of the Israeli military.

Israel invaded Lebanon in 1978 and 1982, setting up an occupied zone in the south in 1985 that it maintained with the militia's help until May.

U.N. peacekeepers moved into the former occupied zone Saturday - a step that Lebanon had insisted on before its own deployment.

Lebanon's interior minister, Michel Murr, says it is up to U.N. peacekeepers to police the border. But U.N. spokesman Timur Goksel says Lebanon has not authorized the peacekeepers' deployment at Fatima Gate.

Load-Date: August 10, 2000

Fighters take battle to Web

The Times (London)

September 30, 1998, Wednesday

Copyright 1998 Times Newspapers Limited

Section: Features

Length: 586 words

Byline: ToKelly

Body

Islamic fundamentalists and armed groups all over the world have found an ideal medium

IT'S not just nations that are joining the race to get wired. Even the Islamic fundamentalist Taleban who are currently fighting for control of war-ravaged Afghanistan have extended their battle to the Web.

Television, music and dancing are all banned in Taleban-controlled areas. But for this organisation and many others desperate to find a means of broadcasting their views, the power of the Web is irresistible.

The professionally produced pages are a sharp contrast to the more ruthless face of an organisation which controls areas where women are forbidden from walking in the street and thieves have their hands cut off.

The Taleban's attempts to take Afghanistan back to the medieval roots of Islam usually condemn any trappings of 20th-century modernity as the work of Satan. But the Web provides a unique method of getting their arguments heard.

The Taleban have turned to the Internet to confront an increasingly hostile world, in much the same way that human rights campaigners in a number of repressive countries have used it to break down the barriers of censorship and communicate with supporters who would otherwise be cut off from them.

Free from Government control and offering a host of ways of disguising the source of its information, it has become an ideal medium for clandestine communication.

Western newspapers have been giving the Taleban an increasingly bad press. They were recently targeted by the US for sheltering Osama bin Laden, the man allegedly behind the US Embassy bombings.

Human rights groups have also condemned the Taleban for its policy towards women, who are banned from life outside the home.

Written in English, the Taleban site is clearly intended for international consumption. It includes the Taleban newspaper, chat rooms and appeals for financial assistance.

However, the vast bulk is taken up with theological tracts attacking the West and defending Taleban policies. This remarkable site claims to be the only example of truly Islamic journalism in the world.

But while the Web's geographic ambiguity can be useful, it is difficult to tell if a site is genuine or not.

Fighters take battle to Web

Two Taleban sites already exist. One is spelt "Taliban", the other "Taleban". The space for counter propaganda is obviously there.

Armed groups all over the world have set up Web pages. Sri Lanka's Tamil Tigers, the Zapatistas in Mexico and the Islamic Front for Salvation in Algeria are all there.

The vast majority, however, are centred around the Arab-Israeli conflict, with **Hezbollah** having a particularly glossy page, while another campaigns for the release of prisoners such as Sheikh Obeid, the Lebanese Muslim cleric who has been in Israeli jails for almost a decade since being snatched from his village and whose freedom was once suggested as part of a deal for freeing Western hostages in Lebanon.

The flow is not all one way - Israeli "anti-terror sites" are numerous, giving alternative profiles of most of the groups.

Battle has shifted, partly at least, to the hi-tech world of the Web. However, this has brought some of the more traditional methods of war with it. A site related to ETA, the Basque terrorist group, was recently bombed out of existence by over-zealous e-mailing.

For further information: www.taliban.com (Official)

www.taleban.com (Unofficial)

www.eelamweb.com (Tamil Tigers)

www.ezln.org (Zapatistas)

www.fisalgeria.org (Islamic Front for Salvation)

www.ict.org.il (anti-terror)

Load-Date: October 1, 1998

Israel's air force lifts veil of secrecy

The Times (London)

September 30, 1998, Wednesday

Copyright 1998 Times Newspapers Limited

Section: Features

Length: 564 words

Byline: Christopher Walker

Body

Christopher Walker on how the fliers have leapt on the Net

THE Israeli Air Force, regarded along with Mossad, the external security service and Shin Bet, the equivalent of M15, as one of the most secretive organisations in the Jewish state, has inaugurated its own website - the largest in Israel to date.

The site has raised a flutter in the foreign intelligence community as well as among would-be airmen and women, as it reveals details considered secret until now, including the names and locations of the IAF's bases. Some cynics have suggested that the co-ordinates may be not exactly accurate.

Also revealed for the first time are details of a series of test runs of the Arrow antimissile missile, the hoped for successor to the US Patriot. Some of the test results were not previously made available to the public because of Israeli military censorship, which applies both to Israeli and foreign correspondents based in the country.

The new website, built over an eight-month period by a special air force staff headed by computer expert Merav Halperin and the Gee-site company, is based on a 2,500-page database and 800 photographs.

Officials have pledged that air force activities, such as its regular attacks with bombs and missiles against suspected Hezbollah guerilla bases in Lebanon, will be publicised on the new website even before they are broadcast over Israeli Radio or communicated to interested parties such as journalists by messages sent by a bleeper system run by the military spokesman's office.

The site reveals for the first time the basic structure of the IAF, a map of its bases, including a tour of a "virtual base", all the IAF aircraft in the past and present and all of its squadrons. A special section for those Israelis awaiting draft into the IAF as part of their compulsory military service is called "figure-eights in the sky". Here they can learn the qualifications that are required for different duties.

The site also reveals incidents and operations that the IAF participated in over the past 50 years. Most are accompanied by explanations, photographs, maps, sound effects and videos. In some of the incidents there are graphic eyewitness accounts from pilots who took part.

To explain the complex organisation of the crack force remembered for such operations as the Entebbe hostage rescue and the 1981 bombing of Iraq's nuclear reactor, surfers have high-level officers and their positions laid out in front of them with biographies and photographs.

Israel 's air force lifts veil of secrecy

Once a week, there will be a virtual chat session with air force personnel from different ranks.

The site contains what are claimed as three unique computer games: Identify-a-plane; a command-centre game that revolves around preventing enemy planes from entering Israeli air space; and a Hercules game, involving dropping loads from the huge transport plane of the same name.

During the coming year, the site plans to open a "virtual school of flying", which surfers will be able to use to complete the flying course, including theoretical classes and practical experience.

The Tel Aviv daily, Maariv, reported: "In the framework of the course, students will undergo information and coordination examinations. The ones who pass will receive a glorified certificate with the shield of the IAF, earning themselves the title of virtual air force pilot."

The new site's address is: www.iaf.org.il

Load-Date: October 1, 1998

End of Document

Spy gets suspended sentence

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

July 8, 2000, Saturday

Copyright 2000 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

Section: WIRE;

Length: 527 words

Byline: Associated Press

Body

LAUSANNE, Switzerland -- A Swiss court handed a suspended one-year sentence to an Israeli agent Friday, closing the book on a bungled Mossad spy operation that embarrassed Israel and strained relations with Switzerland.

The judgment allowed the agent, identified by the pseudonym Issac Bental, to return immediately to Israel without serving any more time in a Swiss prison.

"He violated the sovereignty of Switzerland in an unrestrained and intolerable manner," chief judge Hans Wipraechtger said.

A tough verdict would likely have antagonized Israel. But Wipraechtger said the mild sentence was in line with decisions in other espionage cases and appropriate for a first offense.

"We took pains to bring in no political aspects, although we know of course that every verdict -- especially in this context -- cannot be free from politics," Wipraechtger told The Associated Press.

He said the five-judge panel of the Federal Criminal Court "tried to look strictly at Mr. Bental" and maintain Swiss neutrality toward all affected countries. "That is our obligation."

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak issued a statement in Jerusalem expressing "satisfaction" that the agent would now be allowed to return home.

"We are rather happy with the verdict," Bental's chief lawyer Ralph Zloczower told the AP. "We will not appeal."

In an unusual gesture, Bental shook hands with each judge. But the soft-spoken agent, whose testimony in Hebrew was translated into German for the court, made no comment before leaving from a side door.

Although the short, stocky agent with a dark crew cut was visible from the public gallery all week, no photographs of him were allowed for security reasons.

Mossad agents in Israel reportedly were angry the Barak government sent one of their own back to Switzerland for the trial.

Spy gets suspended sentence

Bental conceded from the beginning that each of the three charges against him was true -- that he acted illegally for a foreign country, conducted political espionage and repeatedly used false foreign identity documents. He was found guilty on all three counts.

He and four other agents were caught in 1998 as they tried to install equipment to eavesdrop on telephone conversations of a Swiss-Lebanese living in a suburb of the capital.

The other agents -- two men and two women -- were released by local police after questioning, but Bental was handed over to the federal police because he had a diplomatic bag containing the tools used to install the equipment.

Bental's lawyers said that the target of the wiretap, Lebanese-born Abdallah el-Zein, was "known to the Israeli secret service as an adherent and member of Hezbollah." They had asked that Bental be acquitted on grounds that he was trying to prevent terrorist attacks on Israel.

Swiss prosecutors said there was no evidence of an immediate threat to Israel and they demanded Bental be imprisoned for 15 months, with a reduction for the 65 days already served in 1998.

The court said the sentence would be suspended for two years -- meaning he would be sent to prison for one year if he committed an offense in Switzerland in the next two years. It barred Bental from setting foot on Swiss soil for five years.

Load-Date: July 8, 2000

End of Document

THE WEEK THAT WAS

Daily News (New York)

April 20, 1996, Saturday

Copyright 1996 Daily News, L.P.

Section: News; Pg. 16

Length: 523 words

Byline: By Tom Kelly

Body

Sunday, April 14

The Board of Education has agreed to shell out \$ 300 million on sweetheart deals to lease dozens of dumpy industrial buildings where tens of thousands of children will go to school well into the 21st century, a three-month Daily News probe revealed. The overpriced leases are producing windfall profits for landlords while sending kids to class in former factories on dismal blocks. In one case, the board agreed to pay \$ 5.4 million to lease an abandoned factory in the Bronx that it could have purchased for one-tenth the sum. In another case, the board leased an old helicopter parts factory on a bleak Queens block for \$ 7.5 million though the owner offered to sell the building for \$ 1.2 million.

Monday, April 15

On their way to school each day, the 600 children slated to attend the Public School 60-62 annex in Queens will travel to one of the city's most dismal blocks, the Daily News probe revealed. Their new schoolhouse, a converted factory, will be on a rutted, garbage-strewn street shadowed by an abandoned Long Island Rail Road spur, facing graffiti-smeared tin and cinderblock shacks.

The Board of Education promised to halt the School Lease Fleece in reaction to the Daily News investigative series. Top school officials said they would overhaul completely the board's \$ 300 million school leasing program by calling in outside experts. The News investigation found virtually all the board's deals call for paying landlords rents well above the market rate. Some property owners are walking off with windfall profits for decrepit buildings they bought on the cheap shortly before closing multi-million-dollar deals with school officials.

Tuesday, April 16

An upper West Side social worker said in an exclusive Daily News interview that she's "very thrilled and excited" she'll be the grandmother of Madonna's child. Maria Leon, whose 29-year-old son, Carlos, is the father-to-be of Madonna's baby, called the Material Girl "a beautiful human being who is going to be a great mother."

Wednesday, April 17

Bob Grant's controversial 25-year run on New York radio came to an abrupt end when WABC dropped his afternoon talk show amid criticism over his acid commentary. On the eve of a public protest called by Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton, Grant and WABC said they had agreed to end Grant's show "by mutual agreement," according to a statement. Neither Grant nor WABC would comment further, but there was widespread speculation

THE WEEK THAT WAS

from supporters and critics that Grant had been fired. The move came weeks after critics charged that he had wished Commerce Secretary Ron Brown dead.

Thursday, April 18

Israel insisted it had made "no mistake" in launching a rocket attack that struck a United Nations base packed with Lebanese refugees, killing up to 100 many of them women and children. Two UN peacekeepers from Fiji were feared among those killed in the artillery barrage, which injured more than 120. As UN officials called for an investigation into the "massacre," Israel said its forces hit the post while retaliating against Hezbollah guerrillas, who had launched rockets at Israel from about 1,000 feet from the base.

Load-Date: April 21, 1996

End of Document

World round-up

THE JOURNAL (Newcastle, UK)

February 29, 2000, Tuesday

Edition 1

Copyright 2000 Newcastle Chronicle & Journal Ltd

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS,

Length: 559 words

Body

RUSSIA: Rescuers using helicopters and private boats took more than 900 ice-fishermen ashore from drifting ice floes northeast of St Petersburg on 6,700 square mile Lake Ladoga, Europe's largest lake, but six people drowned and seven cars crashed through the ice during the two day operation. Ice-fishing is highly popular in Russia, both for sport and as a food source, and thousands of anglers become stranded.

US: Petrol prices have jumped almost 4p to 92p a gallon at the pumps in the past fortnight, surpassing the all-time peak recorded in November 1990. High crude oil prices and strong demand combined to drive up the national average price.

FRANCE: Le Grand Vefour restaurant, overlooking the historic gardens at Palais Royal in central Paris and renowned for its historic decor and traditional French delicacies, has been crowned with a coveted Michelin third star, Michelin's top rank held by only 20 restaurants in France.

FRANCE: After being pelted with stones on the West Bank, French premier Lionel Jospin faced the prospect of what one minister called a "Parisian tempest" for having referred to Hezbollah guerrillas attacks as terrorist, but his Socialist Party said it "does not regret" the prime minister's remarks on a Middle East trip.

Philippines: The Mayon volcano erupted again yesterday, sending ash and red hot rocks four miles high into the sky and sending nearby villagers fleeing to safety. It also emitted pyroclastic flows - superheated clouds of volcanic ash that travel up to 50 mph and instantly incinerate anything in their path.

US: A New York seamstress used a pair of scissors to stab her unwanted baby to death minutes after he was born, police said.

The woman, Yasmin Chavez, 26, has been charged with second-degree murder.

Chavez became pregnant during a relationship that failed a few months ago.

INDONESIA: At least 15 people were killed over the weekend in the strife-torn oil-rich province of Aceh on northern Sumatra and one villager was stabbed to death in eastern Maluku province. The latest killings brought this year's death toll in Aceh violence to at least 206, including 16 soldiers and 13 policemen.

TURKEY: A judge ordered three Kurdish mayors released from prison pending trial, saying there was no danger of their escaping or tampering with evidence.

World round-up

The mayors are members of the pro-Kurdish People's Democracy Party and were arrested last week after meeting European officials to discuss cultural rights for Kurds.

SWITZERLAND: Three lynx have been found dead, apparently poisoned in a new protest against the animal's protected status. The three cats - a **female** and her two young - were found over the past week in a mountainous region of Vaud canton. The country has about 100 wild lynx.

SAUDI ARABIA: A Saudi man convicted of kidnapping and raping a girl, four, and a Sudanese found guilty of practising witchcraft were publicly beheaded in the capital, Riyadh, yesterday. Saudi's interpretation of Islamic law calls for beheading murderers, rapists, drug traffickers and armed robbers and sorcerers.

US: The bragging rights for best-tasting US tap water go to Yucca Valley, California, toasted by judges at the International Water Tasting competition. Yucca Valley beat 45 competitors from more than two dozen states in the municipal water category, one of three at the world's largest water-tasting contest.

Load-Date: February 29, 2000

End of Document

The freedom to oppose

The Times (London)

February 11, 2000, Friday

Copyright 2000 Times Newspapers Limited

Section: Features

Length: 557 words

Body

The brief parliamentary election campaign officially opened yesterday in Iran for the most important poll since the 1979 Islamic revolution. At stake are not only 290 seats in a parliament now dominated by hardliners but the economic, political and ideological future of post-Khomeini Iran. If the coalition backing President Khatami's cautious reforms wins a majority, the conservatives' power to hold up privatisation, block better relations with the West and harass the liberal press and those pushing for social reform will be ended.

But if candidates allied to Ayatollah Khamenei, the supreme spiritual leader, and fellow Islamic zealots retain their majority, all the hopes raised during Mr Khatami's 30 months in office will be dashed. Iran will be returned to the darkest days of clerical obscurantism, revolutionary fanaticism and the export of terror.

The reformers, confident that they have the country with them, predict that the conservatives will win no more than 25 per cent of the seats. Even so, the Islamists, corrupted by power, hostile to change and desperate to retain a failing grasp on the nation's psyche, are using every device to hamper the reformist camp. The screening of candidates by the Council of Guardians removed only 576 of the 6,800 standing for election, but they included most of Mr Khatami's more outspoken allies. Colour posters, placards and truck-mounted loudspeakers have been banned, and publicity is restricted to small leaflets and brochures in an attempt to cut the participation of the young and increase the influence of the mosques. The intimidation of the liberal press continues, with the prosecution of a cartoonist charged with insulting a prominent religious conservative.

The coded call by reformers for a "true Islamic democracy" conceals a massive challenge to the power of the clergy. It questions the political monopoly and infallibility of the self-appointed religious guardians, insisting that Islam allows an open, pluralist society. It signals a new drive to restore some of the women's rights curbed in 1979. It threatens greater accountability by the doctrinaire judiciary and murky intelligence forces who have conspired to suppress free expression and are implicated in last year's murders of liberal academics.

And it promises legislative support for the two areas of reform where Mr Khatami has been consistently thwarted: unchaining Iran's sluggish economy and leading the country out of its self-imposed revolutionary isolation.

With rampant unemployment, inflation at 20 per cent, foreign investment held back by restrictive laws and trade hampered by the State's monopoly, economic reform is urgent. But the clergy have resisted dismantling the State's control, encouraging the merchant class or taxing the bloated religious holding companies.

They are equally opposed to any "dialogue of civilisations" that would bolster the rapprochement with Europe - though not yet with America - sensing, correctly, that such pragmatism could lead to moderation on the Middle East peace process and end support for Hezbollah and other Islamic revolutionaries.

The freedom to oppose

A change would reach far beyond Iran and the Middle East. Mr Khatami has defined liberty as the freedom to oppose. In 30 months Iranians have glimpsed unprecedented new freedom; they must now safeguard it with their vote.

Load-Date: February 11, 2000

End of Document

Gunfire returns to border with Lebanon; MIDDLE EAST

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

October 30, 2000 Monday

Late Edition

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Section: NEWS AND FEATURES; International News; Pg. 9

Length: 496 words

Byline: Ross Dunn, Herald Correspondent, in Jerusalem and agencies

Body

Gunmen in Lebanon yesterday opened fire on an Israeli border patrol for the second time in four days, Israeli officials said, calling the attack an attempt to open a second front in fighting against the Jewish state. Israeli troops returned fire, but security sources said there were no casualties.

A media official for Hezbollah in Lebanon said the guerilla group had no knowledge of any attack from the Lebanese side, but that Israeli soldiers had fired three bullets at women demonstrators.

Israel's Deputy Defence Minister, Ephraim Sneh, said the incident pointed to an attempt by "radical elements" to spread fighting against Israel, which is battling a Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip that has entered its second month.

Israel withdrew its troops from south Lebanon in May, ending a 22-year occupation.

Elsewhere, Israeli tanks yesterday fired on a Palestinian security building at the Karni crossing point between Israel and the Gaza Strip, injuring at least one Palestinian policeman.

Israel sent in 15 tanks and other armoured vehicles to open a road to the Jewish settlement of Netzarim, firing with heavy machine-guns, witnesses said, adding that six Palestinians had been wounded in earlier clashes.

In a previous incident, the body of an Israeli was discovered in the West Bank. The 25-year-old man had been tortured and shot before being set on fire, Israeli police said. The body was found near Ramallah, where two Israeli soldiers were lynched at a Palestinian police station this month.

Israeli police said they suspected the murder was nationalistically motivated. However, Palestinian police, who found the body and returned it to Israeli authorities, said the killing was linked to drug dealing.

The murder of the Israeli came as weekend violence escalated after four Palestinians were killed in clashes with Israeli security forces on Friday. A fifth died yesterday from wounds sustained in the clashes.

At least 140 people, all but eight of them Arabs, have been killed since the fighting began, driven by Palestinian outrage at a visit by the Israeli right-wing politician Ariel Sharon to a Jerusalem site that is holy to Muslims and Jews.

Gunfire returns to border with Lebanon MIDDLE EAST

Israel's Communications Minister, Benjamin Ben-Eliezer, said the violence was unlikely to stop, because the Palestinians were getting ready for a declaration of independence.

Israel is preparing to respond with what it describes as an economic and physical separation of the Palestinians.

The Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, said in a speech read on his behalf yesterday that his people would continue their uprising against Israeli forces on occupied land. He had said earlier in Gaza City that Palestinians would remain resolute until "a boy or girl holds the flag of Palestine over Jerusalem, the capital of our Palestinian state".

There is growing speculation Mr Arafat might announce statehood on November 15, the anniversary of his 1988 declaration of independence for Palestinians while in exile.

Graphic

ILLUS: The grim toll continues ... Palestinians carry the body of 23-year-old Jaber al Meshal, who was shot dead near the border check- point at Erez. Photo: Reuters/Reinhard Krause

Load-Date: July 24, 2007

Datelines

Deseret News (Salt Lake City)

April 8, 2000, Saturday

Copyright 2000 The Deseret News Publishing Co.

Section: WIRE;

Length: 543 words

Body

Argentina

BUENOS AIRES -- The Nazi-hunting Simon Wiesenthal Center said Friday it had new evidence that may help get former Italian Sgt. Bruno Caneva, accused of killing 82 anti-fascist partisans during World War II, extradited to Italy or expelled from Argentina.

France

LYON -- Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard wound up a three-day official visit to France on Friday declaring that separatism was still a live issue for the French-speaking Canadian province.

PARIS -- Police are hunting a serial rapist who posed as a police officer, lured teenage girls to secluded areas and then attacked them, officials said Friday.

Mexico

CIUDAD JUAREZ -- An Egyptian national will face a new trial after a judge ruled there was insufficient evidence to convict him in a case linked to a string of brutal attacks on women, officials said on Friday.

MONTERREY -- At least four agents were wounded in a shootout between Mexican federal agents and customs officials near the U.S. border over a shipment of smuggled goods, local newspapers reported Friday.

Lebanon

BEIRUT -- Hezbollah guerrillas said on Friday they would continue attacking Israeli troops if their planned withdrawal from south Lebanon stops short of the international border.

Argentina

FREETOWN -- The head of the U.N. force in Sierra Leone said Friday the deployment of peacekeepers in the diamond-rich Kono district had been delayed pending the arrival of more troops.

Colombia

BOGOTA -- President Andres Pastrana received a pledge of support from the military Friday, amid a deepening crisis over his plan to shut down Congress because of a corruption scandal that critics say reaches the highest levels of government.

Datelines

Tunisia

TUNIS -- Thousands of mourners turned out in the Tunisian capital Friday to pay their last respects to former President Habib Bourguiba, who died Thursday at the age of 97 in his hometown of Monastir.

Yugoslavia

NOVI SAD -- Police in northern Serbia arrested five people Friday in connection with a fire that gutted the top six floors of a building housing private media, killing at least one person.

Rwanda

KIGALI -- Gathered at an open field that will become Rwanda's genocide memorial, thousands of people listened silently Friday as Belgium's prime minister assumed his country's share of blame for the world's failure to act during 90 days of slaughter here.

Georgia

TBILISI -- President Eduard Shevardnadze has failed to rid Georgia of poverty or corruption, but he remains the country's most popular politician and is expected to win a second term in elections Sunday.

Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE -- Two high-ranking Haitian officials have resigned to protest the government's inability to set a date for local and parliamentary elections, an opposition coalition said Friday.

Brazil

SAO PAULO -- At least 15 people died Friday in a bus crash on a northeastern stretch of Brazil's main highway after a steel bar fell off a sugar cane truck and ripped through the vehicle, police said.

Honduras

TEGUCIGALPA -- Forest fires caused by arson have destroyed 42,000 acres of forest in the Honduran summer season, a Honduran official said Friday.

Canada

TORONTO -- A new automated customs system will allow "low-risk" travelers to avoid the usual lines at Canadian borders, Revenue Minister Martin Cauchon said Friday.

Load-Date: April 8, 2000

Error suspected in tourist killings

THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN

April 20, 1996, Saturday

Copyright 1996 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Length: 531 words

Body

EGYPTIAN police were yesterday investigating whether gunmen mistook a group of Greek tourists for Israelis when they opened fire outside a Cairo hotel, killing 18 people, most of them elderly women.

Three men armed with submachine guns and shouting "God is great" stormed a tourist bus outside the Europa Hotel near the pyramids on Thursday, killing an Egyptian and 17 Greeks on a pilgrimage to Christian holy sites.

Seventeen people were wounded, three of them critically.
AP, The Times

Police blamed Muslim insurgents for the attack, the deadliest in a four-year campaign which was aimed at converting traditionally tolerant society into an Iranian-style theocratic State.

They said Israelis were known to frequent the hotel and the attack may have been provoked by Israel's bombardment of Lebanon this week, which has outraged much of the Muslim world.

The attack left the eight-storey hotel riddled with dozens of bullet holes, its front steps splashed with pools of blood.

Sandwiches, water bottles and shoes were strewn around the area.

It was a big blow for the pro-Western Government of the President, Mr Mubarak, which had boasted that the terrorists'

campaign had been largely contained.

Whether the militants' motive was revenge for Israeli attacks against Hezbollah, or a continuation of the battle started in 1992 to drive out tourists and cut off the Government's main source of hard currency, the effect will be more instability in a country vital to the region's peace.

Egypt's bullish assessment that a hardline policy of repression, including more than 40 executions of Islamic militants, had been successful was shared by many Western diplomats based in Cairo.

It was supported by figures showing a recent increase of nearly 20 per cent in tourist numbers, despite the continuing threat against them by the main terrorist group, Gamaa al-Islamiya.

Since late 1993, the battle between the militants and the 15-year-old Mubarak Government had been largely confined to rural areas of southern Egypt. To date, nearly 1000 people have died in the violence.

None of the 23 previous attacks against tourists had any of Thursday's methodical ruthlessness - which is one reason for suspicions that the victims may have been mistaken for Israelis.

Error suspected in tourist killings

Mr Mubarak's embarrassment is acute because the attack follows a 29-nation antiterrorism conference, attended by the President of the United States, Mr Clinton, and the President of Russia, Mr Yeltsin, which Mr Mubarak hosted in the heavily guarded Red Sea resort of Sharm el Sheikh.

Assisted by veterans of the Afghan war, the leader of Gamaa has found Egypt a fertile recruiting ground because of its social and economic problems.

More than half the population cannot read, and unemployment is near 20 per cent.

To date, the key to Mr Mubarak's survival has been the loyalty of the 400,000-strong army, plus his network of security services.

But the loyalties of an increasing number of middle and lower-ranking members of the security forces are not above suspicion.

The danger for the West is that if Egypt falls into extreme Muslim hands, it is assumed that Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan, Libya and even Syria could soon follow.

Load-Date: March 1, 2002

World round-up

THE JOURNAL (Newcastle, UK)

February 22, 2000, Tuesday

Edition 1

Copyright 2000 Newcastle Chronicle & Journal Ltd

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS,

Length: 547 words

Body

GERMANY: Munich-based EM TV and Merchandising is to buy the Jim Henson Company, creator of the Muppets and Sesame Street - the biggest US name to go German since Chrysler was bought Daimler-Benz.

The German company plans no shake-ups for the Jim Henson crew, which will continue to have creative independence from its headquarters in Los Angeles, New York and London.

FRANCE: Thirteen members of the Basque separatist group ETA were jailed in Paris for up to 10 years for their role in terrorist bombing attacks. Spaniard Julian Achurra-Egurola, 41, who is believed to be responsible for a string of bombings, was jailed for 10 years and banned from entering French territory in the future. Frenchman Daniel Derguy, 39, was also sentenced to 10 years.

IRAN: Candidates promising more freedom are on the verge of winning most of the seats in the capital Tehran to crown a stunning Iranian parliamentary election victory. Pro-reform candidates are leading in 26 of Tehran's 30 seats according to partial results broadcast by state television.

Hong Kong: Police defused a 500lbs Second World War era bomb found at a construction site in a busy commercial and residential district. US aircraft bombed Hong Kong when the Japanese occupied the then British crown colony for three years and eight months during the war.

TURKEY: Police rescued a 19-year-old male belly dancer whose father chained him to a bed for three days to prevent him from performing at nightclubs. Neighbours in Istanbul alerted police after they heard cries for help. The dancer's left arm and leg were chained to his bed.

USA: Galileo today makes its closest flyby of Jupiter's volcanic moon Io as controllers race to put it through ever riskier manoeuvres before the aging spacecraft breaks down. The orbiter will fly within 124 miles of Io in a manoeuvre that will bombard the probe with immense radiation.

EGYPT: The wife of Saudi Arabian King Fahd's brother, Prince Turki, has been sentenced in absentia to a year in an Egyptian jail for failing to repay £1.5m debt. The princess who lives in a five-star Cairo hotel has two weeks to appeal the sentence.

SOUTH AFRICA: A man suspected of killing seven of his relatives, including two young children, has given himself up to police. All seven victims were shot in their heads, execution-style.

World round-up

Japan: Archaeologists have unearthed remnants of two dwellings estimated to be 500,000 years old, the first traces of early Stone Age buildings found in the country. The remains were discovered by a team digging 21 miles east of Tokyo.

Turkey: 15 teachers have been arrested as part of a government crackdown against Hezbollah, a militant Islamic group suspected of torturing and killing scores of people.

Thailand: The country's religious affairs department will investigate whether designer Montri Toemsombat who apparently based a line of women's clothing on the robes worn by Buddhist monks insulted the national religion.

Faeroe Islands: Four stamps have been issued to mark 1000 years of Christianity on the North Atlantic archipelago. Viking chieftain Sigmundur Brestisson took Christianity to the Faeroe Islands in 1000.

INDONESIA: At least six people were killed in fighting between rebels and Indonesian soldiers in Aceh, a strife-torn region on the northern tip of Sumatra.

Load-Date: February 22, 2000

End of Document

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

April 27, 1996, Saturday, FIVE STAR LIFT Edition

Copyright 1996 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

Section: EDITORIAL; Pg. 13B; LETTERS

Length: 529 words

Body

Lebanese Shelling: Is It Justified?

It is amazing that the world sits by silently while hundreds of civilians, women and children are murdered by the fighting in Lebanon. Killing of innocents is never justifiable.

Violence from either side must be condemned in the strongest terms. Shelling of refugee camps models a previous massacre by Israeli forces of another refugee camp in Lebanon.

I am ashamed that the media and the government have not taken a stronger stand in condemning the actions of Israeli forces, in the same strong terms as the media has condemned Hamas for its senseless killings of the civilians.

Israel has had a security zone and has been shelling Lebanon off and on for the last 20 years without any lasting solution to the problem. Evidently the solution is political and not increased violence. Do the leaders of Israel feel that by killing the innocent people in Lebanon, they are going to solve the problem? I assure you that their actions have now created a whole new army of enemies because of this senseless violent act.

I hope the American people realize that the helicopters, airplanes and the bombs attacking refugee camps in Lebanon have been purchased with the billions of dollars of military and economic aid to Israel. The American public must demand that any military equipment given to another country is used for defense and not for the killing of hundreds of innocent civilians of another country.

Shabbir H. Safdar

Vice Chairman

National Board American Muslim Alliance

St. Louis

Tom Engelhardt's April 21 editorial cartoon was still another underhanded way to express your opinion and to try to influence your readers. To compare the indiscriminate shelling of the towns and cities of the north in Israel, with the announced and forewarned Israeli response in Lebanon, is hypocrisy at its best.

After months of periodic shellings of the northern cities, there is a retaliation for the killings and the destruction. What would you have Israel do? Let their people continue to absorb these shellings.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Certainly the response was measured and lethal. This is a war by the Hezbollah. It's a war sanctioned by the host country Syria and supplied by the peace loving Iran. It's very convenient to sit at a desk and write stories or draw cartoons that are totally misleading and designed to downplay the overdue response.

I recently returned from a trip to Israel. We stopped in the city of Kiriya Shemona for lunch. The next day the town was shelled. The bombs and shells were fired by organized militia, taking advantage of their citizens to hit, strike and then seek cover among them.

To imply by the cartoon that the Israeli response to reckless, wanton killing of their citizens and destruction of homes and buildings, is more than is warranted, shows that you have never been on the receiving end of rocket and shell fire.

Before condemning the Israeli response, what would you ask of your government if you were being shelled and bombed in your city, forced to spend nights in bomb shelters and finally forced to leave for a safer area? I'm certain that your answer wouldn't be to give these murderers a slap on the wrist.

Sanford Lebman

Creve Coeur

Load-Date: April 30, 1996

End of Document

NOBEL CEREMONY FAILS TO PRODUCE A PEACE ENCORE

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

December 12, 1994, Monday, FIVE STAR Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. 12C

Length: 581 words

Dateline: OSLO, NORWAY

Body

The city where the Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement was brokered failed to produce an encore this weekend, when the key players in the historic accord accepted their Nobel peace prizes.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat flew to Finland on Sunday without having made progress in talks with his fellow prize recipients, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Arafat is scheduled to meet today with Peres in Stockholm, Sweden.

Rabin was left yearning for the secrecy that shrouded the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations last year in Oslo. "Talks under media lights will not lead us to anything," he said.

Ahmed Qureia, a Palestinian negotiator, said he was pessimistic about the talks. "I am not seeing seriousness on the part of Israel to implement the (peace) agreement."

Palestinian elections and the related pullout of Israeli forces from Palestinian towns in the West Bank are five months behind schedule. They remain the biggest stumbling blocks to the peace process.

Rabin spoke Sunday about "if" Israel withdrew troops from the West Bank, rather than "when." Yet, he insisted that Israel remained committed to holding up its side of the deal providing limited self-rule for the Palestinians.

Asked if the Saturday night negotiations following the award ceremony were a failure, Rabin snapped, "Why do you expect in the Middle East an 'open-sesame' solution? We are talking about a complicated conflict."

Peres told reporters that his country's need for internal security was as important as Palestinian demands for elections.

Israelis say pulling out their soldiers now will put 120,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank at the mercy of Muslim extremists.

Israeli opposition to the peace process was felt even in Oslo, where about 12 screaming and crying Israeli protesters accused Peres of betrayal as he walked near City Hall.

Israelis with torches held a vigil for relatives killed in terrorist attacks. When they spotted Peres, they shouted "Shame! Shame!" for dealing with Arafat.

NOBEL CEREMONY FAILS TO PRODUCE A PEACE ENCORE

Almost past them, Peres abruptly spun around to face his accusers. He shook hands and spoke to most of the demonstrators, some of whom had tears in their eyes.

Ambush In Lebanon

In Marjayoun, Lebanon, guerrillas ambushed an Israeli military patrol on Sunday, killing an Israeli soldier. Security sources said four guerrillas also were killed.

The Shiite Muslim group **Hezbollah** claimed responsibility for the roadside bomb attack and said as many as 25 Israeli soldiers had been killed or wounded. The Israeli army confirmed one fatality and said seven soldiers were wounded. The radio station of the Israeli-armed South Lebanon Army said three Lebanese civilians - two **women** and a little girl - in a passing car also were hurt.

Embassies Open

Israel and Jordan officially opened embassies Sunday in each other's capitals, making Jordan the second Arab country to establish an embassy in Israel.

Omar Rifai, a Jordanian Foreign Ministry official, said the raising of his national flag in Tel Aviv marked not only the implementation of an October peace treaty that ended a 46-year state of war between Jordan and Israel, "but also a new beginning in our bilateral relations for the benefit of both our peoples."

The ceremony drew applause from onlookers, in sharp contrast with the opening of Israel's embassy in Amman earlier Sunday, which sparked protests by hundreds of Muslim militants and leftists who described the occasion as a "black day." Ambassadors will be exchanged in about six weeks.

Load-Date: December 13, 1994

NEXT MOVE, PLEASE

Herald Sun

November 20, 1991 Wednesday

Copyright 1991 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Length: 583 words

Body

Next move, please THE latest gambit in the arcane game of chess being played out in the Middle East has brought freedom to hostages Terry Waite and Thomas Sutherland. The world waits to see which piece will be next and whose hand will move it.

There has been speculation that the Israelis may release Sheik Abdul-Karim Obeid, a terrorist leader belonging to the Hezbollah, the parent group of the hostage-holding groups and the driving force behind the guerrilla attacks on the Israelis in South Lebanon. That leaves five known Westerners still in Arab hands.

To extend the chess analogy, it's uncertain whose pawn Waite was. Ostensibly, he was bent on the white bishop's business to secure freedom for hostages held by Middle East fanatics. Another, darker version is that he was a black pawn bent on a covert assignment for the CIA to free only one hostage - the agency's Beirut station chief William Buckley - lest he tell all under torture. In this scenario, Waite was part of a plot, organised by that bizarre and frightening zealot, Colonel Oliver North, to trade arms for Buckley. The deal failed.

Whatever Waite's true status, his release must be viewed against the machiavellian manoeuvring surrounding the Middle East peace talks - talks inspired by the US to solve the Palestinian question as part of President Bush's new world order.

Waite's release also comes with the revelation of Libya's involvement in the terrorist downing of the Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie with 270 deaths. In response to US threats of retaliation against Libya if the two alleged culprits aren't handed over, the Arabs have cautioned against action that might prejudice the peace talks.

To further tangle this already tangled web, Syria, a known patron of world terrorism, has been excluded from US criticism on this occasion. Syria has been active in securing hostage releases and was also a member of the diverse alliance that kicked Iraq out of Kuwait.

For now, the free world can only rejoice with the relatives of Waite and Sutherland and hope the next move in this deadly game will bring home all the hostages.

Give them away! THERE is a humorless earnestness about ideological zealots. Take the latest bizarre example. It took place on October 18, 1991, at the Victorian teachers unions' headquarters, but might just as well have happened in some remote hill village of Albania.

The Victorian Secondary Teachers Association's special council meeting on that date passed a resolution listing its preferred options for "student interaction", including senior socials, senior balls, dinners and dinner dances.

NEXT MOVE, PLEASE

Then the VSTA's grey ideologues continued: "Some schools have provided this opportunity through debutante balls. However, due to their negative effects on young women, traditional debutante balls are no longer appropriate, nor are other social activities which have the following negative effects . . .

And then, these Mrs Grundies of the Left launched into dismal jargon such as "reinforcing of the sex-role stereotyping, young women being seen as objects, indirect legitimisation of a particular view of young women which is not based on women's role in contemporary society, the focus on dress requirements".

What dreary garbage! Despite the VSTA, young women will continue to glory in a pretty dress and young men will continue to take pride in escorting the "objects" of their affection to the debs' ball. Happily, that is the way of the real world.

END OF STORY

Load-Date: September 25, 2003

End of Document

Death passage:
CHILDREN OF THE SIEGE, by Pauline Cutting. (Heinemann, £12.5; Pan, paper, £3.50)

Guardian Weekly

February 21, 1988

Copyright 1988 Guardian Publication, Ltd.

Section: BOOKS; Pg. 29

Length: 517 words

Highlight: Victoria Brittain on Pauline Cutting

Body

IN THE early days of the siege of the Palestinian camp, Bourj al Barajneh, in Beirut last year Dr Pauline Cutting wrote in her diary, "My world has become very small." She had then been out of the hospital building only 3 or 4 times in two months, but her world was to become smaller still over the next months as the siege tightened and the hospital itself crumbled around her as it suffered shelling from the Amal attackers.

Dr Cutting, who was later awarded an OBE for her medical work in Beirut, worked day and night operating on Palestinians wounded by the relentless bombardment of Bourj al Barajneh, in a cramped, makeshift theatre, without electricity, running water and even food for much of the time.

She tells the story of the extraordinary heroism, especially of the Palestinian doctors and nurses and the women of Bourj al Barajneh, vividly and in a simple diary style. Her own daily battles were against freezing wet feet, exhaustion, lack of privacy, hunger and the terror of losing all her teeth for lack of vitamin C. Her compensations were the deep friendships and generosity of the Palestinian families who took her and the handful of foreign medical workers into their homes.

She even manages to make her book funny and touching with stories of the ingenuity of the other doctors and nurses who could manufacture a treat out of half a candle or a tin of sardines, and entertain each other and the patients with chess marathons, religious dialogues or dreams of future meals or holidays.

Dr Cutting has clearly not meant to write a political book, but her descriptions of the everyday life of the various actors in the Beirut scene speak for themselves.

The darkest side of this book is her description of the agonising six weeks it took for the Syrian army, already in control of the rest of Beirut, to decide to lift the siege of the starving Palestinians in the camp.

Her own brave initiative to publicise the inhabitants' appalling conditions, using her name and thereby risking an Amal kidnap attempt, had by then brought world-wide condemnation of the siege, though no successful international action -- as has been the case in every fresh attempt to destroy the Palestinian people since 1948.

The gruesome sadism of the Amal fighters towards the Palestinian women finally allowed out to buy food (but not medicines or fuel) is one unforgettable part of this book. "Nabih Berri declared that the siege of Bourj al Barajneh was lifted, but as each day passed we became more bitter as the women allowed out to get food

Death passage; CHILDREN OF THE SIEGE, by Pauline Cutting. (Heinemann,£12.5; Pan, paper, £3.50)

continued to be intimidated, abused, robbed, shot at and killed . . . in Death Passage." There is a sharp contrast in her description of the brave Hezbollah attempts to break the siege by running milk powder through the Amal lines.

"The world may choose to forget those people and their plight, but I for one will never forget . . .", is how Dr Cutting ends her modest book. Thanks to her, thousands of people knew about the siege of Bourj al Barajneh last year, and Children of the Siege is so readable that thousands more are now likely to remember it again.

End of Document

Gorbachev's interest in ending Gulf, Afghan wars

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

December 1, 1987, Tuesday

Copyright 1987 The Christian Science Publishing Society

Section: National; Column; Pg. 3

Length: 985 words

Byline: EARL W. FOELL; Earl W. Roell is editor in chief of The Christian Science Monitor.

Dateline: Boston

Body

SIC transit gloria Gulf. Roughly translated, that means: so passes public fixation on the Gulf war, the American oil-escort fleet, remaining hostages, the Mideast in general.

With a summit and Christmas coming on, with the dollar still heading toward the center of the earth, Americans may be excused for turning their attention from a topic that has been so hot in the news media this fall. Headline fatigue has taken its toll. It's understandable that the Reagan-Gorbachev chemistry, the style and utterances of Raisa Gorbachev, and the scramble of Congress to do something about the deficit before Christmas will grab public attention.

But it's unfortunate that the switch of focus obscures some very interesting changes in the Mideast/Afghanistan equation.

Strategically, there are at least three main purposes for Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Washington, and one of them involves the Mideast/Afghanistan.

First, it is clear that the Soviet leader needs a summit success to regenerate support for his leadership and reform plans at home.

Second, he needs to cultivate Congress and future American leadership. Especially, a bipartisan group of those who will wield influence in the post-Reagan era.

Mr. Gorbachev can negotiate toward a mid-1988 summit with President Reagan in Moscow to cut long-range nuclear missiles. But, beyond that, he will need workable relations with Mr. Reagan's successors if he is to bargain further on trade relations, on the pace of the "star wars" missile defense era, and on other arms issues.

Having the conservative evil-empire skeptic sign the first missile-destruction treaty gives Gorbachev and the next American president (of either party) a protective shield for talking about further deals. But the Soviet leader needs to cultivate the congressional leaders who, for instance, may one day have to vote on dismantling the Jackson-Vanik barrier against US trade with Moscow. In that pursuit, he will be helped if he shows a willingness to help efforts for peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors, and between Iran and Iraq.

So - third - he and Reagan share a need to do something about those Mideast questions. Also to talk further about their differences on Central America, Afghanistan, Angola, and Vietnam-Cambodia.

Gorbachev's interest in ending Gulf, Afghan wars

Why should the Soviet boss want to end the Gulf war? Why should he relieve pressure on America's allies - Europe and Japan - which depend on oil from the Gulf? There are several reasons. Almost unnoticed, the nature of the Gulf war changed last month from a bitter struggle between Iran and Iraq to a larger replay of the ancient struggle between the Arab world and Persia.

This makes it more difficult for Moscow to continue the balancing act in which it has posed as a friend of all the parties: of Iran, Iraq, Syria, Kuwait, and Arabs all the way to Libya and Algeria.

If Moscow helped Washington bring pressure to end the Gulf war, it could continue to cultivate the Arabs and please its West European neighbors who depend on oil from the Gulf. It also might win widespread Islamic backing for a negotiated end to the war in Afghanistan.

The change in the Gulf struggle began with Iran's propagandizing and provoking of riots in the holiest Islamic shrine of Mecca last August. That made it difficult for Muslim fundamentalists in Arab nations to continue their support for Khomeini-brand fundamentalism.

In short, Khomeini agents no longer enjoy a leading role in Islamic fundamentalism in the Arab world (or in such Islamic nations as Pakistan, Malaysia, and Indonesia.)

This change in allegiances was ratified Nov. 11 at the Arab summit in Amman, Jordan, where King Hussein played an adroit role in patching up two inter-Arab quarrels. First, many Arab states mended relations with Egypt, ending a break caused by Egypt's peace treaty with Israel. Second, Hussein helped bring about improvement of Syria's long-embittered relations with Iraq. The King's fence-mending there followed several rounds of quiet talks between Iraqi and Syrian officials in Damascus.

Syria had given Iran tacit support in the Gulf war. By switching its public support to Iraq, it creates a solid front of Arab Muslims (except Libya) against Persian Muslims. This shift is likely to bring about changes in Lebanon. Already pro-Khomeini groups there have tried to demonstrate their disapproval of the Syrian switch. If they continue to do so, Syria's President Assad may move to occupy the strongholds of the hizbullah resistance and clean out what Western nations see as major sources of terrorism and hostage-taking.

This change in the Mideast landscape should not be overestimated. There are brakes that work against rapid change. For one thing, chances for serious progress between Israel and its Arab neighbors will probably have to await the outcome of elections next year in America, Israel, Lebanon, and France.

This means that efforts to arrange a cease-fire and peace in the Gulf war and Afghanistan are likely to be pressed before, and separate from, any new international effort on the Arab-Israel-Palestine problem.

Gorbachev has shown his anxiety on Afghanistan for many months now. United Nations diplomats who have carried on quiet talks with Moscow and the Afghan rebels feel they have made progress at narrowing differences.

Gorbachev's goal seems to be to return to the kind of neutral Afghan government within the Soviet trade sphere which existed before the Kremlin intervention in 1979. The Afghan rebels also take the UN talks seriously, although they are not likely to see an eventual neutral government as falling too tightly within Moscow's economic sphere.

The fact that Soviet veterans of the Afghan war are now allowed to organize openly and seek public awareness is the latest indication that the Soviet leader may be preparing Moscow for a change.

During his Washington visit we may see whether he is also willing to cooperate on ending the Iran-Iraq war.

Graphic

Gorbachev's interest in ending Gulf, Afghan wars

Picture, Members of Iran's Basij forces march in Tehran Nov. 29, Women's Mobilization Day, AP

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BEIRUT'S BOMBS AND BULLETS MEAN SANTA STAYS AWAY

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

December 26, 1986 Friday

Late Edition

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Section: NEWS AND FEATURES; Pg. 4

Length: 522 words

Byline: NORA BOUSTANY

Body

BEIRUT, Thursday: When Santa Claus stopped Reina Buheiry in a department store in London last year to ask where she lived so he could come sliding down her chimney on Christmas Eve, the eight-year-old answered with trembling anticipation.

"I come from Beirut," she said.

"Oh, no," Santa exclaimed. "I can't come to Beirut."

Then, realising the devastating effect his words had on the little girl, Santa quickly reassured Reina that he would see her while she was still in London.

The bitter truth that grown-ups hate to admit about Christmas in Beirut is that Santa Claus may not be able to come here anymore.

Santa Claus would need protection because to some of the local groups he is a political symbol and a reminder of religious differences associated with discrimination and economic deprivation.

Reina and her sister Layal, born to a Christian mother and Muslim father, no longer have illusions.

"Santa Claus comes from Europe or America and they may kidnap him," Reina rationalises.

"There are too many bombs here and he doesn't like thieves anyway," interjects Layal with startling certainty for a seven-year-old.

Because of mounting social problems compounded by a flood of refugees, soaring prices and a Lebanese currency that has slipped 72 per cent in value in relation to the US dollar, the frivolities associated with Christmas are hard to come by all over Lebanon and the misfortunes of others are no longer as easy to forget.

"How can we celebrate?" wailed an elderly woman from the ravaged village of Maghdousheh, looking around a barren room lined with mattresses.

"They have destroyed our houses. We are like chickens living on top of one another."

In spite of - and perhaps because of - the sadness, some families and even political groups are defiant.

BEIRUT'S BOMBS AND BULLETS MEAN SANTA STAYS AWAY

Leila Khalaf, a bubbly woman with three children, will not give in. Rushing back from a Christmas party for women volunteers at the American University Hospital to organise Christmas carols, Khalaf almost childishly clings to her Christmas routine.

"If we don't keep doing these things, we will be devoured by the mountains of garbage and their ugly fumes," she said. "We have always tried to have a nice Christmas, somehow, no matter how simple."

The sale of Christmas trees, once a booming business, is withering.

Some florists have had threats from Hezbollah, the Iranian-backed Islamic fundamentalist group that finds Christmas decorations offensive to its goals of establishing an Islamic republic in Lebanon.

Ibrahim Takkoush and his son, Zakariyya, who run a pavement florist shop on Jeanne d'Arc Street, ordered only 20 Christmas trees this season.

"Before the war, we would charter planes full of Christmas trees and order them by the hundreds," he said.

"Now, I am ordering trees that are two feet high so they can be concealed easily."

Issam Yamout, a Sunni Muslim who used to dress up as Santa Claus for the neighbourhood children on Sadat Street, has vowed not to do so anymore.

"What's the point if Santa Claus has to go around with bodyguards?" he asked

"Can you imagine how the children will feel if someone throws something at me or shoots me while they're looking?"

Load-Date: July 20, 2007

End of Document

Books: Death passage / Review of 'Children of the Siege' by Pauline Cutting

The Guardian (London)

February 5, 1988

Copyright 1988 Guardian Newspapers Limited

Length: 531 words

Byline: By VICTORIA BRITTAIN

Body

Children of the Siege, by Pauline Cutting. (Heinemann, Pounds 12.95; Pan, paper, Pounds 3.50)

In the early days of the siege of the Palestinian camp, Bourj al Barajneh, in Beirut last year Dr Pauline Cutting wrote in her diary, 'My world has become very small.' She had then been out of the hospital building only 3 or 4 times in two months, but her world was to become smaller still over the next months as the siege tightened and the hospital itself crumbled around her as it suffered shelling from the Amal attackers.

Dr Cutting, who was later awarded an OBE for her medical work in Beirut, worked day and night operating on Palestinians wounded by the relentless bombardment of Bourj al Barajneh, in a cramped, makeshift theatre, without electricity, running water and even food for much of the time.

She tells the story of the extraordinary heroism, especially of the Palestinian doctors and nurses and the women of Bourj al Barajneh, vividly and in a simple diary style. Her own daily battles were against freezing wet feet, exhaustion, lack of privacy, hunger and the terror of losing all her teeth for lack of vitamin C. Her compensations were the deep friendships and generosity of the Palestinian families who took her and the handful of foreign medical workers into their homes.

She even manages to make her book funny and touching with stories of the ingenuity of the other doctors and nurses who could manufacture a treat out of half a candle or a tin of sardines, and entertain each other and the patients with chess marathons, religious dialogues or dreams of future meals or holidays.

Dr Cutting has clearly not meant to write a political book but her descriptions of the everyday life of the various actors in the Beirut scene speak for themselves.

The darkest side of this book is her description of the agonising six weeks it took for the Syrian army, already in control of the rest of Beirut, to decide to lift the siege of the starving Palestinians in the camp.

Her own brave initiative to publicise the inhabitants' appalling conditions, using her name and thereby risking an Amal kidnap attempt, had by then brought world-wide condemnation of the siege, though no successful international action - as has been the case in every fresh attempt to destroy the Palestinian people since 1948.

The gruesome sadism of the Amal fighters towards the Palestinian women finally allowed out to buy food (but not medicines or fuel) is one unforgettable part of this book 'Nabih Berri declared that the siege of Bourj al Barajneh was lifted, but as each day passed we became more bitter as the women allowed out to get food continued to be intimidated, abused, robbed, shot at and killed ..in Death Passage.' There is a sharp contrast in her description of the brave Hezbollah attempts to break the siege by running milk powder through the Amal lines.

Books: Death passage / Review of 'Children of the Siege' by Pauline Cutting

'The world may choose to forget those people and their plight, but I for one will never forget .', is how Dr Cutting ends her modest book. Thanks to her, thousands of people knew about the seige of Bourj al Barajneh last year, and Children of the Siege is so readable that thousands more are now likely to remember it again.

Load-Date: June 8, 2000

End of Document

TWA hijack trial opens today

The Guardian (London)

July 5, 1988

Copyright 1988 Guardian Newspapers Limited

Length: 528 words

Byline: By ANNA TOMFORDE

Dateline: FRANKFURT

Body

The trial begins here today, against the backcloth of new tension in the Gulf, of Mohamed Ali Hamadi, a suspected member of the pro-Iranian **Hezbollah**.

Hamadi is charged with the seizure in 1985 of an American TWA airliner in the Middle East.

The trial provides Western justice with the rare chance of trying a hijack suspect and is expected to lay bare the anatomy of an airline hijacking in all its stages.

The other Arab hijackers who took over the airliner with its 153 passengers have vanished and eluded trial.

Hamadi will appear before a juvenile court consisting of one male and two **female** judges in a specially built high-security courtroom adjacent to Frankfurt's Preungesheim prison.

He is charged with masterminding the 17-day long hijacking of a TWA airliner from Athens to Beirut in June, 1985, in which an American navy diver was murdered, and which ended with the release from Israeli gaols of 700 Shi'ite Muslim prisoners.

Because of conflicting statements by Hamadi about his age and records presented to the court, the West German authorities have decided to assume that Hamadi was still under the age of 21 when he planned the crime and have handed the proceedings over to a juvenile court.

The panel of judges will spend the first 11 days of the trial trying to establish the real age of the defendant and deal with charges concerning the smuggling into West Germany of several litres of liquid explosive, concealed in wine bottles, before turning to the more serious charges of hijacking and murder in the second stage of the trial in September.

Before the proceedings, the Frankfurt court has rejected official American expressions of 'dismay and surprise' at the decision to try Hamadi as a juvenile and spokesmen have explained that Hamadi could still be punished as an adult in view of the seriousness of the charges. If not, the maximum punishment would be a 10-year prison term.

Ever since Hamadi was arrested at Frankfurt airport on January 13, 1987, his case has been the subject of diplomatic tension between Bonn and Washington, which has called for his extradition. Bonn rejected that request, with the fate of Dr Rudolf Cordes, the only West German hostage in Beirut, in mind, but agreed to include hijacking and murder among the charges.

TWA hijack trial opens today

With the spotlight now again on the Western, and in particular the American hostages in Beirut after the latest conflagration in the Gulf, the trial will attract even greater attention amid a general atmosphere of tension.

Britain and Washington are expected to watch the proceedings closely. They have openly criticised Bonn's alleged soft line on Hamadi and his older brother, Abbas Ali Hamadi, who was sentenced to 13 years imprisonment in Deusseldorf in April for his part in the abduction of Dr Cordes.

The flight's pilot, Mr John Trestrake, who was shown on TV around the world with a hijacker putting a revolver to his head, will be among the 125 witnesses called for the trial, among them eight passengers.

The West German Government is, meanwhile, keeping a strict news blackout on the kidnapping of Dr Cordes, who was seized a few days after the two Hamadi brothers at Frankfurt airport.

Load-Date: June 13, 2000

End of Document

Palestinians vow to turn on Tel Aviv

Sunday Times (London)

November 12, 2000, Sunday

Copyright 2000 Times Newspapers Limited

Section: Overseas news

Length: 1330 words

Byline: Marie Colvin, Beit Sahour, Bethlehem

Body

AFTER classes ended at her Roman Catholic convent school, Marwa Raphael used to play hide-and-seek with her little sister. Her family's land runs into the biblical Shepherds' Field, so there was plenty of space. Now, the front of her house is chipped by shots fired from the Israeli army base across the valley. Her parents keep her inside.

At the age of 10, Marwa has learnt to hide at the sound of a bullet. She is a dark-haired, delicate little girl who until now worried mostly about her science homework. But in the last few weeks, her street has been hit by bullets almost nightly.

Last week a shell hit her uncle's pickup truck in the back yard. "The first time I heard the shooting, I was yelling, 'Father, we don't want to die,'" Marwa said. "Now, I hide under my bed. My little brother can't talk, but he sweats a lot."

None of the merchants and carpenters in this quiet suburb of Bethlehem was prepared for life on the front line of a civilian uprising that is sliding into a guerrilla war. During the day, Palestinian teenagers throw stones at the Israeli settlements or army checkpoints at bases that have been built beside West Bank towns. Every day, teenagers die when the Israelis respond with bullets.

There is a different war at night. Palestinian gunmen who have decided to take up arms have been trying to shoot Israelis hunkered down behind their defensive walls.

Officially, soldiers like those at the base near Marwa's house say they fire only at specific targets, but the evidence suggests otherwise. Every house on Marwa's street has been hit.

Across the road, where "Mohammed" lives with his wife and 13 children, there are bullet holes through the windows in the kitchen, bathroom and the headboard of the marital bed. Many of the homes are dark at night; families move in with relatives for safety.

None of the gunmen lives here and the Israelis admit they know that. But they appear to be firing indiscriminately into this residential neighbourhood, perhaps looking for a lucky strike. It is a miscalculation. The lack of regard for civilian lives has fired up even these middle-class citizens. At night last week, Beit Sahour was deserted. The few cars on the streets drove at speed for safety. Children slept in the basements.

Issa Raphael, Marwa's father, used to deal constantly with Israelis in his work, but he now sounds like a fiery radical. "The Israelis are firing into our houses and they know there are children here," he said. "The shebab (boys)

Palestinians vow to turn on Tel Aviv

are not throwing stones in Tel Aviv. They're throwing stones at Israelis outside their front door. They're throwing stones at soldiers outside their schools. The only solution is that the Israelis leave our land."

Beit Sahour was further outraged last week when Israeli helicopters circled the town and fired laser-guided rockets into a Jeep driven by a militia leader and his deputy at midday on a crowded residential street.

Relatives, neighbours and the curious had walked down to visit the Shabayat family on Thursday when word spread that four tank shells had hit their house at 8pm the night before. They gaped at the holes in the ground floor walls and clucked at how lucky the family was that they had been upstairs at the time - the children had been watching television - because they had not yet finished the ground floor. Boys picked up bits of shrapnel for souvenirs.

Two helicopters began circling overhead at 11am but nobody paid much attention. Whatever they thought of the Israelis, nobody believed they would fire rockets into a civilian street. This was not Beirut.

Aziza Shaibat, 52, a mother of seven, and Rahma Shaheen, a 55-year-old widow with three grown children, were walking to the corner. They were close friends and Shaheen had asked Shaibat to come with her to visit her sister, who lived in the house that had been shelled.

Walking alongside were another middle-aged couple, Salahadin and Jamila Shaibat. Rahma was known for her love of gardening - she would ask for shoots of any new plant she saw in someone's garden - but the four talked mostly about how incredible it was that rockets had come into their town.

Another neighbour, Dr Nabil Salameh, stopped by in his ambulance on the way to work, leaving the nurse and driver inside.

Moments later, just before noon, a vehicle carrying Hussein Abayat, 37, the local leader of the Fatah militia, and his deputy, Khaled Salabat, cruised down the dirt road, paused in front of the damaged house and drove back towards the main street. A Fiat Uno followed with three men inside.

One of the helicopters fired a rocket that hit the Jeep dead on. Abayat was killed immediately, his head shattered by shrapnel. Salabat was thrown onto the road, pitted with shrapnel, his left arm and leg burnt. None of the middle aged strollers knew what had hit them.

"We didn't hear anything," Salahadin Shaibat recalled from his hospital bed yesterday. His body is pitted with shrapnel and his left leg is broken. His wife, Jamila, is in a room down the hall. Shrapnel pierced her abdomen, but she will live. She does not know her two friends are dead.

"The first thing I knew, I was thrown in the air and against a wall. One lady's clothes were blown off and she was begging, 'Cover me, cover me,' so I gave her my jacket. I rolled on top of my wife to protect her."

Three more rockets struck. Salameh, the doctor, came running up the street. He had heard the rocket and hurled himself to the ground. His ambulance had been thrown into the air, with the nurse and driver inside.

"I saw a lady with all her intestines and her liver out of her body," Dr Salameh said. "I had no equipment because the ambulance was destroyed, but I tried to help her. She asked me for water." Both Rahma and Aziza died within the hour.

The killings marked the opening of a new phase in this widening dispute. The assassination of a local leader from a helicopter gunship marks the "Lebanonisation" of the conflict. Israel used the same methods against Hezbollah, the terrorist fundamentalist group. In 1992, Sheikh Abbas Musawi, a Hezbollah leader in southern Lebanon, was killed with his wife and son by an Israeli rocket fired from a helicopter.

On Friday, Israeli tanks fired shells into an apartment building in the West Bank town of Ramallah in response to shots fired at them. Palestinians have become hardened to harassment and skirmishes, but are shocked to find their villages in what feels like the middle of a war zone.

Palestinians vow to turn on Tel Aviv

Israel may have underestimated the reaction. Abayat's assassination made him a symbol of the new intifada (uprising). Palestinians might have accepted his death in a clash with the Israelis: he was a soldier and knew the risks. But some have been shocked by the manner of his death and the killings of the middle-aged women.

On Friday Bethlehem was closed down for Abayat's funeral, the largest funeral the town had ever seen. Eight more Palestinians were killed yesterday, bringing the toll in six weeks of violence to more than 200. An Israeli soldier was killed by Palestinian gunmen in the Gaza Strip and another was wounded.

For now Ehud Barak, the Israeli prime minister, has apparently decided to increase the use of force. A reserve helicopter pilot claimed last week that Israel had targeted 22 Tanzim leaders for assassination and that helicopter squads like the one that killed Abayat are on round-the-clock standby.

Militia leaders don't need to be warned. They know they are targets. On Friday, I met the leader of a Tanzim group who had gone underground on hearing of Abayat's death. The leader, who asked to be identified only as Nasser, was dressed in a black uniform, flak jacket and carried a shiny new M16 gun with a telescopic sight.

His bodyguards had the same weapons, stolen, they said, from Israeli soldiers. "Hussein's assassination has changed everything," Nasser said. "Before, we were only shooting to give the Israelis a political message. Now, we are going to take the battle to Tel Aviv."

Load-Date: November 13, 2000

End of Document

Key ingredients for peace in Middle East

Guardian Weekly

April 28, 1996

Copyright 1996 Guardian Publication, Ltd.

Section: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR; Pg. 2

Length: 128 words

Byline: Ann Fine, London

Body

IT IS, of course, tragic that 400,000 people are fleeing from their homes in southern Lebanon, as Israeli warplanes step up their now daily attacks.

It is equally tragic that over a week ago, all women and children, two-thirds of the local population, were evacuated from their homes in northern Israel, in fear of the Hizbullah Katyusha missiles.

Although the scale of refugees is not equivalent, I fail to see how this was unworthy of news coverage. For the last couple of months, Katyushas have continually fired on the towns in northern Israel, and hardly a word has been reported in the British press.

The Lebanese and Syrian governments cannot disclaim all responsibility for the Hizbullah, and at the same time fail to condemn a single attack from their own territory.

Load-Date: May 13, 1996

DO ISRAELIS HAVE A RIGHT TO KILL WITHOUT FEELING GUILT? *guilt?*

\$%Charleston Gazette (West Virginia) virginia)

June 29, 1997, Sunday sunday

Copyright 1997 Charleston Newspapers newspapers

Section: Editorial; Pg. P9B P9B

Length: 1240 words

Byline: Robert Fisk The Independent, London london

Body

NEW YORK - When Eva Stern's grandfather Aaron Hersh climbed off the transport at Auschwitz extermination camp in June 1944, along with her mother Hannah and two aunts from their ultra-orthodox Jewish family, he was still holding his prayer shawl.

"A Polish prisoner warned him he'd die if he didn't hand it over, but he refused," Eva Stern says.

"Then a German officer ordered my grandfather to give the shawl to him while he was waiting in line for selection for the gas chambers. He again refused. So he shot my grandfather in the head. That's how he he died."

In the lobby of a Manhattan hotel, Eva Stern speaks quickly, in an almost subdued voice, recalling the terrible story which her mother told her of the family's doomed journey from Czechoslovakia to Auschwitz.

"She was only 17 and tried to save one of her sister's children by holding it in her arms. But another prisoner snatched it away and gave it back to her sister - because they would all die if Mengele saw both women with a child.

"So her sister and her children were all selected to die. And my

DO ISRAELIS HAVE A RIGHT TO KILL WITHOUT FEELING GUILT? guilt?

mother lived. At least 70 members of her family were murdered. She was taken to Ravensbruck concentration camp and was eventually liberated by the Red Army.

"The incident with the child had the greatest impact on her. I can honestly say that my mother hasn't slept for 50 years."

But it is the death of her grandfather, Aaron Hersh - a Talmudic scholar by the age of 20 who was shot after refusing to surrender his "tallis" (Jewish prayer shawl), that has marked Eva Stern's life.

With scarcely suppressed anger, she opens a thick file on the seat beside her. Entitled "Israel's Operation 'Grapes of Wrath' and the Qana Massacre," it is her own work, a compilation of photographs and news reports of Israel's bombardment of southern Lebanon a year ago, in which more than 170 civilians were slaughtered.

Stern flicks her finger in fury at one of the pictures which shows Israeli soldiers standing in front of their battle tanks on the Lebanese border.

The newspaper caption reads: "Israeli soldiers briefly halt their shelling to commemorate Holocaust Day." And Stern looks at me to see if I understand why she is enraged at the picture.

"What would my grandfather say of this?" she asks. "What were those Israelis thinking as they were putting on their prayer shawls? Were they praying, 'Father, who art in heaven, help me to kill as many "Arabushim" as possible'? Do they now have a right to kill without any guilt?"

"Arabushim" - a racist term for Arabs in the Hebrew language - was later used in an Israeli newspaper interview by one of the artillerymen who fired into the U.N. base at Qana last year. At least 109 civilians sheltering in the camp were killed, 55 of them children. Eva Stern has included an English translation of the interview from "Kol Ha'ir" in her file, a set of documents which she has sent to the

DO ISRAELIS HAVE A RIGHT TO KILL WITHOUT FEELING GUILT? guilt?

United Nations, to the Lebanese delegation to the United Nations, and to the most prominent American journalists in New York.

She hoped to persuade the latter to mark the first anniversary of the Qana massacre on April 18.

Stern's sense of outrage is as brave as it is lonely; although many American Jews are troubled by the behavior of Israel's right-wing government and the bloody adventures in which Israel has been involved in Lebanon over the past 20 years, most will not take kindly to Eva Stern's concern for the truth to be told.

"My feelings started slowly," she says. "I always had a problem with unquestioned obedience to authority - that's why I always got into trouble in class. And when I thought about the atrocities committed by the Israelis, I felt that as an American taxpayer and an American Jew, I had an obligation to speak out.

"If ordinary Germans living under total oppression can be held responsible for the crimes committed by the Nazis - because they did not speak out - how much more responsible are we who live in a country where we have the freedom to speak out?

"If ordinary Germans were guilty for not speaking out, then surely we are also guilty in remaining silent about Qana. Because we don't live in fear of death squads.

"What I am doing is not courageous - it is the decent thing to do. If enough decent Germans had spoken out at the time, perhaps the Holocaust would not have happened."

Eva Stern does not draw false parallels between the Nazis and the Israeli army. "I'm not saying that the level of atrocities committed by the Israelis is on the same scale or in any way comparable to those of the Nazis. Of course not.

"But I know that I have paid as a taxpayer for the shells that rained down on Qana. And therefore if I'm silent, I'm no better than those

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Germans.

"Israel claims to be the representative of the Jewish people. It's important for people to know that they clearly do not speak for world Jewry. They clearly do not speak for me. So I have a duty to speak out."

Although only a secretary in a Manhattan business - she was educated in an ultra-orthodox Brooklyn girls' school - Eva Stern was encouraged in her campaign by Professor Noam Chomsky, one of America's foremost philosophers who is himself Jewish, and by the work of former Warsaw Ghetto survivor and chemistry professor Dr. Israel Shahak, whose history of Israel she quotes by heart.

"He wrote that 'any support of human rights in general by a Jew which does not include the support of human rights of non-Jews whose rights are being violated by the "Jewish State" is as deceitful as the support of human rights by a Stalinist.' That really influenced me."

Eva Stern's father Chaim was a Hungarian Jew who also survived a concentration camp. "My mother was his cousin, and they married in 1949. I was born seven years later," she says.

"My parents are still alive and know my feelings about Israeli atrocities. They are sort of ambivalent about it. They believe I'm right in condemning it. But because of what they went through, they believe all the world is antisemitic.

"So when there's a terrorist attack against the Israelis, they are unable to see it in the context of the Arab-Israeli dispute. I strongly condemn any terrorist attack. But my parents see it as 'the Arabs are anti-semitic, and that's why there's a terrorist attack.'

"I refuse to condemn my parents for these feelings. They see all Germans, for example, as Nazis - because in their experience, they only met Nazis. And for most Palestinians, the only Jews they know of are the oppressors. The Palestinians in the refugee camps in Lebanon

DO ISRAELIS HAVE A RIGHT TO KILL WITHOUT FEELING GUILT? guilt?

have probably never met a decent, moral Jew."

It was the killing of a Lebanese boy by a booby-trapped bomb that prompted the pro-Iranian Hezbollah - who blamed Israel for the incident - to launch rockets across the Lebanese border last April.

Israel responded with its three-week blitz on Lebanon.

Israeli troops were planting booby-trap bombs inside the U.N. zone of Lebanon on April 18 when they came under mortar attack from Hezbollah men who were firing 600 feet from the U.N. base at Qana.

Israel claimed its subsequent 17-minute shelling of the refugees there was a mistake but the United Nations concluded that it was not an error.

But Eva Stern's attempt to persuade American journalists to mark the first anniversary of the bloodbath met with little more than indifference.

Not a single mainstream American newspaper carried a paragraph - not even a brief news report on the United Nations - or attended a ceremony held in Lebanon to mark the first anniversary of the bloodbath. Unlike Eva Stern, American journalists remained silent. silent.

Load-Date: June 30, 1997

NO HEADLINE

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

October 28, 2000, Saturday,

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2000 P.G. Publishing Co.

Section: WORLD,; WORLD BRIEFS

Length: 613 words

Body

ED POPE'S WIFE DENIED JAIL VISIT

MOSCOW -- Russian officials yesterday turned down a request by the wife of an American accused of spying in Russia to visit her husband a second time.

Edmond Pope, 54, of State College, was arrested on April 3 in Moscow on charges of trying to buy plans for a torpedo. Cheri Pope was allowed to visit her husband for an hour Wednesday, but requests to see him again Thursday and yesterday were rejected. The court also denied a request to allow English-speaking doctors to examine Pope, who has bone cancer, and would not allow his wife to give him clothing and medicine.

Famine in Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan -- As many as one million Afghans could die of starvation this winter unless the international community quickly provides aid to cope with the country's worst drought in decades, World Food Program officials said yesterday.

The WFP is feeding about 2.3 million Afghans but is running out of funds, said Gerard van Dijk, the food program's director for Afghanistan. He said the WFP has asked for \$ 53 million in emergency aid but that donations have only trickled in.

Guards taken hostage

ANKARA, Turkey -- Inmates at a prison in southeastern Turkey took 17 guards hostage last night to pressure authorities to allow them to have visits with relatives.

Inmates at another prison on Thursday released 13 guards they had held for four days to demand amnesty for prisoners.

The inmates involved in yesterday's hostage-taking, at Elazig prison, are members of Hezbollah, a militant group seeking an Islamic state in the Kurdish southeast.

In Turkey's teeming prisons, large dormitory-style blocks allow political and mafia prisoners to organize and coordinate operations with contacts outside via cell phone.

Filipinos protest

NO HEADLINE

MANILA, Philippines -- President Joseph Estrada said yesterday that protests won't drive him from office, as the vice president told him to quit and demonstrators threw paint at the Manila mansion where one of his mistresses lived.

Protesters accused Estrada of giving "the best" to his lovers while ignoring the millions of poor Filipinos he claims to represent. Estrada denies charges he accepted more than \$ 8.6 million skimmed from illegal numbers games and \$ 2.8 million from tobacco taxes. He has acknowledged having several mistresses, whose names have been widely reported in the press.

Wayward monks

BANGKOK, Thailand -- Police raided the secret residence where a Buddhist priest arranged trysts with women.

Thammathorn Wanchai, 43, the abbot of a temple in central Thailand, was defrocked for breaking his monastic vows: having sex, drinking alcohol and wearing clothes other than the monk's robes. Because he disguised himself in an army uniform, he faces criminal charges of impersonating an official.

A growing number of Thai clergymen have been caught violating Buddhism's code, which requires them to renounce material and bodily pleasures and embrace a life of poverty to attain enlightenment. Last month, a monk was reprimanded and forced to sell his collection of Mercedes Benz cars. Others were convicted of rape, murder and financial wrongdoing.

Some 95 percent of Thailand's 60 million people are Buddhists. Many of them give money and even cars to abbots and temples.

Thammathorn refused to explain his conduct but told reporters: "My inner soul is still that of a monk."

Also in the world . . .

Chinese auditors have discovered more than \$ 11 billion in mismanaged funds in government offices and businesses, state media reported yesterday, citing the government's chief auditor . . . Gunmen ambushed a convoy of Russian servicemen near the separatist region of Chechnya yesterday, killing four and injuring one.

Load-Date: November 2, 2000

Israel frees prisoners for return of navigator

Times Colonist (Victoria, British Columbia)

April 20, 2000 Thursday Final Edition

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Section: World; Pg. B13; News

Length: 562 words

Dateline: KFAR TIBNIT, Lebanon

Body

KFAR TIBNIT, Lebanon (AP) -- With cheers, music and showers of rice, hundreds of relatives and guerrilla supporters welcomed 13 Lebanese freed Wednesday by Israel after being held for years as bargaining chips for a missing Israeli airman.

The men, released reluctantly by the Israeli government on orders of the Supreme Court, were taken from a prison in central Israel and handed over to the army. Blindfolded and handcuffed, they were driven in a bus, its windows covered with newspapers, to an army base near the border.

Associated Press

The prisoners later boarded a Red Cross bus that drove across the Lebanese-Israeli frontier, through Israeli-occupied territory in southern Lebanon and crossed a Lebanese army checkpoint at Kfar Tibnit.

"It's as if I was born again," said Youssef Sourour, 31, one of those freed.

"I can't believe it. I am in a dream," said Hussein Dakouk, also 31.

Both men, who were 17 when they were captured, spoke to the Associated Press from the bus during a stop. They said they are ready to join the guerrillas to fight Israel again.

The former prisoners' arrival capped a week of debate in the Jewish state over whether all means are permissible in bringing home its missing soldiers, or whether the line had to be drawn at what human rights groups say amounts to holding hostages.

The 13 freed men were taken prisoner in Lebanon, beginning in 1986, during roundups of sympathizers of guerrilla organizations.

Israel occupied southern Lebanon in 1982 and turned it into a security zone in 1985 as a buffer against attacks on its northern towns. Israel has notified the United Nations that it will end the occupation by July 7.

Many of the freed prisoners served sentences imposed by military courts but were detained after their sentences ran out. Israel and its allied Lebanese militia hold another 150 Lebanese, including two guerrilla leaders.

Israel's Supreme Court ruled Monday that the 13 prisoners cannot be held as "bargaining chips," rejecting last-minute petitions and pleas by the family of Ron Arad, an air force navigator who was captured by Lebanese guerrillas after his plane was shot down in 1986. His whereabouts remain unknown. In addition to Arad, three Israeli soldiers remain missing after disappearing in Lebanon.

Israel frees prisoners for return of navigator

Chief Justice Aharon Barak said that while he understood the pain of Arad's family, the state would have to bring back Israeli MIAs "in the framework of the law."

Barak's order paved the way for the first such legally mandated release of Lebanese prisoners in a gruelling conflict where rules have often been ignored by both sides.

"I cannot describe my joy," said 65-year-old Hawiya Yassin, whose son, Mohammed, was seized by Israeli troops after a guerrilla attack in 1986. He was 22 at the time.

"I have been in a state of nervousness, no food, no drink, for two weeks, awaiting this news," she said of his release.

About 2,000 people were at the checkpoint in Kfar Tibnit, one of several crossing points linking the Israeli-occupied zone with the rest of Lebanon.

As the bus rolled through the checkpoint, it was showered with rice, rosewater and flower petals -- the traditional Arab welcome.

When the former prisoners got off the bus, they were mobbed and covered with hugs and kisses. Some women wept while several others fainted. The freed men were later taken to Beirut.

Graphic

Photo: Hussein Malla, Associated Press; Two released Lebanese prisoners hold a portrait of General Secretary Hassan Nasrallah and Hezbollah group flags, while being transported by an International Red Cross bus at Kfar Tibnit crossing near the southern market town of Nabatiyah, Wednesday.

Load-Date: March 29, 2002

Free speech in Arafat's Gaza: no lights, no camera.

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

February 22, 2000, Tuesday

Copyright 2000 The Christian Science Publishing Society

Section: WORLD; Pg. 7

Length: 1083 words

Byline: Ilene R. Prusher , Special to The Christian Science Monitor

Dateline: GAZA CITY, GAZA STRIP

Body

Qassem Ali is ready to roll. Here at Ramattan Studios overlooking the skyward sprawl of Gaza and the Mediterranean, he has the camera crews, the latest editing equipment, and a soundproof studio.

But the "On Air" sign remains dark. Since last year, Mr. Ali has been trying to get permission from the Palestinian Authority to open an independent television station.

And so far, the show has not gone on. A host of hurdles stands in the way of what would be Gaza's first commercial TV channel. Ali says it's because his channel could become a competitor to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's version of state-run television: the Palestinian Broadcast Corp. (PBC) and its new spin-off, the Palestinian Satellite Channel (PSC).

But beyond competition, observers say, denying a license to broadcast is one more instance of the Palestinian Authority's (PA) firm control over free speech.

"Everyone said, 'You won't get permission because there is an unwritten law.' If there's an unwritten law, then we have to fight it," says Ali, who once fought the Israeli occupation, then reported on the Palestinian intifadah (uprising).

Ali says his focus is now on social issues. Among the projects Ramattan is currently producing are documentaries on child abuse and working women. His vision of the new channel, he says, would be a forum for airing a variety of views and serious treatment of domestic issues ignored by the PBC.

"Professionally, they're not up to my standards," says Ali. "I want to go to the heart of the cultural issues and the political issues. We have tribal rivalries and arranged marriages. The level of education here is terrible, healthcare is terrible. There are serious problems here and you don't solve them simply by having an independent state."

Free speech in Arafat's Gaza: no lights, no camera.

The chief of Palestinian state-run television, Hisham Makki, who works one floor below Mr. Arafat's office is blunt. "I am doing everything in my power to prevent another channel from broadcasting," says Mr. Makki, who speaks in forceful and succinct sentences.

It's a different story, however, in the West Bank, where some 30 channels, most of them with only local service, currently operate. Many say that's because Arafat wields much more authority in Gaza - where the PA has jurisdiction over most of the land - than in the West Bank, which is still comprised of self-ruled Palestinian islands surrounded by Israeli-controlled territory. The resulting legal ambiguities have given some stations a window to operate. But perhaps not indefinitely, Makki says.

"Gaza is too small for another station. All the others in the West Bank can go on talking, but I don't know how long they will continue, because you can watch PBC all over and you can watch PSC all over the world," Makki says.

Makki, who has three decades of experience at state television stations in the Arab world, says the PBC is not afraid to touch on issues like corruption and the question of who will succeed Arafat.

"We are free to do whatever we like and nobody is in charge of us except for the president," says Makki. "Well, not really in charge, he just gives us his opinion and helps us evaluate the programs."

Whether an independent channel should also have a chance to evaluate things, he says, it's up to the government. But, casting doubt on Ramattan's financial backers, he adds: "If the money were clean and pure and we didn't have to wash it again, and it were for the benefit of the Palestinian people, then we would support it."

The clock strikes midday, and Makki flips his attention to the big-screen TV at the other end of the room. The broadcast opens its part-time day with the national anthem and a picture of a somber Arafat saluting as a superimposed Palestinian flag flutters over his image.

"We do criticize the Authority. The only one who cannot be criticized, like the queen in England, is President Arafat, because he is our national emblem."

Tawfeek Abu Shomar, an official at the Ministry of Information says that the problem for issuing licenses is a lack of qualified applicants. Moreover, he says, years of Israeli repression possibly intimidated prospective applicants from seeking licenses to operate. He says three applicants withdrew their applications.

Ramattan's application, he says, has now been approved by his ministry, but must next gain authorization from the Ministry of Interior as well as the Ministry of Communication.

"No one yet has received a license to operate, but it's a mistake to say we don't want this in Palestine," says Mr. Abu Shomar. "The Interior Ministry has to check where the money comes from, because this issue enters into espionage." One concern, he says, is that money from Iran could fund an Islamic fundamentalist channel, as the **Hizbullah** does in Lebanon.

Free speech in Arafat's Gaza: no lights, no camera.

Other attempts to air different points of view, however, have had little success. Daoud Kuttub, a respected journalist who was contracted to broadcast the meetings of the Palestinian Legislative Council, tried to give Palestinians a sense of the lively debate going on among their elected officials.

But last year he was arrested by PA police and held for several days, after which the broadcasts were discontinued. Now, critics say, Palestinians watch anything but PBC, which people on the street quietly describe as boring.

"If you want to know what is happening in Gaza, you watch the BBC, Israeli TV, or Al-Jazeera," says Dr. Iyad Serraj, a human rights activist, referring to the Qatar-based television station making waves in the Middle East as a sort of Arab CNN with unprecedentedly hard-hitting reporting.

Mr. Serraj has also invested in Ramattan because he thinks Palestinians need a chance to hear something other than the party line.

"It's monopolization of freedom of expression. Critical debates in the community are not shown, certain people are not shown. When they do certain programs, they are restricted by their mandate and by the censorship," says Serraj. "[Makki] runs a typical Arab propaganda TV station and he's adamant about not allowing anything else to open in Gaza, which is absolutely contrary to the spirit of democratization."

Ali says he hasn't given up hope because he hasn't been rejected yet. "I'll continue fighting to have a television station in Gaza, even if it take two or three years. We as Gazans have started to perceive ourselves as political animals, as the world perceives us, and I want Gazans to see themselves as people again."

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Load-Date: February 21, 2000

FICTION;
NIGHT & DAY

MAIL ON SUNDAY (London)

November 17, 1996

Copyright 1996 Associated Newspapers Ltd.

Section: Pg. 45

Length: 1094 words

Body

The Arthuriad of Catumandus by Frederick Lees Crane Books \$11.99 Massive historical novels about the exploits of King Arthur don't generally excite the big commercial publishers, so the small press imprint is no surprise. But Frederick Lees clearly knows his history, and can certainly hold a pen. His narrator is an elderly envoy from the Eastern Roman Empire heading back to Dark Age Britain. The idiom, always a tricky hurdle for the historical novelist, is modern without being anachronistic, and credulity is strained only by some of the drawing-room dialogue ('Well, Hengest asked me for my opinion...').

DJ Taylor

Rumpole and the Angel of Death by John Mortimer Penguin \$5.99 HHH

There is a lot that is pleasantly old-fashioned about this latest volume of Rumpole case

histories. Mortimer does nod toward modernity with references to hunt saboteurs or political correctness, but Rumpole's is essentially a cosily traditional world in which young women still have names such as Dot or Mavis, while the villains are known as 'Battering Bob' and speak stage cockney. These are all satisfyingly plotted moral tales which are characterised by their author's familiarly rumbustious sense of decency.

John Williams

I Should Have Stayed Home by Horace McCoy Midnight Classics \$6.99 HH

HH

This 1938 trawl through the decadence of Hollywood is seen through the eyes of a Georgia hick, but it still has all the hard-boiled requisites: gigolos, starlets, rivers of liquor. Like the author's better known novel, They Shoot Horses, Don't They?, it's riven with the desperation of wannabes, in this case the extras haunting the edges of fame and fortune. Ralph is the rube who follows his room-mate Mona's slide into corruption. But he's not without the odd test of his decency. 'Kiss me', says a Tinseltown party girl. 'Touch me. Hit me. Anything.' Sean Macaulay

The Family Next Door by Flo Evans Duckworth \$15.99 HHH

Polly and Maggie are teachers and neighbours, both unhappily married. But Maggie is beautiful and exuberant and has a daughter; Polly's baby died at birth. When Maggie starts sleeping with a younger colleague, the difference between these friends turns troubling and

FICTION; NIGHT & DAY

destructive. Evans's second novel begins with seemingly self-conscious attempts at hip. But what I perceived as embarrassing turned into writing which embarrassed and discomforted. A novel I'd been ready to categorise, suddenly became rewardingly subtle. Julie Myerson

A Secret Affair by Barbara Taylor Bradford HarperCollins \$9.99 HH

There is an old-fashioned gloss to this romance, although the setting and the sex are strictly contemporary. Bill Fitzgerald, reporter, covering the war in Bosnia, has lost his young wife in childbirth. Even Helena, their small daughter, fails to give him much of a reason for living until, holidaying in Venice, he meets Vanessa, a gifted artist. They fall passionately in love. The plot continues from the woman's point of view, moving to New York and Bill's kidnapping by the Hezbollah. No shortage of cliché but the story is seductive. Lamorna King

Incomparable World by SI Martin Quartet Paperback Original \$9 HHH

Energetic, often tongue-in-cheek, this first novel is set in the 1780s, where it introduces a number of rogues clustered round Georgie George at his London tavern, The Charioteer. Buckram has just come out of jail and Neville, 'the Bible man' hopes to stop him going back. William, a musician, gets caught up in the St James' riots. Or was that the Brixton riots? Part fantasy, part historical reconstruction, the book is a black Beggar's Opera, with a cast of American ex-slaves who fought for liberty on the British side. Sharp and entertaining. Judy Cooke

Load-Date: November 26, 1996

WHO'S WHO IN THE IRAN CRISIS

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

July 14, 1999 Wednesday Final Edition

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Section: CANADA & WORLD; Pg. C4

Length: 650 words

Body

As Iran undergoes its most serious disturbances since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, BBC News Online looks at the key players in the country's political crisis:

AYATOLLAH ALI KHAMENEI

An unprecedented feature of the rallies by thousands of students in Tehran has been the appearance of slogans against Ayatollah Khamenei, who is officially portrayed as Iran's supreme, holy and infallible leader.

Chosen by the conservative-dominated Assembly of Experts after Ayatollah Khomeini's death in June 1989, it is legally forbidden to criticize his actions and he is, in practice, accountable to nobody. He controls the judiciary and the state broadcaster, as well as the security and police forces, though he has granted nominal control of the police to Interior Minister Abdolvahed Musavi-Lari.

The students are demanding Khamenei should be held accountable for violence by the security forces.

PRESIDENT MOHAMMAD KHATAMI

Since he was elected in a landslide victory two years ago, the Iranian president has been promoting openness, human rights and democratic reforms.

With strong support among women, intellectuals and the young, Khatami advocates what he calls a "civil society" -- a kind of Islamic democracy. Mainstream conservatives who control most institutions have been placing legal and semi-legal obstacles in his path.

Their extremist allies have gone further, engaging in acts of violence, such as the killing of dissidents and attacks on political and student gatherings.

STUDENTS

Iran's students played a major role in overthrowing the monarchy in 1979 and again in bringing Khatami to power in elections two years ago.

More than a million strong and organized in several national unions, they have been a powerful force supporting Khatami's reform program. They have been quick to come out onto the streets to oppose hardliners, but have also become increasingly impatient with what they see as the slow pace of reform.

SPECIAL CLERICAL COURT

WHO'S WHO IN THE IRAN CRISIS

The Special Clerical Court was responsible for the ban on the pro-Khatami Salam newspaper which helped spark the recent demonstrations at Tehran University.

This court was set up by Khomeini soon after the 1979 revolution to try clergymen thought to be affiliated with the former regime. More recently, it has become an instrument for putting pressure on clerics who do not back the policies of Khamenei.

The head of the court, Gholamreza Mohseni-Ezhei, was appointed by Khamenei in December 1998 and reports directly to him.

ISLAMIC EXTREMISTS

Shadowy groups of Islamic extremists have been blamed for breaking up pro-Khatami gatherings and for physical attacks on well known reformers.

These groups, of which Ansar-e Hezbollah is one of the better known, appear to operate with the tacit support of conservative, anti-Khatami political circles. They seem to have enjoyed legal immunity, with arrests or prosecutions against their members virtually unheard of.

Hezbollahis, the generic term for members of such groups, are thought to have been responsible with support from some elements of the Law Enforcement Force for the attack on the student dormitories at Tehran University. The arrest of the leaders of these groups is a key demand at student protests. Some students have also shouted slogans linking Khamenei to the militants.

INTERIOR MINISTER

A supporter of Khatami, Interior Minister Abdolvahed Musavi-Lari arguably has more popular support than actual power. Although nominally in charge of the police, Musavi-Lari says he did not order the recent storming of student dormitories.

LAW ENFORCEMENT FORCES

Following the fatal attack on students which triggered the current crisis, a central question has become who ultimately controls the security forces.

Khamenei is constitutionally the highest authority in the country and controls the security and police forces. Student protesters have called on him to explain the police violence.

Try: <http://news.bbc.co.uk>

Load-Date: October 17, 2002

Age of discontent

Courier Mail (Queensland, Australia)

May 22, 1997, Thursday

Copyright 1997 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: NEWS; Pg. 15

Length: 607 words

Byline: COOPERMAN A

Body

TWO sensations are shaking Iran: a genuinely contested presidential election and a tale of teenage love and murder. One may throw a surprising amount of light on the other.

Sharokh and Sumaya met a year ago. Both were rich, good-looking and 16. Although Iran's interpretation of Islamic law forbids unmarried couples to dance, hold hands or even walk down the street together, their relatively liberal parents allowed them to date _ discreetly and chastely.

QNP

Mainly, they watched American videos or satellite television, which is illegal but not uncommon in the wealthy suburbs of north Tehran. When the teenagers announced their desire to marry, Sumaya's parents said no. Despondent, the lovers plotted to kill Sumaya's family. In April, they were jailed for murdering Sumaya's 15-year-old sister and 9-year-old brother and attacking her mother.

Ignoring the teenagers' deeper psychological problems, some of Iran's ruling clergy and state-controlled media have turned the case into a crude morality lesson. "If parents fail to control their children's (dating) and access to corrupt films and satellite TV, it can lead to moral deviation and crimes like this," said a police general.

Headlines declared that the two were under the spell of rap music. These xenophobic forces not only control Iran's police, religious courts and major media but also have a presidential candidate: parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri.

He is the frontrunner in this Friday's election, backed by the country's conservative clergy and bazaaris, the merchant class. A major theme of Nateq-Nuri's campaign is his determination to defeat the "cultural onslaught" from the West and he is endorsed by Ansar Hezbollah (Supporters of the Party of God), vigilante thugs who heckle rival candidates.

For the first time in 16 years, however, the outcome of Iran's presidential election is not a foregone conclusion _ if the voting is honest. There are four candidates, whittled down from 238 in an undemocratic manner by a council of senior mullahs, who ensured no women or opponents of the current regime appeared on the ballot.

But the leading challenger, Mohammed Khatami, has a reputation as an open-minded intellectual. His mild tolerance of dissent as minister of culture and Islamic guidance _ the country's chief censor _ cost him that job in 1993. Since then, he has served quietly as head of the National Library. Khatami's core supporters are urban

Age of discontent

intellectuals, technocrats, women and youth who favour liberalisation _ and who tend to have a very different view of Sharokh and Sumaya.

Their trial revealed "a social crisis for youth in our country", says Sasan Hassanzade, a student at Tehran University. "Youth cannot express themselves. We cannot breathe."

With a voting age of 16, this disenchanted generation may hold the key to the election. Iran's demographics are peculiar: thanks to a baby boom after the 1979 Islamic revolution, about half the population is under 18 and more than one-third of eligible voters are younger than 30.

Khatami has been campaigning vigorously for the youth and female vote. But it is unclear whether the political disillusionment of young people will lead them to the polls to support Khatami or to stay home and sit out the election.

Although Nateq-Nuri is staunchly pro-market while Khatami is a moderate socialist, most of the candidates' other differences are murky. Neither openly advocates reconciliation with the West or other radical changes in national policy.

And no matter who wins, under Iran's Constitution, the nation's "supreme leader", religious and political, remains the traditionalist Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Load-Date: March 1, 2002

End of Document

Foreign Briefs

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

February 18, 1996, Sunday

Copyright 1996 Telegraph Herald

Section: National/World, Pg. c 13

Length: 591 words

Byline: Associated Press

Body

Heiress charged with stripping French chateaus

PARIS - For a Frenchwoman struggling to keep her family's 17th century castle intact, a Japanese heiress' offer to buy and restore it seemed almost too good to be true.

It was.

Nine years after the Chateau de Millemont was sold for \$7 million, the roof is leaking, weeds have overtaken the once-stately gardens - and Niko Nakahara is in jail, charged with forgery and breach of trust.

Authorities say Nakahara, 50, also is to blame for stripping at least 10 other chateaus, most classified as historical monuments by the French government, and leaving them in ruins.

The affair has scandalized France, which blames Nakahara for selling off bits of its heritage like so many spare parts of a worn-out luxury car.

"We were completely swayed by her promises to renovate the chateau and open it to the public," said Colette de Baudus. "We were full of illusions and dreams. Now we have broken hearts."

Nakahara, who doesn't speak French, has been in the women's prison in Versailles since January and may remain behind bars until June. No date has been set for her trial.

In other international news:

* As Hong Kong begins its last 500 days of British rule, its people's allegiance to their future Chinese rulers seems to be growing, though it remains far from overwhelming, a new survey shows. The last poll of a three- year running assessment of Hong Kong opinion portrays a public still wary of China and worried about freedom and good government after the 1997 handover, but growing more accepting of the change.

* Israeli helicopters fired on guerrilla strongholds in south Lebanon Saturday, one day after a series of attacks by Iranian-backed Hezbollah fighters, security sources said. Two Apache helicopters made repeated runs on guerrilla bases and trails in the foothills of Mount Hermon, said the sources, speaking on condition of anonymity. There was no immediate report of casualties from the air attack, which followed 26 guerrilla assaults Friday along the 50-mile border of the Israeli-occupied zone in south Lebanon.

Foreign Briefs

- * Two ill and hungry rebels surrendered to Indonesian authorities after walking out of the New Guinea jungle where the Free Papua Movement continues to hold 12 hostages, the military said Saturday.
- * Health officials are hoping a massive public information campaign in the west African nation of Gabon will head off an epidemic of the lethal Ebola virus, the World Health Organization said Saturday.
- * Seventeen guests and employees trapped in their small rooms burned to death early Saturday in a central Taiwan hotel condemned last year as a fire hazard.
- * Four people were killed and at least 37 injured during a three-day rampage by young Congo army recruits demanding promotions and better pay, national radio reported Saturday. The uprising began Wednesday when about 1, 200 recruits began roaming the streets in gangs and firing their rifles into the air.
- * A German passenger ferry with more than 900 people aboard was pulled free today after an ice floe grounded it on a sand bank off the Danish coast for 15 hours. The ferry was never danger of sinking. None of the 876 Danish and Swedish passengers and 44 crew members were injured, a Danish navy spokesman said.
- * CompuServe Inc. has introduced software that would allow its German customers to block out online pornography, but the Bavarian justice ministry said the company was trying to pass the buck.
- * Sex sells, but not for much longer. Starting Monday, alcohol and cigarette ads featuring women will be illegal in Honduras.

Load-Date: December 9, 1996

End of Document

WORLD IN BRIEF;
London police rule out terror in market blast

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution

April 18, 1999, Sunday,

Home Edition

Copyright 1999 The Atlanta Constitution

Section: News; Pg. 10A

Length: 626 words

Byline: From our news services

Body

An explosion fired nails Saturday through a crowded street market in south London, injuring dozens. Witnesses said the blast was caused by a bomb.

No deaths were reported, but Scotland Yard said people had been seriously injured in the explosion at 5:25 p.m. A trader at the market said he had seen the device before it exploded. He said nails were stuck on it with transparent tape.

AJC

Cmdr. Hugh Orde, Metropolitan Police head of crime for southwest London, said police received reports of at least 48 people injured, although apparently not all sought hospital treatment. Seventeen people were admitted with "shrapnel-type" injuries at King's College Hospital, said spokesman Nick Samuels.

Police did not immediately confirm the cause of the explosion, and there were no reports of anyone claiming responsibility. Press Association, the British news agency, said police suggested the explosion was related to criminal activity and not to politically motivated terrorism.

ASIA

Taliban says Clinton not qualified to criticize

The Taliban religious militia warned President Clinton on Saturday that his criticism of Afghanistan's human rights record is damaging relations. Clinton has been a strong critic of the Taliban's treatment of women and last month said the United States wouldn't recognize the Taliban while the repression against women continued. "Any criticism regarding Afghanistan's Muslims and women's rights should come from a Muslim," said a Foreign Ministry statement. "This Clinton is not a Muslim and does not know anything about Islam and Muslims."

Widowed rights leader allowed to see son

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi saw her younger son for the first time in more than 18 months in a rare family visit permitted by Myanmar's military government. Kim Aris, 21, arrived in the Myanmar capital, Yangon, from his home in Britain, making the visit that was denied to his father, Michael Aris. The military barred the elder Aris from making a last visit to Suu Kyi, his wife, before he died in London last month.

MIDDLE EAST

WORLD IN BRIEF; London police rule out terror in market blast

Israeli planes fire missiles into Lebanon

Israeli warplanes fired two missiles at suspected guerrilla hideouts in southern Lebanon on Saturday, security officials said. There were no reports of casualties or damage from the air raids on hills near the village of Zebqine, north of the Israeli-occupied enclave. A military spokesman in Jerusalem said Israeli jets attacked guerrilla targets in the area and returned safely to base. The area is a staging point for attacks by pro- Iranian **Hezbollah** guerrillas on Israeli forces in the occupied zone.

U.S. bombs again in northern Iraq

U.S. fighter planes bombed anti-aircraft sites Saturday in northern Iraq, the first confrontation in the area in about a month. The planes launched the attacks after they were threatened while patrolling the northern no-fly zone, U.S. officials said. The Iraqi armed forces said four civilians died in the attacks and one was injured. The statement carried by the official Iraqi News Agency said the attacks were directed against "our civilian installations and weapons sites." The statement also claimed American and British warplanes coming from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait had flown 22 sorties over southern Iraq.

Palestinians march to honor dead hero

Palestinians, some in black hoods and firing automatic rifles into the air, marched Saturday through the Balata Refugee Camp in memory of a slain PLO chief. At Balata camp outside the West Bank town of Nablus, 1,000 demonstrators carried photos of Khalil Wazir, known as Abu Jihad, killed in 1988, presumably by Israeli commandos. The marchers pledged to continue his struggle for Palestinian independence and also demanded the release of Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli jails.

Load-Date: April 18, 1999

End of Document

POPE'S MESSAGE ONE OF RECONCILIATION

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

May 11, 1997, Sunday

Copyright 1997 The Columbian Publishing Co.

Section: A section; Pg. 6

Length: 580 words

Byline: By DANIEL J. WAKIN ; Associated Press writer

Body

BEIRUT, Lebanon -- Showered with rice and rosewater in a spirited traditional welcome, Pope John Paul II appealed Saturday to the people of war-battered Lebanon to forgive years of brutal strife between Muslims and Christians.

Tens of thousands of people lined the streets of Beirut to see the pope ride by in his glass-enclosed popemobile, past the remnants of buildings crushed by artillery during Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

In the crowd were Christian students in T-shirts, Muslim women in veils and old men in flowing Arab headdress. Some ululated. Others chanted "Baba, Baba" -- Arabic for pope.

"You are now the image of hope for all the Lebanese people," President Elias Hrawi told the pontiff upon his arrival at the airport.

There, John Paul spoke of the many who "died in vain" during Lebanon's war, which was sparked by conflicts that began after Muslims became a majority in the traditionally Christian land. The war killed about 150,000 people and displaced hundreds of thousands more.

"That period, which has happily come to an end, is still present in everyone's memory and has left many scars on people's hearts," John Paul said.

The warm reception for what was the pope's first visit reflected a broad acceptance of the trip by virtually all Lebanese factions, from hard-line Christians to the militant Muslim Hezbollah.

Later Saturday, the 76-year-old John Paul met with young people at a prayer service at Harissa, about 15 miles north of Beirut and site of a sanctuary dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

John Paul was greeted with cheering, rock-concert-style enthusiasm he has not seen for a long time from a crowd. The government estimated the turnout at more than 20,000.

As Christians, John Paul told the young people, they have a special duty to be "a luminous example" of reconciliation.

The crowd interrupted with cries of "Liberty, liberty," to demand freedom for Lebanon, which is occupied by both Syrian and Israeli troops. Some waved pictures of Samir Geagea, a jailed Christian militia leader, and Gen. Michel Aoun, who led a battle against Syria's control in Lebanon but wound up in exile.

POPE'S MESSAGE ONE OF RECONCILIATION

His remarks to the young people echoed his message to the crowd that greeted him at the airport, where the pope urged the Lebanese to commit themselves to "peace, reconciliation and fraternal life" by showing "forgiveness and by working in the service of the national community."

The formal purpose of the trip was the delivery Sunday of a major document outlining his aims for the Catholic church in Lebanon.

The document is in response to a 1995 report by Lebanese bishops that urged both Syria and Israel to withdraw troops from Lebanon. Syria, which effectively controls Lebanon, has 40,000 troops here. Israeli forces and their Lebanese allies occupy 10 percent of the country in the south to guard against cross-border guerrilla attacks on Israel.

When asked on the papal flight whether his visit served as a warning to Syria over its military presence, the pope told reporters, "I'm going to Lebanon -- sovereign Lebanon."

A sour note was sounded by Nabih Berri, the leader of the Shiite Muslim Amal militia movement and president of the Chamber of Deputies, who complained that the pope's itinerary did not include a trip to largely Shiite southern Lebanon.

"Lebanon has completed its pilgrimage (of peace) by receiving the pope, but the pope did not complete his pilgrimage because he did not go to the south," he told reporters after meeting privately with the pontiff.

Graphic

ROBERT FRISK/The Associated Press * Visit: Pope John Paul II, accompanied by Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir, waves as they leave Beirut airport Saturday.

Load-Date: May 12, 1997

End of Document

Foreign Briefs

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

April 26, 1996, Friday

Copyright 1996 Telegraph Herald

Section: National/World, Pg. b 9

Length: 604 words

Byline: Associated Press

Body

Chechan rebels kill in revenge for Dudayev

MOSCOW - Separatist fighters attacked a convoy of Russian soldiers in Chechnya, killing at least three people, while their leaders vowed to avenge the death of rebel president Dzhokhar Dudayev.

The column of Russian trucks came under rebel fire late Thursday in northeastern Chechnya, the ITAR-Tass news agency said today. It said two soldiers and a civilian were killed, and seven soldiers and eight civilians wounded.

The war has continued despite Dudayev's death. His successor, Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, ruled out peace talks with Moscow until Dudayev's killers were found and punished, Russian television reported Thursday.

Bosnia clash deflected

CAPARDE, Bosnia-Herzegovina - American peacekeepers broke up a clash Thursday between Bosnian Muslims returning to their former homes and Serbs now holding the settlement. It was their second such intervention in a week.

Tempers were high, but a U.S. commander defused the situation, walking alongside his armored column through a hail of Muslim obscenities and gently separating the two groups without his troops firing a shot.

The latest incident occurred as some 300 Muslims armed with bottles and sticks tried to return to war-damaged Caparde, a village 20 miles southeast of Tuzla that is now held by the Serbs. The Muslims fought briefly with as many as 100 Serbs carrying sticks and chains.

The only reported injury was to a Bosnian, believed to be a Muslim.

Inmates riot in Canada

WINNIPEG, Manitoba - Convicts were in control of a provincial jail today after a riot that injured eight guards left smoke billowing from the minimum-security facility.

"The inmates are basically roaming free in the cell-block area, going around and breaking things, throwing things around," said police Sgt. Jerry Jennings.

Marine sentenced

Foreign Briefs

TOKYO - A U.S. Marine on Okinawa was sentenced to three months confinement today for joining in a live sex show at an off-base nightclub and for sexually harassing women in his battalion.

A court martial convicted Sgt. Demetris Price, 29, of Jersey City, N.J., of sodomy, adultery, indecent acts, indecent exposure and three counts of sexual harassment, said defense attorney Annette M. Eddie-Callagan.

Price's rank was reduced and his pay forfeited, and he was given three months of confinement, Eddie-Callagan told The Associated Press by telephone from her office on Okinawa. He will also receive a bad conduct discharge.

In other international news:

* Unable to persuade the U.N. Security Council to condemn Israel's bombardment of civilians in Lebanon, Arab states turned to the General Assembly and won support - although not the strong backing they had hoped for. The resolution to denounce Israel's action, while making no mention of rocket attacks of the guerrilla group Hezbollah, passed Thursday by a vote of 64 in favor, two against, with 65 abstaining.

* Three corporations and an executive were convicted Thursday of federal charges in connection with a 1994 oil spill that damaged more than six miles of Puerto Rican beaches. The barge Morris J. Bergman ran aground in waters off northern Escambron Beach, spilling 750,000 gallons of heavy oil in the early morning hours of Jan. 7, 1994.

* Breaking its silence on a new peace proposal, North Korea said today it would hold talks on reducing tensions on the Korean Peninsula only with the United States - not South Korea. It was not clear whether the statement, made in a commentary by North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency, was an official rejection of the April 16 peace proposal by President Clinton and South Korean President Kim Young-sam.

Load-Date: December 9, 1996

End of Document

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Philadelphia Inquirer
FEBRUARY 27, 1998 Friday SF EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer
Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A04

Length: 629 words

Body

IN THE NATION Most Americans die unremarkable deaths, according to a study by the National Center for Health Statistics at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The study found 56 percent of deaths occurred at a hospital, clinic or medical center; 19 percent at a nursing home, and 21 percent at home. One-quarter died of a heart attack and about an equal number had angina. More than 40 percent had high blood pressure, and about one-third had cancer.

In Fort Belvoir, Va., lawyers for the Army's former top enlisted man presented evidence yesterday indicating he was changing his auto's oil about the time prosecutors say he forced himself on a pregnant subordinate. But prosecutors say Sgt. Maj. Gene McKinney doctored the records of the do-it-yourself repair shop once he found out he was being investigated for sexual misconduct charges filed by six female soldiers.

Liggett Group Inc. is ready to help the Justice Department's criminal investigation of the tobacco industry in exchange for immunity, according to a source close to the investigation. The source confirmed yesterday that Liggett has offered to provide industry information on nicotine's addictive qualities and on efforts to hide health risks, which industry officials testified in 1996 they knew nothing about.

A federal grand jury in Sacramento, Calif., yesterday accused eight guards at Corcoran State Prison of pitting inmates in deadly gladiator-style fights for the guards' amusement. The FBI said state authorities tried to obstruct the probe, a charge California officials denied. Investigators said a prisoner was shot during a staged fight between rival gangs.

President Clinton has expanded disaster aid to four more counties in California hard-hit by severe winter storms, bring the total to 31. The White House said yesterday Clinton also would double emergency-road-repair funds to \$40 million.

IN THE WORLD Dutch Agriculture Minister Jozias van Aartsen said yesterday that he was banning the cloning of cows, following a successful experiment by Dutch scientists. The pharmaceutical company Pharming announced earlier it had succeeded in cloning female calves last week at a farm in Friesland in cooperation with Luik University. Pharming said the calves were the first cloned cattle in the Netherlands and probably in Europe.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Britain has told its National Health Service to import blood plasma wherever possible to protect against a "theoretical risk" from mad cow disease. Health Secretary Frank Dobson said yesterday that he was authorizing imports after three recalls of blood products in November because donors contributing to British-made plasma developed Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, the rare human form of mad cow disease.

Shiite Muslim guerrillas armed with armor-piercing missiles and mortars attacked an Israeli outpost in southern Lebanon yesterday, killing three soldiers and wounding two others, security officials said. There was no immediate comment from Israel on the attack claimed by guerrillas of the Iranian-backed **Hezbollah**.

The Palestinian population in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem has grown to 2.89 million, up sharply from just over 2 million in the mid-1990s, according to Palestinian census results announced yesterday. The new figures will have repercussions for the peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians on issues such as borders.

Chinese police have detained a dissident in his home because he wrote a letter opposing Premier Li Peng's expected appointment to head the national legislature, a human-rights group said yesterday. Police stationed outside the home of Lin Xinshu in southern Fuzhou city have refused to let him out since Monday, the Hong Kong-based Information Center of Human Rights and Democratic Movement in China said.

Load-Date: October 24, 2002

End of Document

TELEVISION REVIEW;
Ticktock, Ticktock, Habits of the Wily Croc

The New York Times

April 28, 1998, Tuesday, Late Edition - Final

Copyright 1998 The New York Times Company

Distribution: The Arts/Cultural Desk

Section: Section E; ; Section E; Page 8; Column 1; The Arts/Cultural Desk ; Column 1; ; Review

Length: 604 words

Byline: By WALTER GOODMAN

By WALTER GOODMAN

Body

How doth the little crocodile

Improve his shining tail,

And pour the waters of the Nile

On every golden scale!

How cheerfully he seems to grin,

How neatly spreads his claws,

And welcomes little fishes in

With gently smiling jaws!

"Crocodiles!", David Attenborough's tribute to these sturdy survivors from the age of dinosaurs, cannot fail to improve on the reputation they have borne since Lewis Carroll stamped that sardonic grin on them. Sure, they still go around snapping up little fishes, but only when zebras are not available, and meantime, as reported tonight, they busy themselves with mating, rearing and other domestic duties.

Not only are they acclaimed as reptilian relics, but in the remarkable BBC photography -- much of it done at night and underwater -- the crocs also show flashes of beauty along with the cooperative skills that have kept them afloat for so many centuries.

Tonight's "Nova" begins with the romantic side of crocdom, capturing on low-frequency recordings the hisses and grunts that guide females to where they have to be. With mutual seduction helped along by excretions of crocodile perfume, things, as Mr. Attenborough delicately puts it, "get intimate." Despite the armor plating, the lovers are sensitive to touch, and sultry music, courtesy of the producers, enhances the mood.

TELEVISION REVIEW; Ticktock, Ticktock, Habits of the Wily Croc

Hatching, protecting and nurturing the young puts quite a burden on the females, since the males, like many present-day human dads, do not stay around to help with the chores.

When she is not gobbling up other females' hatchlings ("Crocs will eat just about anything," Mr. Attenborough notes) a foster mother may find herself rearing 100 babes. Despite the apparent power of maternal tendencies to subdue appetite, what with bad weather and predators only 2 percent of the babies are likely to grow to adulthood.

Those who make it, however, can be formidable, as demonstrated in an extended hunting scene: crocodiles against zebras. The zebras, with their potent kick and with rumps too wide for crocodile jaws, do not make easy prey, but crocodile speed and tactical cooperation can provide a meal. An audacious crocodile, like one filmed here, can prove a match for a pride of lions.

So save the crocodile tears. As Carroll knew, the gentle smiler can take care of himself.

'Suicide Bombers'

'Secrets of the Shaheed'

Cinemax, tonight at 8

Few secrets are revealed here by the young Arab men committed to blowing themselves up in hopes of taking some Israelis with them. But "Suicide Bombers" is as close as a Western documentary is likely to get to their mentality. These interviews with prisoners in Israeli and Palestinian jails (evidently their bombs didn't go off) confirm that they were inspired by prospects of martyrdom ("shaheed" is Arabic for martyr), of coming face to face with the Prophet Mohammed and enjoying the company of an eternity of virgins.

"Terrorism is the weapon of the poor," the narrator says. By this account, groups like Hamas and Hezbollah find their recruits among the jobless faithful in Gaza and vicinity, who are seen wearing shrouds and sitting in a graveyard to prepare themselves for heaven. "Death is a privilege," one says. Punctuating the interviews are newsreels of the slaughter that the most successful of the shaheed, not available for interviews, have wreaked on Israel's buses, streets and marketplaces.

NOVA

Crocodiles!

PBS, tonight

(Channel 13, New York, at 8)

Written by Susan Western and produced by Karen Bass; Keith Scholey, executive producer for the BBC; Paula Apsell, executive producer for NOVA. David Attenborough, narrator. A BBC Production in association with WGBH/Boston.

Graphic

Photo: Baby jaws: A young crocodile docking on a lily pad, on "Crocodiles!" (Richard Kirby/BBC Natural History/"Nova")

Load-Date: April 28, 1998

TELEVISION REVIEW; Ticktock, Ticktock, Habits of the Wily Croc

End of Document

Shiites ambush Israeli patrol

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

December 12, 1994, Monday,

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 1994 P.G. Publishing Co.

Section: WORLD,

Length: 633 words

Dateline: MARJAYOUN, Lebanon

Body

Guerrilla fighters ambushed an Israeli military patrol in south Lebanon yesterday, killing an Israeli soldier. Security sources said four guerrillas also were killed.

The Shiite Muslim group Hezbollah, or Party of God, claimed responsibility for the roadside bomb attack and said as many as 25 Israeli soldiers were killed or wounded.

The Israeli army confirmed the one fatality and said seven troopers were wounded. The radio station of the Israeli-armed South Lebanon Army said three Lebanese civilians -- two women and a little girl -- in a passing car were also injured.

French elections

PARIS

Jacques Delors, front-runner in all the polls, announced yesterday that he will not run for president, ending weeks of soul-searching and all but assuring a conservative will succeed President Francois Mitterrand next May. The European Commission chief, a Socialist with strong appeal to the political center, cited his age -- 69 -- and said he would be unable to carry out his own programs due to the likelihood of facing a hostile National Assembly dominated by the right wing.

Jordan mission in Israel

TEL AVIV, Israel

Jordan yesterday established the second Arab mission in the Jewish state, an occasion marked by a quiet flag-raising that contrasted with flag-burning protests against the opening of an Israeli mission in Jordan.

Kabul bombing

KABUL, Afghanistan

Shiites ambush Israeli patrol

Fighter jets of the presidential forces bombed opposition strongholds yesterday, ending two weeks of relative peace in Afghanistan's war-ruined capital. The jets dropped several bombs in the southeast of Kabul. It wasn't immediately known whether there were any casualties.

A previous marriage?

CAIRO, Egypt

Yasser Arafat's wife says reports that her husband was married once before are false and intended to tarnish the PLO leader's reputation. On Friday, a day after Mrs. Arafat announced she was expecting a baby due next summer, the Israeli newspaper Haaretz published an interview with a woman claiming to be Arafat's first wife.

U.S. sergeant dies in fall

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan

The U.S. Embassy is investigating the death of an Air Force sergeant who fell from his fourth-floor hotel room window, embassy officials said yesterday. Staff Sgt. Mark Shearer, 28, died early Friday, the officials said. Shearer was in Pakistan with Gen. J.H. Pinford Peay, commander-in-chief, U.S. central command, who was on a tour of the region.

Midair blast kills one

TOKYO

A bomb exploded yesterday on a Philippines Airlines flight carrying 292 people, blowing a two-foot hole beneath the passengers' feet and setting the ceiling on fire. One passenger was killed and six were injured. The Boeing 747, with 272 passengers and 20 crew aboard, made a safe emergency landing about an hour later at Naha airport on Okinawa in southern Japan. It had been on its way to Tokyo from the Philippines. A caller claimed that his Muslim fundamentalist group, Abu Sayyaf, was responsible and threatened to target more airplanes.

U.S. senators in N. Korea

SEOUL, South Korea

Two U.S. senators arrived in North Korea yesterday to urge compliance with a nuclear agreement and discuss the return of American MIAs. Sens. Frank Murkowski and Paul Simon left Beijing for a two-day visit to the North aboard a U.S. military plane, South Korea's national Yonhap news agency said. It was the first time an American plane flew to North Korea since the Korean War, in which the United States sided with the South, ended in 1953.

Sunken ship in Atlantic

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia

American and Canadian rescuers searched a broad swath of the North Atlantic yesterday, but hopes of finding more survivors from a sunken Ukrainian cargo ship were fading fast. Two of the 31 crew members of the Salvador Allende have been rescued and seven crewmen are confirmed dead. No one was found yesterday.

Shiites ambush Israeli patrol

Load-Date: December 13, 1994

End of Document

U.S. worker killed in Somalia

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

November 14, 1993, Sunday, City Edition

Times Publishing Company

Section: NATIONAL; WORLD IN BRIEF; Pg. 17A; DIGEST

Length: 623 words

Dateline: MOGADISHU, Somalia; BEIJING; KIEV, Ukraine; BONN, Germany; SAINTES, France; KUWAIT; MADRID, Spain

Body

An American civilian who worked for the United Nations was killed and two other foreigners were wounded Saturday in a carjacking.

Kai Lincoln, 23, a U.N. worker, was shot dead when four gunmen stopped the U.N. vehicle carrying him and two other U.N. workers from their residential compound near the airport to U.N. headquarters, officials said.

One of the attackers was killed and the other foreigners, a Liberian woman and a Norwegian man, were wounded. Compiled from Times WiresWORLD BRIEFS

Meanwhile, U.N. officials issued a warning of possible terrorist attacks by the Muslim fundamentalist group **Hezbollah**.

U.N. military spokesman Maj. Dave Stockwell said Gen. Mohamed Farrah Aidid, the militia leader who controls south Mogadishu, "will be held responsible if such attacks occur."

Aidid isn't known to be a Muslim fundamentalist and says he's a nationalist fighting foreign occupation.

Deaths reported in China plane crash

BEIJING - A Chinese passenger plane crashed and burst into flames while landing Saturday in the western city of Urumqi, causing an undetermined number of deaths, authorities said.

The plane, a twin-engine MD-82 belonging to China Northern Airlines, crashed in a field several hundred yards from Urumqi airport, breaking into several pieces and catching fire, officials said.

The reason for the accident was not known, they said, but there had been fog over the city, 1,500 miles west of Beijing.

Officials did not know how many people were aboard the plane, which can hold about 150 passengers.

Cult prepares for

U.S. worker killed in Somalia

end of world today

KIEV, Ukraine - Followers of the Great White Brotherhood, a Slav doomsday cult, Saturday prepared for their prophesied end of the world as police maintained a close watch on devotees.

Police detained at least two members of the cult outside St. Sofia Cathedral, where Marina Tsvygun, the Brotherhood's leader, is supposed to be resurrected today. Nearly 150,000 followers are to be resurrected with her.

But authorities hope the arrest Wednesday of Tsvygun and her second husband, Yuri Krivonogov, the cult's so-called prophet, will curb devotees' fervor and reduce the cataclysm to a non-event. Tsvygun, known to followers as Maria Devi Khristos, was charged Friday with the minor offense of hooliganism.

Blood to be used

on magazine cover

BONN, Germany - A newspaper magazine wants to draw attention to violence against women. So it's using women's blood to print part of the cover of its next edition.

The blood, donated by eight women, will be used for the headline, "I Know Women Are Dying," which is part of a design created by American artist Jenny Holzer.

The magazine section will appear Friday in the Sueddeutsche Zeitung, a national newspaper based in Munich.

Elsewhere

SAINTES, France - Prosecutors brought involuntary homicide charges Saturday against two truckers involved in a highway pileup that killed at least 15 people and injured 49 Wednesday on the Bordeaux-Paris highway.

KUWAIT - U.N. observers said they had found no evidence of a reported border clash Wednesday between Kuwaiti and Iraqi forces. Kuwait had said Iraqi forces had opened heavy fire on a Kuwait observation post in the al-Abdali border area. Iraq denied any shooting took place.

MADRID, Spain - Twenty-two fishing countries, including the United States and Japan, agreed to slash in half the harvest of the Western Atlantic bluefin tuna. Friday's decision is to be implemented over two years by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas. Environmentalists had demanded an immediate 50 percent cut in response to studies showing the bluefin population in the Western Atlantic had plunged 90 percent in two decades due to overfishing.

Load-Date: November 18, 1993

Women refugee rules ignored, immigration activists charge

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

March 26, 1993 Friday Final Edition

Copyright 1993 Metroland Media Group Ltd

Section: NEWS; Pg. F8; News

Length: 568 words

Dateline: TORONTO

Body

(CP) - Guidelines on how to deal with **women** refugee claimants who fear sex-related persecution in their homeland are not being taken seriously by immigration board members, critics charge.

"What good are guidelines if the officers aren't going to follow them?" said Gabriele Hauser, a Toronto lawyer whose Lebanese client has been ordered deported Saturday.

The 31-year-old Muslim woman, who applied Thursday for a review of her case, worked for a scholarship foundation in Lebanon and says she was raped by members of **Hezbollah**, a radical Shiite fundamentalist group.
CP

The president of the Arab Canadian **Women's** Network said a woman's lost "honor" can destroy a family name in the Middle East. In some rural areas, a woman may be killed by her male relatives if she is deemed to have "sullied her honor."

"The Lebanese victim of rape would face horrendous consequences should she be made to return," Aida Graff said. "She would be considered a dangerous social liability to her family, especially since she had occupied a public position."

The woman, who did not want her name used, first came to Canada as a refugee in 1989 and therefore it's a matter of "old cases, old rules," said Justin de Beaucamp, spokesman for Immigration Minister Bernard Valcourt.

The department released its vaguely worded guidelines March 9 to help board members in dealing with **female** claimants who fear everything from spousal abuse to state-sanctioned rape.

The move followed a public outcry over the case of Nada, a Muslim woman from Saudi Arabia who was attacked because she refused to wear a veil. She went into hiding in Montreal after being ordered deported but was eventually allowed to stay.

Although the guidelines were hailed by some as a step forward, others claim they lack teeth since they aren't binding on board members.

"The guidelines don't have the impact of legislation," said Montreal lawyer Marie-Louise Cote, who represented Nada. "Board members are under no legal obligation to follow them."

Women refugee rules ignored, immigration activists charge

Cote suggests a new set of specific criteria should be drawn up for women who have not been accepted as refugees but are in danger because of state-sanctioned abuse and domestic violence.

"The minister has identified this as a problem and promised to address it but hasn't organized any consultations (with concerned groups)."

New Democrat MP Margaret Mitchell also questioned Valcourt's sincerity after he refused this week to intervene in the case of Amina Mohamed, a divorced Somali woman ordered deported Wednesday. She and her four children have since gone into hiding in Vancouver with the help of a church group.

"It's appalling," Mitchell said in a telephone interview from Ottawa. "It shows (Valcourt) doesn't take the guidelines seriously."

The family was to be deported to the U.S. since they came to Canada from there. Valcourt claims in a letter to Mitchell that the United States is not deporting people to Somalia.

But Mitchell said U.S. lawyers confirmed Mohamed and her children do not qualify for refugee status there and may be held in custody until deportation to the war-torn east African country.

The issue of women refugees is on the agenda of the executive of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, which is meeting in Toronto this weekend.

They are calling for a moratorium on the deportation of about 30 women refugees in Canada who fear persecution if they are returned to their countries.

Load-Date: September 20, 2002

VINE OF ISLAMIC MILITANCY TAKES ROOT IN SUDAN

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

June 27, 1993, Sunday,

FIVE STAR EDITION

Copyright 1993 P.G. Publishing Co.

Section: WORLD,

Length: 615 words

Byline: RUTH SINAI, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Body

On a sweltering day in July 1990, a blind, barefoot Muslim cleric entered the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, capital of Sudan, and got a permit to visit the United States.

Among the followers Sheik Omar Abdel-Rahman has since attracted in this country are five Sudanese arrested in a thwarted plot to unleash massive bombings on New York City.

Sudan, like Iran, is formally ruled according to Islamic law and is a busy breeding ground for the spread of Islamic militancy.

Although Sudan's government has not carried out any terrorist attacks itself, the United States has several times in recent months considered placing it on a list of countries supporting terrorism.

It's a case of guilt by association, say U.S. officials, who note that Sudan is hosting a growing number of Iranian-sponsored terrorist groups.

"The United States is very disturbed by the close relationship that Sudan has developed with Iran," State Department spokesman Mike McCurry said on Friday. "We know that Iran is a leading sponsor of international terrorism."

The relationship with Tehran began to develop soon after Iraq lost the Persian Gulf war and was no longer able to help its ally, Sudan.

Sudan's military government, which had overthrown civilian rulers in a 1989 coup, quickly turned to Iran where it found an eager benefactor.

Soon after, Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani visited Khartoum and Sudan's government announced the imposition of Islamic law. Women were to don veils and courts were to practice according to the Koran, Islam's holy book.

"The present military government ... has pursued religiously extremist policies," says the U.S. State Department's 1992 human rights report, which documents an aggressive drive to impose Islamic laws on Sudan's 25 million people.

VINE OF ISLAMIC MILITANCY TAKES ROOT IN SUDAN

This drive, and increasing evidence of severe human rights violations, further strained U.S.-Sudanese relations, resulting in a cutoff of all U.S. military aid and in the government's Nov. 3, 1992, ban of all U.S. commercial weapons exports to Sudan.

Meanwhile, Iran was providing millions of dollars to build Islamic centers, and has sent several hundred elite military troops to train an ideologically motivated, Muslim paramilitary force called the Popular Defense Force.

The Iranian Revolutionary Guards also began using Sudan as a base to train Muslim cadres from Tunisia, Egypt and Algeria so they can overthrow their secular governments and install Islamic rule, say U.S. and Israeli officials.

Sudan has offered offices and training facilities for several Iranian-backed terrorist groups, among them the Lebanon-based Hezbollah, or Party of God, as well as the Palestinian groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad, according to the State Department.

This helped Iran at a time when it was being forced to find a new home for some of its protege terrorist groups because Syria, under strong pressure from the United States, was shutting down some terrorist training facilities in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

Also enjoying Sudanese hospitality are members of the Libyan-financed Abu Nidal organization, a Palestinian terrorist organization which has been largely inactive in recent years, the State Department says.

In return for hosting these groups, Sudan has asked for -- and received -- weapons and training for its campaign to crush the non-Muslim rebels in southern Sudan with whom the government has been locked in a deadly war since the 1970s.

Iran already has sent Sudan six combat aircraft, according to Israeli and U.S. officials.

Iran also agreed to pay China \$ 300 million for weapons for Sudan, according to Mohammad Mohaddessin, a top Iranian opposition leader who has just published a book on Iran's export of its Islamic revolution.

Load-Date: September 20, 1995

End of Document

BRIEFS; NATION U.S. MAIL SUBSIDIES COST HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

April 4, 1993, SUNDAY, FIVE STAR Edition

Copyright 1993 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

Section: NEWS; Pg. 8A; BRIEFS/NATION/WORLD COLUMN

Length: 602 words

Byline: AP

Body

Subsidized postage rates for charities cost the Postal Service \$500 million over the past three years, and Postmaster General Marvin Runyon wants Congress to phase out nearly all of them. Runyon said the Postal Service could lose another \$500 million because of low-cost charity rates this year, which could force a rate increase for other mailers. But charities say that forcing them to pay higher rates would mean less money for medical research, scholarships and local arts programs. AP - SENATE Moseley-Braun Has Plans To Marry Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun tentatively plans to marry her former campaign manager, Kgosie Matthews, in June, a spokeswoman for the senator said Friday. "The senator and Mr. Matthews are hoping to get married in June. But in actuality, there's no specific date set, there's no specific plans," said Stacey Grundman, Moseley-Braun's press secretary. Moseley-Braun's relationship with Matthews has prompted media criticism, especially after unidentified **female** campaign staffers accused Matthews of sexual harassment. Moseley-Braun hired a lawyer to investigate the allegations and said no evidence turned up. AP - WORLD FRANCE Defeated Socialists Oust Party Leader Settling scores after a humiliating election defeat, top Socialist officials ousted party leader Laurent Fabius on Saturday. The move split the Socialists' ranks and may hurt the left's chances to regroup in time to field a strong candidate for president in 1995, when Socialist President Francois Mitterrand's term expires. The party's 131-member executive committee voted to install a provisional leadership, removing Fabius and other leaders.

Former Premier Michel Rocard, the front-runner to be the Socialist presidential candidate, was named head of the new party leadership. AP - ISRAEL Troops Kill Policeman, Wound Soldiers Troops believing they were dealing with armed assailants killed a policeman and seriously wounded two soldiers whose car sped past two army roadblocks in the occupied West Bank, the army said Saturday. In Jerusalem, 2,000 peace activists marched to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's home Saturday to demand he step up negotiations with the Palestinians. Demonstrators also urged the Palestinians to return to the U.S.-sponsored peace negotiations, scheduled to resume April 20, and to rein in militants determined to torpedo the talks. Palestinians have said they would only attend if Rabin promised greater concessions on autonomy and a speedy return of some 400 alleged Muslim militants deported in December. In south Lebanon, Israeli troops and allied militiamen clashed with Iranian-backed guerrillas Saturday. Shiite Muslim attackers and one militiaman were killed, and two Israeli soldiers were wounded. **Hezbollah**, or Party of God, Iran's main ally in Lebanon, said its guerrillas attacked an Israeli army patrol in the Jezzine area. Jezzine is at the tip of a corridor leading to Israel's self-designated "security zone." AP - NICARAGUA U.S. Releases \$50 Million In Aid Citing progress on human rights and other issues, the State Department released \$50 million Friday in economic assistance to Nicaragua that had been suspended for almost a year. Nicaragua assured the United States that Humberto Ortega, the Sandinista commander of the Nicaraguan armed forces, will step down in 1995, two years ahead of schedule, officials said. Other sources said, however, that no final decisions had been made on Ortega's status. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the Nicaraguan government agreed to extend the life of a commission set up to examine rights abuses. AP -

Graphic

PHOTO; Photo by AP - War Refugees - Refugees crowding a helicopter Saturday in Kelbajar, Azerbaijan, trying to flee fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Armenia claimed to have made gains in the area Friday.

Load-Date: October 7, 1993

End of Document

Bomb destroys embassy; 11 die as car-bomb targets Israelis in Buenos Aires

The Ottawa Citizen

March 18, 1992, Wednesday, FINAL EDITION

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A6

Length: 656 words

Byline: AP; CP

Dateline: BUENOS AIRES

Body

Rescuers worked frantically today to free about 30 people believed trapped in the wreckage of the devastated Israeli Embassy in the Argentine capital, while calls for revenge resounded from Jerusalem.

The Argentine government today raised today the casualty toll in the Tuesday afternoon bombing of the Israeli Embassy to 11 killed and 135 injured.

Three Israelis and an Argentine priest were among those confirmed killed in the suspected terrorist attack; five embassy workers, including diplomats, were among the missing.

President Carlos Menem said he had asked the CIA and Israel's Mossad to assist in the investigation. The government stepped up security at highways, airports and border crossings, the private news agency Noticias Argentinas reported.

"All indications lead us to believe it was a terrorist attack," said Menem, who visited the ruined four-storey building on Buenos Aires's fashionable Arroyo Street. The Israeli Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem quoted him as blaming "the Iranian-Syrian axis."

President Hafez Assad of Syria denied involvement in the bombing, but said whoever was responsible "must be angry at Israel's behavior and actions."

In Israel, Foreign Minister David Levy threatened retaliation. "Those who carried out these murders and those who sent them can expect painful punishment," he told parliament. "The Israeli government will choose the place and manner to avenge the blood of the fallen."

Levy suggested Shiite Muslim fundamentalists based in Lebanon were responsible for the bombing. The leader of the radical Shiite group **Hezbollah**, Sheik Abbas Musawi, was ambushed and killed by Israeli helicopters in Lebanon on Feb. 16.

The explosion, which blew to pieces the facade of a primary school and a nursing home across the street from the embassy, probably was caused by a car packed with plastic explosives, the government news agency Telam said, quoting Interior Ministry sources.

Bomb destroys embassy; 11 die as car-bomb targets Israelis in Buenos Aires

The Israeli Foreign Ministry said Argentine authorities were checking reports the blast may instead have been caused by a bomb placed in a neighboring building.

The Canadian Embassy, about two kilometres away, was not affected and no Canadians were among the bombing victims, Canadian Consul Brian Leconte said by telephone from the Argentine capital.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney sent a message to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir expressing condolences to families of the victims.

"Canadians are shocked and outraged today at the news of the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires," said Mulroney's message. "We join with civilized people everywhere in condemning this further, brutal violence against the State of Israel."

Tree trunks and pieces of human bodies were scattered about Arroyo Street before ambulances and rescue crews arrived. Civil defence, firemen, police and other rescuers worked through the night hauling away concrete blocks, wood beams and twisted metal.

By 9 p.m., nearby buildings had been evacuated. Residents, many of them in tears, left their homes carrying bundles of clothing.

State-run television broadcast live from the scene for hours. It quoted rescue workers as saying they heard two women's voices from the rubble.

Tuesday's attack was the worst against Jews in Argentina. About 300,000 Jews live in and around Buenos Aires -- the most by far of any city in Latin America. About one million people of Arab extraction also live in Argentina.

Menem suggested Argentines -- neo-Nazi groups or paramilitary nationalists -- might have been involved. He offered no evidence. The blast came a month after the government allowed public access to files on Second World War-era Nazis.

A radio station said a telephone caller who claimed to represent a pro-Palestinian group claimed responsibility for the bombing. But the Palestinian Information Office in Argentina denied any role and "energetically condemned" the attack.

Graphic

Reuter photo/ Embassy wrecked: Volunteers today search rubble for victims

Load-Date: March 19, 1992

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

February 5, 2000, Saturday, THREE STAR EDITION

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Section: NEWS, Pg. 23; Nation/World Briefs Column

Length: 1431 words

Byline: From News Services

Body

NATION

WASHINGTON

Supreme Court grants stay of execution

The U.S. Supreme Court has halted a condemned man's trip to the electric chair in a decision that could give the justices their first chance to debate the constitutionality of electrocution.

The court granted a stay of execution Thursday night to Robert Lee Tarver Jr., who had eaten his last meal and given away his possessions, and was to die just after midnight for the 1984 slaying of a rural store owner.

The high court did not specify the reason for the stay, but Tarver's appeal - denied Thursday by the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals and the Alabama Supreme Court - questioned the constitutionality of the electric chair. Attorneys for Tarver, 52, argued that the electric chair execution is an impermissibly cruel process akin to torture that leaves inmates' bodies burned and disfigured.

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.

Files Lee moved weren't top secret, lawyers say

Attorneys for a scientist accused of putting nuclear secrets on unsecured computer tapes said the information, far from being "crown jewels" of U.S. weapons science, was not even classified top secret.

Wen Ho Lee's attorneys, in a filing sent Thursday to the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver, said if the information had been as vital as government witnesses said it was, it would have been given the top secret classification. Instead, the tapes contained information that was classified secret or confidential restricted data, they said in seeking to get Lee released from jail pending trial.

Lee, 60, was fired from Los Alamos National Laboratory in March. He is accused of transferring nuclear weapons information to unsecured computers and tapes.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

WASHINGTON

Judge delays date in McDonnell Douglas case

District Judge Paul L. Friedman on Friday granted a delay in the court proceedings involving the former McDonnell Douglas Corp. of St. Louis.

Friedman set a date of April 12 for a status hearing on preparation for the trial, after federal prosecutors said they needed more time to get relevant material to the various parties in the case.

The government has charged McDonnell Douglas in connection with its 1994 sales of "dual-use" aerospace equipment to China. It has also charged McDonnell's partner in the deal, the China National Aero Technology Import and Export Corp., as well as Robert Hitt, who directed McDonnell's office in China.

The government alleges that the defendants conspired to violate U.S. export laws in the sale of large machine tools that China improperly sought to convert from civilian to military use.

WASHINGTON

Clinton will propose plan combining forest trusts

President Bill Clinton on Monday will propose eliminating four national forest trust funds and instead earmark the funds' \$ 300 million to a single, new program aimed at restoring national forests and hiring rural workers, officials said.

Environmentalists welcomed the plan, saying the trust funds have been an incentive for forest managers to log so that they could get money for pet projects. Critics also complained that trust fund spending is not approved by Congress and therefore, open to abuse.

WASHINGTON

U.S., Russia debate fate of oil tanker

The United States and Russia were in a diplomatic dustup Friday as Washington spurned a Moscow demand to immediately release a Russian tanker seized by a U.S. Navy vessel.

The seizure of the Volga-Neft-147 on Wednesday in the Persian Gulf was prompted by suspicions that the tanker was carrying Iraqi oil in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions.

"We imperatively demand the immediate release of the Russian tanker," Deputy Foreign Minister Vasily Sredin told the Tass news agency. But administration officials said the tanker likely would be diverted to pro-Western Oman, where an analysis of the oil would take place to determine its origin. Russia maintains the oil is from Iran, not Iraq.

The tanker was in international waters off the Omani coast on Friday. A Pentagon spokesman said two officials from the Russian consulate in the United Arab Emirates boarded the tanker, as did two American defense attaché officers.

SANTA ANA, Calif.

Gay tolerance club can meet at school, judge rules

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

A federal judge Friday ordered school officials to allow a gay tolerance club to meet on campus pending resolution of a lawsuit. U.S. District Court Judge David O. Carter issued the preliminary injunction against the Orange Unified School District while a lawsuit filed by two El Modena High School students plays out in court.

"Plaintiffs have been injured not only by the board's excessive delay, but also by the inability to effectively address the hardships they encounter at school every day," Carter said in a written ruling.

The students filed the federal lawsuit in November, saying the board discriminated and violated their free speech rights. The following month, the board, which had earlier put off making a decision, voted unanimously not to allow the club.

Students Anthony Colin, 15, and Heather Zetin, 16, have said their proposed Gay-Straight Alliance Club is meant as a forum for gay students to discuss discrimination.

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WORLD

LONDON

Novelist is expelled from Conservative Party

Best-selling novelist Jeffrey Archer, who was forced to drop out of the race for London mayor after admitting he once asked a friend to lie for him in a libel case, was expelled Friday from the Conservative Party for five years.

Archer is a former deputy leader of the party. He said was naturally disappointed and considered the decision "grossly unfair." The expulsion is subject to appeal. and Archer said he would consult his advisers about whether to do so.

The decision follows Archer's appearance before the party's ethics and integrity committee last month. Under tabloid pressure, Archer admitted in November that he had asked a friend to lie 13 years ago when the novelist was embroiled in a libel suit against the Daily Star newspaper.

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon

Israeli copters open fire, wound 8, officials say

Israeli helicopter gunships blasted a village in southern Lebanon on Friday, wounding a guerrilla commander and seven civilians, Lebanese security officials and witnesses said.

The attack came as Israeli aircraft struck suspected guerrilla targets for the seventh straight day and just hours after an Israeli-backed militia abandoned a front-line position, redrawing the boundary of the Israeli-occupied zone in southern Lebanon.

Four gunships fired three missiles at the village of Barish, 10 miles east of the southern port city of Tyre, witnesses reported. One rocket struck the car of a Hezbollah guerrilla commander, said Lebanese officials.

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah said Israel had failed in an attempt to assassinate the commander.

KINSHASA, Congo

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Troops break cease-fire, Rwandan officials say

Congolese soldiers tried to overrun Rwanda troops in southern Congo but were ambushed instead, Rwandan military officials said Friday.

They said it was the most flagrant violation yet of a fragile cease-fire in Congo. Rwandan forces surprised the Congolese army convoy when it tried to cut off the Rwandans at Lusambo, 560 miles southeast of the capital, Kinshasa, the officials said. The Rwandans said they killed five Congolese soldiers, captured five and seized written details of the operations.

Rwanda and Uganda back the rebels fighting Congolese President Laurent Kabila. Zimbabwe, Angola and Namibia support Kabila.

STOCKHOLM, Sweden

8 teens are held after sexual assault of girl, 14

A district court ordered eight teen-age boys held in connection with the sexual assault of a 14-year-old girl in a Stockholm suburb over the weekend.

Four of the boys face possible rape charges and the others are suspected of complicity and sexual exploitation, prosecutor Anders Sundholm said. Such crimes, especially involving teen-agers, are extremely rare in Sweden.

The boys, ages 15 to 16, will be tried as adults. The court on Friday ordered them held and said the prosecutor must file formal charges by Feb. 18. It is common in Sweden to hold suspects in a serious crime for weeks at a time before filing formal charges.

CARACAS, Venezuela

Thousands celebrate anniversary of failed coup

Thousands of Venezuelans took to the streets Friday to help President Hugo Chavez celebrate the eighth anniversary of his failed military coup.

Massive rallies were held in major cities with former coup participants giving speeches lauding the 1992 rebellion.

But critics insisted that glorifying the event sends the wrong message to the South American nation's military: that it's OK to take up arms against superiors.

Graphic

PHOTO Photo from AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE - Two women burn joss sticks at Wong Tai Sin temple in Hong Kong on the eve of the Chinese New Year on Friday. The Year of the Dragon starts today and is the beginning of the 12-year cycle in the Chinese calendar.

Load-Date: February 5, 2000

Rally in Tehran Pays Lip Service To the Revolutionary Zeal of '79

The New York Times

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Length: 1406 words

Byline: By JOHN F. BURNS

By JOHN F. BURNS

Dateline: TEHRAN, Iran, Nov. 4

Body

For Islamic revolutionaries, it's a red-letter day, a day to raise old banners, shout old slogans, burn a few flags, renew the old fervor -- savor the days when Iran, in its dealings with America, had the sense that at last it was calling the shots.

It's Nov. 4, the day in 1979 when militant students clambered into the United States Embassy compound, seized more than 50 diplomats and began the 444-day hostage crisis that has poisoned ties between Iran and the United States ever since.

This anniversary, the 20th, was to have been a day of days, a triumphal homecoming for the revolutionary class of '79. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Muslim cleric who leads the country now, had called on "followers of the Imam's line" -- the Imam being Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the revolution's original leader, who called the United States the Great Satan -- to show that time had not exhausted the passions that drove out the shah, and with him America, the "tyrant" that was his principal backer.

But somehow, amid the strident speechmaking and the punching of air that accompanied the rally in Tehran today, there was something out of temper, something registering unmistakably that even in Islamic Iran, the years have marched on. For one thing, there can hardly have been more than 5,000 people at the gathering, 7,000 by the most generous estimate, in a city of 12 million.

For another, many in the crowd, especially the young, seemed to have trouble working up the requisite animosity toward the United States. One 21-year-old woman, assigned to the rally by her college photography instructor, looked out bemused from beneath the head scarf required by Islamic dress codes. What did she think of the protest? "It's a joke," she said, nodding toward a group of young women with Western dress poking out from beneath their black cloaks. "How can you shout, 'Death to America!' when you're wearing blue jeans?"

Asked if she favored re-establishing Iran's ties with the United States, she scoffed. "Where have you been, asleep?" she said. "In every sense that really matters to me, we've had relations with America for years. All this is just a big show."

Rally in Tehran Pays Lip Service To the Revolutionary Zeal of '79

She was alluding to the Iran of 1999, with its Internet cafes, up-to-date Hollywood movies in video rental stores, American designer clothes in fancy boutiques, Coca-Cola served from sidewalk stalls, prosperous Iranian-Americans commuting between Tehran and new homes in New York and Dallas and Los Angeles. What is missing are the diplomatic links severed the moment the embassy was seized, and even they may not be far away, in view of feelers put out by both governments in recent years.

On the podium set up close to the gates of the old embassy on Taleqani Street, one of those who participated in the embassy takeover, Mohsen Rezaie, former commander of the Revolutionary Guards, had trouble holding the crowd with his speech. It was mostly a walk down memory lane, with references to the "den of spies," as Ayatollah Khomeini called the embassy, to American "arrogance," and to the hostage-takers' "compassion" in releasing women and African-Americans before the diplomatic deal that sent the others safely home on Jan. 20, 1981.

This year there was no repeat of an awkward moment at the 1998 rally, when an indecorous student pointed out that Mr. Rezaie's son had recently fled to the United States and sought refugee status there, a fact prominently reported in Tehran newspapers that support a democratic reform movement. The student suggested, to laughter from the crowd, that the former hostage-taker might want to bring his son home before lecturing other Iranians about revolutionary vigilance toward the United States.

But if there was nothing quite so cheeky today, there was plenty to suggest that many young Iranians are exhausted by the enmity. There was an array of caps bearing logos for the Yankees, the Lakers, the Redskins and other American teams. There were students, and others, who turned up with posters bearing the image of President Muhammad Khatami, the cleric who has galvanized the reform movement and outraged conservative clerics. Mr. Khatami envisions an Iran that curbs the excesses of clerical rule with democratic institutions and an enhanced regard for human rights.

The Khatami images were vastly outnumbered by posters for Ayatollah Khomeini and his successor, Ayatollah Khamenei, who in a speech on Wednesday rebutted President Khatami's calls for a "dialogue" with the United States, saying that only "simpletons and traitors" could seek a rapprochement. One young man who unfolded a homemade Khatami poster had it snatched away and crumpled up by a rough-hewn man in his 40's who identified himself as a member of Hezbollah, the Party of God, one of the most contentious Islamic groups in Iran.

The poster-snatcher, in all likelihood, was one of the '79 veterans for whom the embassy seizure and the militancy that engendered it have a sacred quality not to be tampered with by revisionists. In one of the twists to Iran's revolutionary story, many of the most influential advisers to President Khatami were agitators once themselves. Some helped seize the embassy, and watched as the bewildered diplomats were led blindfolded into the compound to be displayed as trophies.

Judging from today's crowd, the unwaveringly loyal are mainly those for whom the Islamic revolution offered an opportunity for self-aggrandizement, or relief from penury and powerlessness. There were graying men with red headbands and bandoliers; factory workers, clerks and janitors; Iran-Iraq war widows and orphans; rural dwellers for whom the revolution brought government jobs, educational opportunities and pensions; Muslim clerics who emerged as powers in the land.

Many sported the several-day stubble and collarless cleric's shirts that became the revolutionary uniform. They shouted, "Death to America!" and "Death to Israel!" Harking back to a tradition that has fallen out of favor last year, they burned flags, clambering atop scaffolding opposite the old embassy compound to drape the Stars and Stripes, the blue-and-white flag of Israel and the Union Jack of Britain, then set them alight. One banner denounced the Great Satan, a phrase little heard since Ayatollah Khomeini died in 1989.

Still, it was the irreverent counterpoints that lent a special character to the day. A 17-year-old student, Hassan, said that from what he had heard, America wasn't so bad. "My sister is in America, and she says it's a nice place, so I don't see why I should shout, 'Death to America!'" he said. "Besides, many Iranians live in the United States, so wouldn't it make sense if we were good friends?" Ardeshtir, also 17, thought the moment called for something ironic. "Oh, America, my love!" he said, in English, spreading his arms, grinning broadly.

Rally in Tehran Pays Lip Service To the Revolutionary Zeal of '79

Nearby a dispute about the flag-burning had broken out, with a glowering, stubble-faced member of the "basiji," revolutionary volunteers who have often acted as vigilantes, remonstrating with Samim, an 18-year-old, for expressing doubts. "I don't believe in flag-burning, it's disrespectful," Samim rejoined. "How would you feel if somebody burned the Iranian flag?" As smuts from the flags floated down like chaff, a 14-year-old boy chipped in, "We shouldn't burn the American flag because we love the American people."

In the hubbub, there was one point on which even those most genially disposed toward the United States seemed to concur: that Washington should stop setting conditions for Iran to meet before economic sanctions and diplomatic isolation are stopped. The Clinton administration has said Iran must disavow the development of nuclear weapons, end its support for "terrorists" -- including Hamas and Hezbollah, which have attacked Israeli civilians from bases in Lebanon and Gaza -- and stop opposing the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians.

In his speech on the eve of the rally, Ayatollah Khamenei said Iran was effectively being asked to "submit" to the United States as it had under the shah. In this, at least, the ayatollah appeared to have almost universal support. Abbas Dasht, a 35-year-old lawyer who had joined the hostage-takers as a teenage volunteer, said the United States had learned nothing from the experience. "Our message was that Iran wanted to be independent, and to have that independence respected," he said. "So there cannot be any question of setting conditions for us now."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Graphic

Photo: A Tehran scene yesterday recalled the American Embassy takeover 20 years ago, and the start of the hostage crisis. Crude renderings of the American flag received familiar treatment, but the fervor seemed forced. (Associated Press)(pg. A16)

Load-Date: November 5, 1999

How Easily We Killed Them

The New York Times

May 27, 1996, Monday, Late Edition - Final

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Length: 1313 words

Byline: By Ari Shavit;

Ari Shavit is a columnist for Haaretz, a Hebrew-language newspaper, from which this article was adapted.

By Ari Shavit; Ari Shavit is a columnist for Haaretz, a Hebrew-language newspaper, from which this article was adapted.

Dateline: JERUSALEM

Body

We killed 170 people in Lebanon last month. Most were refugees. A good number were women, children and the elderly. Nine civilians, including a 2-year-old and a 100-year-old man, were killed at Sachmor, a village. Eleven civilians, including seven children, were killed at Nabatiyeh, a town. At the United Nations compound at Qana, a village, 102 were killed. We killed all these people not in a fit of inflamed passion, not because of messianic extremism or nationalist fervor.

We killed them under the umbrella of a peace campaign. Under the leadership of a peace Government and in the midst of an election campaign that features peace. We killed them so that peace could be re-elected. We killed them because our peace coalition needed to prove it is just as tough as the opposition.

How easily we killed them -- without shedding a tear, without establishing a commission of inquiry, without filling the streets with protest demonstrations. And without the carnage claiming a place as an election issue.

It would seem we have matured quite a bit, for this time we shot and did not weep. This time, we killed with yuppie efficiency. We were meticulous in our cold calculations and matter-of-fact considerations. Meticulous in emptying out the villages in an orderly, precise manner. Meticulous in killing only from a distance. And we did it all in a secular way -- ignoring the archaic concepts of sin, of God's image, of "Thou shalt not kill."

Our one big alibi was this: The responsibility is not our own; it is Hezbollah's. But this is a somewhat bogus alibi. For when we decided to carry out a large-scale offensive in civilian regions in southern Lebanon (at a time when no mortal danger was posed to Israel), we decided in fact to spill the blood of X number of civilians. When we decided to remove half a million people from their homes and to shell those remaining behind (at a time when in Israel there was not a single civilian victim), we decided in fact to execute dozens.

How Easily We Killed Them

What allowed us to make such cruel decisions without perceiving ourselves as scoundrels was their anonymous, statistical character. For we did not know that we would kill precisely that mother in Nabatiyeh and her seven children, all buried under the ruins of their home. We did not know we would kill precisely the three children of the Diib family and five children of the Belhas family, whose parents harbored the mistaken belief that the United Nations site at Qana would protect them from us.

All we knew was that a large-scale killing of civilians was inseparable from the futuristic combat style the Israel Defense Forces have chosen. All we knew was that it could be assumed that the operation would kill 100 civilians, give or take a few.

Still, it is important to be precise. We did not kill them with prior intent. We killed them because it was not important for us not to kill them. Because the yawning gap between the unlimited sacrosanct importance we attribute to our own lives and the very limited sacred character we attribute to the lives of others allowed us to kill them.

We killed them out of a certain naive hubris. Believing with absolute certitude that now, with the White House, the Senate and much of the American media in our hands, the lives of others do not count as much as our own. Believing we really have the right to instruct 400,000 people to leave their homes within eight hours. And that we have the right, when those eight hours have passed, to treat their homes as military targets. And that we have the right to drop 16,000 shells on their villages and small towns. And that we have the right to kill without being guilty.

An Israeli massacre can be distinguished in most respects from an Arab massacre in that it is not malicious, not carried out on orders from High Above and does not serve any strategic purpose. It contrasts with Israel's declared national policy and its accepted cultural norms. Yet, while these distinctions are valid they mitigate neither the gravity of the massacre nor our responsibility. For an Israeli massacre usually occurs after we sanction an unjustifiable degree of violence so that at some point we lose the ability to control that violence. Thus, in most cases, an Israeli massacre is a kind of work accident. Such was the case in Qana.

The mortars and Katyushas that caused us to kill 102 people were fired 12 minutes before we killed them. Twelve minutes is a very long time on the battlefield. It is enough time to look at the map and see that the place from which the Katyushas were fired was some 300 yards from a large United Nations compound. Enough time to clarify whether this camp, like most, was being used by dozens or hundreds of refugees. Enough time to recall that for days U.N. officers had warned that shells were landing too close.

Enough time to recall that, despite its great sophistication, our radar has problems precisely identifying the spot from which Katyushas are fired. Enough time to recall that the margin of error for the first shellings in a series by our howitzers is well over 1,000 feet. Thus, 12 minutes is more than enough time to think twice and conclude that the prospect of firing at Qana and hitting only Hezbollah fighters is relatively slight, whereas the prospect of shelling Qana and harming hundreds of innocent civilians is much too great.

Twelve minutes is enough time to expose the fact that if the shelling was carried out according to the procedures and orders of Operation Grapes of Wrath, something must have been deeply wrong with those procedures and orders. Something not completely humane. Something bordering on the criminal.

But the system worked extremely well. The public backed the media, which backed the Government, which backed the Israel Defense Forces' Chief of Staff, who backed the review officer, who backed the commanders, who backed the soldiers who fired the three rounds of shells that killed 102 people at Qana.

With the election not far off, neither the peace movements, nor the human rights activists, nor the left-of-center press rocked the boat and presented the military-political complex with harsh questions that needed to be asked. What would have been unthinkable during the years the peace elite was in the opposition now occurred without a murmur of protest.

It was very important to us that the victims stay faceless, nameless people. People who are quite unreal. Who had the misfortune of finding themselves on the wrong side of our superior technology. Who had the misfortune of

How Easily We Killed Them

finding themselves on the wrong side of our Jewish and democratic values. Who had only the blue-clad soldiers from the Fiji Islands to collect them into body bags.

So now Qana is part of our biography. Precisely because we have tried to deny and ignore the outrage, it remains affixed to us. And just as the Baruch Goldstein massacre of praying Muslims in Hebron and the murder of Yitzhak Rabin were extreme manifestations of some rotten seed planted in the religious-nationalist culture, it now seems that the massacre at Qana was an extreme manifestation of rotten seeds dormant in our secular Israeli culture: Cynicism. Arrogance. Egocentrism of the strong. A penchant to blur the distinction between good and bad, the allowed and the forbidden. A tendency not to demand justice, not to be adamant about the truth.

Eighteen years ago, I happened to be in Qana. It was no big deal -- only a limited military action. First, we shot at the village with machine guns, then we entered in one column of armored vehicles and two columns of infantry. Finally, we found three terrorist youths and stormed them in the most idiotic way possible, losing two of our own.

I have not stopped thinking about Qana. Its place is in our lives. Our lives are in it. I recall how we appeared on its horizon in 1978, leaving some casualties behind and vanishing. And then we came back.

Graphic

Drawing.

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Turkey's Effort to Quell Rebel Kurds Raises Alarm in Ankara and Europe

The New York Times

March 27, 1992, Friday, Late Edition - Final

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Length: 1478 words

Byline: By ALAN COWELL,

By ALAN COWELL, Special to The New York Times

Dateline: DIYARBAKIR, Turkey

Body

Halit Gungen had written the kind of scoop that plays well in this southeastern city, which regards itself as the capital of Turkey's large and restive Kurdish minority.

In an anti-Government weekly magazine, he wrote of links between a shadowy Government security unit and an Islamic fundamentalist front whose members, he said, were trained by the authorities and used as death squads to assassinate Kurdish separatists.

Two days after the magazine appeared in February, the journalist, himself a Kurd, answered a knock at his office door, his associates say. Someone on the doorstep shot him dead with a bullet to the head.

Six days later, Cengiz Altun, another Kurdish journalist, died of gunshot wounds in the southeastern city of Batman after writing about reported human rights abuses. They were not the first to die in unexplained and sinister circumstances.

62 Killings Since 1991

The killings, said Sabahattin Acar, a lawyer and secretary of Diyarbakir's human rights league, fit a pattern of political attacks that have taken 62 lives since the beginning of last year. They have raised new and troubling questions about Turkey's handling of a crisis that pits a Marxist Kurdish separatist group against the authorities in an increasingly violent guerrilla war.

The conflict, diplomats in Ankara said, has assumed more significant proportions as new and ethnically oriented nation-states in the former Soviet Union and Yugoslavia fan Kurdish nationalist sentiment.

And for the staunchly pro-Western authorities in Ankara, it restates a central riddle of Turkey's modern identity: How does the Government cope with an insurgency that seeks to dismember the country at the same time it seeks acceptance among Western European nations demanding human rights practices that have little resonance here? In this region, fringed by Iran, Iraq and Syria, even visiting parliamentary legislators carry handguns on their hips.

Turkey 's Effort to Quell Rebel Kurds Raises Alarm in Ankara and Europe

3,000 Killed in 8 Years

For eight years, the Turkish authorities have been fighting a guerrilla war against the Kurdish Workers Party, and more than 3,300 people have died in a conflict that corrodes Turkey's Western-looking aspirations and raises frequent questions about human rights violations, including routine and systematic torture.

Until last October, when Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel returned to power, the authorities largely relied on what proved to be an ineffective military response to the Kurdish guerrilla campaign, only reluctantly and belatedly shifting away from the notion that Turkish Kurds have no claim to a national identity.

Until April last year, the Kurds' language was outlawed and it still may not be used to broadcast or teach; the Constitution specifically denies their claim to a separate political identity.

When Mr. Demirel traveled here in December, however, he seemed to offer a different perspective. "Turkey has recognized the Kurdish reality," he said. The comment, and earlier offers to treat the country's estimated 10 million Kurds "with compassion," seemed part of an unfolding counterinsurgency strategy: an offer of benevolence toward Kurds who distance themselves from what the authorities call terrorism and a warning of harsh tactics toward those who do not.

This strategy includes air strikes in March against what officials say are Kurdish bases in Iraq. The attacks drew accusations both from the United Nations Children's Fund and independent reporters that the Turkish airplanes had killed civilians, including children. Despite those protests, Turkish warplanes were later reported in action again against Kurdish guerrilla bases in northern Iraq. An official statement issued here said two tented camps about six miles inside Iraq "have been destroyed."

What troubles Kurdish leaders here more directly, however, are deaths like that of Mr. Gungen, attributed to Government sponsorship of an ostensibly Islamic fundamentalist group called Hezbollah, or the Party of God.

"I believe that some security forces and the Government are supporting the Hezbollah against the people," said Dagistan Toprak, the Kurdish Deputy Mayor, who belongs to the Social Democratic Party, the junior coalition partner in Mr. Demirel's Government.

"Since the beginning of 1991, there have been a lot of mysterious killings," said Fevzi Veznerdaroglu, a human rights lawyer, who said he suspected a counterinsurgency unit within the Turkish military.

Asking About Trials

Although the authorities routinely deny involvement, Mr. Acar, the human rights official, said that none of the 62 apparently political killings had been investigated and that there had been no murder trials.

"The Government is not trying to find the killers," he said. "It is not even taking evidence." By contrast, he said, state security courts tried 1,200 people last year on charges on supporting the Kurdish guerrillas.

The suspicions of Mr. Acar and others have been fueled by incidents in which people later found dead were last seen in the hands of the police or in police cars. The police deny involvement, but the killings have spread a profound apprehension.

"I'm scared," he said. "I cannot go out at night. I can't open my door at night and I never go anywhere alone."

Guerrilla or Terrorist?

In the clash of perceptions and propaganda between the two sides, Kurdish supporters of the guerrillas call them liberators, while the authorities label them bandits and terrorists. The authorities say there are 3,000 guerrillas

Turkey 's Effort to Quell Rebel Kurds Raises Alarm in Ankara and Europe

inside Turkey and 7,000 more waiting either across the border with Iraq or at the organization's headquarters in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa region of Lebanon.

"The population of the southeast is deeply alienated, caught between the P.K.K. and the security forces and tilting towards the P.K.K.," a senior Western diplomat in Ankara said, referring to the Kurdish guerrilla group by its initials.

Still, there seem to be strong indications of rising Kurdish nationalist sentiment, once so repressed that even the word "Kurd" was taboo and the authorities referred to them as "mountain Turks."

"Today we are valley Kurds," said Mr. Toprak, the Deputy Mayor. "The Kurds have cross the threshold of fear and are no longer afraid."

Symbols and Resistance

A group of parliamentary deputies touring southeastern Turkey in March entered one village where women produced P.K.K. banners and portraits of the party leader, Abdullah Ocalan, all illegal emblems in Turkey.

And a celebration of International Women's Day at the offices here of the People's Labor Party, a group that has sent 20 elected deputies to the Ankara Parliament and is regarded by some as the guerrillas' lawful front inside Turkey, turned quickly into a demonstration on behalf of the Kurdish party.

"The P.K.K. is our party, Apo is our leader," one song went, referring to Mr. Ocalan by his nickname. People punched clenched-fist salutes into the air.

"Kurdish women are struggling alongside the men," proclaimed Husniye Olmez, a party official. "We must join hands and resist together. If we do this, no power can stop us."

Paradoxically, the fiery pro-Kurdish speeches were mostly in Turkish because, Kurdish leaders said, the years of linguistic suppression have left few city-dwelling Kurds fluent in their own language.

Nonetheless, such political boldness would have been unthinkable only a few years ago. Some Turks fear that Government concessions to Kurds, like permitting the publication of Kurdish newspapers and allowing Kurdish legislators to enter the 450-seat Parliament, have merely encouraged Kurdish support of the guerrillas.

"The way it was in Lithuania or Yugoslavia, it must be the same here," said Hatip Dicle, a Kurdish legislator, who created an uproar in Parliament last November when he protested the parliamentary oath as "a denial of the Kurdish people."

"The Kurdish people will decide their own future."

Rebels Are Arrested

ANKARA, Turkey, March 26 (AP) -- Continuing their crackdown on Kurdish rebels in the southeastern region near Iraq, Turkish soldiers and police officers arrested scores of Kurds as suspects today and military jets pounded rebel camps in northern Iraq, Government officials said.

The officials said the rebels had been seized in house-to-house searches, including 65 in the city of Cizre and others in Silopi, also near the Iraqi border, and at Nusaybin on the border with Syria. The authorities have also imposed a curfew on the three cities.

There were no reports of casualties from the air attack, the fifth such raid this month, which followed one on Wednesday. Although a military official would only say that an assault had taken place on Wednesday, the Turkish

Turkey 's Effort to Quell Rebel Kurds Raises Alarm in Ankara and Europe

television said the planes had attacked a mountaintop base in northern Iraq that has been hit by the Turkish military since last year.

Clashes between the authorities and Kurds have claimed at least 75 lives since Saturday.

Graphic

Photo: Turkey continues to be torn apart by the conflict that pits a Marxist Kurdish separatist group against the authorities in an increasingly fierce guerrilla war. Kurdish fighters patrolled a street yesterday in Cizre. (Agence France-Presse)

Map of Turkey showing location of Diyarbakir.

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LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

August 24, 1993, TUESDAY, FIVE STAR Edition

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Section: EDITORIAL; Pg. 6B; LETTERS

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Body

Keep The Faith Don't Change It Several polls were taken before Pope John Paul II arrived this month in Denver. These polls showed that young people are seeking changes in Catholic doctrine, such as abortion, sex outside of marriage, birth control and women in the priesthood. I didn't find this to speak well of our younger generation. My faith in our youth was renewed, however, as I watched the entirety of World Youth Day '93 and their reception of the pope. So many banners waving from among the youth there saying, "We are behind you, John Paul III!" They, along with us "older" folks, are not seeking change - but rather they are seeking restoration! Yes, it seems that they, too, are getting sick of seeing the corruption in our society. We must return to the teachings of God and the church, and I am so thankful the leaders of the Catholic Church are not bowing down to the wishes of the misled but are standing firm and strong. Some may leave the church, but they will be back. It was so inspiring to hear thousands of young people from all over the world expressing their love for and belief in the pope - "John Paul II, we love you" - upon his arrival at Mile High Stadium in Denver. And how beautiful and powerful were the various musicians and instruments played, representing their culture and country. What excitement and power was generated by the American Indians pounding their huge drums as the Holy Father left the stadium.

I wish everyone could have witnessed the prayer vigil at Cherry Creek State Park. The testimonies from young people from countries all over the world, including the war-torn ones such as Bosnia, were extremely moving. Seeing how the pope had to fight back tears and seeing him embrace and kiss these young people was so inspiring. Yes, we need restoration - not change! Peggy J. Faust Alton The visit of Pope John Paul II to the World Youth Day gathering in beautiful Denver was a Rocky Mountain high that should result in good for all. Elmer N. Stuetzer Lemay We Are Family I'm positive that Mona Charen didn't just wake up one morning and decide to berate and belittle an entire segment of society. I'm sure she didn't really want to shame all parents without partners into one category. But she did with her Aug. 19 column, "No Wonder 1 In 4 Kids Is Born Out Of Wedlock." I'm a parent. I am not married. I would like to be, but my child's father chose not to help raise his son. Frankly, I'd rather not have someone there who would only make things more difficult. I was lucky enough to have two dear friends help me bring my child into this world - two mothers who understood far more about childbirth than any husband could. It certainly wasn't sad that this happened. Regardless of my marital status, the doctors who treated me, the hospital that admitted me, the friends who stood by me and the people who employ me all think I'm normal. I have no family other than my son, no outside sources of support other than friends. But I work hard to maintain my independence. I pay my taxes. I don't use the welfare system. I don't live in poverty. My son is more loved and happier than some children of two-parent homes. He's incredibly intelligent, well-adjusted and cared for because I take the time to make sure he doesn't "fall into the cracks" created by people like Charen. And I truly resent the implication made by Charen that our society's order rests on whether or not I'm married. Her opinions about my life and others like it border on bigotry. I do not believe there is anything that can be considered "normal" or ideal in terms of a family. It's what works best and is best for all involved. Every form of family has its flaws because of the people involved, not because of the form. None is any worse or better than the other because a problem is still a problem no matter

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

how many individuals are involved. The bottom line is that we are placed on this Earth not to create divisions in society but to love and support one another and to work together to make it easier for everyone to live. I'm not ashamed of my son, my life or the fact that I am not married. I forgive Charen for the fact that she is. April Paul Brentwood No Money Talks The networks and local affiliates are lulling us into a deeper state of desensitization with their repetitious violence. The new attorney general said "youth violence is the greatest single crime problem in America today." Affirming a cultural lag in society with parents working 50 hours to 60 hours each per week and unsupervised children at home, the surgeon general's report said "violence on TV is related to violence in children." It has been a virtual epidemic in the past five years. A Newsweek article on Aug. 2 asks: "When do we stop feeling helpless and start doing something?" For society's sanity and survival, I believe instead of turning off TV, we should turn off profits of advertisers who promote these programs by contacting companies and changing buying habits. Catherine S. Enz Affton Armed Is Dangerous Consensus is that all wars are either religious or economic. Primarily, we can label the Middle East confrontation as religious. But include occupied land, and the label can be stretched to include the classification economic. The one certainty in the Middle East conflict is that the super powers consider the area a prime one in which to peddle all sorts of military hardware - planes, tanks, missiles, everything, including nuclear knowledge - no holds barred. And the sales are being pushed by the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France, Germany and Korea. Generally, if a person buys a gun, he or she is anxious to pull the trigger to make sure that it works and can do the job for which it was designed. I have to believe that such a normal curiosity exists among the Middle East countries. If that proves to be true, we are apt to see the new stockpiles of weapons put to the test. Despite the peace negotiations, militant Arab factions flex their muscles and test the determination of Israel to carry on. Syria holds sway over Lebanon and yet allowed the recent attacks against Israel by the Hezbollah and Jihad. The surprising fact is that the United States and Israel are aware that Syria is still listed as a terrorist state, for it permits terrorist headquarters and training within its borders. Syria has the power, if it chooses, to control such terrorist activities. However, not until Syria was pressured by the United States did it stop the recent Hezbollah attacks against Israel. Regardless, the United States and Israel still play footsies with Syria and now we learn that Sudan, another Arab country, is identified as a terrorist state. We must not forget that Iraq and Iran continue to sound off belligerently against Israel. Summed up, Israel continues peace negotiations while the industrial powers unload military hardware under the sales pitch of "be prepared for defense with aggressive weaponry." Economically, the industrial countries need the business, and there is no apparent concern that a war situation could blow at any moment. I hope I am wrong, but I believe that peace negotiations in the Mideast will prove to be just an exercise in diplomacy with only a remote possibility of success. Milton Ferman Clayton Moving Target Recent letters to the editor were highly critical of the St. Louis police because only one bullet out of 100 hit a suspect during a high-speed car chase. Let me get this straight. A police officer pumped up with adrenaline in an alternating accelerating/decelerating, bouncing, swerving automobile, actually managed to hit a small target that was accelerating/decelerating, bouncing, swerving and shooting back, without hitting innocent bystanders, and that's not considered good markmanship? Somebody's been watching too much television. Paul Sherwin Maplewood Diversity Is Good Many have tried to create ethnically pure states: the Third Reich in World War II, the Ku Klux Klan in this country and the Serbs in Yugoslavia are just a few. There is nothing wrong with wanting to live in a society where all share the same ethnic background. In fact, societies that are relatively ethnically pure (Northern European and Scandinavian countries) have less crime and more efficient and responsive government. But attempts to create such a state have all been unsuccessful. We must learn from history and understand that it is unrealistic to expect an ethnically pure society in the United States. We are faced with no alternative but to find ways to make our ethnically diverse society work and work to our advantage. David K. Unnerstall Riverview Gardens

Graphic

GRAPHIC; Graphic/Sketch of Pope John Paul II

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

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Essay:
Office Pool, 2001

The New York Times

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Length: 681 words

Byline: By WILLIAM SAFIRE

By WILLIAM SAFIRE

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

I got nothing right in last year's office pool except the bursting of Wall Street's high-tech bubble. Had you taken my prognostications as gospel, you would have looked foolish to your political friends but you would have saved a bunch of money.

Once more unto the breach:

1. The senator to emerge at year's end as most likely challenger to Al Gore for the 2004 Democratic nomination will be (a) Tom Daschle; (b) Joe Lieberman; (c) John Edwards; (d) Hillary Rodham.
2. Sovereignty issues will be resolved as (a) the traditionally Mexican Olvera Street enclave in Los Angeles is ceded to Mexico, with a mile-wide corridor to the Rio Grande border; (b) the six-block area around U.N. Headquarters in New York City wins "home rule" and is internationalized with its own tax base and police force; (c) Britain is forced by world public opinion to end its unconscionable 300-year occupation of Scotland; (d) Israelis vote to accept the Clinton plan to divide Jerusalem.
3. Bill Clinton will be (a) disbarred; (b) indicted; (c) pardoned; (d) enriched; (e) ubiquitous.
4. Nonfiction sleeper best-seller-to-be: (a) "One Scandalous Story," by Marvin Kalb; (b) "An Honorable Defeat," by William C. Davis; (c) "Seabiscuit," by Laura Hillenbrand; (d) "John Adams," by David McCullough; (e) "Staying Tuned," by Daniel Schorr.
5. A blue-ribbon Social Security panel will be appointed, headed by Bob Dole and Pat Moynihan, and will recommend that Congress and the president (a) raise taxes; (b) end the automatic cost-of-living adjustment; (c) raise retirement age; (d) permit recipients to invest in stocks.
6. Best Picture Oscar to (a) Steven Soderbergh's "Traffic"; (b) "Erin Brockovich," also by Soderbergh; (c) "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," directed by Ang Lee, the new Soderbergh.

7. First foreign policy crisis to face the new president will be (a) Israel's strike at Syrian positions supporting Hezbollah's attacks from Lebanon; (b) Haitian revolt and refugee exodus; (c) Pakistan swaps its nuclear technology with North Korea for missiles; (d) Russia moves to take over Georgia; (e) anarchy in Indonesia.
8. George W. Bush's first Supreme Court nomination will be (a) Senator Orrin Hatch; (b) Judge Laurence Silberman; (c) Judge Emilio Garza of San Antonio; (d) a female Asian-American strict constructionist, preferably from Florida, with a whole flock of children; (e) the demonstrably persuasive constitutionalist Ted Olson.
9. First Bush promise to be shot down by Congress will be (a) increased military spending; (b) steep cut in marginal tax rates; (c) a modest prescription drug benefit; (d) deployment of national missile defense.
10. Most useful fund-raising target for the opposite party will be (a) moneybags Terry McAuliffe as D.N.C. chairman and the Clinton hidden hand; (b) Attorney General John Ashcroft, to be demonized in confirmation hearings as the new Savonarola; (c) the Republican whip, Tom DeLay, the new Gingrich figure to Democrats; (d) Hillary, the \$8 million royaltyist, feared by G.O.P. stalwarts to be a harbinger of the dread Counter-Reformation.
11. The continued southward direction of the economy will properly be called (a) the Bush recession; (b) the Clinton recession; (c) the long soft landing; (d) the crash of '01.
12. Bush will lose support in the political center when he (a) downmouths McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform; (b) lets banks and insurance companies get him to backtrack on consumer privacy protection; (c) oversells his faith-based intermediation thing.
13. Likely to leave the seat of power: (a) China's Jiang Zemin, his Mandate of Heaven revoked by his overreaction to the growth of religious sects, supplanted by Zhu Rongji; (b) Britain's third-wayfarer Tony Blair, upset by dispassionate Conservative William Hague; (c) Ehud (You name it, you got it) Barak, replaced by less-hardline-than-expected Ariel Sharon; (d) Fidel Castro, nudged off his Havana throne by Father Time.

My picks: 1 (c), 2 (none), 3 (all), 4 (e), 5 (c), 6 (b), 7 (b), 8 (e), 9 (b), 10 (a), 11 (c), 12 (b), 13 (all). One of these years, I'll be right about Jiang and Fidel.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Load-Date: December 28, 2000

**THE YEAR THAT MIGHT BE;
WILLING TO WAGER ON THE HOT STORIES OF 2001?**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

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Byline: WILLIAM SAFIRE

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

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Once more unto the breach:

1. The senator to emerge at year's end as most likely challenger to Al Gore for the 2004 Democratic nomination will be (a) Tom Daschle; (b) Joe Lieberman; (c) John Edwards; (d) Hillary Rodham.
2. Sovereignty issues will be resolved as (a) the traditionally Mexican Olvera Street enclave in Los Angeles is ceded to Mexico, with a mile-wide corridor to the Rio Grande border; (b) the six-block area around U.N. Headquarters in New York City wins "home rule" and is internationalized with its own tax base and police force; (c) Britain is forced by world public opinion to end its unconscionable 300-year occupation of Scotland; (d) Israelis vote to accept the Clinton plan to divide Jerusalem.
3. Bill Clinton will be (a) disbarred; (b) indicted; (c) pardoned; (d) enriched; (e) ubiquitous.
4. Nonfiction sleeper best-seller-to-be: (a) "One Scandalous Story," by Marvin Kalb; (b) "An Honorable Defeat," by William C. Davis; (c) "Seabiscuit," by Laura Hillenbrand; (d) "John Adams," by David McCullough; (e) "Staying Tuned," by Daniel Schorr.
5. A blue-ribbon Social Security panel will be appointed, headed by Bob Dole and Pat Moynihan, and will recommend that Congress and the president (a) raise taxes; (b) end the automatic cost-of-living adjustment; (c) raise retirement age; (d) permit recipients to invest in stocks.
6. Best Picture Oscar to (a) Steven Soderbergh's "Traffic"; (b) "Erin Brockovich," also by Soderbergh; (c) "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," directed by Ang Lee, the new Soderbergh.

THE YEAR THAT MIGHT BE; WILLING TO WAGER ON THE HOT STORIES OF 2001?

7. First foreign policy crisis to face the new president will be (a) Israel's strike at Syrian positions supporting Hezbollah's attacks from Lebanon; (b) Haitian revolt and refugee exodus; (c) Pakistan swaps its nuclear technology with North Korea for missiles; (d) Russia moves to take over Georgia; (e) anarchy in Indonesia.
8. George W. Bush's first Supreme Court nomination will be (a) Sen. Orrin Hatch; (b) Judge Laurence Silberman; (c) Judge Emilio Garza of San Antonio; (d) a female Asian-American strict constructionist, preferably from Florida, with a whole flock of children; (e) the demonstrably persuasive constitutionalist Ted Olson.
9. First Bush promise to be shot down by Congress will be (a) increased military spending; (b) steep cut in marginal tax rates; (c) a modest prescription drug benefit; (d) deployment of national missile defense.
10. Most useful fund-raising target for the opposite party will be (a) moneybags Terry McAuliffe as DNC chairman and the Clinton hidden hand; (b) Attorney General John Ashcroft, to be demonized in confirmation hearings as the new Savonarola; (c) the Republican whip, Tom DeLay, the new Gingrich figure to Democrats; (d) Hillary, the \$ 8 million royaltyist, feared by GOP stalwarts to be a harbinger of the dread Counter-Reformation.
11. The continued southward direction of the economy will properly be called (a) the Bush recession; (b) the Clinton recession; (c) the long soft landing; (d) the crash of ' 01.
12. Bush will lose support in the political center when he (a) downmouths McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform; (b) lets banks and insurance companies get him to backtrack on consumer privacy protection; (c) oversells his faith-based intermediation thing.
13. Likely to leave the seat of power: (a) China's Jiang Zemin, his Mandate of Heaven revoked by his overreaction to the growth of religious sects, supplanted by Zhu Rongji; (b) Britain's third-wayfarer Tony Blair, upset by dispassionate Conservative William Hague; (c) Ehud (You name it, you got it) Barak, replaced by less-hardline-than-expected Ariel Sharon; (d) Fidel Castro, nudged off his Havana throne by Father Time.

My picks: 1 (c), 2 (none), 3 (all), 4 (e), 5 (c), 6 (b), 7 (b), 8 (e), 9 (b), 10 (a), 11 (c), 12 (b), 13 (all) (one of these years, I'll be right about Jiang and Fidel).

William Safire is a syndicated columnist for The New York Times.

Load-Date: December 29, 2000

Presidential candidates maintain civility, humor in second meeting

University Wire

October 12, 2000

Copyright 2000 The State News via U-Wire

Length: 629 words

Byline: By Emily Robinson, The State News

Dateline: Winston-salem, N.C.

Body

Al Gore criticized Gov. George W. Bush's record in Texas in debate Wednesday night, saying he blocked hate crimes legislation and presides over a state that ranks last in health insurance for families. "We care about our people in Texas," Bush shot back, and said the state spends \$ 4.7 billion a year on the uninsured alone.

In the waning moments of their second 90-minute clash, Bush said Gore had misrepresented several facts in their first debate, and that prompted an unusual apology from the vice president.

"I got some of the details wrong," the vice president responded softly. "I'm sorry about that and I'm going to try to do better" in the future.

Michigan State U.

The two men met on a stage at Wait Chapel at Wake Forest University with less than four weeks remaining in their close, volatile race for the White House. The atmosphere seemed more congenial than when they debated last week in Boston, and when it ended, Bush mouthed the words "good job" to his rival as they shook hands.

The calendar calls for one more pre-election debate, next Tuesday in St. Louis.

It was a debate in two parts: the first half a polite conversation about foreign policy, the second half a more pointed series of disagreements over domestic issues.

Gore and Bush both called on Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to restrain the violence rocking Israel. The vice president also called on Syria to "release three Israeli soldiers that have been captured" by Hezbollah militia forces during more than 10 days of violence. Both men stressed support for Israel.

Asked by moderator Jim Lehrer of PBS about the Middle East, Gore said, "We need to insist that Arafat send out instructions to halt some of the provocative acts of violence that have been going on."

Bush, given a chance to answer the same question, began by saying that in times of tension overseas, "We ought to be speaking with one voice. I appreciate the way the administration has been working to calm the tensions."

He also said the United States ought to call on Arafat "to have his people pulled back."

Gore defended the administration's handling of Iraq's Saddam. Bush, whose father was president during the Persian Gulf War, declared that the "coalition against Saddam is unraveling -- sanctions are being violated."

Presidential candidates maintain civility, humor in second meeting

If Hussein is developing weapons of mass destruction, he said, "There are going to be consequences if I'm president."

Gore, who has been buffeted by allegations that he embellishes the facts, readily offered a mea culpa after Lehrer raised the issue in a question to Bush, and the governor mentioned a 1988 staff memo to then-Sen. Gore to be careful about getting facts right.

"I can't promise I will never get another detail wrong. I can promise you I will do my best if I'm elected president, I will work my heart out to get it right for the American people," Gore said.

Asked if he was satisfied with the explanation, Bush said, "That's up to the American people, isn't it."

The debate was nearly half over before Lehrer turned his attention to domestic issues, and when he asked about health care, Gore pounced.

"I'm sorry to tell you that there is a record here," the vice president said, "and Texas ranks 49th out of the 50 states in children with health care, 49th for women with health care and 50th for families with health care."

Bush replied that he was "not for a government-run health care system," and added, "I thought that's exactly what he and Mrs. Clinton -- fought for in 1993 was a government-run health care system."

Besides, Bush said, his state spends \$ 4.7 billion trying to help expand insurance coverage and the state's rate of uninsured has declined while it has risen in the country as a whole during the Clinton era.

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Load-Date: October 12, 2000

TRAVEL: SOMETHING TO DECLARE;
THE COLUMN THAT SAVES YOU MONEY

The Independent (London)

August 7, 1999, Saturday

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Section: FEATURES; Pg. 12

Length: 675 words

Body

Warning of the week

Places where you should be careful with that camera

Vietnam: "Don't photograph something that could be militarily sensitive (airports, seaports, military bases, border checkpoints etc). Photography from aircraft is not permitted. Don't even think of trying to get a snapshot of Ho Chi Minh in his glass sarcophagus" - from the new edition of Vietnam (Lonely Planet, pounds 11.99).

Morocco: "Always ask if you want to take photographs of people. **Women** will usually turn away, and men or children may ask you for money. Keep small coins in your pocket. In Marrakesh you will be asked to pay (3 to 5 dirhams) for photographs of the performers in the main square" - from the new edition of Wanderlust magazine (subscriptions: 01753 620426).

Lebanon: "Various factions can still get a bit overwrought at the thought of Western spies. Do not, for example, try to photograph the **Hezbollah** HQ at Baalbek, or anywhere that looks like a military training camp" - from the new edition of Travellers Survival Kit: Lebanon (Vacation Work, pounds 10.99).

Currency of the Week

The Malaysian ringgit

Money in Malaysia is versatile, not just a medium of exchange. It also functions as travel advertising. The national carrier, Malaysia Airlines, gets a puff on the 10- ringgit note. You will not need too many of these notes to buy a flight, either: a one-way trip from Kuala Lumpur works out at around 200 ringgits (pounds 35), though you will not be flying on the sleek Airbus A330 pictured on the note.

That fares are so low is due to the Asian economic downturn experienced two years ago. Malaysia was not as badly hit as neighbouring Thailand, and introduced stringent exchange control regulations aimed at protecting the currency. Travellers must fill out declaration forms upon entering or leaving Malaysia. The government hopes tourism will boost earnings and is doing its bit by promoting attractions.

Accordingly, the two-ringgit note carries a picture not of the "World's Highest Building" (the twin Petronas towers) but of the smaller Kuala Lumpur Tower, which has a viewing platform more than 1,000 feet above the city.

TRAVEL: SOMETHING TO DECLARE; THE COLUMN THAT SAVES YOU MONEY

Travellers may be confused by the apparent existence of two different currencies: prices may be marked RM5, in the style preferred by the government, or M\$ 5 - hinting at the common name for the ringgit, the dollar. They are the same entity, but it seems Malaysia wishes to differentiate its currency from that of neighbouring Singapore, where the dollar is king.

Destination of the week The Falkland Islands

After a long suspension because of the Pinochet affair, the Chilean national airline LanChile resumes flights from Santiago to Mount Pleasant in the Falklands at 9am, local time, today. The Boeing 737 flights operate via Punta Arenas in southern Chile, avoiding Argentine airspace. The resumption means travellers to the islands no longer have to settle for RAF Tristars and can save considerably compared with RAF fares.

On a trip combining the Colombian airline, Avianca, from Heathrow to Santiago and the flight from there to Mount Pleasant, South American Experience (0171 -976 5511) is offering a fare of pounds 805 return.

For a complete package, The Travel Collection (part of Kuoni, 01306 744300), is selling a 10-night holiday for pounds 1,499, including flights, accommodation and full board in the Falklands. The resumption of flights means the islands will hope to attract holidaymakers seeking a millennium break with a difference.

Bargain of the week

August is the time to trade up to business class

Airlines find it hard to fill seats, and come up with some absurdly good deals. Travellers to New York on the Continental Airlines service from Gatwick to Newark on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, can get an outbound BusinessFirst fare for pounds 717 plus tax - less than half the official price - through discount agents such as Quest Worldwide (0181-546 6000).

The inbound fare is higher, but the return trip costing a total of pounds 2,090 is still less than two-thirds of the normal fare.

Graphic

New York: bargain fares in BusinessFirst MSI

Load-Date: August 9, 1999

WORLD IN BRIEF

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution

March 5, 2000, Sunday,

Home Edition

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Section: News; Pg. 15A

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Byline: From our news services

Body

Russian, rebel casualties high

Federal troops battled rebel forces along Chechnya's southern Argun Gorge on Saturday, and the Russian military said both sides were suffering significant casualties.

Despite Russia's earlier claims to controlling much of the gorge, fighting raged Saturday in villages in and around the canyon. The clashes were accompanied by incessant salvos of Russian artillery and the roar of warplanes heading farther south to bomb suspected rebel positions.

At least 50 Russian servicemen were killed in the area during the past week, the Interfax news agency reported Saturday.

AJC

AFRICA: Ultimatum forces some squatters out

Some former guerrillas in Zimbabwe gave in to a government ultimatum Saturday and vacated white-owned farms, while others defied the threat and seized other property. Home Affairs Minister Dumiso Dabengwa had set a Saturday deadline for the ex-insurgents to leave the farms or face expulsion by police. There were no immediate reports of measures to remove the squatters still in place.

ASIA: Ex-head of chemical leak site sought

Warren M. Anderson, chairman of Union Carbide Corp. during the 1984 chemical disaster at Bhopal, India, has apparently gone into hiding. Lawyers hired to locate Anderson say he wants to avoid a summons to appear in a New York federal court as part of civil proceedings against him and the company. Several attempts to deliver a summons to Anderson have failed, the lawyers say. More than 3,000 people were killed and 200,000 others were injured in Bhopal on Dec. 3, 1984, when tons of gases and chemicals were released from the pesticide plant after an explosion.

Volcano victims receive aid from U.S.

More than a dozen U.S. soldiers arrived Saturday to distribute relief goods and set up tents for some of the more than 66,000 people displaced by the recent eruption of Mayon volcano in the Philippines. The contingent met with disaster relief officials in the city of Legazpi to plan for the distribution of \$ 418,000 worth of goods donated by the U.S. government.

WORLD IN BRIEF

EUROPE: Ethnic Albanians flee Russian-rebel fighting

Dozens of ethnic Albanian women and children fled into Kosovo Saturday after an exchange of gunfire in a town just outside the Yugoslav province's border, NATO peacekeepers said. The exodus of 175 people was the latest push from Dobrasin, a predominantly ethnic Albanian town in eastern Serbia. Hundreds of people have fled the area in the past two months, streaming into the closest Kosovo town of Gnjilane, about 30 miles southeast of Kosovo's provincial capital, Pristina. The area near Dobrasin has been the site of sporadic clashes between ethnic Albanian guerrillas and Serb police.

Bodyguard regrets Princess Diana's death

The bodyguard who survived the Paris car crash that killed Princess Diana says he is still haunted that she died "on my shift." In an interview with the British newspaper The Telegraph, Trevor Rees-Jones says he would have traded his own life for hers and the two other victims, Dodi Fayed and the driver Henri Paul. Rees-Jones tells his side of the story in "The Bodyguard's Story" to be released in Britain this week.

Stolen credit accounts used in Internet scam

Tax police in Italy arrested Giuseppe Russo, 34, and his wife Sandra Elazar, 33, Saturday, for using thousands of American credit card numbers from computer lists to place \$ 750,000 worth of online lottery bets and shop online. The couple won about \$ 400,000 from the betting, said tax police Capt. Giancarlo Sulsenti.

MIDDLE EAST: Students' food strike protests punishment

More than 100 students at the West Bank university of Bir Zeit began a hunger strike Saturday to protest the detention of students who attacked visiting French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, a student organizer said. About 130 students were rounded up last week after they threw rocks at the premier to protest his saying Hezbollah guerrilla attacks against Israel in south Lebanon were "terrorist."

Third plane from Iraq defies travel sanctions

In open defiance of international sanctions, Iraq flew a third planeload of 114 Hajj pilgrims to Saudi Arabia Saturday, the official Iraqi News Agency reported. Sanctions imposed on Iraq after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait ban air travel to and from the country.

Load-Date: March 5, 2000

Youth celebrate 'where God was'

The Ottawa Citizen

March 25, 2000, Saturday, FINAL

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Section: World; B1 / Front

Length: 605 words

Byline: Nomi Morris

Dateline: KORAZIM, Israel

Body

KORAZIM, Israel -- As the morning light broke through the clouds over the Sea of Galilee yesterday, thousands of pilgrims from around the world flowed toward the Mount of Beatitudes as if bringing to life the famous sermon that Jesus preached here nearly 2000 years ago.

"And seeing the multitudes he went up into a mountain," says Matthew 5:1. "And when he was set, his disciples came unto him."

Most of the 70,000 modern-day followers who came to hear Pope John Paul II on the Galilee leg of his weeklong trip to the Holy Land were teenagers wearing baseball caps and backpacks who had come to Israel for a year 2000 jubilee convention.

"It's wonderful to be where God was," said Dulce Puente, a 16-year-old from Houston who was happily walking down a muddy road as others played guitar and sang.

"Love Your Enemy," read a huge banner held by young people from Germany, quoting from the Sermon on the Mount.

The pope, who will soon be 80 and views this pilgrimage as the culmination of his life's work, was eager to reach out to youth in an increasingly secular world.

"Which voice will the young people of the 21st century choose to follow?" the Pope intoned from a stonelike grey throne that overlooked the region where Christians believe Jesus performed the miracles that helped him spread his message.

After sitting on buses all night and then for hours on a newly built field that was mucky after hours of beating rain, the crowd was subdued. One group of Mexicans wore colourful sombreros. A 17-year-old Muslim girl from Nazareth dyed her hair the papal colours of white and yellow. A Jewish Israeli couple interested in the "happening" got tickets that were unloaded at the last minute by a travel agency.

Bad weather and unprecedented security measures kept the crowd smaller than organizers had anticipated. About 7,000 police and soldiers were deployed and roads were closed more than 22 hours before the pope's helicopter set down.

Youth celebrate 'where God was'

A wave of excitement swept through the crowd as the popemobile made its way through. People had come from as far as Rwanda and Panama to share the moment.

A group of elderly Japanese women wore high-tech radios whose tiny earphones transmitted a translation of the Pope's homily, which drew on the Gospel passages that related to the sites on his itinerary that day.

Among the maxims familiar to Christians and non- Christians that come from the Sermon on the Mount are "The meek shall inherit the earth," "Turn the other cheek," "Ye are the salt of the earth" and "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."

The message of peace has been paramount for the Pope on his journey to the war-torn Middle East, and yesterday's calm, co-operative pilgrims in Korazim played their part.

One worshipper from the West Bank town of Ramallah waved a huge Palestinian flag and said he got no trouble but "a few dirty looks" from the Israeli security police. About 2,000 Christians came from Jordan and the West Bank, and another 15,000 Arabs attended from the Galilee region.

From southern Lebanon, where Islamic Hezbollah fighters are engaged in daily clashes with Israeli occupation soldiers, came a 200-strong United Nations contingent, including Poles, French and Canadians who had come across the border with their unit's priest.

There also were several busloads of South Lebanese Arab youths, Maronite Christians who have long been aligned with the Israelis in the Lebanese conflict.

"I hope the Pope's visit will bring peace," said Rosaline Said, 17, from the Lebanese village of Rmeish.

Graphic

P Black & White Photo: Jacqueline Larma, The Associated Press / A Palestinian Christian uses headphones to listen to a mass celebrated by Pope John Paul II in Korazim, Israel, yesterday. The pontiff urged youth to 'preach the message of the Beatitudes.'

Load-Date: March 25, 2000

Foreign Affairs;
Muffled Militants

The New York Times

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Length: 717 words

Byline: By THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

By THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

During a visit to Turkey in May I met with a columnist for a leading Ankara newspaper and asked him in passing how circulation was. "Great," he told me. It was growing daily. What was their trick? I asked. More sports? Doonesbury? Ann Landers? No, no, he said, it's very simple. "We are giving away commentaries on the Koran with every new subscription."

Not only in Turkey, where the Mayors of Ankara and Istanbul come from the Islamic party, but elsewhere in the Middle East, Islamic fundamentalism seems to be either going underground or going mainstream. That is, fundamentalist groups are either engaging in more hard-core violence, and losing to the secular authorities, or playing by the rules of the game and being co-opted by the secular political systems. But whether their approach is the M-16 or MTV, Islamic fundamentalists no longer seem quite so threatening, their power no longer quite so invincible, their victory march no longer quite so inevitable. Indeed, for the moment -- and it may only be a moment -- the Islamic fundamentalist phenomenon has peaked.

The reasons are many. To begin with, the violent Islamic groups overplayed their hand. Their tactic of assassinating officials alienated large segments of the public in Egypt and Algeria and triggered a harsh counterreaction from these secular states. Never underestimate the power of the secular state in the Arab world. These regimes have used all their resources -- police, intelligence, the army and ruthlessness -- to suppress the violent fundamentalists and to co-opt the nonviolent ones. Since Muslim militants in Egypt almost destroyed the tourism industry there in 1992, the regime has killed 800 fundamentalists in separate shootouts. As the Islamic expert Martin Kramer points out, every Arab ruler threatened by an Islamic opposition "has found a way to contain it or confront it."

They have been aided by the dismal failure of Iran, which has become a living, breathing advertisement against Islamic rule.

Islamic fundamentalism also seems to have lost some edge in places where the secular authorities have done a slightly better job of improving living conditions. The fact that Yasir Arafat today has 60,000 people on his payroll in Gaza has weakened the Hamas fundamentalist group, which tends to draw recruits from the desperate. Also,

Foreign Affairs; Muffled Militants

Islamic parties that have joined the system are under the same pressure to create jobs as secular parties. The Hezbollah fundamentalists in Lebanon have gone into the tourism business in Baalbek, where a few years ago the only foreigners were hostages who were bound and gagged.

Progress toward settling the Arab-Israeli conflict also seems to have diluted one of the main sources of anger used by fundamentalists to mobilize large constituencies. Jordan's Islamic Action Front was defeated last week in important municipal elections by a pro-government slate that favored peace with Israel.

But is this the start of a long-term trend or just the pause that refreshes before radical political Islam surges anew? A lot depends on whether governments use this pause to undertake serious reforms or avoid them. Yes, the secular Arab states have quashed violent fundamentalists, but their heavy-handed bureaucracies have also quashed the free flow of information, commerce and entrepreneurship needed to alleviate the poverty that fuels fundamentalism. As the political economist Henri Barkey notes, most Arab regimes have cumbersome state bureaucracies more suited to keeping the ruler in power "than to fostering the growth of a modern competitive society."

That explains why when you cover international economics, you notice that there are two words that never come up: "Arab world." Arab world growth prospects today are dim, because few Arab governments have instituted the educational reforms, liberation of women, privatization of state industries and downsizing of bureaucracies that countries from Brazil to Indonesia have done to compete in the 21st century. With 50 percent of the Arab world under the age of 18, that is not a healthy situation. Whether it is the Internet or the global investment highway, the Arabs are not in the game. As long as that continues, the Arab world will stagnate and the environment for radical politics -- Islamic or otherwise -- will flourish.

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NATION IN BRIEF

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution

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Body

Supercolony of ants a threat in California

In a quirk of evolution and genetics, Argentine ants are overwhelming native California ants while forming what scientists believe may be the biggest ant colony in the world, stretching more than 600 miles from San Diego to north of San Francisco.

The ants in this so-called supercolony are so genetically similar that different colonies do not fight with one another the way they do in their homeland. As a result, they are using a united family front to win territory from native ants.

The effects of the invasion are rippling through the ecosystem, according to scientists at the University of California at San Diego. Some plants, such as tree poppies, depend on native ants for seed dispersal. And large native harvester ants make up more than 90 percent of the diet of coastal horned lizards, commonly known as horny toads and a candidate for the endangered species list.

CONSTITUTION

18 indicted in N.C. in cigarette smuggling

Eighteen people arrested on charges of smuggling cigarettes out of North Carolina to raise money for the Mideast Islamic extremist group **Hezbollah** were indicted in Charlotte on Monday. In an affidavit filed July 21, officials allege the suspects used sham marriages to get around immigration laws, then set up a smuggling business in Charlotte to buy cases of cigarettes in North Carolina, which has a low cigarette tax, and sell them at a profit in high-tax Michigan.

Catholics press Gore to cancel Playboy event

The Catholic League on Monday urged Vice President Al Gore to cancel a Democratic fund-raiser scheduled for Aug. 15 at the Playboy Mansion in Los Angeles, saying it is "offensive." The date coincides with the Feast of the Assumption, a Catholic holy day that commemorates the biblical taking into heaven of Mary. "To hold an event on this date at a place that celebrates the denigration of **women** is particularly offensive to Catholics," said William Donohue, president of the Catholic League, the nation's largest Catholic Civil Rights Organization.

Alabama sentences rampage killer to death

A truck driver convicted of shooting three people to death in a rampage at two businesses in Pelham, Ala., a suburb of Birmingham, was sentenced Monday to die in Alabama's electric chair. Shelby County Circuit Judge Al Crowson followed the jury's recommendation in imposing a death sentence on Alan Eugene Miller, 35, for the workplace slayings last August. Miller's attorney had argued that Miller was delusional.

NATION IN BRIEF

'Choose Life' car tags challenged in Louisiana

Louisiana's new "Choose Life" prestige license plates promoted by anti-abortion activists were challenged by two citizens in federal court Monday as an unconstitutional attempt to break the wall between church and state. The tags, which carry the words "Choose Life," show a picture of a baby wrapped in a blanket carried by a pelican, instead of a stork. The pelican is the state bird. Officials said about 150 people have ordered the plates but none has been delivered. A similar lawsuit against "Choose Life" tags in Florida was filed late last year by the National Organization for Women. Officials there proceeded with the printing of the tags, however.

91 on casino boat rescued after collision

A casino boat collided with a tow boat on the Mississippi River near Caruthersville, Mo., on Monday, badly damaging the riverboat. The casino boat quickly took on water after the accident, but stayed afloat long enough for emergency workers and volunteers to rescue the 91 passengers, said Jim Brimhall, an emergency rescue coordinator. No one was seriously hurt.

'Humility' run prompts firings at boot camp

Two employees of a Jasper, Ala., boot camp were fired after they made a group of juvenile offenders run up a hill with their pants and underwear down around their ankles, a director of the camp said. An official said the fired staffers at Camp Mitnick told investigators the exercise was "to teach humility."

Correction

page A/2: An Aug. 1 Nation in Brief item incorrectly described the Feast of the Assumption, a Catholic holy day commemorating Mary being taken into heaven.

Correction-Date: August 12, 2000

Load-Date: August 13, 2000

NEWS IN BRIEF

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The Philadelphia Inquirer

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Body

In the Nation Tom Hayden is running for mayor of Los Angeles. Hayden, the 1960s radical turned California state senator, announced Saturday that he planned to oppose Republican incumbent Richard Riordan in the April 8 election.

Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle said yesterday that a proposal to allow people to open private retirement accounts in lieu of paying Social Security taxes was a "nonstarter." Private investment is an option proposed by a federal advisory panel on Social Security.

A soldier facing a military trial on charges he raped a fellow trainee at the Army's Aberdeen Proving Ground was found dead in his barracks Saturday, apparently from suicide. The private, whose name was withheld, was not in custody and was scheduled to undergo a court martial tomorrow on charges he raped a **female** trainee in June.

Washington police were consulting with U.S. attorneys yesterday to see if charges could be filed against a diplomat involved in a fatal accident Friday in the capital. Georgian diplomat Gueorgui Makharadze, 35, allegedly was speeding before the accident that killed Joviane Waltrick, 16, of Kensington, Md. The State Department said Georgia could be asked to waive Makharadze's diplomatic immunity.

Thick fog virtually shut down Boston's Logan Airport yesterday. Fog also affected airports in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Dozens of cancellations were reported at New York's Kennedy Airport, and there were delays of up to 60 minutes in departures and arrivals at La Guardia and Newark Airports.

In Yarmouth, Maine, about 100 people attended the funeral of First Lt. Roger True Lane, who was last seen alive on Christmas Eve 1944, when his fighter plane was shot down over Nazi Germany. In June 1993, two young Germans scouring a field near Prum, Germany, with a metal detector discovered a machine gun, a scrap of parachute and human bones. The remains eventually were identified as Lane's.

In the World A second Australian has died under a new regional euthanasia law in the Australian outback region of the Northern Territory, the Australian Broadcasting Corp. radio service said today. Robert Marr, of the Coalition for Voluntary Euthanasia, said Janet Mills, suffering from cancer, died Thursday after she administered a lethal dose of drugs.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Vatican has excommunicated a theologian in Sri Lanka who it said challenged the Pope's authority and Roman Catholic teaching on baptism, original sin and the virginity of Mary. The Vatican announced Saturday that the Rev. Tissa Balasuriya, a member of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, was excommunicated after the Pope refused a final appeal about writings in his 1990 book, *Mary and Human Liberation*.

Muslim guerrillas in Algeria massacred 16 people in a village overnight, beheading some of them with axes, villagers said yesterday. About 50 rebels, split into four groups, attacked Ben Achour village in Blida Province, 30 miles south of Algiers, at night and killed 16 people from five families, including old people and a disabled man, they said.

Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan reportedly arrived in Libya yesterday for his third visit to the North African country in a year. Libyan Television, monitored in Cairo, reported the arrival but gave no details of the visit. Farrakhan visited Libya in January and September 1996 and met with Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi.

In Canada, a last-minute settlement has reportedly averted a high-stakes libel trial over former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's claims that the federal government falsely implicated him in a kickback scheme. Terms of the out-of-court agreement reached late yesterday include a government apology to Mulroney and payment of his legal bills, CTV News reported. The trial was to have begun today in Montreal.

Israeli warplanes blasted suspected guerrilla bases in South Lebanon yesterday after a **Hezbollah** attack wounded three Israeli soldiers in the third straight day of clashes. Security sources said Israeli fighter jets staged two bombing runs on suspected hideouts in Zabqine, seven miles from the headquarters of a U.N. peacekeeping force in South Lebanon.

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End of Document

NEWS IN BRIEF

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Length: 692 words

Body

In the Nation President Clinton enjoyed a spiritual and sporting finale to 1996 yesterday during his annual Renaissance Weekend vacation on Hilton Head Island, S.C. Between golf outings, Clinton attended a seminar titled "Spiritual Life in a Secular Society." The Clintons are regulars at the annual retreat.

A 72-year-old San Diego man pleaded guilty yesterday to swindling a half-dozen elderly women out of nearly \$1.4 million, which he gambled away. Norman Williams entered the plea in exchange for having some charges dropped. The deal prevents requiring his victims, all 69 or older, from having to testify at a trial. He advertised for companions in lonely-heart columns of newspapers, police said.

Divers pulled three bodies from a frozen Minnesota lake yesterday before suspending their search for a fourth person presumed drowned when a van plunged through the ice Monday. Three other people in the ice-fishing group managed to get out of the van as it sank about a mile off shore on Lake of the Woods, Minn., on the U.S.-Canada border.

A Connecticut judge ruled yesterday that accused rapist Alex Kelly can go to school by himself, but not to a bookstore or gym. Kelly, 29, is accused of committing two rapes in 1986 and then hiding in Europe for eight years. The former high school wrestling star's first trial ended with a deadlocked jury. His second trial is slated to start in April 1997. He is free on \$1 million bond.

The federal government has permanently banned chemical oxygen generators, suspected in the ValuJet crash in May, as cargo in passenger planes. The generators will still be used as aircraft equipment to provide emergency oxygen from overhead masks but can be carried as cargo only on cargo planes. Improperly labeled and packaged oxygen generators are suspected of causing the fire that caused ValuJet Flight 592 to crash in the Everglades May 11, killing all 110 people on board.

In the World Searchers in northeastern India have recovered 38 bodies from a crowded train ripped apart Monday by a bomb in northeastern India. More than 80 others were hospitalized, authorities said yesterday. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack in Assam state, which the police blamed on Bodo tribal guerrillas who have waged a violent separatist struggle for nearly a decade.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sri Lankan soldiers have begun a new offensive to blunt hit-and-run attacks by Tamil rebels from their jungle hideouts in eastern Sri Lanka, the government said yesterday. Hundreds of government soldiers took part in the offensive, which began at dawn, said Brig. Tissa Jayatunga, a military spokesman. Jayatunga said there were no major clashes.

A powerful earthquake in southern Mexico with a magnitude of 5.7 rocked the region early yesterday, but there were no immediate reports of deaths and little damage, authorities said. The quake, which was felt from Mexico City to the southern border states, was centered off the Chiapas state coast near the coffee-growing town of Tapachula.

Swiss President Jean-Pascal Delamuraz yesterday dismissed as "blackmail" calls for Switzerland to set up a compensation fund for Jews who might be entitled to money left in Swiss banks after the Holocaust. The World Jewish Congress, which had urged creation of such a fund, said that Delamuraz had shown "shocking insensitivity" and that his comments presented an assault on "the very soul of Switzerland."

Israeli warplanes rocketed suspected guerrilla targets in South Lebanon last night, guerrilla and pro-Israeli militia sources said. A Hezbollah spokesman in Beirut told Reuters the air attack targeted a ridge used by the pro-Iranian guerrillas to wage attacks on Israeli forces occupying a border zone to the south.

The United States has given Syria written commitments to secure an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights, Syria's vice president said in an interview published yesterday. Abdul Halim Khaddam said the U.S. commitments were made during Syrian-Israeli talks in Washington during the last four years. Khaddam also ruled out a resumption of Syrian-Israeli peace negotiations as long as Israel does not change its stance on the Golan.

Load-Date: October 18, 2002

End of Document

NEWS SUMMARY

The New York Times

May 13, 1996, Monday, Late Edition - Final

Copyright 1996 The New York Times Company

Distribution: Metropolitan Desk

Section: Section A;; Section A; Page 2; Column 5; Metropolitan Desk; Column 5;; Summary

Length: 675 words

Body

International A3-9

YELTSIN'S RE-ELECTION FIGHT

The Russian President is using all the privileges of incumbency to bend election rules in his favor. But all the money, artistry and technology in the world may not be enough to put Boris N. Yeltsin's reputation together again. A1

LEBANON FIGHTING FLARES AGAIN

Hezbollah guerrillas and Israeli forces exchanged fire in southern Lebanon, wounding five soldiers -- the first Israeli casualties since the U.S. brokered an end to a major Israeli military operation inside Lebanon two weeks ago. A3

ARABS CALL FOR ISRAELI PULLBACKS

The leaders of Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinians called on Israel to withdraw from all occupied Arab lands and to renounce what they called its "concepts of expansion, superiority and domination." A3

LYNCH LAW TAKES HOLD IN CARACAS

After years of poverty and violence, people in Caracas have stopped looking to Venezuela's courts for justice. Lynchings are making judges and executioners of the city's most neglected citizens. A6

JAPAN REPARATIONS FUND CRISIS

Tokyo's fund to make payments to women forced into brothels during World War II is in a crisis that is raising new doubts about Japan's readiness to face its past. A9

The momentum is swinging against India's Hindu nationalists. A3

Ghana agreed to allow a ship carrying Liberian refugees to land. A5

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A Cuban journalist had to choose between prison and exile. A6

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FRUSTRATION AT CRASH SCENE

Investigators tried to figure out how to get recovery equipment to the site of a plane crash in the Florida Everglades that apparently killed all 109 people aboard. A1

The crash disrupted families all over the country. A1

AN ELECTION-YEAR TEST

Congressional Republicans are about to send President Clinton legislation they hope will become an election-year test of his commitment to military readiness. A1

GAINS FROM GAS PRICE RISES

As gasoline prices have risen, the greatest share of the profit has gone to crude oil producers, while gas stations and wholesale distributors are collecting 28 percent more than last year, a research firm said. A1

A RUN FOR HISTORY

Gary Locke, a Democrat running for Governor in Washington, could become the highest-ranking Asian-American political figure in the continental United States. A10

HOMEOWNERS' NIGHTMARE

Residents of a housing development in Miramar, Fla., are contemplating legal action after the discovery of tons of construction debris and other garbage buried on the property. A12

POPULAR BILL GOING NOWHERE

A child-support bill that is popular in both houses of Congress is stalled by politics. A13

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A close look at several troubled districts around New York City shows clearly the debilitating toll that pervasive political infighting, patronage and favoritism can take on children in classrooms. A1

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Load-Date: May 13, 1996

WORLD IN BRIEF;
Terrorism group role alleged

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution

December 27, 1997, Saturday,

ALL EDITIONS

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Section: FOREIGN NEWS; Pg. 05A

Length: 656 words

Byline: From news services

Body

A German accused of planning a suicide bombing in Israel belonged to a unit of would-be assailants recruited in Europe by the Islamic militant group Hezbollah, an Israeli newspaper reported Friday.

The unit was established two years ago to enlist European-looking people to carry out attacks in Israel, the Yediot Ahronot daily said.

The newspaper said 26-year-old Stephan Josef Smyrek of Braunschweig, who has been held in Israel since Nov. 28, was part of that unit.

Smyrek was charged Thursday with plotting a suicide attack in Israel. However, his lawyer, Daniel Assan, said the case against him was weak.

Assan said Smyrek has been held in solitary confinement for three weeks and was not allowed to contact a lawyer or the German Embassy in Tel Aviv.

"I would say the conditions under which he was held are fertile ground for producing a false confession," Assan said.

AFRICA Mubarak ratifies death sentences

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak ratified death sentences against two brothers convicted of killing nine German tourists and their Egyptian tour bus driver outside the Egyptian Museum, a newspaper reported. Saber Abu el-Ulla, a former mental patient, and his brother, Mahmoud, were convicted in October.

Fatal mystery illness may be animal-related

A mysterious disease that has caused scores of Kenyans to bleed to death from the nose and mouth may be related to a livestock affliction, a health official said. Twelve possible diseases are being investigated, including yellow fever and dengue. Ebola tentatively has been ruled out.

WORLD IN BRIEF; Terrorism group role alleged

ASIA Fire injures 12, shuts down oil refinery

An explosion at a Shell refinery on the Malaysian island of Borneo Thursday injured 12 people, ignited fires and forced the plant's closure. Rescue workers pumped water and foam over fires that were still burning a day later, said a company spokesman. The situation, he said, was under control.

Fees to emperor's cousin investigated

Japan's imperial palace is investigating \$ 7,700 in fees that Emperor Akihito's cousin received from two industry associations. As a member of the imperial family, Prince Katsura is not supposed to receive outside compensation for public service.

EUROPE Yeltsin urges generous spirit for 'new rich'

Russians are at risk of losing their spiritual values as they plunge into a new world of materialism, President Boris Yeltsin said in a year-end radio address. He called on Russia's new rich ---a group widely disliked by ordinary people ---to show more generosity.

'Jackal' seeks to have conviction overturned

Claiming he was not allowed to confront his accusers, the man known as "Carlos the Jackal" asked France's highest court to overturn his conviction for a 1975 triple murder. Ilich Ramirez Sanchez has been sentenced to life in prison.

Fund to pay pensions to Holocaust survivors

The German government and Jewish groups have agreed to set up a fund that would pay pensions to Holocaust survivors in Eastern Europe, a newspaper reported. Details will be decided next month, the Berlin daily Tageszeitung reported. The Jewish Claims Conference would manage the fund and pay pensions to as many as 20,000 people, Tageszeitung said. The report did not say how much money would be paid out. Germany has paid about \$ 55 billion to survivors of the Nazi regime, but those living in the Soviet bloc could not apply during the Cold War.

MIDDLE EAST Israeli women can get air combat training

The Israeli air force will open combat training to women and the first group of 30 female recruits will be taught how to operate anti-aircraft batteries this summer, a magazine reported.

Santa arrives in Iraq with gifts, message

A plane loaded with medicine and carrying a Santa with Christmas gifts landed in Iraq, the second U.N.-approved humanitarian aid flight to arrive in two days. The Santa, an unusual sight in this mostly Muslim country, stepped out of the plane with a sack of gifts and told reporters: "Stop killing my children."

Load-Date: December 28, 1997

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Philadelphia Inquirer

OCTOBER 19, 1996 Saturday D EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer

Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A04

Length: 698 words

Body

IN THE NATION A Louisiana deputy sheriff accused of storming a bank where his estranged wife worked and killing a teller surrendered yesterday. Chad Louviere of the sheriff's department in Terrebonne Parish agreed after nightlong negotiations to leave the bank with two hostages, his estranged wife, Adele, and teller Janene Blanchard. Police said it was not clear why the dead woman, Pamela Duplantis, 27, was shot.

A U.S. judge in Nevada sentenced a tax protester to 36 years in prison Thursday for trying to blow up the Internal Revenue Service building in Reno. A 100-pound fertilizer and fuel-oil bomb was found in the IRS car park with a three-foot long burned out fuse. Joseph Bailie, 42, was found guilty in June of three charges in connection with the attack.

Three Salt Lake City area teenagers were arrested in a string of at least 20 holdups allegedly involving members of the Granger High School football team, bringing to nine the number of students taken into custody. The latest arrests took place Thursday afternoon and overnight.

Four Indianapolis police officers and a civilian were indicted yesterday for their part in a drunken melee Aug. 27 that resulted in the police chief's resignation. As many as 50 people witnessed the attack, in which the white officers allegedly emerged from a bar and made lewd remarks to women. A black man who tried to intervene also was charged.

Brown University in Providence, R.I., Oct. 8 banned all fraternity parties and other school-sanctioned gatherings for at least two weeks after a reported rape and a brawl. A student task force was formed to submit suggestions on curbing violence at the school. A student reported being raped while using a bathroom at a fraternity party on Oct. 6. A month earlier, a dormitory party ended in a melee with two students injured.

The most commonly reported infections in 1995 were sexually transmitted, and a disease that often has no symptoms topped the list, the government said. Chlamydia, tracked for the first time last year, was the No. 1 most reported infectious disease, with 477,638 cases. Gonorrhea and AIDS were second and third, the CDC said.

IN THE WORLD Shiite Muslim guerrillas in southern Lebanon set off a roadside bomb yesterday that killed two Israeli-allied militiamen and wounded two others, security sources said. The Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrilla

NEWS IN BRIEF

group claimed responsibility for the blast, which occurred as a South Lebanon Army patrol was headed to the town of Aishiyeh.

King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia granted amnesty yesterday to nearly all prison inmates, saying it was only fair after he had pardoned notorious Khmer Rouge guerrillas. He also proposed tearing down Cambodia's dilapidated prisons, which house an estimated 2,000 people, many held without trial. Only people convicted of serious crimes and judged to be too dangerous for release will remain incarcerated.

A South African judge ruled yesterday that there was insufficient evidence to determine who killed award-winning news photographer Ken Oosterbroek, who was shot in a black township in 1994. Oosterbroek, considered one of South Africa's top photographers, died while covering a clash involving rival factions and a new government military force in the Tokoza township.

Russia's Federal Security Service will turn over more than 14,000 pages of Nazi war crime documents to the United States, the Interfax news agency reported yesterday. President Boris N. Yeltsin has authorized the agency to send the documents to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., said Nikolai Kovalyov, director of the security service.

Taiwan's lawmakers approved funds for the country's fourth nuclear power plant yesterday as antinuclear protesters set fire to a police jeep and broke down a gate of the legislature. Representatives from the governing Nationalist Party forced through a vote on the plant's \$4.2 billion budget, which passed by 83 votes.

Venice's historic La Fenice opera house, destroyed by fire last January, will be rebuilt exactly as it used to be, Mayor Massimo Cacciari said yesterday. He said work to rebuild the 204-year-old La Fenice would begin next January and would be completed by November 1999.

Load-Date: October 28, 2002

End of Document

BRIEFLY

The Ottawa Citizen

August 14, 1995, Monday, FINAL EDITION

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Section: NEWS; BRIEFLY; Pg. A6

Length: 736 words

Byline: CITIZEN NEWS SERVICES

Body

Colombian gunmen kill 38

in gun-running, drug war

BOGOTA -- Bands of heavily armed men shot dead at least 38 people in a series of raids in the Uraba region in northwestern Colombia, police said. The worst shooting occurred Saturday night in the town of Chigorodo, where about 40 gunmen stormed a bar, killing 18 people. Other bands killed 20 people in similar raids in the nearby towns of Apartado, Carepa and Turbo. Uraba produces most of Colombia's bananas for export and serves as a clandestine port for the illegal trade in arms, drugs and contraband goods.

Three gendarmes jailed

for beating Moroccan

PARIS -- Three gendarmes are in custody following the savage beating of a Moroccan-born man in Marseilles. The attack comes at a time of simmering ethnic tensions across France. The gendarmes -- a squad chief, his deputy and a patrol officer -- are charged with premeditated violence, civil rights offences and theft. Sid Mohamed Amiri, 29, an unemployed Moroccan-born French citizen, was kicked and beaten.

Disarm or face more war,

Russia tells Chechens

MOSCOW -- Russia's interior minister has threatened to renew the fighting in Chechnya if the rebels refuse to disarm, a further sign that a two-week accord is crumbling in an atmosphere of mistrust. Representatives of the two sides met Sunday in the Chechen capital of Grozny to break the deadlock, but no agreements were reached, the Interfax news agency reported, quoting a Russian negotiator.

British tactics endanger

Irish peace, says Adams

BELFAST -- Republican leader Gerry Adams said Sunday that Northern Ireland is living dangerously because of renewed violence. Adams challenged Britain to convene all-party talks to repair a fraying peace. At a huge rally, he

BRIEFLY

accused Britain of bringing the fledgling peace process to a standstill through its insistence that the IRA, which declared a ceasefire nearly 12 months ago, surrender its weapons.

Judge jails 55 neo-Nazis

to put stop to banned rally

BERLIN -- A judge ordered 55 neo-Nazis jailed for a week after police foiled their attempt to hold a rally to mark the eighth anniversary of the death of Hitler deputy Rudolf Hess. The skinheads were rounded up Saturday by police, who stopped thousands of cars on autobahns and boarded trains to snare neo-Nazi youths headed to a banned rally in Frankenberg, 160 kilometres south of Berlin.

Bermudans brace

for hurricane Felix

HAMILTON, Bermuda -- Bermudans stocked up on batteries and candles Sunday as hurricane Felix headed their way. Felix was moving northward at about 15 km/h, packing maximum sustained winds of 185 km/h. It is expected to pass 80 kilometres southwest of Bermuda on Tuesday afternoon, local forecasters said. The storm could delay Bermuda's referendum on the colony's independence from Britain, due to be held Tuesday.

New York airports

on high-security alert

NEW YORK -- New York's three airports went on high-security alert after receiving information from law enforcement officers, officials said Sunday. The alert followed an FBI warning of a possible attack by Islamic radicals, Newsday reported. Newsday said FBI anti-terrorist agents received detailed intelligence that the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, and Hezbollah were planning a possible "suicide massacre" strike.

Anti-nuke protesters claim attack on French train

BERN, Switzerland -- Opponents of French plans to resume nuclear testing in the South Pacific claimed responsibility Sunday for the second arson attack in a month against a French high-speed train. No one was hurt, but damage was estimated at more than \$ 1.14 million. Swiss police were alerted to the burning train in the capital, Bern, shortly after 3 a.m Sunday. An engine room was destroyed and several cars badly damaged by what police described as Molotov cocktails.

Pope praises women

for aiding disadvantaged

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy -- Pope John Paul, in the latest of a series of remarks on the role of women, praised them Sunday for their work with the disadvantaged. Delivering his weekly Angelus message at his summer residence outside Rome, the Pope thanked the countless women who have acted as "angels of comfort" for the suffering. The Pope has made a number of statements on the role of women in recent weeks ahead of a United Nations-sponsored conference on women in Beijing next month.

Citizen news services

Load-Date: August 15, 1995

U.S. Iran beginning to talk after years of confrontation

USA TODAY
March 27, 1998, Friday,
FIRST EDITION

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Section: NEWS;

Length: 688 words

Byline: Barbara Slavin

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

WASHINGTON -- It is early spring in U.S.-Iran relations, a fragile thaw marked by exchanges of athletes, academics and friendly rhetoric for the first time in 20 years.

The Republican-led Congress, which has taken the lead in tightening sanctions against Iran, is giving the thaw a chance.

Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., author of a 1996 law intended to discourage foreign investment in Iran's oil and gas industry, is not pressuring the administration to enforce it.

"I would never want to discourage dialogue," D'Amato says of the new signals from Tehran. "Hopefully it can lead to real action that would make the world a safer place."

The Iran-Libya Sanctions Act could bar non-American companies from business with the United States if they invest more than \$ 20 million in Iran's oil and gas sector. French, Russian and Malaysian oil companies signed a \$ 2 billion deal with Iran Sept. 28, but the Clinton administration keeps postponing a ruling on whether it violates the law.

"The law permits the administration to examine this decision as long as is necessary," Bruce Riedel, the top Middle East expert on the National Security Council, told a Washington audience Wednesday.

"I would not hazard a guess when" a decision will be made.

Only last fall, D'Amato complained that "if the United States

U.S. Iran beginning to talk after years of confrontation

does not take swift, decisive action to apply these sanctions, we will have undercut our long-standing policy against Iranian terrorism."

But told of Riedel's remarks, D'Amato noted that the mere threat of applying the law appears to be discouraging other countries from providing Iran with nuclear, chemical and biological weapons materials.

Without pressure from D'Amato, who chairs the Senate Banking Committee, administration officials feel freer.

"There hasn't been the sort of congressional pressure one expected," says James Placke of Cambridge Energy Research Associates.

In part, the administration is being given more leeway because sanctions would antagonize France and Russia, U.N. Security Council members whose support is needed to contain Iran's rival, Iraq. But the administration also wants to nurture the Iran opening. Since Iranian president Mohammad Khatami gave a conciliatory interview in January, Iran has warmly welcomed five U.S. wrestlers and two former U.S. government officials. Also, last month, it quietly stopped helping Iraq export 100,000 barrels of oil a day in violation of a U.N. embargo.

Patrick Clawson, a longtime critic of Iran's policies, notes that Iran is also moderating its tone on the Middle East peace process. Iran has not commented about recent Israeli proposals to withdraw from South Lebanon. In the past, Iran has sided with Syria, which opposes any Lebanon withdrawal while Israel retains the Golan Heights captured from Syria in the 1967 war.

"If Khatami keeps quiet and encourages (the Iranian-backed Lebanese militia) Hezbollah to struggle against Israel by other than violent means, this would be another very positive sign," Clawson says.

Meanwhile, so-called track two diplomacy is proceeding. Next month, Iran is sending 18 wrestlers, accompanied by 16 journalists, to a meet in Stillwater, Okla. John Marks, head of Search for Common Ground, is also facilitating a meeting of U.S. and Iranian film directors at the Cannes film festival in France and is looking into Iranian requests to exchange female librarians, medical workers and professors of women's studies.

Not all is sweetness and light, of course. Riedel says Iran still supports groups the United States regards as terrorist.

U.S. Iran beginning to talk after years of confrontation

Sen. Robert Torricelli, D-N.J., is not among those impressed by Iran's new tone, yet he has inadvertently contributed to the thaw. Last month, he suggested that President Clinton declare March 21, the traditional Iranian new year, "National Iranian Heritage Day" to recognize the contributions of 2 million Iranian immigrants. The White House replied with a message praising the "rich, vibrant Iranian-American culture." Iran's official news agency snapped up the story but said the message was directed not at Iranian-Americans but at Iran's 60 million people.

"This somehow escalated to be a signal of international diplomacy," Torricelli says.

Load-Date: March 27, 1998

End of Document

World Digest

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

August 14, 1995 Monday Final Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A5

Length: 694 words

Body

NEW YORK: THREAT OF ATTACK PUTS THREE AIRPORTS ON ALERT

New York's three airports went on high-security alert after receiving information from law enforcement officers, officials said yesterday.

The heightened alert followed an FBI warning of a possible attack by Islamic radicals, the Long Island newspaper Newsday said.

The Port Authority -- which manages New York City's John F. Kennedy and La Guardia airports and the Newark, N.J., airport -- would not confirm that report.

Newsday said FBI anti-terrorist agents received detailed intelligence that the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, and Hezbollah were planning a possible "suicide massacre" strike.

SPECTATOR WIRE SERVICES

PARIS: ETHNIC TENSION RISES AFTER POLICE BEAT MAN

Three police officers were jailed yesterday in the savage beating of a Moroccan-born man, causing a scandal that could ignite new ethnic tension in Marseille, France's second-biggest city.

The attack comes at a time of simmering ethnic tensions across France. Many French, reeling under high unemployment, see recent immigrants as an economic threat. Authorities also are probing possible North African connections to the July 25 Paris subway bombing that killed seven people.

A judge late yesterday ordered the three officers -- a squad chief, his deputy and a patrol officer -- held indefinitely pending a probe of Friday night's vicious attack on Sid Mohamed Amiri, an unemployed Moroccan-born French citizen.

SRINAGAR, INDIA: NORWEGIAN HOSTAGE DECAPITATED BY REBELS

Kashmiri rebels decapitated a Norwegian tourist they kidnapped a month ago and threatened yesterday to kill their four other hostages unless India frees 15 jailed militants.

A group of women who had gone to fetch water yesterday found the body of Hans Christian Ostro near a canal in the Himalayan village of Seer, police said. The name of the separatist group, Al-Faran, was carved on his chest with a knife. His head was found later, 40 metres (130 feet) away.

The militants left a note in Ostro's shirt pocket threatening to kill the other hostages -- two Britons, a German and an American -- unless their 15 jailed comrades are released.

Indian officials have refused to consider a swap. But a spokesman declined to comment when asked after the killing whether that remains India's policy.

DURA AL-QARA, WEST BANK: DEADLY PROTESTS FOLLOW ISRAEL-PLO AGREEMENT

Protests turned deadly as Israel's cabinet approved an agreement yesterday with the PLO on expanding Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank.

Witnesses said settlers opened fire on Palestinians who ransacked their camp on a rocky West Bank hilltop, killing 22-year-old Kheiri al-Qaissi. Settlers denied they caused his death.

In Jerusalem, the cabinet approved an agreement under which Israeli soldiers would withdraw in stages from much of the West Bank no later than July 1997. The vote was 15-1, with two ministers abstaining.

Major gaps remained over sharing the West Bank's water and how to provide security for Hebron, where 450 Israeli settlers live among 80,000 Palestinians.

Israeli and Palestinian delegations were resuming talks last night in Taba, Egypt, on a detailed accord.

MOSCOW: RUSSIAN-CHECHEN ACCORD SHOWS SIGNS OF FAILING

Russia's interior minister has threatened to renew the fighting in Chechnya if rebels refuse to disarm, a further sign that a two-week accord is crumbling because of mistrust.

Representatives of the two sides met yesterday in the Chechen capital of Grozny to break the deadlock, but no agreements were reached, the Interfax news agency reported, quoting an unidentified Russian source.

Col.-Gen. Anatoly Kulikov, Russia's recently appointed interior minister, told the Itar-Tass news agency late Saturday that if Chechen fighters do not lay down their weapons "we will use force to disarm illegal armed formations."

In the accord to end military hostilities, signed July 30, the Chechens agreed to disarm if Russia withdrew most of its troops from the region.

The accord, widely hailed as a breakthrough toward ending the eight-month conflict, is collapsing in a welter of mistrust and mutual recriminations. The two sides also are deadlocked over an agreement to exchange prisoners.

Graphic

Photo: Sid Mohamed Amiri: in hospital

Load-Date: October 13, 2002

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Philadelphia Inquirer
MAY 24, 1998 Sunday D EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer
Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A04

Length: 691 words

Body

IN THE NATION A San Ysidro, Calif., man accused of performing an illegal leg amputation that caused the death of a New York man may be responsible for hundreds of illegal operations, from sex changes to liposuctions, prosecutors said. John Ronald Brown, 75, pleaded not guilty Friday to charges of murder, practicing medicine without a license, illegal drug distribution, and theft.

National experts have arrived in Nebraska, hoping to find out what happened to 14 dialysis patients who gasped for breath and had chest pains during treatment at the Dialysis Center of Lincoln and Bryan Memorial Hospital. The attacks, known as hemolytic episodes, happened during dialysis, a medical procedure in which waste products are removed from people whose kidneys have failed.

In Nashville, Tenn., a trucker who says the Bible will not allow him to make overnight runs with **female** drivers because it could "lead to lustful thoughts" has sued his company for \$150,000 and the right to refuse such trips. The suit by David Virts filed Monday against Consolidated Freightways Corp. said drivers paired on overnight trips usually disrobe in the cab before going to the sleeper area, according to the lawsuit. The company says its union contract bases assignments on seniority.

A Dayton, Ohio, computer programmer was sentenced to six months at a halfway house for gaining access to a military computer that tracks Air Force aircraft and missile systems and fined \$5,000. Steven Liu, 24, a Chinese national who worked for a military contractor in Dayton, downloaded passwords from a \$148 million database at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. He said he accidentally discovered the password file and used it to try to find his job-performance evaluation. He pleaded guilty.

A jury in Ocala, Fla., awarded more than \$1 million Friday to a woman who said her **female** boss grabbed her, prodded her, kissed her, and then reduced her hours when she did not return the advances. Peggy Moore, a former clerk at the Belk store in Crystal River, said she had to quit her job because of harassment. The company said it would appeal.

IN THE WORLD A Saudi official says there was no foreign involvement in the June 1996 bombing that killed 19 U.S. military personnel at their housing complex in Khobar, Saudi Arabia. Interior Minister Nayef bin Abdelaziz said in an interview published Friday in a Kuwaiti newspaper that the bombing "was executed by Saudi hands" and "no

NEWS IN BRIEF

foreign party had any role in it." The statement seemed to rule out earlier hints that Iran or the Iranian-backed **Hezbollah** movement played a role in the attack.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich said yesterday in Jerusalem that he had canceled a visit to the proposed site of the new U.S. Embassy there to avoid inflaming the simmering Palestinian-Israeli dispute over the city. Gingrich (R., Ga.) called off the visit Friday, on the eve of his departure, after protests from Palestinians and pressure from the White House.

Hundreds of refugees fled new fighting yesterday in Georgia's breakaway Abkhazia region amid the worst clashes between Abkhazian fighters and Georgian irregulars in five years. President Eduard A. Shevardnadze urged Abkhazia to help cool tempers and hinted that he blamed Russia for the fighting. Officials said 9,000 refugees had fled in recent days.

Indian police used batons on Tibetan demonstrators trying to storm the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi yesterday to protest Beijing's rule of their homeland. About a dozen protesters were left injured and bleeding. About 200 slogan-shouting protesters had converged on the embassy from different directions, waving banners and Tibetan flags. Monks and nuns jostled and traded punches with the outnumbered policemen, who summoned reinforcements.

In Lisbon, opening-day crowds at the 20th century's last and largest world's fair fell short of expectations on Friday. Organizers had predicted a daily average of 140,000 visitors at Expo 98, but just 12,000 people had entered the sprawling 150-acre riverside site by midday. Expo 98, the largest world's fair ever with 146 participating nations, has adopted the U.N. Year of the Oceans as its theme.

Load-Date: October 24, 2002

End of Document

U.S., Iran beginning to talk after years of confrontation

USA TODAY

March 27, 1998, Friday,

FINAL EDITION

Copyright 1998 Gannett Company, Inc.

Section: NEWS;

Length: 688 words

Byline: Barbara Slavin

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

WASHINGTON -- It is early spring in U.S.-Iran relations, a fragile thaw marked by exchanges of athletes, academics and friendly rhetoric for the first time in 20 years.

The Republican-led Congress, which has taken the lead in tightening sanctions against Iran, is giving the thaw a chance.

Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., author of a 1996 law intended to discourage foreign investment in Iran's oil and gas industry, is not pressuring the administration to enforce it.

"I would never want to discourage dialogue," D'Amato says of the new signals from Tehran. "Hopefully it can lead to real action that would make the world a safer place."

The Iran-Libya Sanctions Act could bar non-American companies from business with the United States if they invest more than \$ 20 million in Iran's oil and gas sector. French, Russian and Malaysian oil companies signed a \$ 2 billion deal with Iran Sept. 28, but the Clinton administration keeps postponing a ruling on whether it violates the law.

"The law permits the administration to examine this decision as long as is necessary," Bruce Riedel, the top Middle East expert on the National Security Council, told a Washington audience Wednesday.

"I would not hazard a guess when" a decision will be made.

Only last fall, D'Amato complained that "if the United States

U.S. , Iran beginning to talk after years of confrontation

does not take swift, decisive action to apply these sanctions, we will have undercut our long-standing policy against Iranian terrorism."

But told of Riedel's remarks, D'Amato noted that the mere threat of applying the law appears to be discouraging other countries from providing Iran with nuclear, chemical and biological weapons materials.

Without pressure from D'Amato, who chairs the Senate Banking Committee, administration officials feel freer.

"There hasn't been the sort of congressional pressure one expected," says James Placke of Cambridge Energy Research Associates.

In part, the administration is being given more leeway because sanctions would antagonize France and Russia, U.N. Security Council members whose support is needed to contain Iran's rival, Iraq. But the administration also wants to nurture the Iran opening. Since Iranian president Mohammad Khatami gave a conciliatory interview in January, Iran has warmly welcomed five U.S. wrestlers and two former U.S. government officials. Also, last month, it quietly stopped helping Iraq export 100,000 barrels of oil a day in violation of a U.N. embargo.

Patrick Clawson, a longtime critic of Iran's policies, notes that Iran is also moderating its tone on the Middle East peace process. Iran has not commented about recent Israeli proposals to withdraw from South Lebanon. In the past, Iran has sided with Syria, which opposes any Lebanon withdrawal while Israel retains the Golan Heights captured from Syria in the 1967 war.

"If Khatami keeps quiet and encourages (the Iranian-backed Lebanese militia) Hezbollah to struggle against Israel by other than violent means, this would be another very positive sign," Clawson says.

Meanwhile, so-called track two diplomacy is proceeding. Next month, Iran is sending 18 wrestlers, accompanied by 16 journalists, to a meet in Stillwater, Okla. John Marks, head of Search for Common Ground, is also facilitating a meeting of U.S. and Iranian film directors at the Cannes film festival in France and is looking into Iranian requests to exchange female librarians, medical workers and professors of women's studies.

Not all is sweetness and light, of course. Riedel says Iran still supports groups the United States regards as terrorist.

U.S. , Iran beginning to talk after years of confrontation

Sen. Robert Torricelli, D-N.J., is not among those impressed by Iran's new tone, yet he has inadvertently contributed to the thaw. Last month, he suggested that President Clinton declare March 21, the traditional Iranian new year, "National Iranian Heritage Day" to recognize the contributions of 2 million Iranian immigrants. The White House replied with a message praising the "rich, vibrant Iranian-American culture." Iran's official news agency snapped up the story but said the message was directed not at Iranian-Americans but at Iran's 60 million people.

"This somehow escalated to be a signal of international diplomacy," Torricelli says.

Graphic

PHOTO, b/w, Jamshid Bayrami, AFP; PHOTO, b/w, John Duricka, AP

Load-Date: March 27, 1998

End of Document

Gunmen kill 11 in South Africa

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

August 7, 1993, Saturday, City Edition

Times Publishing Company

Section: NATIONAL; THE WORLD IN BRIEF; Pg. 16A; DIGEST

Length: 688 words

Dateline: JOHANNESBURG, South Africa; JERUSALEM; BEIRUT, Lebanon; MOSCOW; TOKYO

Body

Convoys of armored cars rolled into troubled black townships east of Johannesburg on Friday night and 11 more people were killed in the townships and in a train on the outskirts of the city.

The South African government ordered soldiers into the townships to help police restore law and order after 143 blacks were killed in a week of fighting.

Army officers declined to say how many soldiers went in, but witnesses reported scores of armored personnel carriers and other military vehicles heading toward trouble spots. Military analysts said several thousand soldiers would be needed.

Compiled from Times WiresWORLD BRIEFS

Police reported that six bodies were found Friday in two of the affected townships, Katlehong and Tokoza, and five black commuters were killed on the train.

Gunmen raced through the train ordering women to lie down and then opened fire on male passengers.

"They didn't waste time," a witness said. "They just started to shoot."

Three Israeli soldiers slain in West Bank

JERUSALEM - Palestinian gunmen fired on an Israeli army outpost in the occupied West Bank on Friday, killing two soldiers.

Hours earlier, the body of a kidnapped Israeli soldier was found.

The killings came as Secretary of State Warren Christopher wrapped up a visit to the region to revive the stalled Middle East peace talks.

Other recent upsurges in violence have prompted tough Israeli retaliatory measures, all of which have disrupted the talks. But Uri Dromi, director of the Government Press Office, said the killings would not threaten the peace process.

Two gunmen piled out of a car at an army outpost near the village of Deir Balout on Friday morning, and opened fire, killing the two soldiers.

Gunmen kill 11 in South Africa

A third soldier returned fire, killing one gunman and wounding the other. The driver of the car escaped.

The dead Palestinian gunman was identified as a wanted man from the fundamentalist Islamic group Hamas, Israel television reported.

Germany releases Lebanese kidnapper

BEIRUT, Lebanon - Abbas Hamadi arrived Friday after being granted early release from the German prison where he had served more than five years for kidnapping two Germans in an attempt to free his terrorist brother.

There had been widespread speculation that Abbas, who belongs to the Iranian-backed ***Hezbollah***, or Party of God, was freed as part of a deal with the Bonn government that led to the release of two German hostages in Lebanon in June.

But federal Justice Minister Sabine Leutheuser-Schnarrenberger repeated the government's longstanding denial on German national television Friday, insisting, "There was no deal."

The Lebanese government issued an amnesty in 1991 for crimes committed during the country's 1975-1990 civil war and is expected to decide shortly whether Hamadi is covered by it.

Legislature takes on Yeltsin decree

MOSCOW - Russia's hard-line legislature dealt a fresh blow to Boris Yeltsin on Friday, canceling his decree on privatization of state enterprises and blaming the president for a nationwide currency panic.

But members of Yeltsin's Cabinet said the transfer of state industry into private hands would continue, and they approved a plan for three more years of economic reforms.

The latest actions of the Supreme Soviet, Russia's standing legislature, appeared to be more an annoyance to Yeltsin than an immediate threat to his efforts to build a free market.

He spent the day in the Kremlin working with his Cabinet and regional economic leaders on the three-year plan, which amounted to a compromise between radical reformists and moderate technocrats.

The document is mainly a statement of goals, rather than specific steps. It calls for a "socially oriented market economy" and recommends some "corrections" to soften the impact on the Russian populace, the ITAR-Tass news agency said.

Torrential rains flood southern Japan

TOKYO - Torrential rains in Kagoshima, southern Japan, caused floods and landslides Friday and at least 30 people were reported missing, NHK television said.

One landslide pushed about 10 people into the sea and buried several other people under rocks and mud, NHK said.

Load-Date: August 7, 1993

**Elite police stand by as hijackers negotiate;
Plane flown to France after 3rd passenger killed;
ISLAMIC MILITANTS**

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

December 26, 1994 Monday Final Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A1/ FRONT; News

Length: 670 words

Dateline: MARSEILLE

Body

French and Algerian officials started talks today at Marseille's Marignane airport with the Islamic militant hijackers of a French airliner, French authorities said.

A French government representative and officials from the Algerian consulate were in contact with the plane, which was standing on a runway well away from the main airport terminal, officials said.

An elite anti-terrorist police unit was at the airport, a local official said.

The Air France plane had flown to Marseille from Algiers, where it was seized Saturday by five Muslim fundamentalist gunmen as it prepared to take off for Paris.

FROM SPECTATOR WIRE SERVICES

The gunmen killed three passengers in Algeria.

Algeria's interior minister, Abderahmane Meziane Cherif, accused the plane's pilot of wrecking an attempt Saturday to free some of the hostages. He said the pilot, whose name hasn't been released, "did not play the role that was his."

Mr. Cherif did not give any details, or say how the pilot failed to act.

The plane, with 172 passengers and crew members aboard, landed near Marseille at 3.35 a.m. local time. Marseille is a major port city on the Mediterranean Sea.

The Airbus A300 was commandeered Saturday in the most dramatic act yet in a three-year-old guerrilla war against Algeria's military-installed government.

The French government permitted the plane to land in France after an employee of the French embassy in Algiers became the third passenger to be killed by the hijackers.

The foreign ministry named him as Yannick Beugnet, and Radio France-Info identified him as the cook of the French embassy in Algiers.

Elite police stand by as hijackers negotiate; Plane flown to France after 3rd passenger killed; ISLAMIC MILITANTS

It wasn't clear what the five hijackers wanted. A news report said they demanded freedom for two jailed Muslim leaders. But an Algerian interior ministry official said yesterday they had dropped that demand.

The hijackers have demanded that the aircraft be fuelled and allowed to fly on to Paris.

The hijackers, armed with two rifles and handguns, killed two passengers Saturday and freed at least 60 hostages, mostly women and children.

Before Algeria granted permission last night for the plane to leave, the third victim's body was dumped onto the tarmac about 9.30 p.m.

Air France declined to give the passengers' nationalities but authorities said most of them were Algerian. Foreign Affairs in Ottawa said no Canadians were known to be aboard. French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said 40 French nationals remained aboard.

The last female passengers were off the plane, but female flight attendants remained, Air France said.

One freed hostage described how one of the passengers killed Saturday, an Algerian policeman, pleaded for his life before he was shot in the head.

"He screamed, 'Don't kill me! I am married! I have a child!'"

The gunmen also killed a Vietnamese man and dumped the bodies on the staircase outside the plane.

Past Highjackings

*November 1994: Three Algerian hijackers give themselves up after threatening to blow up an Algerian plane and 35 passengers. The explosive device was later found to be a coffee grinder.

* October 1994: Hijacker blows himself up when commandos storm a plane carrying 164 passengers in southern Russia.

* April 1993: Indian commandos storm a hijacked Indian Airlines plane, killing the gunman and freeing all 141 passengers and crew.

* March 1991: Four Pakistanis seize Singapore Air flight with 126 passengers and crew en route from Malaysia to Singapore; commandos rush the jetliner, killing hijackers; four injured.

* April 1988: Shiite Muslims hijack a Kuwait Airways jet to Cyprus and then Algiers, demanding Kuwait free 17 pro-Iranian terrorists. During a 16-day standoff, two passengers are killed. * July 1987: Lebanese member of Shiite Muslim Hezbollah hijacks a Paris-bound Air Afrique DC-10 to Geneva; passenger killed after plane lands; 30 passengers injured in escape. * December 1986: Iraqi Airways plane from Baghdad, Iraq, to Amman, Jordan, hijacked by two gunmen; crashes near desert airstrip in Saudi Arabia; 62 die in gun battle between hijackers and Saudi authorities.

Load-Date: October 13, 2002

Extinguishing the fires of radical Islamic politics

The Tampa Tribune (Florida)

July 23, 1995, Sunday,

METRO EDITION

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Section: COMMENTARY,

Length: 725 words

Byline: THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

During a visit to Turkey in May I met with a columnist for a leading Ankara newspaper and asked him in passing how circulation was. "Great," he told me. It was growing daily. What was their trick? I asked. More sports? Doonesbury? Ann Landers? No, no, he said, it's very simple. "We are giving away commentaries on the Koran with every new subscription."

Not only in Turkey, where the mayors of Ankara and Istanbul come from the Islamic party, but elsewhere in the Middle East, Islamic fundamentalism seems to be either going underground or going mainstream.

That is, fundamentalist groups are either engaging in more hard-core violence and losing to the secular authorities, or playing by the rules of the game and being co-opted by the secular political systems.

But whether their approach is the M-16 or MTV, Islamic fundamentalists seem no longer quite so threatening, their power no longer quite so invincible, their victory march no longer quite so inevitable. Indeed, for the moment - and it may only be a moment - the Islamic fundamentalist phenomenon has peaked.

The reasons are many. To begin with, the violent Islamic groups overplayed their hand. Their tactic of assassinating officials alienated large segments of the public in Egypt and Algeria and triggered a harsh counterreaction from these secular states.

Never underestimate the power of the secular state in the Arab world. These regimes have used all their resources - police, intelligence, the army and ruthlessness - to suppress the violent fundamentalists and to co-opt the nonviolent ones. Since Muslim militants in Egypt almost destroyed the tourism industry there in 1992, the regime has killed 800 fundamentalists in separate shootouts. As the Islamic expert Martin Kramer points out, every Arab ruler threatened by an Islamic opposition "has found a way to contain it or confront it."

They have been aided by the dismal failure of Iran, which has become a living, breathing advertisement against Islamic rule.

Islamic fundamentalism also seems to have lost some edge in places where the secular authorities have done a slightly better job of improving living conditions. The fact that Yasser Arafat today has 60,000 people on his payroll in Gaza has weakened the Hamas fundamentalist group, which tends to draw recruits from the desperate.

Extinguishing the fires of radical Islamic politics

Also, Islamic parties that have joined the system are under the same pressure to create jobs as secular parties. The Hezbollah fundamentalists in Lebanon have gone into the tourism business in Baalbek, where a few years ago the only foreigners were hostages who were bound and gagged.

Progress toward settling the Arab-Israeli conflict also seems to have diluted one of the main sources of anger used by fundamentalists to mobilize large constituencies. Jordan's Islamic Action Front was defeated this month in important municipal elections by a pro-government slate that favored peace with Israel.

But is this the start of a long-term trend or just the pause that refreshes before radical political Islam surges anew? A lot depends on whether governments use this pause to undertake serious reforms or avoid them.

Yes, the secular Arab states have quashed violent fundamentalists, but their heavy-handed bureaucracies have also quashed the free flow of information, commerce and entrepreneurship needed to alleviate the poverty that fuels fundamentalism. As the political economist Henri Barkey notes, most Arab regimes have cumbersome state bureaucracies more suited to keeping the ruler in power "than to fostering the growth of a modern competitive society."

That explains why when you cover international economics, you notice that there are two words that never come up: "Arab world."

Arab world growth prospects today are dim, because few Arab governments have instituted the educational reforms, liberation of women, privatization of state industries and downsizing of bureaucracies that countries from Brazil to Indonesia have done to compete in the 21st century. With 50 percent of the Arab world under the age of 18, that is not a healthy situation.

Whether it is the Internet or the global investment highway, the Arabs are not in the game. As long as that continues, the Arab world will stagnate and the environment for radical politics - Islamic or otherwise - will flourish. Thomas L. Friedman is a columnist for The New York Times.

Notes

OPINION; COMMENTARY

Graphic

SIGNATURE

Load-Date: July 25, 1995

End of Document

U.S. PUSHES ISRAEL, EMBRACES SYRIA

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

December 16, 1993, THURSDAY, FIVE STAR Edition

Copyright 1993 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

Section: EDITORIAL; Pg. 11B; MONA CHAREN COLUMN

Length: 688 words

Byline: Mona Charen Copyright Creators Syndicate Inc.

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

How would you greet one of the world's bloodiest terrorists - a murderer of schoolchildren and tourists - if you met him face to face? If you think you'd be cool and distant or perhaps downright hostile, you obviously know little of diplomacy. Upon meeting with Yasser Arafat in Tunisia last week, Secretary of State Warren Christopher gushed, "How wonderful to see you at your headquarters in Tunis!"

"Next time in Jericho," came the hearty reply of his host.

This is demeaning to the dignity of the United States. That Israel has, with trepidation, opened negotiations with its enemy does not require U.S. officials to engage in jovial backslapping with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

That handshake on the White House lawn - over-interpreted at the time to betoken the dawn of the Messianic Age - may perhaps change the future, but it cannot change the past. Maybe the PLO will one day become a democratic political movement with leadership elections, secret ballots and rules of procedure. But as of this moment, it is an organization conceived in terror, dedicated to the destruction of Israel and allied with the worst actors on the international stage. As such, it should be treated with distance and, yes, distaste by U.S. officials.

But Christopher and the president he serves are seized with the Western disease - the urge to court dictators. Undaunted by the PLO's failure to live up to the promises made three months ago at the White House (to abandon terror and eliminate the call for Israel's destruction from its charter), Christopher and President Bill Clinton have scheduled a meeting between Syria's President Hafez Assad and President Clinton next month in Geneva.

Hafez Assad is more than a terrorist. He is genocidal, having wiped out the entire city of Hama - population 5,000 - in addition to sponsoring and supporting the terrorist activities of Iranian-backed Hezbollah and others. Though he and Saddam Hussein are enemies, they are brothers in brutality. What does Christopher suppose will be accomplished by a meeting between this criminal and the president of the United States?

Assad lost the Golan Heights to Israel twice, in two bloody wars. Israel was forced to seize the land because it was being used to shell Israeli men, women and children living in the kibbutzim below.

Having failed to regain this land through war, Assad now hopes to get it through smiles and handshakes with Clinton. But why should Clinton be his accomplice? If Assad is serious about pursuing peace with Israel, he ought to demonstrate it sincerely to the Israeli people - as Egyptian President Anwar Sadat did a decade and a half ago.

U.S. PUSHES ISRAEL ,EMBRACES SYRIA

Clinton and Christopher are plunging ahead with the Syrian meeting despite Syria's stated position that until all of the Golan Heights are relinquished by Israel, Syria is unprepared even to talk of peace.

Only in the Middle East, and only among those who have lost territory to Israel, is the concept of winning land through losing wars generally accepted.

The United States aggrandized its territory at the expense of Mexico - and not, by the way, in a defensive war, like Israel's, but in an old-fashioned land grab called the Mexican-American War (opposed by, among others, Abraham Lincoln). Does anyone seriously suggest that we give back New Mexico, California and parts of Utah, Nevada, Arizona and Colorado?

Yet Israel is urged, by a succession of U.S. presidents and by the unceasing agitation of the State Department, to part with land that is strategically vital to her survival.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has spoken cryptically of withdrawing "on" the Golan but not "from" the Golan. Perhaps a compromise is possible. But if so, it can be achieved only by the principals. American involvement will surely mean hectoring Israel to make concessions that no U.S. leadership would ever consider for this country.

If the Israelis sometimes appear rigid and unflinching to Americans, it is because they have been hardened by living in a very dangerous neighborhood. They know they cannot rely on the goodwill of men such as Arafat and Assad. Only the high ground affords security.

Load-Date: December 18, 1993

End of Document

BRIEFLY

The Ottawa Citizen

June 19, 1995, Monday, FINAL EDITION

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Section: NEWS; BRIEFLY; Pg. A6

Length: 687 words

Byline: CITIZEN NEWS SERVICES

Body

A gas canister exploded in a roadside restaurant near the German border on Sunday, causing the roof to collapse and killing at least 12 people, police said. A dozen others were injured in the explosion in the Belgian town of Eynatten, said a police official. The explosion caused a fire in an adjacent gas station which badly burned three more people. At least 12 and as many as 20 people died when a gas canister in the kitchen of the restaurant exploded, the police official said.

Report says cult tested germs on members

TOKYO -- The cult accused in the Tokyo subway nerve gas attack is reported to have conducted germ tests on members suspected of speaking or acting against the group. The nonconformists then disappeared, the reports said. The report Sunday by Kyodo news service, which quoted unnamed police sources, follows allegations that the Aum Shinri Kyo cult was trying to develop biological weapons.

Intelligence officer arrested in bugging

MADRID -- Military police have arrested a former senior intelligence officer as part of investigations into a bugging scandal that has rocked Spain's government and secret service. The Defence Ministry said Col. Juan Alberto Perote, former head of the operative group of the military intelligence unit, was detained at his house outside Madrid early Sunday. His arrest was the first since the newspaper El Mundo published excerpts from transcripts of calls made by prominent politicians, businessmen, judges, and even King Juan Carlos.

Three Israelis die

in clash with guerrillas

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon -- Muslim guerrillas ambushed an Israeli patrol in southern Lebanon on Sunday, killing three soldiers and wounding several more, Israeli officials said. Two guerrillas were killed and one was wounded in the clash near the southern market town of Nabatiyeh, the security sources said. It was the Israelis' worst single-day casualty toll this year. The Shiite Muslim **Hezbollah**, or Party of God, claimed responsibility for the attack.

China releases prominent dissident

BEIJING -- Prominent Chinese dissident Liu Gang was released Sunday after completing a six-year jail term for his role as a leader of the 1989 pro-democracy demonstrations centred on Beijing's Tiananmen Square. The former physics student at Beijing University was sentenced on charges of conspiracy to subvert the government. Liu said

BRIEFLY

police told him he was not allowed to leave his home district for two years, to speak to foreign reporters or to have any contact with "enemies of the state."

North, South Korea near agreement on aid

SEOUL -- The two Koreas have reached a tentative agreement on sending 150,000 tonnes of free rice to the impoverished North, news reports said. The shipments from South Korea could begin as soon as this week. The meetings in Beijing were the first official contact between the longtime enemies in 15 months.

Far-right party wins

major French city

PARIS -- The far-right anti-immigrant National Front, seeking grassroots legitimacy in municipal elections Sunday, won the large Mediterranean port city of Toulon, projections indicated. The National Front also won at least two small towns, but lost in two of the towns where it was considered a shoo-in. It is the first time the party will control city halls with populations above 4,000. Toulon has a population of about 200,000. Front officials said in interviews that they intended to use victories to create bastions against foreigners.

Women better drivers, British group says

LONDON -- The term "woman driver" should no longer be one of derision, Britain's Royal Automobile Club said after releasing statistics that show women are safer drivers than men. Women have also become more confident behind the wheel and are regarded by insurance companies as far less of a risk on the road than men. Figures show women are half as likely as men to run red lights and only one per cent say they find speed exciting, as opposed to 40 per cent of men, the club said.

Citizen news services

TV TIP

10:30 p.m., CNN

O.J. Simpson Trial Daily Wrap-Up: From Los Angeles.

Load-Date: June 20, 1995

Zeitgeist

The Guardian (London)

April 20, 1991

Copyright 1991 Guardian Newspapers Limited

Length: 638 words

Byline: By TOM BUSSMANN

Body

1. EWE HOO!

Anne Perkins of the University of California at Berkeley has been conducting a much-needed study of sheep sexuality. 'It is very difficult to look at the possibility of lesbian sheep because, if you are a female sheep, what you do to solicit sex is stand still.'

2. BROWNE OFF

Can a costly Riviera clean-up after the Haven disaster be avoided? Surely science could find some way lightly to dilute the slick until it resembled Ambre Solaire? After which it could be marketed as a tourist attraction.

3. SAYONARA, MADAM BUTTERFLY

Kanebo of Osaka, the friendly Japanese textile company that brought you seaweed-impregnated tights, now offer insecticide pantyhose. Worse, they've sold 400,000 pairs, so as far as Zeitgeist is concerned, the Mysterious East can go right ahead and stay that way.

4. FROTHING AT THE MOUTH

Imagine the joy of the starving Kurdish refugees as they get their hands on an Austrian Red Cross parcel. Desperately they will tear it open, to find inside the very items that will make their miserable lives bearable: soap, toothpaste, toothbrush and a nice clean towel.

5. MATCHLESS SERVICE

London Underground, we're told, plans to save money by ending daily collections of inflammable rubbish from underneath some escalators. Fair enough. This will save 33 jobs plus the massive salaries involved. Collections will now be reduced to 'every third day at less busy stations.' Fine. Now if LT will be good enough to tell us which days those are, we'll limit our travel accordingly.

6. FISH GOTTA SWIM

Jacques Attali, president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, was welcomed by John Major-Ball with a suitably British banquet. 'The Dover sole was English,' reported the Times. But how can they be so sure? Unless it's been tethered to the White Cliffs from birth. Could it be - perish the thought - that the stateless creature was captured after a casual day-trip from Cap Gris-Nez? And has this entire island been eating foreign fish with its chips for centuries?

7. NEVER GIVE SUCCOUR AN EVEN BREAK

And suddenly it's succour-time. So what else is new? America has already taken the entire Kurdish population for a succour.

8. THERE'S NO BUSINESS

Down comes the costly set of Children of Eden. The firm of theatrical removers involved is GH Lucking & Sons. Motto: 'The Show Must Go On.' Or in this case, come off. Thus clearing the Prince Edward theatre for a mercifully short season of The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber performed by Sarah Brightman, the Nanette Newman of song.

9. FOLLOW THAT CAR

Home Office figures show that '15 per cent of all cars in the high-performance category are stolen.' Doesn't that mean that if the police took the socially- desirable step of arresting everyone driving a 'high-powered' Ford, they would have a one-in-eight chance of catching a thief? The other seven could just be severely cautioned for lack of taste.

10. MY LITTLE RUNAWAY

If your school-age sprog is in the habit of bunking-off, you could be hit with a pounds 1,000 fine under the new Criminal Justice Act. The law will apply to 'all schools, including independent day schools.' A helpful boost for independent boarding schools, where the gentle, caring atmosphere is such that no pupil would dream of doing a runner. And an excellent training for future life, particularly as a Hezbollah hostage.

11. BAD FOOD GUIDE

That faint feeling of nausea has been building steadily through the Thatcher years. Back in 1982, the Department of Health recorded a mere 14,243 cases of food poisoning. By 1990, after eight years of the stomach-churning regime, the proud total stood at 55,535 (a tenth of the actual incidence). Your chances of keeping your food down are statistically slightest in Yorkshire, with 6,100 cases. A bit of a toss-up whether your meal will be slap-up or chuck-up.

Load-Date: June 9, 2000

Modernists take on Iran's mullahs

Guardian Weekly

April 12, 1998

Copyright 1998 Guardian Publication, Ltd.

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS; Pg. 5

Length: 1274 words

Highlight: David Hirst in Tehran looks at the lively debate under way as demands grow for tolerance and reform

Body

IT IS axiomatic that President Mohammed Khatami is only at the beginning of his road to reform. His "civil society" will materialise only after complete victory in the power struggle pitting him and the "modernists" against the traditionalist clergy. His immense popularity stems not merely from what he has done to change people's lives, but from the great things expected of him.

Nothing conveys the new atmosphere of hope, purpose and excitement as vividly as the Tehran press. It now enjoys liberties surpassed only during the brief, bloody and turbulent period between the Shah's downfall in 1979 and the consolidation of Ayatollah Khomeini's new order in 1981-82.

The most typical newcomer is Jame'eh, or Society, which has already won a circulation of more than 100,000 since it was launched earlier this year.

No one has a more impressive Khomeinist record than the "religious intellectuals" who run the publication. Its publisher, Mohsen Sazegara, was with the great man in his last days of exile. Returning in triumph with him, Mr Sazegara drew up the statutes of the Revolutionary Guards, became the head of radio and, at the age of 28, deputy minister of industry.

Jame'eh's managing director, Reza Jalalipour, was just 22 when he became governor of Mahabad, capital of the then rebellious province of Kurdistan. "We have matured," said Mr Jalalipour. "We are reformists, not revolutionaries."

The conversion was, in his view, natural and logical. For there were always two sides to Khomeini and his Islamic government, or at least, in retrospect, two broad interpretations of them. The "sacred" side -- blinkered, dogmatic, rigidly jurisprudential -- is upheld by the traditionalist clerics who seek to "Islamicise" society in every possible way.

Khomeini's other side was populist, dynamic, innovative. It convinced the ayatollah, in his last year, that, in the interests of such essentially secular concerns as efficiency, social justice and the management of a modern, capitalist state, the supreme business of Islamic government had to be to govern, even if that required the modification of the Sharia, the holy law, itself. To this side the religious intellectuals deem themselves heir.

They want to preserve a connection between Islam and politics. But in practice, secular, not religious, imperatives drive them. The course on which they have embarked paves the way for the opposite of what the clergy wants -- not more Islamicisation, but less.

Modernists take on Iran 's mullahs

"Freedom of choice comes before religion," said Mr Jalalipour. "Besides, we don't believe religion offers a programme for society. We want an institutional separation of church and state, so that at the end of the day if our state is Islamic it will be so not through the Sharia, the lowest part of Islam, but through ethics and our rulers' moral standards. Ninety-nine per cent of it will resemble any other democratic state in the world."

These civil society theorists are merely the philosophical counterparts of less lettered people whose resistance to archaic Islamic social codes takes the form of watching American soap operas via forbidden satellite dishes or wearing miniskirts beneath the *chador*.

In Jame'eh both religious and secular intellectuals lay siege to what they see as the arrogant, ignorant "cultural relativism" by which the Islamic Republic justifies the differences between its "divine-political" system and the inferior, man-made ones under which the rest of humanity labours. By signing a United Nations convention, said one, Iran accepted that to give a girl under 18 in marriage, or without her consent, is slavery, but "with deep regret we find that, in Iran, the marriage age for girls is nine and 15 for boys. Why should we get upset if the UN warns us that we are acting against human rights?"

And what sort of Islam is it that can justify 100 lashes for fornication between a Muslim man and Muslim woman, but death for the man if he is a non-Muslim?

The press is no longer afraid to expand its attacks on such obvious barbarisms into a general critique of the feasibility of reconciling Islam with a modern state.

The religious intellectuals argue that only if the Islamic Republic is reformed from within, its modern aspects strengthened against its traditional and "sacred" ones, can Islam, as a political force, survive at all. Meanwhile its representatives should be elected and not appointed as they are now.

This is anathema to the traditionalists, who denounce any criticism as an assault on Islam itself. And they still control the physical instruments of power -- army, Revolutionary Guards, intelligence and judiciary.

The supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, now has greater formal powers than Khomeini had. Some would make them greater still, or even abolish the Republic altogether, putting in its place a so-called Government of Islamic Justice, with God alone, as its source of authority, with a scope "so wide that it can interfere in everything from the saying of prayers to the crossing of red lights".

"We fear," said a Khatami official, "that, in [the traditionalists'] isolation, they might grow even more extreme, and do something stupid." But any such adventurism would dangerously, perhaps fatally, exacerbate the impatience of those who are ready for more vigorous forms of opposition. Students were among the first to challenge and shake the seemingly impregnable despotism of the Shah; and they are stirring again today.

Last month it was the Office of the Consolidation of Unity that took to the streets, one of many Islamic student groups that support the republic but, like the religious intellectuals, seek modernist reform.

They were protesting against the Guardian Council, whose task is to "guard" against any violation of Islam by parliament. The council also vets candidates for elections, though it made the mistake of leaving Mr Khatami among the surviving four when it disqualified 254 out of 258 presidential hopefuls. The students objected to its veto on pro-Khatami candidates for parliamentary byelections this month.

Although the students had official permission for their demonstration, it was disrupted by the Ansar-e Hizbullah, enforcers of Islamic morality, who beat them up and handed them to the police.

Outwardly, the traditionalists are holding their own, especially on highly charged issues such as relations with the United States, and their formal powers have even been enhanced. But they are demoralised and on the defensive. They are giving ground in what a veteran journalist, Kaveh Golestani, calls "a hundred little points . . . the relentless dismantling of the whole mystique of dogma, authority and intimidation". He adds: "Religious zealotry is out; people just don't buy it anymore."

Modernists take on Iran 's mullahs

Yet for the masses who voted Mr Khatami into office, these "cultural" retreats can be only the beginning. He has yet to capture real political power and tackle fundamental problems. He may get there in the end, but the strategy is painfully slow.

How long can people wait? Here is the most demonstrably popular of elected leaders being cheated of his due by the most demonstrably unpopular of unelected oligarchs.

One thing is sure; in any showdown the people will rally to Mr Khatami whether he calls on them or not. It is far from sure that Ayatollah Khamenei could rely on his "disciplinary forces" against the people. Most Revolutionary Guards defied their commanders to vote for Mr Khatami.

* The conservative judiciary last week had the mayor of Tehran, Gholamhossein Karbaschi, a key supporter of Mr Khatami, arrested on charges of "fraud and mismanagement" in a move widely interpreted as politically motivated.

Graphic

Picture, Young women in a Tehran street stray from the colour black as the strict Islamic dress code is gradually relaxed

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End of Document

LETHAL WEAPON

Courier Mail (Queensland, Australia)

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Byline: KAPEL M

Body

In a devastating attack in Jerusalem this week, two Hamas terrorist suicide bombers killed 15 people, including themselves, and injured about 150, so stalling the peace process again. Michael Kapel reassesses the extremist threat facing Israel

EARLIER this year, an extraordinary documentary screened on Israel TV. Called Shaheed (Arabic for holy martyrs) its producer, Israeli filmmaker Dan Seton, explored the world of the suicide bomber _ the human faces behind the most potent psychological weapon that Israel has encountered.

Israelis saw and heard Islamic fundamentalists who had attempted to perform suicide operations _ such as this week's brutal attack in Jerusalem _ but who, unlike their colleagues, had failed and now were in Israeli prisons. During interviews with Seton, they revealed the material and spiritual rewards and the motivation that drives them to strap dynamite to their bodies and sacrifice themselves for holy martyrdom in the afterlife.

QNP

In graphic detail, Mahmud Sharif describes what he anticipated would be his last day on earth. "I woke up in the morning quite normal, knowing that this would be the last day of my life. I prayed, knowing that this would be my last prayer like the Iman says. Then I left the mosque, walked around the neighbourhood, as if I was saying goodbye to the neighbourhood. I was quite normal. This is how one who is going to be a martyr should be or else you will expose yourself.

"The bag with dynamite came half an hour later. I took it and I put it on my shoulder. I got in the car and we drove to the destination. I kept thinking this is the last car I will be in. I was going to meet the lord of the universe. I will see the prophets, the pious people, my brother and my friends."

Mahmud disguised himself as an Israeli and travelled to Erez, the border crossing between Israel and the Palestinian territory of Gaza. There, he approached the Israeli military checkpoint at the border crossing and, believing he held the key to heaven in his hand, pressed the trigger on the bomb. A technical malfunction exploded the detonator but not the bomb. Mahmud was injured and fainted. He woke up in an Israeli hospital.

In the hospital, he was interrogated by Ario Gino, an Israeli intelligence officer. "When he woke up in the hospital he was sure that he was in paradise. Nothing we said would change his mind," recalled Gino. "Finally, we asked him 'Are there any Israelis in heaven?' It was only then that he began to regain consciousness."

LETHAL WEAPON

Before embarking on his mission Mahmud had his photo taken. The photo was to be made into a shrine and distributed by Hamas. The new Shaheed would have become a glorified martyr in death _ posters of him would decorate mosques and streets throughout his community. To prepare them for death, the militant Islamic group Hamas makes the newly selected Shaheed lie dressed in a death shroud in a graveyard at night for hours. "I am not afraid of death because death is a privilege," says a newly initiated Shaheed, captured leaving a graveside.

Mahmud had married only three months before Hamas had offered him a place in heaven _ an eternal paradise in a garden of everlasting bliss with rivers of wine and honey. The Shaheed are especially honoured in heaven, promised 72 beautiful virgin brides for their desires.

A colleague of Mahmud, Rashid Saka, was arrested by the Palestinian Authority with a bomb strapped to him intended for an Israeli bus. Rashid was similarly recruited in the local mosque in the Palestinian town of Gaza. He was modest, had never been arrested and did not stand out. "They taught me about martyrdom and that martyrs send their families to heaven and marry 72 women in heaven and God will consider you a martyr and God will forgive your sins. They convinced me . . . they sat with me three times and I was convinced. They said there would be \$6000 'in return for blowing yourself up. After you blow yourself up your family will have the money.' "

And yet the suicide bomber is not reflective of the Islamic religion. He is drawn from a small extremist faction that has perverted the teachings of Allah into a militant, theological doctrine, rejecting the notion of religious diversity in Islamic society. The mosque remains an important political forum and a recruiting ground for young Muslims, disillusioned, poor and susceptible to the propaganda of the extremist clerics who face little challenge from their more moderate, but largely intimidated, colleagues.

Leading United States terrorism analyst Steve Emerson argues "the failure to perceive the nature of the conflict stems from a Western tendency to apply a Judaeo-Christian frame of reference to Islam. Both Christianity and Judaism have undergone reformations and their societies have built democratic institutions. In militant Islam there is no separation between mosque and state, between religion and politics. In practice, this means the militant Islamic cleric is also a political and military leader, and his mosque may serve as a source and venue for violent Jihad activities."

How does a Western democracy confront the religious threat that Islamic extremism poses? There is little real solution to the suicide bomber who remains anonymous, who is prepared to sacrifice his life for his cause, who defies all principles of Western society in a belief that any state that fails to enforce the will of Allah is a state that has to be destroyed.

But as terrorists are becoming more successful and more brazen like the two bombers this week who disguised themselves as religious Jews, the preparedness of some countries to fight back is increasing. Argues Paul Wilkinson, professor of International Relations at the University of St Andrews, Scotland: "An important part of the strategy for the West to counter international terrorism is to adopt and implement the principle that one democracy's terrorist is another democracy's terrorist."

Professor Yonah Alexander, director of the Terrorism Programme at George Washington University agrees, pointing to the increase in Western nations' counter-terrorism programmes, international co-operation like last year's Sharm el Sheik summit where more than 25 countries discussed strategies to counter international terrorism. Alexander also points to the increased use of the military option by countries fighting terrorism. "The rescue of hostages in the Japanese embassy in Peru, the preparedness of Turkey to seek out Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq, the arrest of Carlos by French forces in Sudan _ terrorists are learning that they can run but they can't hide."

But despite the efforts of the West and Alexander's optimism, there still are depressing forecasts for international terrorism.

The US State Department database on international terrorist incidents shows a new trend towards the greater use of lethal violence. While the number of recorded terrorist incidents is down, the fatality rate is growing. Last year there were only 296 international terrorist incidents, compared with a peak of 665 in 1987. But a record low number of incidents produced a record high 311 deaths and 2652 wounded.

LETHAL WEAPON

Commentators attribute the growth in violence to the increasing religious background of many terrorists. Dr Saul Zedaka of the Department of Government at Holon University in Israel says: "The loss of life is not a consideration for religious fundamentalists . . . The media is a Western infidel. Islamic groups don't look for better media."

Lt-Colonel Daniel Reisner, Military Advocate General for international law with the Israeli Defence Force, says Israel is largely alone in the world in combating Islamic suicide bombers. "It is difficult to deter these people and there is nothing you can say to stop them unless you get to them before they have been brainwashed." Worse still, many terrorists operate from safe havens in the US, Canada or Europe. "When we ask those governments to help us, very often it is difficult to get assistance." Many countries fear possible terrorist reprisals.

Hamas, Islamic Jihad and **Hezbollah** movements all maintain strong networks in the West, facilitating their use of advanced communications, the movement of funds around the world, intelligence gathering, the planning of operations and fundraising. Provided they do not engage in violent operations in their host nation, they are allowed relative impunity to assist their organisations abroad.

Reisner says many nations in the West do not understand the difficulties faced by Israel as a democracy that relies largely on administrative measures to deter terrorists, who in turn are resorting to violent and illegal activities. If a terrorist is found, his organisation's offices may be closed, his movements may be limited or his house demolished, but all these actions provoke condemnation from the international community.

Now Israel is trying new techniques in its war on fundamentalists. A recently formed special task force is targeting extremists at their source _ their bank accounts. Earlier this year, the task force broke an organisation that had been operating in Nazareth as the Islamic Relief Committee. The group claimed to be raising funds for orphans but in reality was a conduit for funds for Hamas from abroad. The Israelis seized millions of dollars and the case is in the Israeli courts.

But as quickly as Israel is closing down funding sources, new ones are emerging. "Terrorism needs a safe haven, moral support and financial backing," says Ambassador Reuven Merhav, a former senior Israeli intelligence officer and Director-General of Israel's Foreign Ministry. "In South Lebanon alone, Iran invests between \$US70 million and \$US150 million to support **Hezbollah**."

But more frightening perhaps is the resignation of many terrorism experts that the future lies with super terrorists, or super weapons. Terrorists who have gained control of biological and chemical weapons with mass lethal effect will be able to hold entire nations to ransom. "It's not if it happens, but when it happens," Yonah Alexander says.

Michael Kapel is editor of the

Australia-Israel Review.

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Arts: Giant steps; Throughout the civil war in Lebanon, Caracalla kept the spirit of the dance alive. But can Beirut's current cultural revival survive the rebirth of Muslim fundamentalism? By Michael Church

The Independent (London)

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Byline: Michael Church

Body

The new Beirut now arising from the rubble is a forest of neon promising a brighter and better tomorrow. With food, fashion, and the delights of suburbia; comfortable homes and contented kids. Assad may beam down from every wall, and Syrian guns command every street, but the home-grown signs suggest a nation looking actively to its future. Mission: Impossible is showing, but it's too soon for showbiz glitz. There's just one gaudy ad to be seen by the approach-roads to the city, proclaiming Elissa: Queen of Carthage, performed by the Caracalla Dance Theatre.

Their auditorium is packed the night I go, as it has been every night for the past 10 months. The show begins with an ancient, quizzical figure in a Sinbad robe opening a vast book out of which spills a troupe of dancers in splendid apparel. The tale they tell - in a combination of mime and Martha Graham - is of the original Dido, tragic daughter of the King of Tyre, who chose to immolate herself rather than marry without love. The show is rounded off with a cleverly choreographed explosion of folk-dance, which the audience cheer to the rafters. No metropolitan cynicism here: just volcanic energy, and burning conviction.

Button-holing punters in the interval, I get the same comments time and again. It's the best show in town - the only thing worth going to - these dancers are heroes. One family, decked out as gorgeously as anyone on stage, is on holiday from the Israeli-occupied south, and is relishing the company's walk-tall patriotic message. But when the fans cluster round for autographs at the end, they're not after the dancers' signatures. What they want is the signature of the intense, power-packed man who has conceived both the show and the company itself.

Thirty years ago, Abdel-Halim Caracalla was Lebanon's champion pole-vaulter; during the country's 15-year civil war, he became its cultural champion. For, apart from the conflict's first year, during which he was paralysed with horror along with everyone else, he and his troupe never stopped performing. Like the Windmill girls in London's blitz, they literally dodged the bombs on their way to work.

"During the war," says Caracalla, "everyone was constantly on the move, looking for safety. So I decided we would be on the move, too, following wherever the audience was." And it was this mobility - plus a topical re-working of Romeo and Juliet - that made him a legend. "Playing in every sector, we constantly had to cross the battle lines. If we had to move from the Christian sector to the Muslim one, Christian soldiers would hand us over to their Muslim counterparts at the boundary. And they in turn would hand us on to the Druze militiamen, if that was our next stop. It was as though the hatreds of war were temporarily lifted for us. As though the people who were killing each other every day had said, 'Let's be OK to Caracalla. Let him survive.' "

Arts: Giant steps; Throughout the civil war in Lebanon, Caracalla kept the spirit of the dance alive. But can Beirut's current cultural revival survive the reb....

But things weren't always so smooth, as Caracalla's son, Ivan - in the company from the age of six - recalls. In what turned out to be one of the opening salvos of the war, a car carrying him and his mother plus two other women was suddenly fired on: he got off with minor injuries but one of their passengers was paralysed, and the other killed. The company's longest-serving member is a highly strung dancer called Francois Rahme whose route to his calling was paved with grief. It's not a story he enjoys telling - you have to drag it out of him - but this is the gist: he was obsessed from his infancy with Fonteyn and Nureyev, and took dancing lessons from one of his two older sisters; all three were travelling together when their car was hit by gunfire - both girls were killed by the same bullet. He was 10, and didn't dance again until he was 16. "The war," he says simply, "was awful. No fun at all."

Tania Haroun - the current show's Dido - went to study in Paris when war broke out, and never intended to work in a battlefield. "I was back home visiting my parents in 1983, and went to a Caracalla show purely out of curiosity. And I couldn't believe that Beirut could produce anything so good, so professional. I took classes with them, and stayed. I found that dance was an escape from all the bad things of war. When you are on stage you always feel good, no matter what is bothering you in real life."

On the other hand, the quizzical gent in the Sinbad robe confounds all expectation. Bert Stimmel is a tiny, sprightly 76-year-old who hails from Ohio, had a gilded career as a West End choreographer in the Fifties, and has worked with Caracalla for 30 years. His Beirut flat was blown to hell in the war, but his only comment is a gentle shrug. "I flew in the Second World War and my B-17 crashed in the North Sea, so I've no problem with danger here." This figure in Caracalla's Phoenician frieze speaks with a dreamy Southern courtesy: disparate worlds were never more strangely linked.

Listening to these dancers talk, and watching them in class with the maestro, one is struck by the awe in which they hold him. Whatever one thinks of his work - and it doesn't please all tastes - Caracalla is that genuine article, a truly charismatic visionary. He acquired his vision - following a noble tradition - in the Roman temples at his home town of Baalbek. "I was watching the world's great companies come to perform at the annual festival, and I suddenly thought - why doesn't Lebanon have its own dance theatre? So I went to study in London, to reveal the dream."

"London" meant the Martha Graham-based London School of Contemporary Dance, and he's kept faith with its aesthetic ever since. His grand aim was to create a fusion of occidental and oriental styles, and thus to give the Arab world a new form. He trawled the Middle East with his camera and recorder, storing his finds in an archive which he will - "at the right time" - donate to the Lebanese government. "It will be the past speaking to the future." He's set up a school for young dancers, from which his company is drawn.

One of his resident composers is a voluble polymath called Walid Gholmieh, who is president of the Beirut conservatoire. Gholmieh's current crusade is to persuade the state to fund a symphony orchestra. "But each time I win the argument, something happens to prevent it - a war on the southern border, or the Israelis shelling Beirut." The orchestra, he says, will be primarily devoted to the performance of Lebanese music. But how much indigenous symphonic music is there? "Not much yet," he agrees, "but once we have an orchestra, it will come. We have the composers already - the problem is that they are in the States or in Europe. We want them back."

When he took over the conservatoire in 1991, it was in very bad shape, with its buildings looted and burned, and 56 professors teaching a mere 48 students. Now 215 professors teach 3,500 students, and he proudly reels off their specialisms: 700 pianists, 350 violinists, 40 cellists, 300 woodwind, 300 opera singers, 500 oriental-music singers. .

Wonderful, but what opportunities await them? His face falls. "Your question is quite. . . delicate. Music in the Arab world is not easy these days. The Islamic conception of music is not favourable to it as a career." He is too diplomatic to say it, but the truth is that even in Lebanon, music is being systematically snuffed out by Muslim fundamentalism. A Beirut television programme for spotting musical talent cruelly reflects the situation: 10 years ago, 60 per cent of the entrants were Muslim, now the figure is five per cent.

Arts: Giant steps; Throughout the civil war in Lebanon , Caracalla kept the spirit of the dance alive. But can Beirut's current cultural revival survive the reb....

Local enthusiasts long to reinstitute the Baalbek festival, but "political interests" regularly foil their attempts. And you only have to sniff the air in the streets to understand why: this Hezbollah stronghold in the Bekaa valley exudes the same dour severity to be found in the Hezbollah area of Beirut. Opera queens - and concert pianists - would just not fit the picture. The old Baalbek, as one conductor sadly said to me, is dead.

Yet, in other places, the cultural scene is humming. Beirut does not yet have a proper hall, but events take place in a wide variety of improvised venues, often at the instigation of the foreign centres conspiring to help Lebanon recover. Next month, the British Council will open a second office in Beirut: it had planned two excellent contributions to the cultural feast this year, but both had to be cancelled because of the Israeli attack. That peace process had better get moving again, fast.

Caracalla Dance Company perform 'Elissa: Queen of Carthage' 12-16 Nov, Peacock Theatre, London WC2.
Booking: 0171-314 8800

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End of Document

Briefly

The Ottawa Citizen

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Body

U.S. apologizes to Japan

for alleged rape of child

TOKYO -- U.S. Defence Secretary William Perry apologized profusely to Japan Wednesday for alleged rapes by U.S. servicemen. He also said that Japan's security still depends on the United States. The gang rape of a 12-year-old girl on Okinawa, allegedly by two U.S. marines and a navy seaman who go on trial next week, has magnified a long-simmering resentment by many in Japan over the presence of 47,000 U.S. troops in their midst. In a speech to the Japan National Press Club, Perry said Washington and Tokyo will establish a "special action committee" to recommend measures for consolidating bases or possibly reducing the number of U.S. troops on the island.

Burundi military suspected

in massacre of 252 Hutus

KIGALI, Rwanda -- More than 250 Hutus in northern Burundi were killed in a raid last weekend that appears to have been the work of Burundi government soldiers, a senior government official said Wednesday. "We have information from the governor that 252 people were killed. We don't have details but it appears it was the military," presidential cabinet chief Mames Bansubiyeko said. The raid appeared to be in retaliation for attacks carried out by rebels of the Hutu majority on the Tutsi minority.

Militants want to avenge

death of Islamic Jihad leader

DAMASCUS -- Thousands of mourners ringed the grave of the slain Islamic Jihad leader Wednesday, and followers cried for "Revenge! Revenge!" as his coffin was lowered into the ground in this Syrian capital. Ramadan Abdullah Shallah, the new leader of the Muslim militant group, told the 3,000 people in the funeral procession that Israelis will suffer for the assassination of Fathi Shakaki. The Gaza-born Shakaki, 44, was gunned down Oct. 26 in Malta, on his way from Libya to Damascus, where he had lived since Israel deported him in 1988.

Israeli jets raid

Lebanese guerrilla bases

Briefly

SIDON, Lebanon -- Israeli warplanes attacked guerrilla bases in southern Lebanon Wednesday, shortly after guerrillas killed two Israeli-allied militiamen and wounded four Israeli soldiers. Security sources said four Israeli jets raided Hezbollah guerrilla positions at Iqlim Tufah, or Apple Province, where the Iranian-backed guerrilla group has its main bases. Reports on casualties or damage were not immediately available.

Ex-South Korean president

denies taking bribes

SEOUL -- South Korean president Roh TaeWoo refused to co-operate with prosecutors Wednesday despite 16 hours of gruelling questioning about allegations that he collected about \$ 870 million in a secret political slush fund during his 1988-93 term. Lee Chung Soo, the prosecution investigator co-ordinating the probe, said the 63-year-old Roh insistently denied taking money from businessmen in exchange for granting big-ticket government contracts. But prosecutors considering bribery charges are focusing on that aspect, he said.

Study finds biological link

in male transsexuals' brains

NEW YORK -- Men who want to become women may have key brain structures that are biologically female already, a small study of male-to-female transsexuals suggests. Researcher Dr. Dick Swaab says an examination of brain samples from six dead male transsexuals found the size of a certain brain structure was about the same size as in women, and smaller than in gay or heterosexual men. Other scientists cautioned that the result may have been produced by the sex-change treatments the transsexuals went through.

Mandela won't intervene

in military death squad case

JOHANNESBURG -- President Nelson Mandela said Wednesday he will not prevent prosecutors from bringing murder charges against a former defence minister and 10 other apartheid-era military leaders. The prospect that Magnus Malan will be arrested today has enraged many white South African. Malan, defence minister from 1980 to '91, is accused in the 1987 killings of 13 people. He and the other officers are suspected of helping to set up hit squads to attack sympathizers of Mandela's African National Congress.

China to send youths

on unique South Pole trip

BEIJING -- Children as young as 10 will be sent to conduct research at China's Great Wall Antarctic Station in what officials Wednesday called the the first project of its kind in the world. Between five and 15 children aged 10 to 16, carefully screened for intelligence and stamina, will be given a week's training in frigid northern Heilongjiang province before leaving for Antarctica, an official of China's national communist youth group Young Pioneers said. They will leave in March or April 1996 or at year's end for a South Pole adventure lasting a week or 10 days, he said.

Citizen news services

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The Globe at a glance

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Section: CANADA & WORLD; Pg. C02; News

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Body

1. West Timor

Aid workers flee militia

Foreign aid workers fled West Timor yesterday and Indonesia sent in fresh troops a day after a mob led by pro-Indonesian militia gangs killed three UN workers and three local people in Atambua. The half-island territory is a safe haven for militia gangs who fled there after devastating East Timor last year following its vote to end Indonesian rule.

2. Germany

The Spectator

Politburo pardoned

Two former members of the East German Politburo, Guenter Schabowski and Guenther Kleiber, jailed in December for their role in East Germany's shoot-to-kill policy at the Berlin Wall were pardoned by Berlin's mayor. Justice officials said they would be freed Oct. 2, after serving less than a third of their three-year sentences.

3. Hong Kong

Probe spurs resignations

Two top officials at Hong Kong University resigned Wednesday in the aftermath of an investigation that found they and an adviser to the territory's chief executive, Tung Chee-hwa, pressured a prominent pollster not to publish surveys critical of Tung. The vice-chancellor and his deputy are the first casualties of a dispute that has riveted this city for most of the summer.

4. Britain

19-year protest ends

The last women protesters left Greenham Common, ending a 19-year anti-nuclear protest that made the British airbase an international flashpoint during the Cold War. Living in tents, the women campaigned non-stop at Greenham, in Berkshire, since 1981 when the Women's Peace Camp was set up after a decision to deploy 96 U.S. cruise missiles there beginning in 1983.

5. Myanmar

The Globe at a glance

Military locks up foes

Myanmar's ruling military lashed out at Western critics Tuesday, accusing them of interfering in its internal affairs as it kept pro-democracy opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi locked up in her home. Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi and eight others have been kept in their residences since Friday as Myanmar's government cracked down on its opponents.

6. Beirut

Ex-PM wins election

Voters made Rafik Hariri, ousted as prime minister two years ago, the top prospect to win back his former post. The billionaire real estate developer scored a landslide victory in Sunday's parliamentary elections. Residents of the south appear to have rewarded former anti-Israel guerrilla groups Hezbollah and Amal with sweeping election wins.

7. Australia

PM responds to UN

Australian Prime Minister John Howard told UN critics this week Australia will handle its own indigenous issues. The UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights expressed concern last Friday that Aborigines are disadvantaged in employment, housing, health and education. Aborigines have threatened to stage protests as the world focuses on the Sydney Olympics.

8. Russia

Treaty talks continue

Leaders of Russia and Japan pledged Tuesday to press on toward a peace treaty despite failing to resolve a territorial dispute that has blocked a pact for more than five decades. Russian President Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori ended two days of talks without progress over claims to four islands off northern Japan that Russia seized at the end of the Second World War.

9. China

Sect members die in jail

Two members of the outlawed Falun Gong spiritual movement have died from mistreatment in jail in recent months and a third plunged to his death while being interrogated by police, a rights group said Wednesday. Thirty Falun Gong members have died in custody or following police mistreatment since China banned the group in July 1999.

10. Kenya

Fire causes vendors' riot

The second major fire in an outdoor market in Kenya's capital in 10 days caused a riot by thousands of angry vendors whose inventory was destroyed. Police responded with tear gas and clubs to disperse them. The cause of the fire was not reported. Firemen made no effort to extinguish it, with water rationing in effect because of the worst drought in 30 years.

11. Afghanistan

800 soldiers die in battle

Afghanistan's ruling Taliban militia claims more gains against opposition forces in the northern province of Takhar as thousands flee the region to escape the fighting. Russia's Interfax news agency reported Thursday that at least 800 soldiers were killed in the Taliban's capture of the northern city of Taloqan on Wednesday.

The Globe at a glance

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End of Document

Anti-U.S. Fever: Arab Bitterness and Boycott Talk

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By SUSAN SACHS

Dateline: CAIRO, Oct. 26

Body

Officially, on their state-controlled television stations and in their newspapers, many Arab governments have turned down the volume this week on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

But the tone -- one of unalloyed hostility toward Israel, deep distrust of American policy and certitude that the very survival of Muslim shrines in Jerusalem is at stake -- has remained as vigorous as it has been since the deadly clashes began almost a month ago.

While the militant tone has been driven by the state media, it also mirrored the flood of public sympathy and political activity in support of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Long a distant and sometimes bothersome distraction for ordinary people in Arab countries, the Palestinian issue has become a daily fixation and a rallying point for a revival of pan-Arab nationalism, which had been dormant for decades.

The fevered programming on nearly all Arab radio and television stations that began with the outbreak of violence at the end of September has eased off in the last few days. Archival film of Arab soldiers fighting Israelis in past wars is now shown only occasionally, and even the military songs of old have largely disappeared.

But reminders of the conflict are everywhere, stirring a sense of solidarity, and if the grass-roots anger can be sustained, even at a low level, the impact on regional politics could be substantial.

Although they show no signs of wanting to reach out to Israel now, for example, Arab leaders might find it hard to do so in the future. Attitudes toward the United States and American businesses in the region could also be permanently affected.

In Jordan this week, the government ordered each of its 160,000 civil servants to donate one day's pay to a fund for what it called the Palestinian intifada, or uprising. In Egypt, many private companies and several government ministries have asked their workers to do the same.

Anti- U.S. Fever: Arab Bitterness and Boycott Talk

The Arab League conference in Cairo, which ended Sunday, had recommended that all Arabs give up a day's salary for the cause. It was a popular move, prompting the London-based newspaper Asharq al Awsat to describe the recommendation as "a qualitative leap in cooperation between rulers and ruled in support of a cause, a cause which it is natural for citizens to view with zeal, and leaders to view with a measure of foresight and caution."

The bloodshed is still the leading news in the region. Jordanian newspapers, serving a readership that has close family and business ties with Palestinians in the West Bank, print the names of every Palestinian casualty. Egyptian state radio has reduced but not eliminated its frequent broadcasts of old songs calling on Arabs to fight to recover Jerusalem from Israel. In Kuwait, the photographs of every Palestinian brought to hospitals in the country this week have been put on the front pages. Commentators have started using bluntly anti-Jewish language in articles about Israel.

Arabic-language all-news satellite television stations have also continued to provide a platform for many of the most radical anti-Israel groups, which before the clashes had only limited audiences. Hezbollah, the Lebanese-based Islamic group that has called for war to drive Israel from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, also arranged to have its television station broadcast 24 hours a day on Arab satellite networks.

The filmed death of Muhammad al-Durra, the 12-year-old boy who was shot by Israeli soldiers in Gaza as he cowered next to his father, remains a staple image in the news media and on Arabic Internet sites.

But in Cairo, unsolicited messages have also been showing up on mobile phones, urging people to boycott American products. "We need your help to stop the murder of Palestinian women and children," the message says. "Muhammad al-Durra! God is great!"

Leaflets asking consumers to boycott American products have popped up in many countries. It is not clear that they have been followed in any organized fashion, but business people have expressed concern.

"I think all our members are worried a lot," said Hisham Fahmy, executive director of the American Chamber of Commerce in Egypt.

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Body

LEBANON

Israeli planes attack suspected terrorist targets

Israeli planes raided suspected pro-Iranian Hezbollah targets in south Lebanon on Saturday, a security source said in Lebanon. The source said two planes fired at least four rockets at the Iqlim al-Toufah area just north of Israel's occupation zone in south Lebanon. There were no immediate reports of casualties in the attack. The Israeli army said the planes attacked terrorist outposts and returned to base safely. Muslim groups are waging a war of attrition to oust Israeli troops and their local militia allies, the South Lebanon Army, from the border zone. Israel has staged 76 raids into Lebanon this year.

AUSTRIA

Rescuers save 16 people trapped in flooded cave

Rescuers on Saturday pulled out 16 people trapped in a flooded cave deep inside an Austrian mountain, the Austrian news agency APA reported. The group of 16, which included six children, was rescued from Lamprechtsofen cave near Salzburg, 150 miles southwest of Vienna. They had become trapped when the water level in the cave rose so quickly that they were unable to find a way out. It took rescuers several hours to reach the group. Lamprechtsofen, a popular tourist site, is one of the world's deepest caves.

YUGOSLAVIA

Serbs seize men from group of Albanian refugees

Heavily armed Serbian police surrounded groups of terrified ethnic Albanian refugees in fields and forests outside Ponorac in central Kosovo and arrested all men of fighting age, witnesses said Saturday. Tanjug news agency quoted police as saying that 450 ethnic Albanian men had been detained in the area as suspected members of the Kosovo Liberation Army. On Saturday, exhausted women carrying infants and trailed by filthy, crying children straggled down the road out of Ponorac toward Turjac, fleeing from the Serbian-controlled village. Different groups of refugees told essentially the same story about how their fighting-age men were taken away. They said the police

WORLD

ordered the women and children into Ponorac, then loaded the men onto trucks. The refugees had to abandon their farm equipment and vehicles.

RWANDA

Hutu rebels invade prison, free hundreds of inmates

Hutu rebels stormed a prison in western Rwanda and freed about 3,000 inmates suspected of involvement in the 1994 genocide, authorities said Saturday. Fearing army reprisals, most of the inmates later returned to the prison. Authorities in Kibuye, about 60 miles west of capital Kigali, said a group of 2,000 rebels on Friday overpowered guards at Kivumu prison and set the inmates free. Most of the prisoners returned voluntarily to the jail because they were afraid of army retaliation for any alleged association with the rebels, Rwandan officials said on condition of anonymity. The rebels are former Hutu soldiers and militiamen responsible for the 1994 Hutu government-organized slaughter of more than 500,000 minority Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus. Tutsi-led forces overthrew the Hutu government in July 1994, and ended the killing. Hutu rebels have since launched attacks from bases in neighboring Congo.

ITALY

Piece of mosaic falls from ceiling of historic church

A chunk of mosaic fell Saturday from Orvieto's painstakingly restored medieval cathedral, smashing to pieces on the pavement 160 feet below. Tourists ran to try to collect pieces as souvenirs, Italy's ANSA news service reported. Police blocked off the church plaza to await the arrival of restoration experts from Rome, 60 miles south. The gold mosaic broke off a work in the center of the dome showing the coronation of the Virgin Mary. The accident laid bare a section 3-feet by 2-feet in size, just above the heads of 10 angels looking on at the coronation. Started in 1290, the Romanesque-Gothic cathedral was completed more than a century later. Orvieto was not among the Umbrian cities hit by a series of earthquakes a year ago.

CHINA

CBS TV producer is set free after questioning

China has released a Chinese television producer with CBS News. Natalie Liu, also known as Liu Qingyan, was freed at dusk on Friday after being detained for more than two days and signing a statement in which she acknowledged working for a foreign news organization in Beijing without government accreditation. She was also questioned about interviews she held with Chinese dissidents. Chinese citizens are barred from working as journalists for foreign news organizations in China but can work as translators or assistants. Liu, 32, a Chinese citizen, has permanent residence status in the United States, which had taken up her detention with Chinese authorities. She joined CBS News in Beijing in 1997 as a free-lance associate producer.

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In Brief

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Body

OTTAWA: OTTAWA, POLICE CLASH OVER DNA DATA BANK

The federal government has firmly rejected the idea of giving the police broad power to collect DNA samples from criminal suspects, saying such a measure would be struck down quickly by the courts.

A long-simmering debate over just how far society can go with the new crime-fighting tool came to a boil yesterday as federal officials sparred with police and opposition MPs about the scope of legislation to create a DNA data bank.

The Canadian Police Association, representing rank-and-file officers, teamed up with Reform and Conservative MPs to demand the government amend the bill to allow police to routinely take saliva samples upon arrest, just as they now record fingerprints.

Currently, police require a warrant to take blood, hair or mouth-swab samples from criminal suspects.
Spectator Wire Services

Solicitor General Andy Scott insisted there's a good reason DNA samples are treated with caution. He noted that while fingerprints can identify an individual, DNA can reveal details of a person's medical and genetic history.

MONTREAL: HYDRO-QUEBEC BALKS AT ICE-STORM BILLS

Hydro-Quebec is refusing to make full payment of the bills its received for service provided from companies in Ontario and elsewhere during the ice storm.

At least three companies in Ontario that sent linemen and equipment during January's ice storm to restore power lines have been sent back edited invoices from Hydro-Quebec indicating their bills won't be paid in full. Executives with two of the companies say Hydro-Quebec agreed to their rates and prices during the crisis.

Hydro-Quebec contends the companies aren't billing them "regular market price" for the services. Hydro spokesman Renee Arsenault said the utility is questioning bills it received from some Quebec companies as well.

HALIFAX: GERALD REGAN TO GET WORD ON SEX CHARGES

Former premier Gerald Regan finds out today whether he will stand trial on sex-related allegations dating back more than 40 years.

In Brief

Justice Michael MacDonald will rule on a pretrial motion to have all 18 charges, including allegations of rape and attempted rape, stayed as an abuse of the legal process.

If the Nova Scotia Supreme Court judge grants the defence motion in whole or in part, charges stayed can be revived only if the Crown appeals and a higher court overturns his decision.

Should the motion fail, the defence is expected to file a new motion seeking separate trials on the allegations, which relate to distinct incidents involving 13 women.

The charges span a 22-year period ending in 1978, Regan's last year as Liberal premier. He was later elected MP for Halifax and served in the federal cabinet.

TORONTO: ELECTRICAL FIRE CREATES CHAOS IN FINANCIAL ZONE

A fire in an underground hydro vault cut power for hours to several buildings in the heart of the city's financial district yesterday.

Flames jumped from sidewalk openings as firefighters fought to control the early morning blaze, which destroyed an underground transformer.

As the fire threatened to spread, officials shut down electrical service to the area bounded by Queen, York, Adelaide and Bay streets.

Some buildings in the area continued operations on back-up power systems.

The power failure knocked out traffic lights, causing gridlock at many downtown intersections. A section of one main street remained closed to traffic for much of the day.

MOSCOW: YELTSIN COOLS THREATS, INVITES FOES FOR TALKS

The chances of resolving Russia's government crisis improved yesterday when President Boris Yeltsin changed tactics, offering blandishments to parliament instead of previous threats to dissolve it.

The Kremlin announced that Yeltsin was inviting the speakers of the two houses of parliament for talks today with prime minister-designate Sergei Kiriyenko at his residence outside Moscow.

JERUSALEM: SYRIA, LEBANON REJECT ISRAELI RULES ON PULLOUT

Syria and Lebanon have rejected Israel's conditional offer to withdraw from its occupation zone in south Lebanon.

The Israeli proposal, floated for several weeks, became formal yesterday when the inner cabinet adopted the 20-year-old United Nations Security Council Resolution 425, which called for Israel's immediate withdrawal from Lebanon.

But Israel said any pullback would depend on Lebanon ensuring that radical groups, such as the pro-Iranian Hezbollah movement, did not press attacks across the border into Israel.

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