

FRANCE NEW IMMIGRATION CONTROLS ANNOUNCED

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Body

Fueling an already heated nationwide debate, the Socialist government announced new measures Wednesday to fight illegal immigration, from tightening border controls to hiring airplanes for mass deportations. The proposed measures also would make it harder to obtain visas, reinforce personnel at immigration posts and set tougher penalties for employers who use illegal immigrant workers. Premier Edith Cresson presented the program to the Cabinet in Paris amid a rising debate over whether France has let in too many immigrants, many of whom are Arabs from North Africa. Associated Press PAKISTAN Secret Trials, Police Powers Defended A Pakistani Cabinet minister defended Draconian new government powers, including secret trials, to deal with a wave of criminal and political violence. Oil Minister Nisar Ali Khan said in Islamabad that an abnormal situation required abnormal measures. (NOTE: THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH APPEARED IN THE 3* EDITION ONLY) He said that the southern province of Sind had been a festering sore for more than seven years and that the government had decided to send a clear signal that anyone who broke the law "would get it in the neck." (END OF 3* EDITION TEXT) President Ghulam Ishaq Khan issued two decrees Tuesday - allowing summary trials in secret of people accused of violence, and empowering security forces to shoot suspects who defy orders in areas declared as terrorist-affected. Reuters PERU Police Mistakenly Shoot Down Plane Police mistook a small commercial airliner for a drug smuggling plane and shot it down, killing at least six people, the armed forces said Wednesday in Lima. Radio and newspaper reports said up to 12 people had been killed when the plane, belonging to Aerochasqui airlines, was shot down Tuesday over a northern coca-producing jungle region. An army spokesman said police had shot down the plane because they believed it was one of dozens of aircraft that daily carry coca paste from Peru for processing in Colombia. Associated Press EL SALVADOR Fighting Erupts Despite Peace Talks Scores of leftist guerrillas and government soldiers were killed or wounded in fighting that erupted as the two sides resumed peace talks in Mexico City, officials said Wednesday. Representatives of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and the U.S.-backed rightist government of President Alfredo Cristiani have been meeting for 14 months to end the 11-year-old civil war. The heaviest fighting was reported in Nueva Concepcion, 30 miles north of San Salvador. Combat raged there for more than 12 hours Tuesday, and reporters who visited the town said they had seen the bodies of 11 soldiers and one civilian. Associated Press NATION CRIME CONTROL Senate Breaks Impasse, Passes Bill Senate leaders broke a lingering impasse Wednesday night over the wide-ranging crime control bill and cleared the way for final passage of the measure today. After failing to muster enough support earlier in a day filled with partisan wrangling, the Senate agreed 71-27 late Wednesday on a motion to limit amendments and expedite a vote on the \$3.3 billion bill. The bill would restrict the rights of prisoners, expand police powers, extend the federal death penalty to cover 51 crimes, impose a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases and ban nine types of assault-style semiautomatic weapons. President George Bush has indicated he could support such a bill. Cox WASHINGTON Senators Would Fund Space Station Ignoring the protests of major scientific societies, a Senate panel voted Wednesday to spend \$2 billion next year toward building a space station, the same amount requested by President George Bush. The action, by a Senate Appropriations subcommittee, is expected to be approved today by the full Appropriations Committee. The space station is estimated by NASA to cost \$30 billion by the time it is put in orbit around the turn of the century. (NOTE: THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH APPEARED IN THE 3* EDITION ONLY) The presidents of 14 professional science societies sent a

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letter to the Senate expressing strong opposition to the station. (END OF 3* EDITION TEXT) Associated Press
COLORADO Retired Policeman Charged In Killings A retired Denver policeman has been charged with first-degree murder in the deaths of four security guards in a \$100,000 robbery at the United Bank of Denver. James King was charged Tuesday with four counts of first-degree murder, four counts of first-degree felony murder, one count of aggravated robbery and six counts of menacing, said District Attorney Norm Early. Associated Press (NOTE: THE FOLLOWING TEXT APPEARED IN THE 3* EDITION ONLY) WASHINGTON Mars Trip Would Cost 'Small Amount' Former astronaut Thomas Stafford told Congress Wednesday that little start-up money would be required to set the nation on a course to Mars in the next century. "If we wait until we have a budgetary surplus, I'm afraid we will never take this bold, imaginative step," Stafford told the House space subcommittee. "This small amount will generate much leverage." Associated Press

Graphic

Photo; PHOTO by AP ... Treasure Hunt ... Residents of the town of Porac, in the Philippines, combing through volcanic ash Wednesday for crystals they believed contained diamonds. Dozens of villagers in the area fled Wednesday in the face of flooding. PHOTO HEADSHOT of (Edith) Cresson

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