

International



Moran Kadosh relaxes with nurse Jane Menon at London hospital after arriving from Israel for the liver transplant.

LIVER PATIENT

Hat passed on jet: Child gets \$97,000

LONDON (AP) — Passengers moved by the plight of a critically ill Israeli girl raised the equivalent of more than \$97,000 Cdn in a spontaneous collection during a flight from Tel Aviv to London, an airline official said.

An employee of the Israeli airline El Al said the 450 passengers aboard the flight on Wednesday passed the hat after hearing Maron Kadosh, 4, was flying to London for a possible liver transplant.

Maron's mother, Tova, 29, told reporters: "It is unbelievable. I cannot find words to thank the people for what they have done. It is a wonderful thing."

She said the money will go toward medical expenses. Liver transplant surgery is not available in Israel.

Dr. Akiva Fradkin, a pediatrician travelling with Maron, said the girl has a "very serious liver condition, and we believe the transplant is the last hope."

However, Alan Gavurin, assistant administrator at King's College Hospital in London, said the cause of the girl's malfunctioning liver is not known.

Maron was taken by ambulance from Heathrow Airport to

the hospital, where she is reported in stable condition.

Mary Curry, the hospital's deputy administrator, said Maron will undergo tests before a decision is made on whether she will be a suitable candidate for a transplant.

The cost of the medical treatment has not been disclosed, but Curry said an Israeli charity, the Whole World Organization, has agreed to cover some expenses.

Foreigners must pay for medical treatment under Britain's National Health Service unless they live in Britain or become sick while visiting.

The El Al employee, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said children gave their pocket money, and "one or two very influential people on board, certain millionaires on board, gave heavily in a spontaneous movement of charity."

He refused to disclose the identities of the millionaires or say how much they gave.

The flight was fully booked by Jews returning from the Passover holiday and Christians on their way home after celebrating Easter in Israel.

BAD DAY IN SOUTH AFRICA

Six slain, 16,000 fired

JOHANNESBURG (Reuter) — South Africa's worst episode of violence and industrial conflict this year, in which six blacks were killed and 16,000 striking workers were fired, has prompted warnings by trade union leaders of more unrest.

Three blacks were shot dead by security forces in central Johannesburg and three were killed in the suburb of Germiston on Wednesday in clashes sparked by a six-week strike against the state-run transport company, South African Transport Services.

Five policemen were hurt in the incidents, four of them seriously, the government said.

The state-run transport company announced Wednesday that 16,000 black strikers were fired after a deadline for a return to work expired in the morning.

"It's clear to us that the intention was to crush the SATS strike and to use as much force as possible," said Jay Naidoo, general secretary of the 600,000-member Congress of South African Trade Unions.

Other trade union leaders said Wednesday's actions could provoke a strong response among militant workers, and legal experts predicted sympathy action, including strikes, by labor groups.

But so far there was no indication of what action they might take.

The dispute, which has seriously disrupted the country's main freight transportation network, has been linked to arson attacks on black commuter trains during the last week that resulted in millions of dollars in damage.

Security forces surrounded the labor congress headquarters in downtown Johannesburg on Wednesday afternoon and later entered the building to arrest a number of people, including some injured "rioters," the government said, without giving details.

Bart Grove, managing director of the state transport company, said in a statement Wednesday night that dismissed workers would be considered for reinstatement.

He also said he would seek a change in legislation so that rein-

stated workers would not forfeit their accumulated pension and other benefits.

But Grove added that this would be possible only if workers reapply for their jobs "within a reasonable period, for instance two days."

Co-ordinated action by South Africa's emergent black trade union movement would challenge the authority of the long-dominant National party in the weeks preceding general elections on May 6.

Extreme right-wing groups, who consider the National party too liberal, have criticized the government for not taking tougher action.

On the other hand, a growing liberal voice in South African politics demands that the National party move to dismantle the pillars of apartheid race segregation laws.

In the early 1980s, the government of President P.W. Botha did set in motion a cautious program of apartheid reform, but this stopped when a state of national emergency was declared last June to quell violence in black townships.

Riches hauled from wreck

LONDON (AP) — Divers say they are recovering thousands of dollars worth of jewels and art every day from the British steamship Medina, which rests on the bottom of the English Channel.

A German submarine torpedoed the 12,000-tonne passenger vessel during the First World War, sending it to the bottom with six crewmen and treasures said by some experts to be worth millions of dollars. The passengers were rescued.

Independent Television News said Wednesday the wreck might contain 2nd-century Indian bronze Buddha figures worth millions.

The ship was carrying gifts from Indian maharajas to British royalty. It also carried jewels and Indian art treasures owned by Gen. Sir Charles Carmichael Monro, the army commander in India from 1916 to 1920.

The television report quoted the divers as saying that so far they have recovered about 6,000 items.

The Medina was torpedoed in 1917 on its way back from India. It sank in about 60 metres of water and over the years drifted in channel currents and tides.

Five generals opt out

BUENOS AIRES (CP) — Five more generals retired in the shakeup of the Argentine armed forces and the Supreme Court delayed military atrocity trials that sparked three mutinies in a week.

Defence Minister Horacio Jaunarena assured the country on Wednesday that "absolute normality reigns" at all army garrisons.

However, a top military source told Reuters news agency that more rebellions can be expected.

The source said the revolts are part of a campaign by some officers to force President Raul Alfonsín to stop the military trials.

Jaunarena said the drastic reorganization of the service will be completed today with the swearing in of new chief of staff Gen. Jose Caridi.

Caridi was named to the army's top post Monday to replace Gen. Hector Rios Erenu, one of 24 high-ranking officers who either retired

or were fired since the mutinies began on April 15.

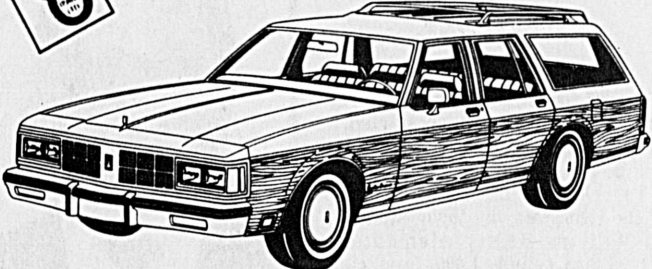
Five generals retired Wednesday, joining 10 who left active duty on Monday. Among the most recent retirees was Gen. Ernesto Alais, who led loyalist troops that surrounded a rebel camp near Buenos Aires last Sunday.

Of the 15 generals being replaced, those who were not dismissed retired in keeping with Argentine army tradition because they were senior to Caridi or to his new deputy, Gen. Fausto Gonzalez.

The mutinies — in the western city of Cordoba, in suburban Buenos Aires and in the northern city of Salta — all ended without bloodshed. The rebels outside Buenos Aires gave up Sunday.

The Supreme Court acted Wednesday on the issue of the trials of military men who are accused of crimes including murder, torture and kidnapping.

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Big bill for spill firm

BASEL (AP) — A Swiss company blamed for a major toxic-chemical spill in the Rhine River last year said Wednesday it is facing damage claims totalling the equivalent of \$88 million Cdn.

Marc Moret, chairman of AG Sandoz, made the announcement at a news conference releasing the company's first quarterly report since a fire at one of its plants triggered the spill into the Rhine in November. Despite the accident,

the company posted a quarterly increase in sales, he said.

The spill of toxic chemicals, including mercury, occurred when water used to fight a blaze at a Sandoz warehouse on Nov. 1 overflowed into the Rhine.

The disaster triggered a massive fish kill and forced a temporary shutdown of drinking-water supplies downstream. It also provoked bitter protests from other countries on the Rhine.

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