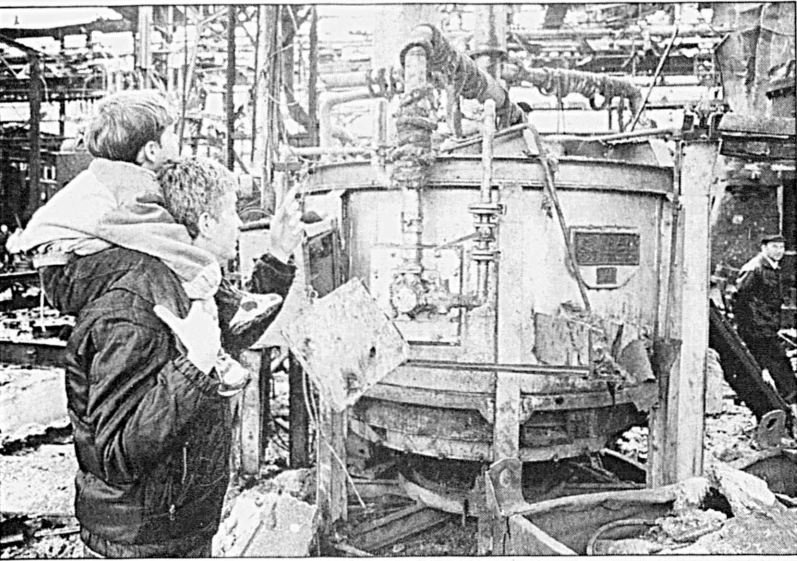


WORLD



An employee carries his son on his shoulders as they survey the wreckage of the Zastava factory, in Kragujevac, Serbia, on Sunday. Officials say the attack injured 124 people.

New atrocities feared by NATO

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Saying it showed restraint in deference to the Orthodox Easter holiday, NATO nonetheless hammered Serb targets in Kosovo on Sunday. Western officials, meanwhile, expressed growing alarm over reports of atrocities in the province and said a possible mass grave site had been spotted.

In Belgium, NATO spokesman Jamie Shea showed aerial photographs of the site in Pusto Selo, southwest of the Kosovo capital, Pristina. He said from

the air it appeared the ground had been freshly turned over, and that the site looked "somewhat similar" to aerial shots of mass graves seen during the war in Bosnia.

"I suspect . . . that we are going to find more and more evidence of mass graves, mass executions, some pretty horrific stories," Defence Secretary William Cohen said on ABC's This Week.

Underlining concerns about conditions inside Kosovo, Western officials say hundreds of thousands of Kosovo Albanians are believed to have fled or been driven from their homes but unable to make their way out of Kosovo.

About 400,000 people are hiding in forests and mountains, terrified of Serb forces, British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said Sunday after talking to an ethnic Albanian political leader in Kosovo.

Ng seeks mercy for mass murder

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — A serial killer who managed to delay his conviction in 11 murders for 14 years now seeks to convince a jury that he should spend the rest of his life in prison rather than be put to death.

Lawyers for Charles Ng, a Hong Kong native and veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, will offer mitigating evidence starting Monday with testimony from mental health professionals, jailers and family members.

Deputy Public Defender William Kelley will seek to counter the heart-wrenching accounts given by victims' families to jurors during the penalty phase of the trial, which determines whether Ng will receive death by injection or life in prison without parole.

Kelley said he will spend a week calling witnesses and promised "a couple of surprises," but declined to give details. Members of Ng's family are expected to testify for the first time.

Ng, 38, was convicted Feb. 24 of killing six men, three women and two baby boys in a 1984-85 spree of kid-

napping, bondage and sadism. The penalty phase began last month and resumes after a three-week break.

Ng and co-conspirator Leonard Lake incriminated themselves with videotapes they made while threatening and tormenting women they held as sex slaves before their killings in Northern California.

One of them was Kathy Allen, 18, seen in April 1985 wearing handcuffs and being threatened on a videotape made by her captors at Lake's rural house in Wilseyville, about 240 kilometres east of San Francisco. Another woman, Brenda O'Connor, was seen pleading in vain for the lives of her husband and baby as Ng cut off her shirt and bra in view of the camera.

The nine-woman, three-man Orange County jury saw the scenes repeatedly during the guilt portion of the trial, which began Oct. 26. Dian Allen, younger sister of the slain woman, rushed from the courtroom in tears at the sight of her sister being brutalized on television monitors.

India tests new missile

NEW DELHI (AP) — A new nuclear-capable missile soared into the skies over India on Sunday, defying international appeals for restraint in testing weapons and raising fears of a new arms race with neighbouring Pakistan.

Indian Defence Minister George Fernandes said the successful 11-minute test flight of the Agni II missile marked a "great day for India," while Pakistan said it would decide in the next two or

three days how to respond.

Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee said later in a nationally televised address that the Agni proved India's determination to strengthen its national security.

"In a rapidly changing security environment, India cannot depend on others to defend her," he said. "We have to develop our own indigenous capabilities. Agni is a symbol of that resurgent India."

Israeli warplanes hit Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon (AP) — Israeli warplanes fired at least 10 missiles in three raids Sunday on suspected guerrilla bases in southern Lebanon, Lebanese security officials said.

The first two attacks targeted the village of Mlita in the highlands of Iqlim al-Tuffah province, a stronghold of the Hezbollah guerrilla

group. Mlita is 20 kilometres south-east of Sidon and faces the Israeli-occupied zone.

Less than an hour after the first raid, Israeli jets fired at least two more missiles at suspected guerrilla targets in a valley between the villages of Jebel al-Botom and Zibqine, 15 kilometres southeast of Tyre.

Japanese bank declared broke

TOKYO (AP) — Japanese financial regulators decided to place a debt-ridden regional bank under government control Sunday after declaring the institution insolvent.

The Financial Reconstruction Commission moved to take over Tokyo-based Kokumin Bank after the bank conceded it could not restructure on its own, commission chief Hakuo Yanagisawa said.

The Financial Supervisory Agency, another bank regulator, found last week that Kokumin had amassed a huge capital deficit, and warned it would be dissolved unless it came up with fresh funds from affiliated firms.

Under a law enacted last year to shore up Japan's tottering financial system, the government will protect all Kokumin deposits and the bank will continue operations under the management of three government-appointed administrators. Meanwhile, the commission will look for a private financial institution to take over Kokumin.

Kokumin's bad loans will be absorbed by the state-run Resolution and Collection Corp., Japan's version of the U.S. Resolution Trust Corp., which cleaned up the U.S. savings and loan fiasco of the 1980s. The Bank of Japan will also provide special loans to guarantee Kokumin's operations.

Titanic pass goes for \$100,000 at auction

SEATTLE (AP) — An \$8 Titanic boarding pass that survived the ill-fated voyage along with its passenger has fetched \$100,000 US at an auction.

The buyer was Jeffrey Trainer, an Allentown, Pa. collector who is in the trading card business.

The price began at \$5,000 on Saturday and zoomed to \$100,000 in less than a minute, said Cheryl Gorsuch, co-owner of the Tacoma antique store where the auction was held.

Trainer said he would "hoard the ticket for a little while and enjoy it." The passenger, Anna Sofia Sjoblom, had "kept it for a while, so I may, too," he said.

The document — an undamaged immigrant inspection card that served as a boarding pass for Titanic's third-class passengers — is believed to be the only such ticket in existence. Its price on Saturday makes it among the most valued of the ship's memorabilia.

Sjoblom, of Finland, had pinned the boarding pass inside her jacket for the 1912 voyage. She had borrowed the \$8 Titanic fare after she and three friends were bumped from the Adriatic, another ship in the White Star Line.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Camilla snubbed

LONDON (Reuters) — Prince Edward has crossed Prince Charles' long-time lover Camilla Parker Bowles off the guest list for his wedding out of fear of upsetting the Queen, Britain's Sun tabloid reported.

The newspaper said Edward, the Queen's last bachelor son, had been given a free hand to draw up the guest list for his midsummer marriage to Sophie Rhys-Jones, but he knew better than to invite Camilla.

"Edward is well aware of the Queen's feelings. He felt that if he invited Camilla, his mother would be extremely angry," the paper quoted a royal courtier as saying.

Prince under knife

LONDON (Reuters) — Britain's Prince William has undergone surgery on a broken finger which he injured while playing rugby, the BBC reported on Sunday.

The 16-year-old prince, first son of heir-to-the-throne Prince Charles and the late Diana, Princess of Wales, was admitted to hospital on Saturday for the operation, it quoted a royal family spokeswoman as saying.

His left index finger was "stabilized with pins and wires," the spokeswoman said.

Phone fright

SAO PAULO (Reuters) — A Sao Paulo resident reeled when his bank rang him over his March telephone bill. It totalled \$43 million.

"I was horrified," said Nelson Marotti Filho, 42. "My bank called me to ask what I wanted to do with the bill. They usually deduct it directly from my account."

After a hasty call the Sao Paulo telephone company mailed him a new, corrected bill for just \$31.

It was the latest blunder for the company, bought by Spain's Telefonica in a trophy privatization last year.

Torture links

TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, N.M. (AP) — A man has been charged in the death of a 22-year-old woman whose disappearance is part of a growing investigation into alleged sexual torture and kidnapping.

While police have said for weeks the case possibly involved murder, their searches of a rural home and a lake have produced no bodies, including that of the missing woman. On Saturday, investigators dug alongside a roadside rest stop but officials wouldn't say what, if anything, was found.

The only murder charge in the case is the one filed against Dennis Roy Yancy, 27, of Truth or Consequences. He was arrested and charged in the death of Marie Parker, 22, who disappeared in 1997.

The investigation last month led to charges of kidnapping and sexual torture against David Parker Ray and his girlfriend, Cynthia Lea Henny.

President named

NIAMEY, Niger (AP) — The head of the presidential guard unit that diplomats and witnesses say assassinated Niger's former president has been named the new leader of this West African nation, the government announced Sunday.

Daouda Malam Wanke was named as president and head of the National Council for Reconciliation, which will lead Niger for a nine-month transition period, officials on state radio said.

Military spokesman Hamidou Djibrila said the military ordered the suspension of the constitution and the dissolution of the Supreme Court and National Assembly in what amounted to a complete ouster of the former regime.

"The armed forces of Niger understand the gravity of the situation and decided to put to rest the institutional void created by the sudden death of Gen. Bare," Djibrila told journalists in Niger's capital.

Canada, Lebanon talk

BEIRUT (AP) — Canada's transport minister ended a four-day visit on Saturday with what he described as "constructive" talks with the Lebanese prime minister on Canadian investments.

David Collette said he and Prime Minister Salim Hoss discussed projects Canada is involved in, such as the Libanpost firm and a flight training centre at Beirut airport.

Libanpost is a venture involving Canada Post Systems Management Ltd., PROFAC Management Group Ltd. and the Lebanese government. The Canadian firm will invest as much as \$92 million US during the next 12 years to rehabilitate the postal service, which deteriorated during Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

Collette and his Lebanese counterpart, Najib Mikati, also signed a letter of intent for a formal agreement on air relations between the two countries. The Canadian minister also has toured construction sites in Beirut's war-ravaged commercial district.

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- Qualifiers may be asked to produce the cards they qualify with.
- Winners will have to produce the cards they qualified with.

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