

# UNESCO Director for ME shot dead

AMMAN, Aug 12: A Palestinian burst into a meeting and shot dead the Acting Director of UNESCO's regional bureau in the Middle East here on Sunday, reports AFP.

The national news agency Petra said police were hunting the assassin, identified as Goubhi Khalil Souccar, 42, who fled after the attack on Hamed Khawwat, 59, a Sudanese.

UNESCO employees said the gunman, who worked as a driver for the UN Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation agency, ran into the office while a meeting was in progress and fired several shots at Khawwat, killing him instantly.

Two other people wounded

in the attack were taken to hospital.

Abdel Ghafour Journa sustained a serious neck injury, but was improving. Ferial Zaarour, 40, a Jordanian who works as a driver for UNESCO, received a minor thigh wound.

Jordan condemned the assassination in a statement, saying it was "contrary to its principles and customs."

Souccar, who has about 10 children, had been worried about losing his job after UNESCO announced it would move the regional headquarters to Beirut soon and cut staff in Jordan, informed sources said.

He had been receiving psychiatric treatment for a year, the sources said.



ENGLAND: Journalist and former hostage John McCarthy hands over the letter that he has carried from the Islamic Jihad, who held him captive for five years in Lebanon, to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar August 11. — AFP/UNB photo

# 3,020 killed in Punjab violence this year

NEW DELHI, Aug 12: Eighteen people died in overnight violence in Punjab, taking the number of political murders this year in the troubled northern Indian State to 3,020, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported today, says AFP.

Punjab police officers shot dead and seized the weapons of seven Sikh militants in gun-

battles in Ferozepur, Bhatinda and Hoshiarpur, PTI said.

The agency said two of the dead militants were senior commanders of the fundamentalist Khalistan National Army, which is a splinter faction of one of Punjab's main separatist organisations.

Militants shot dead three policemen and killed eight civilians in separate attacks, PTI said.

The organisations are spearheading a campaign for a separate Sikh homeland called Khalistan.

# BRIEFLY

**US biggest arms supplier:** The United States became the number one arms supplier to the world last year, as its weapons sales to developing nations more than doubled, a Congressional report said, reports AFP from Washington.

US arms sales to the third world surged from nearly eight billion dollars in 1989 to 18.5 billion dollars in 1990, the study said.

Skyrocketing weapons sales last year were attributed to the Gulf War and declining Pentagon budgets, which have forced US defence contractors to search for clients abroad, the report from the congressional research service said.

The United States ranked as the largest arms supplier to the third world last year — providing 44.8 per cent of weapons against 23.6 per cent in 1989.

**Israeli troops kill Arab youth:** Israeli soldiers on Sunday shot and killed a Palestinian during a clash with stone-throwing youths in the occupied West Bank, Arab and Israeli reports said, says AP from Jerusalem.

Soldiers opened fire during a demonstration by dozens of stone-throwing Palestinians in the West Bank city of Ramallah, killing Artin Koltzyan, 17, Arab reporters and Israeli radio said.

Koltzyan arrived dead at Ramallah hospital, the reports said.

An army spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that one Palestinian was killed, but said the circumstances of the death were under investigation.

Koltzyan's death brought to 845 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli soldiers or civilians since the start of the 44-month uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

**16 missing as volcano erupts in Chile:** Lava from an erupting volcano melted a huge mass of ice in southern Chile causing an avalanche that flooded a sparsely populated valley, officials said Sunday. They said 16 people were reported missing, says AP from Santiago.

Ricardo Osorio, governor of the Aysen province, where the volcano is located, said volcanic activity had virtually ceased by mid-morning Sunday. But he said a moderate flow of lava was streaming down the volcano toward an inhabited valley.

The 2,700 metre (7,100 feet) Hudson volcano, 2,300 kilometres (1,430 miles) south of Santiago, had been dormant for two decades. But it erupted Thursday night sending up a thick cloud of ash that covered several small towns in the area.

Osorio said rescue patrols were searching Sunday for the 16 missing people, including six children.

**Bandits kill 20 in Pakistan:** Bandits killed 20 people in Pakistan's southern Sindh province at the weekend and kidnapped three others, police said today, reports Reuter.

Seven people were killed in a bandit attack at Kandhkot on Sunday while a policeman died at Ubaro near Sukkur.

Bandits kidnapped three people on the same day near Sukkur.

A gang attacked the villages of Jhonki near Bhiria city in central Sindh on Saturday and killed 12 people including women and children.

Police said it was a revenge attack because villagers had betrayed the bandits' hideout.

**Guarantees on Palestinian rights sought:** FLO leader Yasser Arafat said in an interview published today Arab countries would not conclude a peace treaty with Israel unless it included guarantees on Palestinian rights and a compromise settlement on Jerusalem, reports Reuter from Paris.

"I don't think the Arab countries will agree to establish new treaties like those at Camp David, leaving out Palestinian rights and Jerusalem, the holy city of Islam and Christianity," Arafat told the French daily Le Figaro.

The Camp David accords led to an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in 1979 but failed to bring peace to the Middle East.

Asked if he was worried that Syria would be tempted to make a similar bilateral peace agreement with Israel, the FLO leader said: "I don't think so. Not without Palestinian rights."

**3 killed in air attack in Croatia:** Three people were killed and four wounded when Yugoslav military aircraft attacked the Woong target in Croatia on Sunday, the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug said. The report monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said the casualties were members of the territorial defence of Banja, a region south of the Croatian capital Zagreb, reports Reuter from London.

It gave few details but implied the aircraft mistakenly attacked a rebel Serb group instead of armed Croats.

Tanjug said Croatian units first opened fire on an army helicopter from Topusko.

**Train carrying acid derails in Canada:** A freight train carrying a potentially dangerous acid derailed Sunday, forcing the evacuation of around 100 homes but without causing reported injuries authorities said, reports AFP from Melbourne.

About 15 cars jumped the tracks early Sunday near this town in Ontario province, police sergeant John Stephens said.

The evacuation order was given when a leak was detected in a car carrying chlorosulfonic acid, a chemical used as a detergent in the pharmaceutical industry. The acid becomes extremely hazardous when mixed with water.

About 100 homes were evacuated within a three-kilometre (two mile) radius of the site of the accident, authorities said.

# India to sell N-reactors abroad

BOMBAY, Aug 12: India plans to sell nuclear reactors for research purposes to developing nations as part of New Delhi's bid to shore up the country's depleted foreign exchange reserves, reports said today, AFP reports.

The state-controlled Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has developed the design for five-megawatt reactors and will sell the technology to Third World countries planning to launch basic research programmes, officials said here.

The reactors, which can produce isotopes, will be sold to countries that "strictly" adhere to the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) safety standards. BARC reactors group director S K Mehta said.

"India is prepared to sell technology abroad in areas like nuclear reactor engineering, isotope and radiation technology, radiological safety and protection, electronics and instrumentation and other spin-offs from basic and applied sciences," he said.

Mehta did not disclose the names of countries to which BARC plans to sell its five-megawatt reactors or their cost. BARC has denied reports that the small research reactors could be used for military purposes.

Mehta said BARC had already expressed its plans during an IAEA conference in Geneva last September and added that he did not foresee problems, noting that Argentina had recently sold a nuclear research reactor to Turkey.

India, like Argentina, is a non-signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) terming it discriminatory. New Delhi has also rejected

Pakistan's June proposal for a five-nation meeting on the NPT in South Asia, calling it a propaganda ploy by Islamabad.

Meanwhile another BARC official said the Bombay-based Centre had at the IAEA conference also offered its services to countries that needed fuel reprocessing facilities.

The offer was for spent fuel from research reactors, of which there are about 125 in the world, he said, adding that India, Germany, Italy, Japan and Spain were the only nations without atomic weapons possessing such facilities.

India has two nuclear fuel reprocessing plants near Bombay and a third is coming up in the southern state of Tamil Nadu.

New Delhi's plan to sell nuclear research technology and fuel reprocessing facilities is seen here as an effort by the country's Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) to earn much-needed foreign exchange, observers said.

India, which explored an atomic device in 1974, has invested tens of thousands of dollars in its ambitious nuclear programme, setting up its first nuclear plant in 1969 on the outskirts of this populous city.

It has so far installed seven nuclear power plants with a daily generation capacity of more than 2,000 megawatts, meeting 2.5 per cent of the country's electricity demands.

New Delhi has approved more than one billion dollars for the AEC to build six 500-megawatt and four 235-megawatt by the year 2000.

The department of atomic energy's total budgetary allocation for fiscal 1991-92 is about 665 million dollars, up by about 25 million dollars from the previous financial year.

# Troops open fire on protesters: 31 killed in Madagascar

ANTANANARIVO, Aug 12: Vowing to turn the capital Antananarivo into a "dead city", Madagascar's opposition launch a general strike today after weekend clashes with security forces that may have left as many as 31 people dead, reports Reuter.

The opposition active forces coalition say they are stepping up a strike that has already crippled the Indian ocean island after troops opened fire on protesters calling on embattled President Didier Ratsiraka to resign after 16 years in office.

A spokesman said all opposition political parties were now united in what he called "open war" against Ratsiraka.

He said Air Madagascar personnel and the banks, which had been operating, would now rejoin the strike. Only minimum public services would operate until Ratsiraka stepped down.

The opposition say 20 people were killed on Saturday in the north-eastern port town of Mahajanga though there has been no independent confirmation.

The government has confirmed the death of 11 others in a parallel anti-government demonstration on Saturday near the capital though it disputes the opposition's version of what happened.

A government communique said 11 people died and over

200 were injured during "an illegal assault" on the Presidential palace, 12 km (eight miles) south of the capital, but denied that troops had shot anyone.

It said they fired over the heads of the demonstrators and used teargas to disperse them when they began stoning soldiers.

Saturday's clashes were the first major violent incidents in a 10-week opposition campaign to force Ratsiraka, who has ruled the island since 1975, to go.

Ratsiraka said on Sunday evening that his Presidential guard was not responsible for the deaths near the capital and again denied that security forces had fired into the crowd.

# Asian gangs involved in massacre of 6 monks?

PHOENIX, Aug 12: The killers who lined up and shot six Buddhist monks and three disciples ransacked their living quarters but left undisturbed a temple containing gold and jade statues and a "money tree," investigators say, reports AP.

Details of the massacre emerged as investigators puzzled over a possible motive and looked into whether Asian gangs were involved. Some community members wondered whether the motive was racism.

The victims — six monks in saffron robes and three initiates — were found Saturday morning at the Wat Promkunaram temple. The bodies were side-by-side and face down in a living room of the remote temple 20 miles (32 kilometers) from Phoenix.

"The killings were very methodical," said Sheriff Tom Agnos.

Investigators said the killings occurred late Friday or early Saturday, Sunday was to have been a day of celebration, marking the end of three weeks of live-in training in religion and self-awareness for an elderly woman and two young men or teen-agers, said Robert Johnson, whose Thai wife, Buppha, worships at the temple.

Agnos said robbery is a possible motive but that investigators hadn't determined if anything was missing from the ransacked living quarters.

Worshippers said the temple contains gold and jade statues and a "money tree" with about 20 in singles left as offerings.

"The temple itself was not disturbed at all," Agnos said.

Temple members have told deputies the monks usually wore jewelry, and none was found on the bodies, he said.

Investigators believe there were at least two killers, Agnos said.

Investigators have not ruled out involvement of Asian gangs, but Agnos minimized that

possibility. He said a gang investigator was called in, but only because "we want to cover all the bases."

The L-shaped, one-story temple building is the focus of religious and social life for about 300 area Thais as well as a few Cambodians and Laotians who adhere to the Theravada Buddhist teaching. Many who helped at the temple are Thai wives of American servicemen and military retirees.

# Saddam on mock trial

ATLANTA (Georgia), Aug 12: The world's largest legal organisation put Saddam Hussein on trial on Sunday in what turned into painful finger pointing at the United States for its military aggression, reports Reuter.

The American Bar Association (ABA), holding its annual meeting here, staged a mock trial of the Iraqi leaders as a demonstration of how an international criminal court would function.

Famed Boston Defence Lawyer F. Lee Bailey represented Saddam before the three-judge panel. New York Trial Attorney David Blos acted as the special prosecutor.

The three-hour-long proceeding began with a gruesome video-tape showing tortured Kuwaitis and Allied prisoners of war and the destruction caused by the release of oil.

"Never has there been a

clearer case for prosecution and conviction than the case presented to this tribunal," Blos told the court.

The tribunal provided an opportunity "to tell Saddam Hussein and others like him we will not tolerate such death and destruction," said Blos.

But Bailey stunned the audience when he said that the trial "boiled down to...victors making rules in retrospect to tar the vanquished."

This was a selective prosecution, he charged. "No one in the US has been tried for the invasion of Granada or Panama," Bailey told the 500 people packing the auditorium.

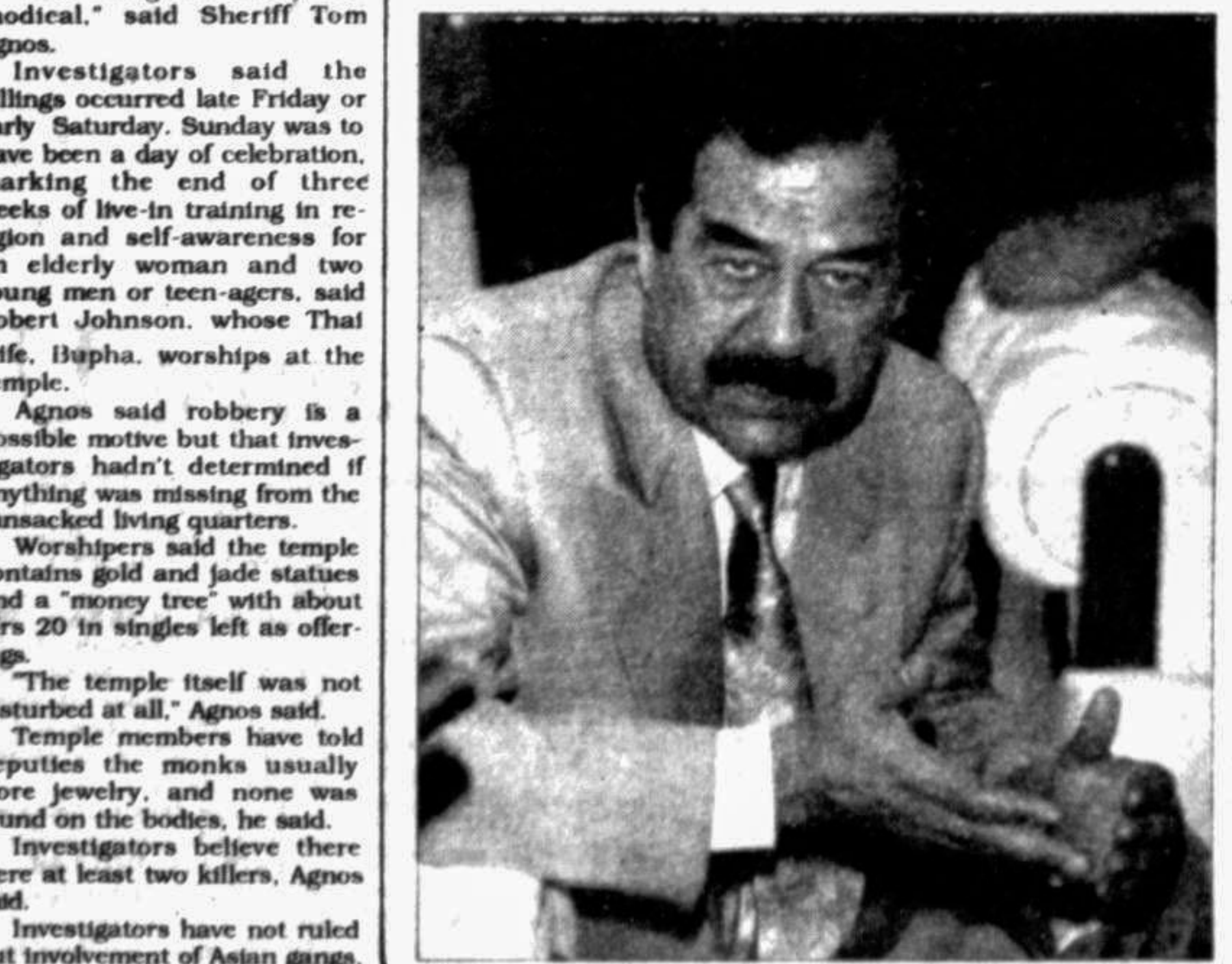
An actor, who looked very much like the Iraqi leader, portrayed Bailey's client, and said nothing as the charges formulated by the ABA's international law section were read.

Saddam was charged with crimes against peace for invading Kuwait and firing Scud missiles at Israel. War crimes for using civilians as hostages; mistreatment of prisoners of war and the destruction of property and oil fields in Kuwait.

At the end of the mock trial one of the judges Sir Ian Peretval, former Solicitor General of England and Wales, said the proceeding showed that governments have to be willing to take action when atrocities occur.

"If we really believe the proposition that man should live in a law-governed world, those in the position to do so must be willing to apply those principles when the situation arises," he said.

The tribunal did not render a verdict.



# Lankan Major held on smuggling charge

COLOMBO, Aug 12: A Sri Lanka army Major has been detained after he failed to pay a fine of 20 million rupees (500,000 dollars) on a gold smuggling charge, court officials said today, reports Reuter.

They said Major P Udugampola appeared before a magistrate on Friday and was remanded in custody because he could not pay the fine imposed by Sri Lanka's airport customs.

Udugampola was detained by authorities after an army Lieutenant and his fiancée were arrested at Colombo Airport on July 31 trying to smuggle 80 small gold bars, 3,000 gold plated wrist-watches and a large quantity of film rolls.

# Off the Record

**Black is beautiful**

DETROIT: Gen. Colin Powell mingled with city officials and entertainers celebrating the successes of black airmen in the military and in the airline industry, reports AP.

"It was on this road to the future, paved with the blood and sacrifice of black Americans, that I became the first black chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff," Powell said Saturday at the 20th National Convention of the Tuskegee Airmen Inc.

About 2,500 people celebrated the 50th anniversary of the first graduating class. Also in attendance: the 450-member Organization of Black Airline Pilots, celebrating its 16th anniversary.

"I climbed on the backs of the great black men and women," Powell told the airmen. "I came along at the right time... because you were the wind beneath my wings. I am here because of you and I never forget where I came from."

The Tuskegee Airmen group was formed from about 930 black men after the military was ordered by Congress to lift a colour ban in 1940. Some 450 black pilots fought in World War II under the command of Col. Benjamin Davis Jr.

**Marcos to be given a simple soldier's burial**

MANILA: Imelda Marcos said in a taped interview played Monday that she would give her late husband a "simple soldier's burial" if the government allows the former president to be buried in his homeland, reports AP.

"President Marcos' dying wish was to have a simple soldier's burial in Manila," Mrs. Marcos said a tape played to reporters. "This is what in filial duty we will give him. No pomp, no frills."

President Corason Aquino has refused to allow Marcos' body to be brought from Hawaii, where he died in exile in 1989, three years after he was ousted in a popular uprising.

The government fears that Marcos, followers would use the funeral for political purposes.

"Let history under a more just and humane government accord him the full honours due him," Mrs. Marcos said. "But for now, may we ask the Aquino administration to simply allow his dignified and orderly burial."

"I wish to assure Mrs. Aquino that I will not use my late husband's remains in any way, especially for political vendetta and for selfish political reasons... I will not parade him down the streets of Manila."

There was no immediate comment from the Aquino government. But Sen Nepali Gonzalez, president of the largest pro-administration party, said he was recommending formation of a special committee, including Marcos supporters, to oversee the funeral in Manila.

"The president (Aquino) will be doing her good turn if she reconsiders and allows the return," of Marcos' body, he said.



**Japan links aid to arms control**

BEIJING, Aug 12: Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama explained to China today Tokyo's proposal for the monitoring of international arms sales, reports Reuter.

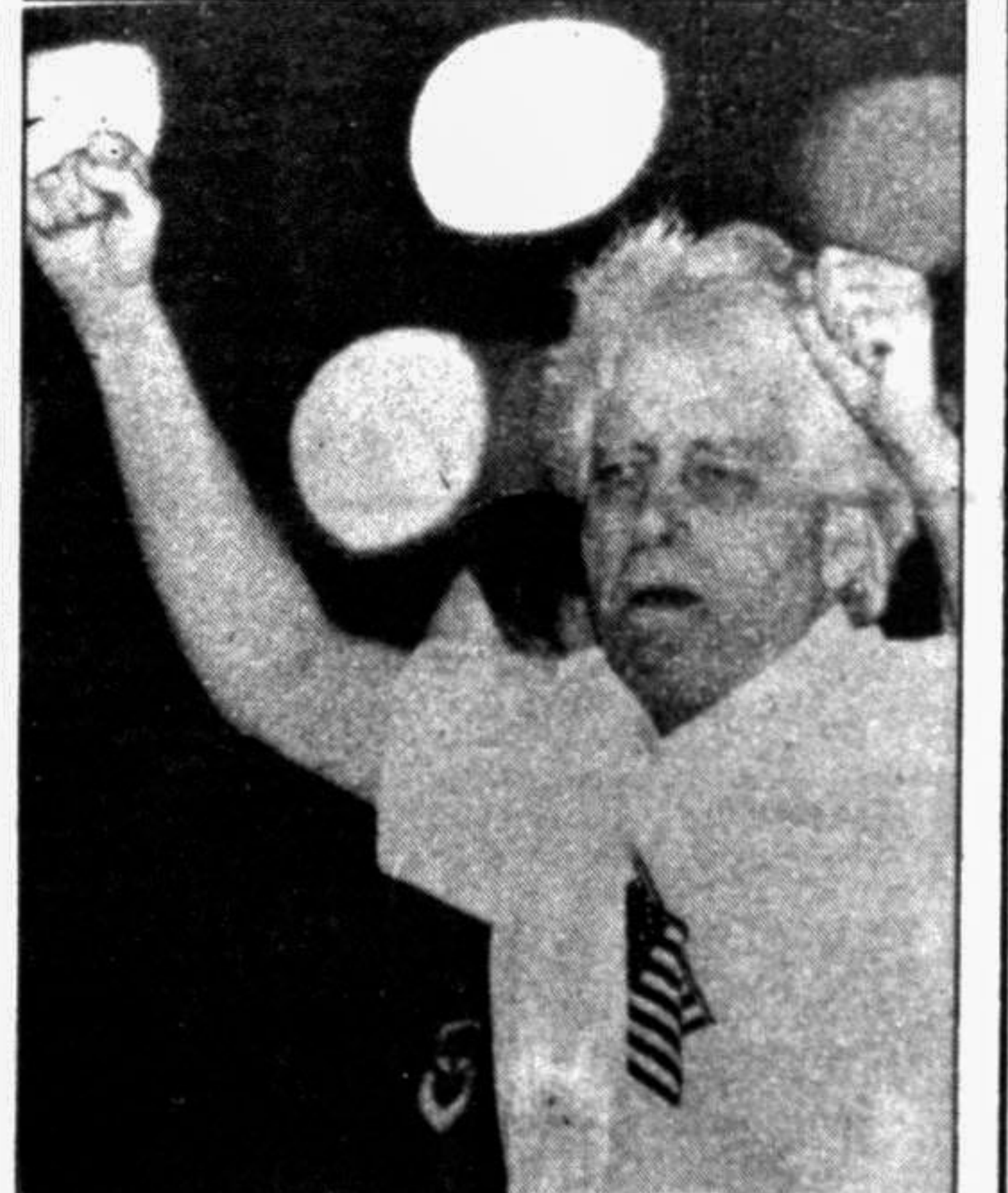
Nakayama, who arrived in Beijing on Saturday with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, handed Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen a memorandum explaining Japan's proposal to pass a United Nations resolution on international arms sales.

**Mujahideen free Soviet POW**

ISLAMABAD, Aug 12: The Afghan Mujahideen freed a Soviet prisoner of war here Monday in the presence of a senior Soviet official, reports AFP.

Gurban Ali Tashrifov, 25, was handed over to the Soviet Ambassador-at-Large, Nikolai Ivanov Kozyrev, at a ceremony at a local hotel.

Mujahideen sources said the Kabul government, which promised to free 25 Mujahideen fighters in return for Tashrifov's release, had already released five including an Arab.



GERMANY: Freed American hostage Edward Tracy clenches his fists upon his arrival from Damascus at the US airbase near Frankfurt late August 11. Tracy was held for four years and nine months after being kidnapped in Beirut on October 21, 1986. — AFP/UNB photo

**A very smart move indeed**

RADNOR: Reba McEntire turned to acting to help her cope with the plane crash that killed seven members of her band and her road manager, reports AP.

"I just didn't know how I could go on. I was devastated," she says in the August 17 issue of TV guide. "I just wanted to completely quit. They were my friends, my family."

Soon after the March 16 crash, McEntire went to work on the NBC movie, "The Luck of the Draw: The Gambler Returns," with Kenny Rogers.

"I had to get back into the swing of things to keep my mind off what happened," she said. "If I didn't keep movin', it would've just eaten me up inside."

Rogers called it "a very smart move."

Since it was a non-musical project, it allowed her to put time behind her without the immediacy of playing with a new band," he said.

A twin-engine jet carrying the band members crashed into a mountain near San Diego shortly after takeoff. The plane's two crew members also died in the crash.

**Moving on a daring pilot**

SIoux CITY (Iowa): Charlton Heston will star in a made-for-TV movie based on the life-saving actions of the pilot and crew during the July 19, 1989, crash landing of a United Airlines DC-10 in Sioux City, reports AP.

Heston will play pilot Al Haynes, who helped save 184 of the 296 passengers when the jetliner crashed during an emergency landing at the airport, the producers said.

Castling someone of Heston's caliber was a key to getting the film, "A Thousand Heroes," in high gear, producer Joe Maurer said Friday.

"He represents the kind of heroic man Al Haynes is," Maurer said from Los Angeles. "We're thrilled at the opportunity to be working with him."