### Cuba asks UN council to condemn US role in airliner bombing

NEW YORK, United Nations. Apr 29: Cuba Monday asked the UN Security Council to condemn the United States for its alleged role in the bombing of a Cuban airliner in 1976, reports AFP.

In a letter to the president of the council, Cuban Ambassador Ricardo Alarconde Quesada demanded that a meeting be called to condemn Washington for continuing to protect the two men believed to be responsible for the attack, Orlando Bosch and Luis Posada Carriles.

Hosch and Posada Carriles, leading Cuban exiles and vehement opponents of President Fidel Castro, are accused of having bombed a Cubana De Avication Airliner en route to Havana from Barbados on October 6, 1976, killing all 73 people on Board.

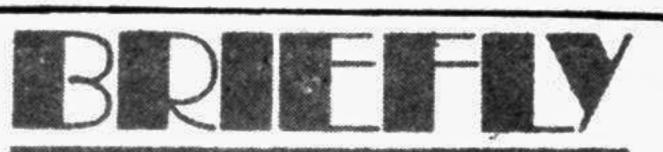
"We demand that the Security Council condemn the sabotage against the Cuban air plane with the same firmness that we condemn the sabotages against the Pan Am and UTA airplanes," the ambas-

sador wrote. "Fathure to do so would be an immorality which would dishonour the council and undermine its prestige and credibility," the latter said.

The Security Council imposed an air and arms embargo against Libya on April 15 after that country refused to extradite to the West two Libyans suspected in the December 1988 bombing of a UTA airliner over Nigeria in which 170 people were killed.

Cuba also asked the Security Council to renew its condemnation of international terrorism and said an example of this was the US trade embargo against Cuba in force for the past 30 years.

Ambassador Diego Arria of Venezuela, currently on the 15-member council, told the council that the two suspects in the Cuban airliner bombing had been tried and convicted in Absentia in Cuba.



Bush, Ozal talk regional issues: President Bush and visiting Turkish President Turgut Ozal on Tuesday urged Serbian and Croat leaders in Belgrade and Zagreb "to work actively" with the Bosnian government in Sarajevo to end the violence in the newly independent republic, the White House said Tuesday, reports AP from Washington.

Bush and Ozal during their 30-minute meeting discussed an array of regional issues, including Cyprus, Iraq, the Central Asian Republics and the conflict in Bosnia, said White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater.

Fitzwater said that Bush continues to urge all parties in the Yugoslav region - "Serb, Croat and Muslim, to lay down their arms and negotiate their future in peace."

Yslav Foreign Minister resigns: Yugoslav Acting Foreign Minister Milivoje Maksic, 64, officially handed in his resignation on Tuesday, the Tanjug news agency reported, says AFP from Belgrade.

Maksic, a Serb who was Deputy Foreign Minister and had handled the top job since Federal Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar resigned last November, said he wished to retire.

The unexpected resignation of Maksic came the day after proclamation of a new federal Yugoslav republic composed of Scrbia and Montenegro.

Nine killed in US plane crash: A C-130 military cargo aircrast crashed into a lake near in Lilesville Tuesday killing all nine people on board, reports AFP from North Carolina.

"There were nine aboard and there were no survivors, said Kimstroud of the Anson County Sheriff's Department.

The C-130, an aircraft mainly used to transport troops and material, crashed about 7.30 pm (2330 GMT) into Blewett

falls lake. Witnesses said that the airplane had circled the lake for about 15 minutes before finally rolling over and slamming into the water sideways, said Anson County Sheriff Tommy Allen.

Somali troops chase Barre's men: Somali forces chased fighters loyal to former Dictator Mohamed Stad Barre Across the border into northern Kenya on Tuesday, where they looted shops, Kenyan television and

Police sources said, reports AFP from Natrobi. The whereabouts of Stad Barre were unknown, but the sources, contacted by telephone in the northern Kenyan town of Mandera, said he had reportedly fled to Kenya by plane early Tuesday. Kenyan officials were not immediately available

to comment. The sources, who requested anonymity, said forces of the United Somali Congress (USC), one of two warring factions in the Somali capital Mogadishu, had pursued about 200 fighters belonging to Stad Barre's Marchan clan into Mandera.

Kinkel nominated as German FM: Justice Minister Klaus Kinkel was nominated by his party Tuesday to be Germany's Foreign Minister, overturning an earlier decision on who should succeed Hans-Dietrich Genscher, reports AP from Berlin.

The vote on Kinkel came after a day of heated infighting among Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition over the Foreign Ministry and Genscher's second post, deputy chancellor.

The Free Democratic Party, which holds the Foreign Ministry by long standing coalition agreement, held a party caucus that gave 63 votes to Kinkel while Construction Minister Irmgard Schwaetzer's got 25.

Schwaetzer's nomination had been announced Monday by party head Otto Lambsdorff. She would have been Germany's first woman foreign minister.

Enrile won't run for presidency: cen Juan Ponce Enrile, who helped make Corazon Aquino president and then tried to oust her, has shunned presidential ambitions and is running for the legislature from a poor rural district, reports AP from Aparri. "I am not interested in a national position any more."

Enrile said in a recent interview in this town of 50,000 people, about 365 mile (590 kilometers ) north of Manila. "As far as I am concerned, I am on my way out of politics."

Few Filipinos have played as influential or controversial a role in recent history as Enrile. As desense minister under President Ferdinand Marcos, he administered martial law from 1972 until 1981, Marcos considered Enrile a possible successor.

But Enrile turned against Marcos and led a military mutiny which triggered the February 1986 uprising leading to Mrs Aquino's installation as president.

# Lankan Tigers massacre 74 Muslim villagers

COLOMBO, Apr 29: Tamil Tiger rebels shot and hacked 74 Muslim villagers to death in a gruesome midnight massacre in north central Sri Lanka Wednesday, a police official said, reports AP.

Dozens of rebels in camouflage uniforms first attacked a police post, forcing security men on duty to flee, said a police official reached by telephone. The policemen left behind their weapons, which the rebels seized, said the official speaking on condition of

The massacre was in the village of Alanchipathana in Polonnaruwa district, 200 kilometers northeast of

building minutes after the ceremony ended.

BANGKOK, Apr 29:

Myanmar's military junta has

unveiled surprise after sur-

prise since changing its leader

last week but opponents ques-

tion the sincerity of its appar-

ent shift from hardline poli-

Restoration Council (SLORC)

has since Friday pledged to

free political prisoners, offered

a concession to detained nobel

laureate Aung San Suu Kyi.

agreed to take back many of

the 200,000 Muslims drive

into Bangladesh and an-

nounced the suspension of an

will release Aung San Suu Kyi

or hand over power to her

Democracy, despite the party's

landslide win in a May 1990

a timetable for the start of a

programme that may eventu-

And while it has announced

CAIRO, Apr 29 : The Arab

League on Tuesday turned

down a call by Libya to ignore

UN sanctions against it, but

pledged to continue working

to end the crisis pitting

Tripoli against the United

States, Britain and France,

league sources said, reports

at a closed-door meeting of

Arab League foreign ministers

League would seek to prevent

an escalation of sanctions

against Libya, which could in-

clude a crippling oil embargo,

for its refusal to hand over two

suspects in the bombing of a

US airliner over Lockerbie.

headquarters here said Arab

countries were keen to pursue

efforts to 'contain the crisis'

and halt developments that

Sources at the league's

Scotland.

The decision was reached

The sources said the Arab

National League

general election.

However, it has not said it

offensive against Karen rebels.

The State Law and Order

cies, reports Reuter.

Colombo. Details of the incident were sketchy and there were conflicting reports about how the villagers were killed.

The rebels surrounded the village before the attack just past midnight ... Some of the male victims were beheaded," said the police official. He said the rebels used guns, knives and machetes.

The rebels torched some mud-and-straw huts before fleeting the farming village. which had about 85 families. the official said. The Muslim village is surrounded by a cluster of Tamil villages and most survivors escaped by

KABUL: Moderate Mujahideen Leader Sibgatullah Mojadeddi (R), who has assumed

Afghanistan's interim presidency, speaks during the formal handing over of the Kabul

government on Tuesday. Looking on are Vice President Abdul Wahid Sawrobi (L) and

Foreign Minister Abul Wakil (C behind) of the Soviet-installed regime. A rocket hit the

Myanmar opposition highly

sceptical of junta's intentions

ally lead to civilian govern-

ment, diplomats say it is un-

clear just how long this will

· Opponents remain highly

They afford these activities

sceptical or the junta's inten-

without any sincere attitude

that can reflect the aspiration

of the people and the prosper-

ity of the country," said a

statement from the main or-

ganisation of dissident stu-

dents, who fled to border areas

after the military crushed a

1988 pro-democracy uprising.

Democratic Front accused the

junta of trying "to divert inter-

national attention from

Mayanmar's affairs and to

expressed surprise at the

junta's abrupt announcement

on Tuesday night that it was

suspending its offensive

against the ethnic group.

Arab League turns down Libyan

call to ignore UN sanctions

could have a negative effect on

said they would break the air

traffic, arms and diplomatic

sanctions which took effect

two weeks ago. Other Arab

states have reluctantly com-

League Secretary General

Esmat Abdel Meguid met with

the US ambassador to Caire,

Robert Pelletreau, at the am-

bassador's requests. No details

about their talks were re-

Arab League sources denied

reports that the organization

would convene a special

summit to debate the Libyan

resume their meeting here

Wednesday to discuss the

Middle East peace process and

the situation in the occupied

Foreign ministers were to

Earlier Tuesday, Arab

Only Sudan and Iraq have

all Arab countries.

plied.

Karen spokesman Em Marta

deceive the people."

The All Mayanmar Students'

fleeting into nearby woods. At least 14 wounded victims were rushed to hospital when policemen and soldiers reached the village after daylight, the official said.

Earlier, a senior army official in the military headquarters in Colombo claimed the rebels hacked their victims to death instead of shooting them for fear of alerting an army camp about 5 kilometers from the village.

The motive of the attack was not immediately known. but Tamil rebels often kill people opposed to their demand for independence or to dramatize their separatist campaign. Muslim youth armed by the government have retaltated by attacking Tamil civil-

- AFP/UNB photo

which the army has battled for

to lob hundreds of mortar

bombs at the Karen's second

base on the Thai frontier until

Burmese army as long as Ne

Win. Khin Nyunt and others

are there," he said, referring

to Mayanmar's behind-the-

military intelligence chief.

scenes strongman and his

General Than Shwe to replace

ailing hardliner General Saw

Maung as its chief on

other analysts believe Ne Win.

architect of authoritarian rule

since 1962, remains in overall

The students' front said if

Meanwhile, Libya urged its

Arab League partners here

Tuesday not to comply with

the UN sanctions on Tripoli,

but the organisation was un-

likely to accept the call,

sources at the league's head-

Ibrahim Al-Beshari argued the

league had already committed

itself - before the sanctions

were imposed - with resolu-

tions of support for Tripoli in

its confrontation with the

The sources said Arab coun-

tries were likely to respond

that they had no choice but to

respect the decision of the

United Nations to impose air

traffic, arms and diplomatic

sanctions against Libya over

said they would break the

Only Sudan and Iraq have

the Lockerbie plane bombing.

Libyan Foreign Minister

quarters said.

sanctions.

charge despite his official re-

the junta was really sincere it

would release all political pris-

tirement in mid-1988.

But most diplomats and

The ruling council named

Tucsday afternoon.

He said the army continued

We will never trust the

43 years.

Thursday.

In August 1990, Tiger rebels killed more than 300 Muslims in the east in two

separate attacks. -

At least 7,000 people have been killed since June 1990 when rebels from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam resumed their violent campaign for an independent homeland in the north and the east where most Tamils live.

Tamils, mostly Hindus, are 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 17 million people, while Muslims are 7 per cent. Sinhalese are three-fourths of the population and control the government and the military.

### 8 burnt to death in Punjab

CHANDIGARH, Apr 29: Eight persons of a particular community were burnt to death when militants set ablaze their houses in Pandori Bhuraich near Amritsar last night, reports PTI.

Elsewhere in Punjab ten persons were killed in separate incidents of violence since last night.

Seven persons including five security personnel were killed and two injured when militants ambushed a patrolling party vehicle near village Balia in Ludhiana district

The dead included two Punjab police constables, two home guards one S P O and two civilians. An ASI and a woman were seriously injured in the incident.

last night.

### Court upholds banning of FIS

ALGIERS, Apr 29 : The Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld the banning of the country's fundamentalist opposition party, party sources said, reports AP.

A lower court ordered the dissolution of the Islamic Salvation Front on March 4 after the Interior Ministry filed a complaint that the front was subversive and a threat to public security.

The Supreme Court's decision finalized the banning of the Salvation Front, which spearheaded violent anti-government protests last spring and was set to take over Parliament in national elections carly this year.

### Sevan in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD, Apr 29 : UN special envoy Benon Sevan arrived here Wednesday from Tehran after a two-day stay in the Iranian capital, reports

The United Nations representative for Afghanistan and l'akistan had no plans at this point" to travel to Kabul, a UN spokesman said.

Sevan spent a week in Kabul following the overthrow of former president Najibullah on April 16. He then came here to welcome UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali before both men travelled to

### Kashmir frees 288 detenues

SRINAGAR, Apr 29: The Jammu and Kashmir government has ordered release of 288 tetenues lodged in different jail and interrogation cen-

A meeting of senior officers here yesterday decided to release the detenues of which 70 have already joined their fami lies, an official spokesman told

He said a high level screening committee met under the chairmanship of State Director General of Police, B S Bedi, and recommended re lease of 288 detenues after reviewing their cases.

## Off the Record

### Pyramid may be better than pie as diet chart

WASHINGTON: The government unveiled a new shape for the ideal American diet on Tuesday-a pyramid built on a base of grains and, more to the point, not much fat, reports AP.

The pyramid replaces the familiar pie chart used since 1946 to promote good cating habits. The change is merely graphical- the recommended food group allocations remain the same since the last revision in 1990 - but the government hopes the new shape will send a more powerful mes-

"At a glance, the pyramid will help Americans understand more about the foods they need, from what groups and in what amounts", Agriculture Secretary Edward Madigan said. "For example, the pyramid clearly shows that fats, oils and sacrts should be eaten sparingly.

At the base of the pyramid are grains - bread, cereal, rice and pasta - which should be consumed at the rate of six to 11 servings daily. The next level shows vegetables - three to five servings a day - and fruit -- two to four servings.

As the pyramid narrows, dairy products and meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, eggs and nuts are displayed with advice that two to three servings be eaten each day

Instructional materials featuring the pyramid were being sent immediately to schools, Indian reservations and feeding programmes for the poor and elderly.

### Saddam skips his birthday party

NICOSIA, Cyprus: Saddam Hussein received gifts from government officials and diplomats and attended a Baghdad children's party in honour of his 55th birthday Tuesday, Baghdad radio reported, says AP.

The officials radio, monitored in Nicosia, said Saddam skipped an official celebration hosted by his lieutenants in his hometown of Tikrit, north of Baghdad, as he did last year. The radio said that the nominal No. 2 man in Saddam's

hierarchy, Izzat Ibrahim, hosted that party. Ibrahim is deputy chairman of the ruling Revolutionary Command Council and deputy secretary-general of the Baath party's regional command. Both are headed by Saddam.

The radio made no mention of how many Iraqis turned out to attend the festivities. Saddam's birthday is a national holiday in Iraq.

The radio broadcast constant praise for Saddam, hailing him for rebuilding Baghdad following the allied bomb and missile attacks during last year's Gulf War. In Amman, Jordan's capital, more than 400 lragis at-

tended a reception in Saddam's honour. Anti-Saddam demonstrators in London tried to deliver 17,000 black coffin-shaped boxes to the Iraqi Embassy to symbolise the number of people listed as missing in Iraq.



LONDON: Model Juliet Seatree wears a jewelled swimsuit from 135 pounds (about 240 US dollar), jewelled cottoncoordinates (short tiered cotton print skirt) from 295 pounds (525 US dollar) and a matching hat during a photocall for the Diane Freis designer wear collection in London Tuesday. AFP/UNB photo

#### Killer bees spread into US city

SAN ANTONIO, Texas: A swarm of "killer bees" from South America has spread into San Antonio, Texas, the largest US city to be affected, scientists confirmed Tuesday, reports AFP, The "killer bees," so-named for their aggressiveness, are honcy bees which bred with African bees accidentally introduced into Brazil in the late 1950's. They have since spread from Argentina to Texas.

The US Agriculture Department tested bees from a swarm found in San Antonio last week and discovered they were Africanised honey bees. San Antonio has since been added to a quarantine area in an effort to limit the movement of the "killer bees."

### Myanmar troops shell Karen rebel positions

BANGKOK, Apr 29 Myanmar government forces shelled Karen rebel positions overnight despite an announcement the attacks had been suspended, a Karen offictal said Wednesday, reports

According to Myanmar state radio, Maj, Gen Naung Hla told brigade commanders Tuesday the offensive against the ethnic Karen minority had been suspended 'in view of national unity and goodwill."

for the Karen National Union army, said shells continued landing overnight at the Karen base of Komoora and in areas around its headquarters.

Fresh fighting threatens UN operations in Bosnia BELGRADE, Apr 29 : Heavy mortar fire rocked a strategic town in Bosnia-Herzegovina early Wednesday in a new

round of ethnic violence that threatened the operations of UN peacekeepers, reports AP. Critics issued fresh calls for international sanctions on Scrbia for its part in the escalating fighting.

Meanwhile, European Community efforts to halt the violence stalled as talks in Lisbon, Portugal, between Bosnia's Slavic Muslims, Serbs and Croats were postponed until Wednesday.

The United Nations anthe Bosnian capital of Sarajevo and scrapping a planned logistics headquarters for peacekeepers in the northern Bosnian town of

Some 300 people have died and more than 2,000 have been wounded in Bosnia-Herzegovina since violence crupted after Muslims and Croats voted for independence Feb 29. The fighting intensifled after the state won broad

The UN High Commissioner for Refugee said on Tuesday some 400,000 people have fled their homes in Bosnia, swelling the flood of more than I million fugitives in what was Yugoslavia,

Serbs, who comprise a third of Bosnia's 4.4 million

western Europe have condemned Serbia's role in the Bosnian violence, threatening

The 51-member Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe set Wednesday as a deadline for expelling Yugoslavia from the organization if violence in Bosnia is not ended.

But the fighting continued, and threatened to undermine efforts by the United Nations to organize 14,000 peacekeepers in neighboring Croatia.

Sarajevo, headquarters for the peacekeepers, was shelled repeatedly Tuesday night, with television building hit. Serb

came under heavy mortar fire shortly before midnight Tuesday, Associated Press reporter Slobudan Lekie said from the city.

40 percent Muslim, 40 per cent Croat and 20 per cent Serb -- from federal army post tions high above on Fortica hill The town center shook ev-

blast early Wednesday, Lekic said. Minarets of the city's ancient mosque and church sptres were stlhouetted black against the orange flare of ex-

Some 60 per cent of Mostar's 100,000 inhabitants have fled the town. At least 18 have died and 161 been wounded there since early

down on most parts of the town, Djahida Miloradovic took shelter with a group of about

100 pensioners crammed into the cellar of a hotel.

the 64-year-old Muslim. clutching a blanket, "I'm not surprised by anything anymore We can expect any sort of bestial behaviour.

As she spoke, glass shattered and debris crashed from federal army positions and said they were trying to arrange a cease-fire.

continue until Croats ceased

fire, UN officials said.

No group claimed respon-But a local army commander said the shelling was in response to Croatian militia attacks on the village of Orlac. north of Mostar, and would

sibility for the attack. But Muslim militant groups led by the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) have stepped up attacks on the Israelis and SLA to show opposition to Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Rockets hit

security zone

in S Lebanon

29: Katyusha rockets slammed

into Israel's self-declared se

curity zone in South Lebanon

overnight, security sources

Kawkaba village in the eastern

sector of the zone, controlled

by about 1,000 Israeli troops

and their local South Lebanon

There was no report of ca-

They said the rockets hit

said today, reports Reuter.

Army (SLA) militia allies.

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon, Apr

But Em Marta, spokesman

nounced Tuesday it was cut ting back on refugee workers

international recognition April

people, flercely opposed independence. With backing from the Serb-led federal army and paramilitaries from Sebia, they have seized large chunks of territory in hopes of forming their own republic. The United States and

diplomatic and economic sanc-

the Muslim-held radio and militias earlier ringed the city of 600,000, imposing a virtual blockade. Mostar in southwest Bosnia

Artillery rained down on

the historic Ottoman town --

ery few seconds with a fresh

As mortar shells whistled

"Shame on them for shooting on their own people," said