

No thumpday after wailsday

Drama diluted into disappointment for the second consecutive day when Bangladesh managed to lose five wickets in eleven balls to go down fighting to Zimbabwe by 13 runs in the second and final one-day match of the Gold Leaf one-day series at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

After Wailsday, a Joycean version of Wednesday fitting the third day of 1993's November that saw the dunking of local hopes following a narrow nine-run defeat in the first match, it should have been a Thumpday, or Thursday with the Irish litterateur in his humour.

It was not, as all the afternoon heat and passion changed into the chill of the approaching evening of a sad late autumn, with the Bangladeshi batsmen faced with a fairly easy proposition of getting 18 runs off 16 balls at the end of their well-paced chase of 188 runs for victory in 48 overs succumbed to self-inflicted pressure.

Minhajul Abedin Nannoo, the former national captain whose somewhat exaggerated show of delight at the completion of his second fifty in four matches against Zimbabwe gave one the impression of proving a point to someone in the pavilion, quickened the habitual rot started by Enamul Huq Moni with whom he added an invaluable 40 runs to set up a thrilling finish.

Nannoo, whose well-completed 54 off 82 balls included a gloriously lifted sixer off the seasoned Ali Shah over long-off, went for a second run which was never there and Bangladesh, still feeling the shock waves of Moni's loss only two

By Chandrashekhar Das deliveries earlier through a run out, were reduced to 171 for seven in the 45th over.

An etourdijahangir Talukdar Dulu went down the track and lost his stumps to weaken the arguments in favour of holding him back for a slog in the previous one-dayer on Wednesday. Saiful and Salahuddin followed suit and Bangladesh were all out for 174 in 47.1 overs, allowing young Zimbabwean pacer Streak to finish with the satisfactory statistics of three for 25.

Stephan Peall was tight as usual, giving away 28 runs in his ten overs. Ali Shah, the experienced medium-pacer, claimed two vital wickets — those of Aminul Islam Bulbul, the man who came into the team in Shah Nawaz Shaheed Shanu's place, and the in-form Akram Khan.

Earlier in the morning, Bangladesh skipper Faruque, who made a laborious 31 later in the afternoon, won the toss and invited his counterpart to bat first for the successive day on a different wicket of almost similar nature.

The ball came slowly and tended to bounce a wee bit awkwardly at the pavilion end and Zimbabwean skipper Andy Flower began cautiously with his brother Grant but suffered a set back with the total on 31 when the nippy Saiful trapped Grant Flower in front of the wicket for 12.

Andy, later named man-of-the-match by former national captain Roshidul Hasan, had two useful partnerships with Alistair Campbell, man-of-the-match in first one-dayer, and the experienced David Hough-

ton, but the Zimbabwe batting never changed from nondescript to spectacular against tight fielding and bowling.

Houghton top-scored with 54 off 68 balls, made with the help of a quartet of fours and a sixer but owed his prolonged tenure at the wicket to a costly lapse by wicketkeeper Naou off left-arm spinner Moni when on four.

Andy Flower grafted his way to a patient 50 before being run out by Moni's brilliant throw, a sight repeated by Salahuddin a little later when he ran Ali Shah out with another attempt from the deep.

Even though Zimbabwe got off to a reasonably good start, the Bangladeshi bowlers backed by the fielders did a great job to restrict them to 187 for seven in 48 overs. So well they bowled in the slog overs that only 28 runs could be managed from the last eight overs. Saiful was the pick of the bowlers with two for 28. Athar, who made 28 runs later, bowled superbly to take one for 24 off 10 overs.

Although the on-field exploits of the local players got lost in the eventual disappointment at the day's end, the bottom line is, Bangladesh have taken strides ahead. A track record of three defeats before the Gold Leaf series by margins of eight wickets, 137 and 84 runs respectively against the Zimbabweans has been 'improved' to defeat margins of nine and thirteen runs. We have come a long way, but we still have miles to go.

The Zimbabweans, who arrived here on their way to Calcutta to play in the CAB's diamond jubilee meet, leave Dhaka today.



Jahangir Talukdar Dulu's agricultural venture with the batsmen in a clean rout of his off-stump by Zimbabwean pacer Heath Streak in the second and final match of the Gold Leaf one-day series at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Mongla Port becoming obsolete

KHULNA, Nov 4: Mongla Port — the third largest sea port of the country — is becoming obsolete day by day due to the absence of any big trading market in Khulna, reports UNB.

According to available statistics, entry of ship into the port has been reducing gradually, and at present the situation is alarming.

Only 65 ships entered the port during the last three months in the current fiscal year in comparison with 405 ships in the last fiscal, and 465 in the 1991-92 fiscal.

When contacted sources close to the port authority said that usually vessels are not available for direct entry into the port. Moreover, goods can not be sold here since there is no large market in Khulna, the sources added.

Insolvency laws

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tiate bankruptcy proceedings against defaulters and would also provide for the speedy liquidation of assets to maximise its value.

Bankruptcy trustees would be appointed by the government, under the proposed amendments, with extraordinary powers to recover hidden assets, including those conveyed fraudulently, for payments to creditors.

Under the proposed changes, a particular bench of the High Court Division would hear the larger bankruptcy cases while the smaller ones would be dealt with by the lower courts.

It would also make it difficult to obtain bankruptcy discharges without a valid reason or a proven misfortune. Consequences for an undischarged bankruptcy case would be made stiffer with public record and credit rating being adversely affected.

Concealment of assets or making fraudulent statements during bankruptcy proceedings would be considered a crime with increased penalties, including imprisonment, imposed.

Earlier in December last year, Reagan, who is a member of the International Bankruptcy Committee of the American Bar Association, circulated a comprehensive statute on bankruptcy.

However, the national advisory committee suggested amending the existing insolvency acts under a more simpler framework.

Biharis

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are expected to meet newly elected Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto next week to discuss matters relating to expediting the process of repatriation.

Asked if there were any unpleasant incident following repatriation of the stranded Pakistanis in Punjab, Sheikh Hamzah Jelaidan replied in the negative. He said, "All the 50 families who have been rehabilitated are now living happily with the local people."

He sought cooperation of both Pakistan and Bangladesh governments to solve this big humanitarian problem.

Asked if there were any problem in Lahore over the issue, he replied in the negative. Referring to raising of funds, he said there was a committee which was trying to collect between 250 and 300 million dollars mainly from Muslim countries and donors.

During his stay in Dhaka, Jelaidan called on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and handed over a letter from the Secretary General of Rabita Alam Islam Sayed Amin Akeel Attas.

He called on Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman to apprise him of the steps for repatriation of the stranded Pakistanis.

Hasina goes to China

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lades, then East Pakistan, in its 1971 independence war against Pakistan and vetoed Dhaka's entry to the United Nations in 1972. It recognised Bangladesh after the fall of the post-independence government headed by the country's founding President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in a bloody 1975 coup by a section of the military.

The invitation is a major policy change for China and it seems that it wants to play all cards, as well as keep options open for any eventuality, said a top official of the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS).

He added that Beijing wanted good ties with India's smaller neighbours and in recent policy changes has supported steps for regional stability.

China was among the first countries that Prime Minister Khaleda Zia visited after coming to power in 1991 and said Beijing was Dhaka's 'trusted friend', as did her predecessors. Chinese premiers Zhao Ziyang and Li Peng visited Dhaka re-

The Midnight File

Plea for Rabin-Arafat meet

AMMAN, Nov 4: A PLO official said today the Palestinians had requested a summit between PLO chief Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to break an impasse in peace talks. Saleh Raafat, a senior member of the PLO negotiating team to the suspended talks in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Taba, said the request was passed through Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa on Wednesday, reports Reuters.

189 charged with Bombay blasts

BOMBAY, Nov 4: Police on Thursday charged 189 people with conspiring to plant the bombs that killed hundreds of people and damaged many buildings in Bombay in March. A news agency said, M N Singh, the joint commissioner of police in Bombay, said once again that the people who hid the bombs around the city had been trained and supplied by Pakistan, United News of India said, reports AP.

200 Russian marines in Georgia

MSOCOW, Nov 4: About 200 Russian marines went ashore in western Georgia today at the start of a landing operation to protect vital transport links there, Interfax news agency said. The Russian agency said marines from the Black Sea Fleet began landing at the port of Poti after agreement was reached between Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze and Fleet Commander Admiral Eduard Balin. Shevardnadze's forces are fighting rebels seeking to return ousted president Zviad Gamsakhurdia to power, reports Reuters.

Talks to end Hazratbal siege deadlocked again

SRINAGAR, Nov 4: Talks to end the Indian army's three-week siege of Kashmir's holiest Muslim shrine were deadlocked again today a day after the government believed it had a deal with the armed separatists inside, reports Reuters.

We had everything tied up, Chief government negotiator Wahajat Habibullah told Reuters.

Now the talks have come to

what it was, but several newspapers reported on Thursday that the two sides could not agree on what route the militants would take after coming out.

The government had said each person would be screened and only foreigners or those with criminal records would be detained and prosecuted. Then came the snag.

Habibullah declined to say

ISLAMABAD, Nov 4: Pakistani military authorities today accused Indian troops of killing a villager in continuing cross-border firing in Kashmir, reports AFP.

Villagers living close to the dividing line of control in the disputed state are being subjected to "unprovoked indiscriminate firing," a statement said.

One man was killed in the village of Nail in Pandu area while another in the Satwala area was wounded by bullets three days ago, the statement said.

An impasse and I cannot say when this issue will be settled, he said as the siege of the Hazratbal mosque on the shores of Srinagar's Dal Lake went into its 21st day.

Habibullah and two other negotiators thought they had a deal after talks in the middle of night on Wednesday to end a siege that the government has insisted will not be resolved by force.

The government prepared for the end of the siege by imposing a curfew on large parts of Srinagar, summer capital of largely Hindu India's only Muslim-majority state. It deployed large numbers of soldiers and paramilitary troops.

But as the day progressed and Habibullah went back several times to Hazratbal, revered by Kashmiri Muslims for contemplating what they believe is a hair from the beard of the Prophet Mohammad, it became clear a problem had arisen.

Government officials said the

IJO director

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members of the IJO which held the election on the second day of its 3-day Council session

K M Rabhani, a CSP of the 1959 batch, was earlier secretary of different ministries including Labour and Manpower, Industries, Agriculture, and Jute and Textile.

The term of the outgoing Executive Director Shamsul Huq (his term ends on January 8, Mostafiz

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prised of, the US Assistant Secretary that the poverty alleviation and mass education programmes remained on the top of the priorities of the government.

Mostafiz hoped that US-Bangladesh relations would be strengthened through increased interactions between the two democratic governments.

Murtaza Bhutto

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officials said today.

Abdul Rehman Shah will be replaced by District and Sessions Judge Ali Ahmed Junejo.

No official reason was given for the moves but an official at the Law and Parliamentary Affairs Ministry said other judges had also been transferred.

JCD to get rid

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rance of any connection between the murders of Jinnah and Patel and of Jinnah's involvement in the collection of tolls or the construction business.

However, some relatives told The Daily Star yesterday that Jinnah was a first class contractor and had been working with the PWD for the past one year.

Rabiu Awad Lablu and Ruhul Alam Mahbub Manik, the latter better known as Booster Manik, who were expelled from the JCD along with three other comrades on Tuesday were Jinnah's business partners, said relatives who preferred anonymity.

On the day he was murdered, Jinnah left home along with Lablu and Manik to deposit a cheque of Tk 5 lakh which he had received from the PWD as part-payment of a bill for a recent work on the previous day, in Lablu's account.

"Jinnah was killed by a JCD group led by Sayeed Sohrab — central JCD literary secretary — who is also a relative of Lablu," said deceased Jinnah's relative.

The JCD also expelled Sayeed Sohrab on Tuesday, a day after Jinnah was killed.

Jinnah, who completed his HSC and B. Com. studies in Jamalpur, and Rajshahi, got admitted in the Food and Nutrition Institute of Dhaka University for his post-graduate degree in 1989. His father Nurul Islam is a deed-writer in the sub-registrar's office in Jamalpur. Jinnah was the third among six siblings and the eldest among three brothers.

Jinnah married Neela — a JCD leader and vice president (VP) of the university's Shamsur Nahar Hall unit — on October 20 last.

Sohrab, who the relatives accused as the 'killer' was present at their wedding ceremony as the main guardian of the bride, according to Jinnah's relatives.

Asian artists

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The concluding session of the seminar also adopted several other resolutions with a view to promoting the domain of Asian arts and strengthening ties among the painters, sculptors and art critics of the region.

The seminar felt that more monetarily rewarding awards should be introduced for the artists and the art critics be included in the jury board.

It also suggested art exchange programmes among the Asian countries and more seminars and symposia on arts.

PM lauds army role

NATORE, Nov 4: Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today commended the role of the members of the corps of engineers of Bangladesh Army in the country's socio-economic uplift, reports BSS.

She described the members of Bangladesh Army as the sentinels of our independence and sovereignty and said they have always discharged their noble duties in protecting the country's integrity and extended their helping hands in tackling the natural calamities and disasters.

The Prime Minister was addressing the members of the corps of engineers at their second reunion held at the Qadira-bad Cantonment, 42 kilometres from here.

This cantonment, the centre of the corps of engineers, is named after Shaheed Lt. Col. Mohammad Abdul Qadir.

The Prime Minister recalled the supreme sacrifices of Lt. Col. Qadir for the cause of freedom of the nation. He was picked up by the occupation army during the War of Independence on April 17, 1971 from his Chittagong residence and was killed later.

Shaheed Qadir worked as an engineer in the army.

The Prime Minister said the contributions of the corps members to different uplift programmes including construction of the All Kadam Chiringa Road in inaccessible areas of the Chittagong Hill Tracts, the Gomati Dam, the Sirajganj groyne and the Cox's bazar Road are remarkable.

Begum Zia expressed her happiness for naming the cantonment after the name of Shaheed Lt. Col. Qadir and paid her tributes to the martyrs of the corps including Shaheed Captain Mohiuddin Jahangir Bir Srestha of the War of Independence.

She said the nation would always remember with honour those who had embraced martyrdom in protecting the territorial integrity of the nation.

The Prime Minister said the members of engineers corps have proved their efficiency and skill not only at home but also abroad. The members played a significant role in protecting the sacred land of Saudi Arabia and reconstruction of war ravaged Kuwait, she said.

Begum Zia said the participation of the engineers corps in peace keeping and removing mines in Cambodia was highly acclaimed by the international community.

She called upon the retired

3 arrested for forging Home Minister's signature

By Staff Correspondent
Three persons were taken to police custody in the city yesterday for allegedly forging the signature of Home Minister - Abdul Mujib Chowdhury.

Two persons — Nurul Haque and Abdul Barez — were arrested by the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) at their headquarters at 27 Park Avenue when they went to the DMP Commissioner AN Hussain with a recommendation letter of the Home Minister to exempt a couple from a case lodged with Sabujbagh police in July this year.

A police source said, the Commissioner found the signature forged and called the Detective Branch Police who arrested the two persons.

After questioning Nurul and Barez, the Detective Branch arrested another person — Abdul Hamid — for his alleged involvement in the forgery.

PM: Opposition

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programme would be intensified in the area and a regulator would be constructed on river Boral to help in irrigation of the area.

She also said more sugar mills would be set up to meet the country's demand.

The Prime Minister later distributed chicks and goats among 10 distressed families of the area.

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Hasina tells BCL extended meet

Govt provides students with black money, arms

Sheikh Hasina yesterday strongly criticised the government for what she called destroying the character of students by providing them with black money and arms in a bid to prolong its stay in power, reports UNB.

"BNP is wallowing in corruption... now it tries to destroy the future of students by giving them black money and firearms to back vandalism and control campuses and student unions," she alleged and urged the students community to combat terrorists politically.

Hasina, president of the Awami League and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, was addressing the opening session of the three-day extended meeting of the Chhatra League at the Awami League office.

Directly blaming the ruling party for unabated violence in colleges and universities, Hasina said without indulgence of the government, continued incidents of violence and killings cannot take place. She rebuked the police for "guarding the ruling party terrorists."

The Awami League chief underscored the need for an educated political leadership to govern the country judiciously and asked her student workers to devote themselves to learning first. "You can well realise now what disaster can befall a nation under an uneducated political leadership."

Expressing her concern at the dismal condition of education in the country, she said rate of literacy has failed to achieve any substantial progress because of "negligence to education by the post-75 regimes." The literacy rate was 26 per cent in 1973 and it rose to only 30 per cent in last 20 years.

Hasina rejected the government claim that the highest allocation was given to the education sector and called it "a sheer bluff." She asked the government to give break-up of allocations in primary, secondary, vocational and higher education.

In Parliament, she said, the Awami League moved a resolution for setting up a primary

Raozan AL leader shot

CHITTAGONG, Nov 4: Secretary of the Haldia Union Awami League in Raozan thana received bullet wounds when gunmen opened fire at him near his residence at Yasinnagar this morning, reports UNB.

Police said Idris Master, 45, was shot by unidentified gunmen while he was walking outside his house at about 7 am. He was rushed to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Local Awami League leaders Mosharrif Hossain and MA Salam, in a statement, accused the NDP activists of the attack, and demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the offenders.

Taiwan jet plunges into sea: All safe

HONG KONG, Nov 4: A Taiwan jumbo jet with nearly 300 people aboard skidded on the runway and plunged into the sea while trying to land in strong winds and heavy rain at the Hong Kong Airport today, reports AFP.

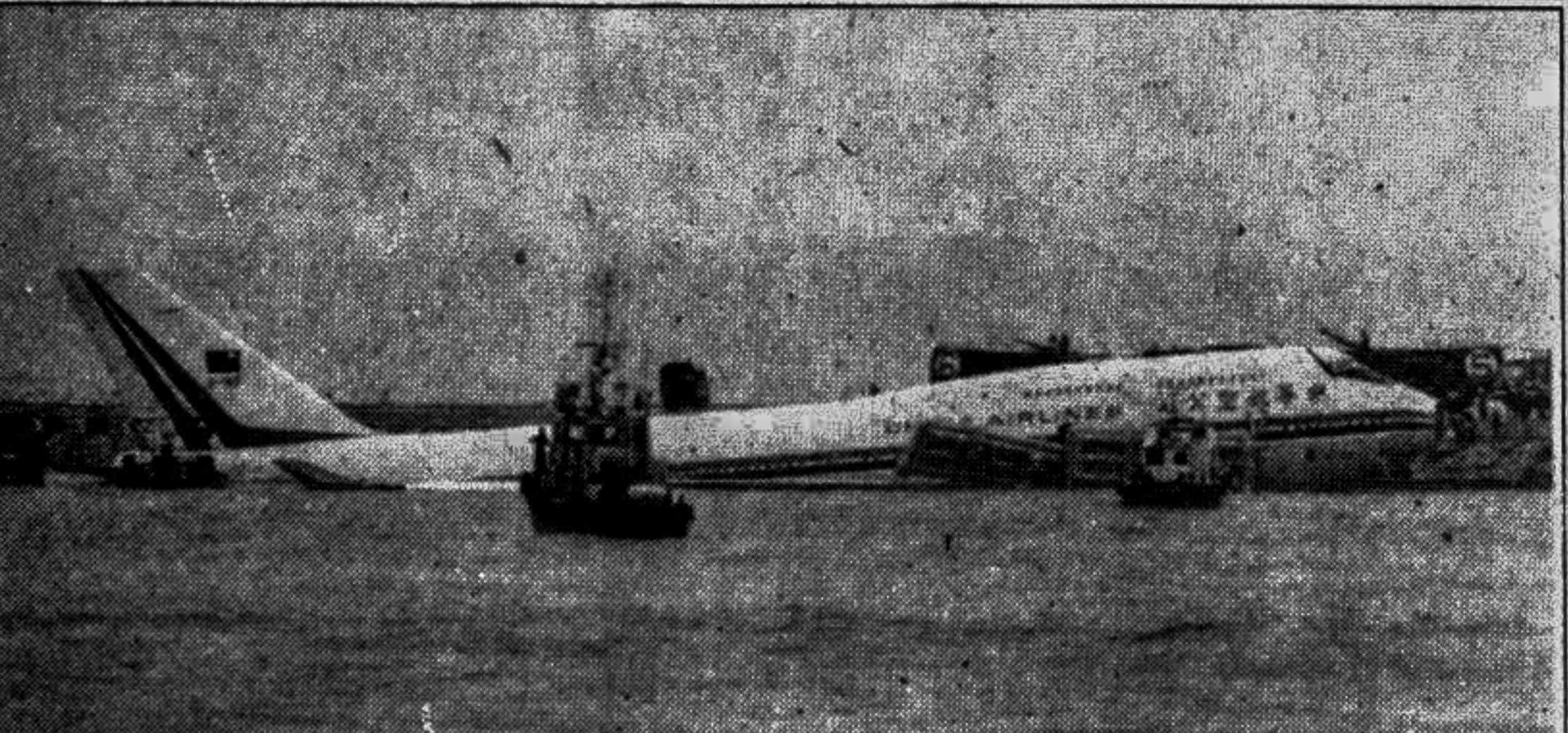
The China Airlines Boeing 747-400 ended up half submerged in the sea with its nose resting on the embankment of the runway which just out into the harbour.

Miraculously there were no fatalities. Only five minor injuries and all passengers were evacuated to safety.

Passenger David Wu, from Taipei, told AFP afterwards "there was no panic, just kids crying."

Wu, in his 20s, was sitting at the back of the plane. He said there was no big shock as the aircraft hit the sea... it was quite gentle, but as the rescue operation got underway he noticed that water was coming in the rear door.

Cal flight 605 from Taipei, with 274 passengers and 22 crew on board, was trying to land when the accident occurred at 11:39 am, (0339 GMT).



A China Airlines aircraft of Taiwan with 296 passengers on board floats in Hong Kong's Victoria Harbour yesterday after it overshot the runway trying to land in strong winds and rain. — AFP photo