

International

Kuwait opposes using force against Iraq

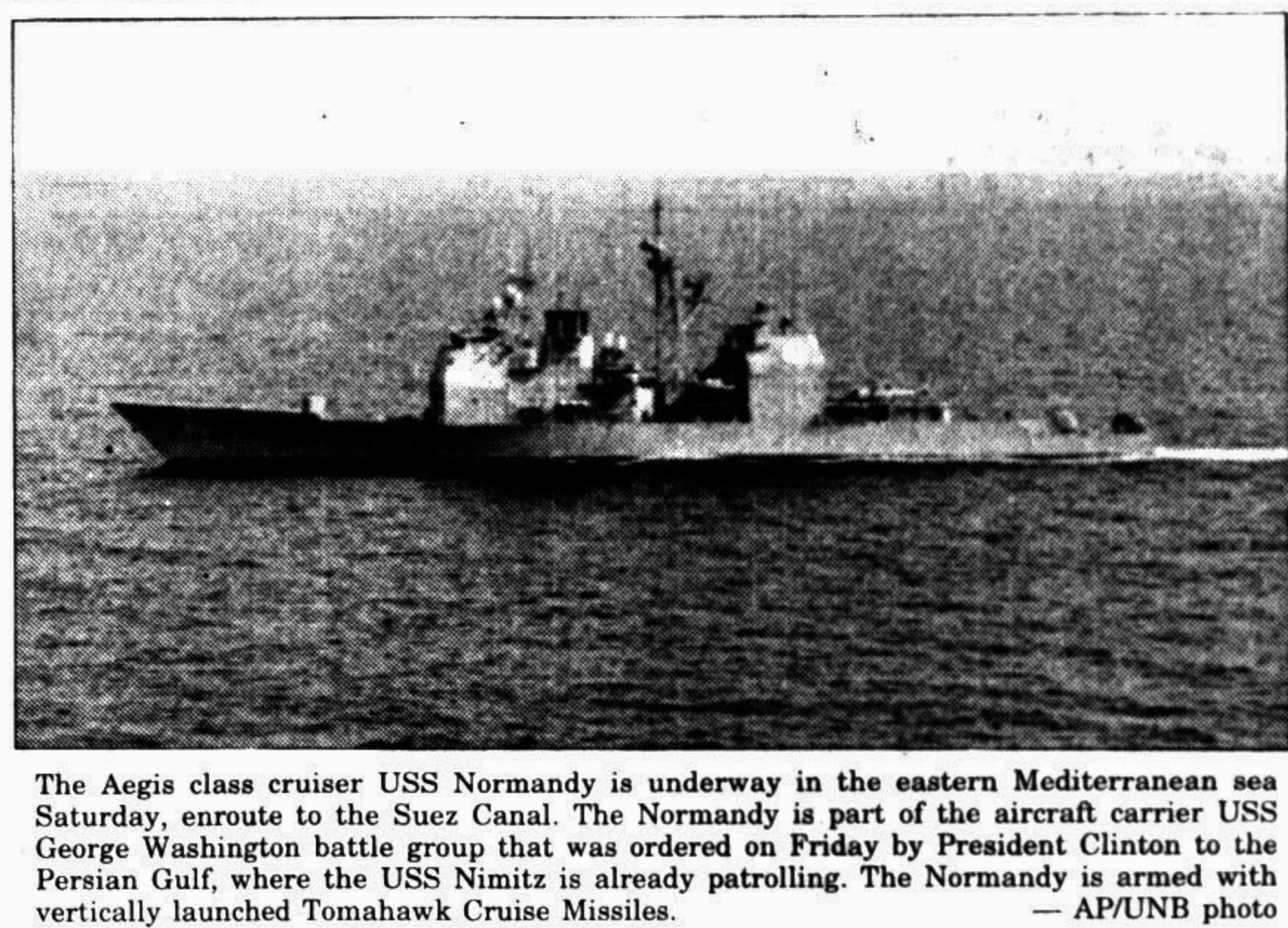
CAIRO, Nov 16: Kuwait's foreign minister said today his country opposed using force against Iraq in its latest confrontation with the United Nations, reports Reuter.

China frees dissident Wei Jingsheng

BEIJING, Nov 16: China's most prominent pro-democracy campaigner, Wei Jingsheng, was released from prison Sunday and left for the United States, his sister told Hong Kong Cable TV, reports AP.



US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, left, shakes hands with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, at the start of their bilateral talks at the US Ambassador's residence in Berne, Switzerland, Saturday.



The Aegis class cruiser USS Normandy is underway in the eastern Mediterranean sea Saturday, enroute to the Suez Canal. The Normandy is part of the aircraft carrier USS George Washington battle group that was ordered on Friday by President Clinton to the Persian Gulf, where the USS Nimitz is already patrolling. The Normandy is armed with vertically launched Tomahawk Cruise Missiles.

Classmate claims 33-yr relationship with Clinton

LONDON, Nov 16: A woman who claims to have had a 33-year relationship with President Clinton says he wanted it to continue when they last met again three years ago. The Times of London reported Saturday, reports AP.

'There will be no public statement on Kashmir' Albright to discuss wide range of issues during India visit

NEW DELHI, Nov 16: US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will discuss a wide range of issues during her visit to India this week but will tiptoe around the political minefield of Kashmir, analysts say, reports AP.

BRIEFLY

Bodies of Americans in US: The steel gray coffins carrying the bodies of four American oil company workers killed in Pakistan arrived in Delaware on Sunday, AP reports from Dover.

20 die from liquor poisoning in Bombay

BOMBAY, Nov 16: A weekend drinking spree at an illegal bar in western India left 20 villagers dead of alcohol poisoning and another 20 seriously ill, doctors said Sunday, reports AP.

NLD takes wait & see stance on military changes in Myanmar

YANGON, Nov 16: One of Myanmar's top opposition leaders acknowledged Sunday the country's new military regime has a friendlier name but reserved judgment on whether the leaders would change in their deeds, reports AP.

Mandela begins long farewell to power

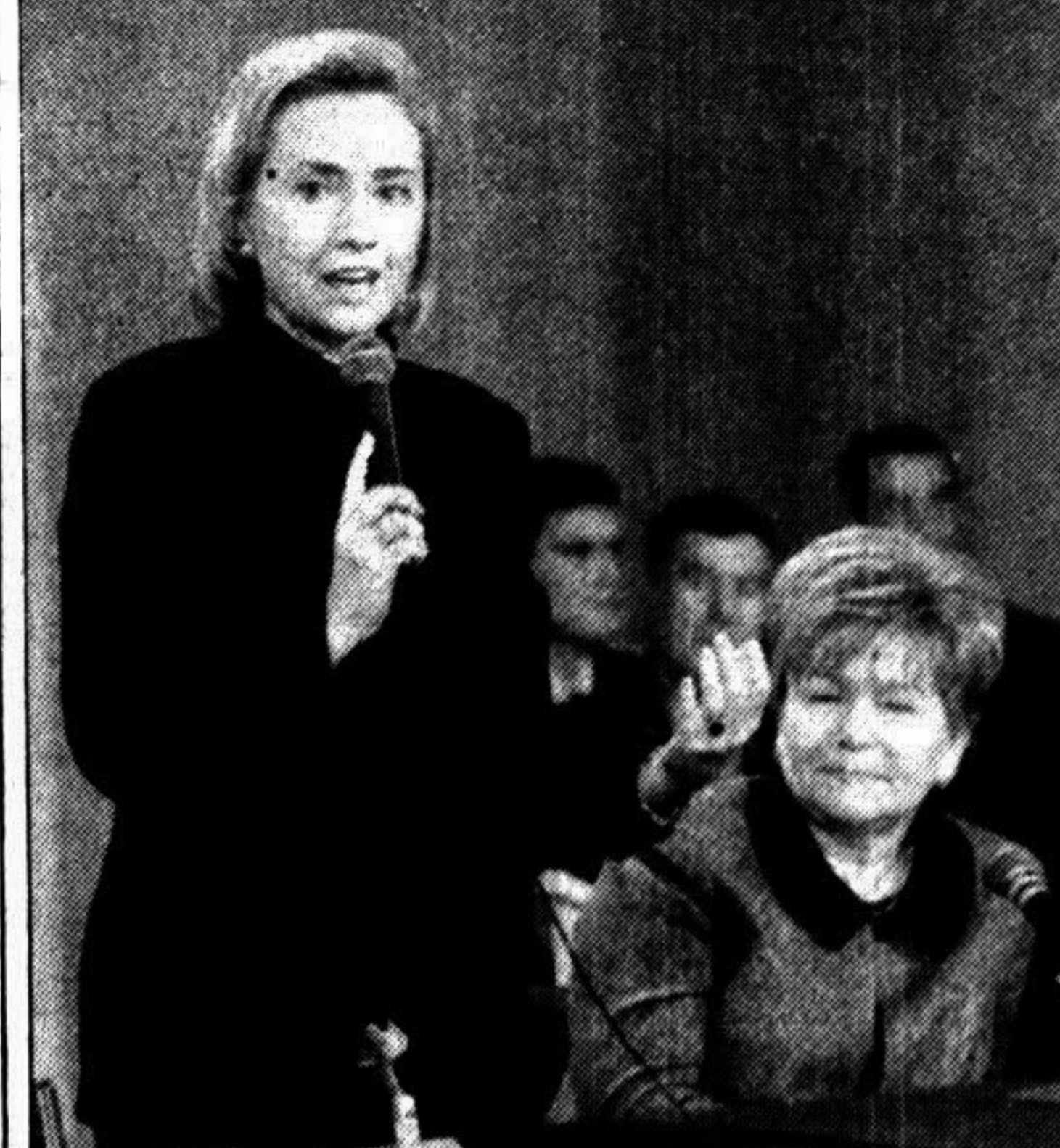
JOHANNESBURG, Nov 16: President Nelson Mandela began his long farewell to power on Saturday when he met his party's National Executive Committee for the last time as leader of South Africa's ruling African National Congress (ANC).

Off the Record

Thais cook the world's biggest omelet during a fair to promote egg consumption in Chachoengsao province, 31 kilometres (20 miles) east of Bangkok, Saturday. Using 20,999 eggs, 1,100 cooks along with 499 assistants are hoping their monster meal will make it into the Guinness Book of World Records.

Sex workers demand legality for their profession in India

Calcutta, Nov 16: Young Parul was lured from Murshidabad district of West Bengal to Calcutta with the promise of a job as domestic help. She ended up in Sonagachi, the largest red light area in the city with about 5,000 sex workers and a floating population of some 1,500 other women, reports India Abroad News Service.



First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton answers a question as Russian First Lady Naina Yeltsin looks on at town hall meeting at the Urals Polytechnical University in Yekaterinburg, Russia, Saturday. The meeting was hosted by Urals Women's Association, the most prominent women's umbrella association in the Urals region.

Kalpna becomes India's 1st woman astronaut

KARNAL, India, Nov 16: Until recently the sleepy northern Indian town of Karnal had also claim to fame, as the birthplace of an invincible mythological warrior named Karna, reports AP.

... and they lived happily ever after

SYDNEY: A 39-year-old factory worker and mother of five from a working-class Sydney suburb has won a 15 million Australian dollar (10.5 million US) lottery jackpot, officials said Sunday, reports AFP.

Nobody knew Di better than him

LONDON: Princess Diana's butler Paul Burrell, whom she described as 'my rock,' is to help choose the permanent memorial to her, reports Reuter.

Caution for smokers who tend to inhale deeply

LONDON: Medical researchers say low-tar cigarettes are causing a new wave of cancer among smokers who tend to inhale them more deeply, according to British Sunday newspaper, reports Reuter.