

# News Digest

By The Associated Press

## Egyptian plane lands in Italy; Palestinian hijackers on board

ROME — An Egyptian military airplane carrying the four Palestinians who hijacked an Italian luxury liner and said they killed an American arrived in Sicily early today, Italian officials said.

A spokesman for the office of Premier Bettino Craxi, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the aircraft had touched down at Sicily's Sigonella airport, a NATO base near Catania, at 12:30 a.m. (6:30 p.m. Thursday CDT).

"Yes, all the terrorists are on board," he said, adding that it appeared the plane would not soon be leaving.

He said the Egyptian plane was escorted by U.S. military aircraft, but he did not know how many. A NATO spokesman contacted by telephone said he had no details on the landing.

An Italian government statement said President Reagan had asked Craxi

to let the plane land, and Craxi agreed, the Italian news agency ANSA reported.

Craxi's spokesman confirmed that he received a call from the White House, but did not know what was said.

Italian news agencies quoted Foreign Ministry sources as saying there had been several communications between Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti and Egyptian and American officials.

Earlier Thursday, Italian news agencies quoted unidentified sources as saying Italy had demanded the pirates be handed over for prosecution. They are reported to have killed an American Jew during the two days they held control of the Italian liner, Achille Lauro, with 500 people aboard.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had told reporters in Cairo earlier that he had allowed the hijackers to leave

Egypt on Wednesday night and they were the responsibility of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Craxi on Thursday said Italy would seek the extradition of the hijackers after a preliminary investigation. Italian news agencies, quoting unidentified sources, said Italy had asked the PLO to turn over the four men because the murder had occurred on an Italian ship.

In other news, an Austrian woman emerged Thursday morning from the hiding place where she spent the duration of the hijacking of an Italian cruise ship, her ambassador said. Anna Hoerangner, who is in her 50s and walks with the help of a cane, did not know the four Palestinian sea pirates had surrendered late Wednesday afternoon when she emerged from a toilet aboard the Achille Lauro. She had been reported missing.

## Rebels kill dozens in attack

LA UNION, El Salvador — Up to 400 leftist guerrillas attacked the army's main training center Thursday, killing dozens of soldiers and wounding 68, the army said. It was the rebels' biggest operation in more than a year.

But the insurgents failed in their apparent objective of blasting the rows of barracks where about 2,000 trainees slept. Soldiers recovered several homemade bombs, which they placed in a large pile near the bodies of 10 rebels in a make-shift morgue at this sprawling base 113 miles east of the capital.

Lt. Col. Joaquin Cerna Flores, commander of the Military Training Center of the Armed Forces, said 40 soldiers died in the attack. An employee at nearby La Union hospital said it had received the bodies of 58 soldiers. The guerrillas' clandestine Radio Venceremos claimed government cas-

ualties were near 200, but did not give a breakdown of dead and wounded.

Cerna Flores said American military advisers at the base did not join in the fighting and were not injured. The colonel said there were 10 to 12 Americans on the base, but the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador put the number at five.

Cerna Flores said the rebels began firing rockets and mortars at the base at about 1:30 a.m. and continued a steady barrage for about two hours.

"Considering the number of troops here it is fortunate the toll was not higher," he said, noting that about three-fourths of the soldiers at the base have had very little training.

The others, he said, were there for advanced training. They did most of the fighting, and Cerna Flores said casualties were kept low because of their

response, and the arrival within 20 minutes of helicopters from nearby San Miguel.

He estimated the number of attackers at between 350 and 400, and said soldiers were scouring the presumed escape routes for the guerrillas.

The rebels have not attacked in such strength in more than a year.

Better surveillance techniques and training for the army has caused the rebels to take their campaign back to the jungles and countryside, and concentrate on urban terrorist acts such as the kidnapping of the president's daughter last month.

It was the worse blow to the army since last Dec. 3 when rebels killed 43 soldiers, wounded 20 and captured 40 in an ambush at El Salto, 35 miles southwest of the capital.

## MIA 'breakthrough'

### Hanoi agrees to excavation proposal

UNITED NATIONS — In what could be a major breakthrough in the search for Americans missing in action, a top-ranking Vietnamese Cabinet minister says his government agrees in principle to allowing U.S. excavation teams into the Hanoi area for the first time.

Other official American and Vietnamese sources said Vietnam has agreed to a U.S. proposal that the countries carry out a joint survey and excavation of a crash site near Hanoi as an experiment.

The sources said the date and other details of the excavation have yet to be worked out.

Vo Dong Giang, a Cabinet minister without portfolio and the second-ranking official in the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday that with regard to joint excavations: "In principle we are agreeable except in the crash sites where our security cannot permit foreigners to have access."

A U.S. State Department official in Washington, D.C., confirmed that American officials have discussed the joint excavation of sites with a Vietnamese delegation led by Giang.

The State Department official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the Vietnamese had expressed their agreement in principle to the proposal at meetings in Hanoi Aug. 28 and 29 and in New York Sept. 27 with Richard Childress, the National Security Councils' political and military affairs director.

The State Department official said that since both sides had agreed to speed up the search, the United States passed on to the Vietnamese "many more cases" at the meeting in Hanoi in August.

The first official U.S. excavation in Communist territory was carried out last February in southern Laos at the site where a C-130 transport was shot down in December 1972.

American excavation teams have never ventured into North Vietnam although recovery operations were carried out in U.S.-backed South Vietnam before the fall of its capital, Saigon, in April 1975.

Hanoi previously has limited American teams to rare visits of crash sites.

In an interview, Giang disclosed for

the first time details of Vietnam's three-part plan designed to settle the MIA issue in two years:

- The Vietnamese will do the major part of the searches.
- In cases where it is extremely difficult to reach crash sites such as those in deep water or in an abyss where cranes and other heavy equipment would be needed, Hanoi would ask the United States for help.

● Giang said his government was agreeable to joint excavations. A Pentagon official said that he thought the first such excavation would be at the site of a B52 bomber crash, but said he understood the project still was in the discussion stage.

Giang said he agreed with the U.S. State Department that the talks were the most positive step in more than four years of trying to account for the 2,455 American servicemen and civilians still listed as missing or unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, including 1,811 in Vietnam.

Thus far, Vietnam has turned over the remains of 108 Americans, according to Pentagon reports.

## In Brief

### Debt limit raised above \$2 trillion

WASHINGTON — After ending eight days of wrangling over a balanced budget plan, the Senate agreed to raise the national debt limit to more than \$2 trillion Thursday night.

The Senate voted 51-37 to increase the government's line of credit from its current \$1.824 trillion to \$2.078 trillion, enough to meet the government's borrowing needs for the next year.

The action came after the Senate completed several revisions to the balanced budget plan that was attached to the debt limit legislation on Wednesday.

The House, in effect, agreed to the debt limit increase when it passed a budget blueprint on Aug. 1, but the addition of the budget plan in the Senate will require further action.

### Actors Yul Brynner, Orson Welles die

In New York, Yul Brynner, the man who was king for a record 4,625 performances in the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "The King and I," died after a two-year battle with lung cancer. He was 65.

"He faced death with a dignity and strength that astounded his doctors. He fought like a lion," a family spokesman said.

Lights on marquees and theaters along Broadway were dimmed at 8 p.m. Thursday "in the king's memory," he said.

Brynner made more than three dozen movies, including "The Ten Commandments," "The Magnificent Seven," "Anastasia," "Taras Bulba" and "Westworld."

In Los Angeles, Orson Welles, who created the film classic "Citizen Kane" and a radio tale about a Martian invasion that terrified millions of listeners, died Thursday at his home, authorities said. He was 70.

"The cause of death appears to be natural in origin," said Donald Mesnerie, assistant chief of coroner's investigations. Welles had been suffering from diabetes and a heart ailment, his doctor said.

Welles stunned the film world in 1941 with his first venture in film, "Citizen Kane," based on the life of publisher William Randolph Hearst. Welles directed, wrote and starred in the film, winning an Oscar for writing. He also was nominated for directing and acting Oscars.

His other credits included the classic "Othello," "The Magnificent Ambersons," "The Third Man," "A Touch of Evil," "The Lady from Shanghai" and dozens of others in a career that spanned more than 40 years.

### Arms sale to Jordan called 'necessity'

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State George Shultz told skeptical senators Thursday that approval of the Reagan administration's \$1.9 billion arms sale to Jordan is an "absolute necessity" for ultimate success in the search for peace in the Middle East.

Testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Shultz said Jordan's King Hussein has taken "courageous moves" toward opening negotiations with Israel, and added that from the king's point of view, "You like to feel that peace has friends, and the friends of peace will stand with you."

But several members of the committee challenged Shultz's description of events in the Middle East. "I disagree that the king of Jordan has made meaningful moves," said Sen. Rudy Boschwitz, R-Minn. "...He puts a number of obstacles in the way of peace."

Shultz' 90-minute appearance before the committee represented the beginning of what is expected to be a hard sell for the administration to win approval for its proposed sale of sophisticated aircraft and air defense missiles to Jordan.

### Kerrey preparing revenue proposal

LINCOLN — Gov. Bob Kerrey said Thursday he is conferring with senators about a proposal he has worked out for a special legislative session he will call as soon as possible but not before next Wednesday.

Kerrey declined to discuss details of the plan to deal with declining state revenues, other than to say he will not propose a 1 percentage point increase in the state income tax rate.

The governor said he will suggest both budget cuts and revenue-raising measures to lawmakers.

Kerrey is to have a news conference this afternoon to announce a date and topics for the session. Kerrey has said the special session would last at least two weeks and as long as a month.

### Town may become common grave

PONCE, Puerto Rico — The National Guard ordered everyone out of Mameyes shantytown Thursday after Puerto Rico said it was considering making a common grave of the mudslide that was believed to have buried up to 500 people this week.

Gov. Rafael Hernandez Colon said a decision will be made soon whether to seal off the disaster site outside Ponce to avoid an outbreak of disease. The governor's office said the action could be taken by this weekend.

Dr. Godano San Antonio, the Ponce region's health department director, said decomposing bodies, covered by mud, rocks and splintered homes, were creating a threat of water contamination, typhoid fever, mosquito-borne diseases, tetanus and diphtheria.

### New cigarette warning labels used

WASHINGTON — New and specific health warnings are appearing on cigarette packages and advertising, a change medical experts hope will help persuade Americans to quit — or never start — smoking.

"The public needs to know the danger, since this is the single most preventable source of heart disease, cancer and lung disease. I think that freedom of choice...demands that this be an informed choice," said Dr. John A. Oates, chairman of the department of medicine Vanderbilt University.

The new system of rotating label warnings becomes official Saturday, although the labels already have begun to appear in some areas. Unlike the old warning on every pack and in every cigarette advertisement that cigarette smoking is dangerous to health, the new labels state specific dangers, including cancer, heart and lung disease and hazards to pregnant women and their babies.

## Newsmakers

### A roundup of the day's happenings

**President Reagan**, splitting the difference between the monetarist and supply-side schools of economics, picked Wayne D. Angell and Manuel H. Johnson to fill two seats on the powerful Federal Reserve Board. Johnson, assistant treasury secretary for economic policy, is a follower of the supply-side school that believes in the need for sharp cuts in tax rates and an easy monetary policy to stimulate economic growth. Angell, a banker, farmer and economics professor is less clearly identified in his philosophy, but is regarded as more of a monetarist who advocated steady money growth as a way of guarding against inflation.

**The Atlanta Braves** have hired Chuck Tanner to manage the club for the next five years. Team owner Ted Turner made the announcement after an hourlong meeting with Tanner and team president Bill Bartholomay.

Terms of the contract were not disclosed. Tanner, who was fired Monday after eight seasons with the Pittsburgh Pirates, replaces Bobby Wine, who took over as Braves manager in August.

**Two phony explosive devices** were found in a McDonald's restaurant in Kearney after a telephone bomb threat and were sent to Lincoln for analysis by the Nebraska State Patrol. Police Chief Robert Jateczak said someone called the McDonald's late Wednesday night claiming there was an explosive device in the building. The building was evacuated. Police and a Nebraska State Patrol investigator who searched the building found two small plastic objects, each about 4 inches in diameter, wrapped with electrical tape and with a digital clock attached.