

### General Assembly condemns denial of Arafat visa

UNITED NATIONS — The General Assembly on Wednesday overwhelmingly deplored the U.S. denial of a visa for Yasser Arafat, the first step towards a protest meeting in Geneva to hear the PLO chairman next month.

The vote in the 159-member assembly was 151-2. The United States and Israel voted against the resolution. Britain abstained. Other nations were absent.

Arab diplomats, who sponsored the resolution, said later that they planned to move swiftly to introduce another resolution shifting the Gen-

eral Assembly to Geneva in mid-December to hear Arafat speak on the declaration of an independent Palestinian state.

The resolution adopted Wednesday requested U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to report back on the U.S. response on Thursday.

But Secretary of State George P. Shultz declared earlier Wednesday that the United States would not reverse its decision, that Arafat be barred because he condones and encourages terrorism.

U.S. Ambassador Herbert S.

Okun, the acting U.N. representative, told the assembly that the U.S. government "does not agree with the tone or substance of the resolution and voted against it . . ."

"The denial of a visa to Mr. Arafat is fully consistent with the Headquarters Agreement between the United States and the United Nations and this includes our right to protect our national security," Okun said.

The 1947 U.S.-U.N. Headquarters Agreement requires visas to be granted to U.N. diplomats and people invited on U.N. business.

The adopted resolution "deplores

the failure by the host country to approve granting of the requested entry visa," and urges the United States to reconsider and reverse its decision.

The U.S. decision to bar Arafat, who spoke to the General Assembly in 1974, caused an international storm.

Undersecretary-General Joseph Verner Reed said the U.N. Secretariat was making plans to move to Geneva in mid-December to hear Arafat explain the Nov. 15 declaration of an independent Palestinian state and PLO plans for a Middle East peace

settlement.

Arafat has said he wants to explain the new position taken by the Palestine National Council, which acts as the PLO legislature, in implicitly recognizing Israel by accepting U.N. resolutions on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

If the session moves to Geneva, the world body's European headquarters, it would be the first time the assembly has done so in protest of an action by the host country. Arab diplomats say they have the necessary majority to accomplish it.

### Voice of freedom heard in Soviet bloc

WASHINGTON — The Kremlin has shut down thousands of broadcast jamming devices, allowing Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe to be heard "loud and clear" across the Soviet Union and most of Eastern Europe for the first time in 38 years, government officials said Wednesday.

The Soviet action came so quickly that radio engineers were only becoming aware of it as Secretary of State George Shultz said in a broadcast to Europe Wednesday morning that radio jamming was one area where progress was still needed with the Soviets.

Soviet jamming of Germany's Deutsche Welle and KOL Israel also stopped Tuesday, officials said.

"It's another marker in the Soviet march toward trying to be an acceptable citizen of the world community as against the pariah that they have been," said Charles Z. Wick, U.S. Information Agency director.

Wick said he and other U.S. officials have raised the issue of

jamming, which is illegal under international agreements, several times with the Soviets - most recently in a September visit by U.S. broadcasting officials to Moscow.

He said the move was likely was timed to coincide with the meeting of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev with President Reagan and President-elect George Bush next week in New York.

The jamming shutoff means that millions of Eastern European and Soviet citizens will hear American and other Western news and analysis in their own languages of events in the Soviet bloc. Voice of America, which has not been jammed anywhere except in Afghanistan since May 1987, focuses more broadly on U.S. and world affairs. VOA operates independently of Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe.

"The cessation of jamming represents a significant step on the part of the Soviet government toward the free flow of information," said Gene Pell, president of Radio Liberty, which is a congressionally funded operation based in Munich,

West Germany. Pell said that it was a strong signal in support of Gorbachev's policy of glasnost, or openness.

Pell said, however, jamming was still continuing against Radio Free Europe broadcasts to Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria. VOA broadcasts in the Dari and Pashto languages into Afghanistan also were still jammed, but the broadcasts of Radio Afghanistan, affiliated with Radio Free Europe, into the war-torn country were clear, he said.

Some officials suggested the limited jamming might be the result of a mix-up between the Soviets and allies who operate separate jamming gear.

"Reports from the Soviet Union and the Baltic republics confirm that Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe broadcasts are being heard loud and clear," said Pell.

He cautioned, however, that there was no indication whether the lifting was a permanent decision or whether it will be expanded to include "an absolute and irrevocable end to all jamming."



John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

### FDIC chair proposes \$30 billion S&L bailout

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. on Wednesday called for spending \$30 billion next year to shut down the "worst losers" in the savings and loan industry.

"We need to close the worst first," FDIC Chairman L. William Seidman said in a luncheon speech to the National Press Club. "... These institutions are losing over a billion dollars per month."

Seidman's agency insures depos-

its in commercial banks, not thrift institutions, but his agency is offering recommendations for solving the crisis in the savings and loan industry.

Some analysts recommend tapping Seidman's fund, a move he opposes, and estimate that the S&L cleanup will eventually cost \$50 billion to \$100 billion.

The Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Corporation, which insures deposits in thrift institutions, is technically insolvent. Regulators have been spending as little cash as pos-

sible, putting together rescue packages with promissory notes and guarantees committing revenue they expect to receive for the next 30 years from an assessment on healthy S&Ls.

Few analysts believe the industry can bear such a burden for that long.

Seidman did not call directly for a taxpayer bailout, saying only, "It's up to the Treasury Department and Congress to determine which alternative makes the most sense."

He said that the S&L industry

"certainly can contribute its part" but added that "beyond that contribution, the government must find the resources to meet this problem."

Seidman's recommendation to quickly close about 90 seriously insolvent S&Ls differs sharply from the views of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, responsible for regulating the nation's 3,028 federally insured S&Ls.

The bank board's approach has been to rescue most failed S&Ls and keep them open, fearing that massive

closings would leave some regions without service and devastate local economies by flooding the market with foreclosed real estate.

Others, including former presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter, and Congress' General Accounting Office, say it will be cheaper in the long run to spend heavily now to close failed S&Ls as soon as possible.

The \$9.27 billion in S&L losses through Sept. 30 already have topped last year's post-Depression record of \$7.8 billion.

### Cyclone kills 317 in Bangladesh and India

DHAKA, Bangladesh — A cyclone battered low-lying coastal areas of southern Bangladesh and eastern India, killing at least 317 people and razing hundreds of mud huts, officials and news reports said Wednesday.

At least 275 fishermen were reported missing in Bangladesh.

The casualty toll was expected to rise after reports arrived from hundreds of tiny islands and remote villages cut off after communication lines snapped during Tuesday's storm.

Officials at the Cyclone Preparedness Center in Dhaka said that the cyclone killed 288 people in southern Bangladesh.

Press Trust of India news agency said 29 people perished in eastern India.

Sources at the southern port of Chittagong said that a Singapore

registered vessel, the Pamir, sank in the cyclone with 16 crew on board. The fate of the crew members was not known, but port officials said they were presumed dead.

On the river Teesta, a boat caught up in the storm capsized near Bhairab, 45 miles northeast of Dhaka, and 20 of the 24 passengers were swept away and killed, an official said.

Food Minister Amjad Hossain said he expected the casualty figures to go up, but said timely evacuation of thousands of people had diminished loss of lives.

Southern Bangladesh is barely above sea level, and there are hundreds of islands, some little more than sandbars.

At least 500,000 people died when a cyclone struck the area in 1970, and at least 10,000 were swept away in a 1985 cyclone.

### Lincoln man kills neighbor

LINCOLN — A 22-year-old Lincoln man found walking down a street with a shotgun and blood on his clothing was in police custody Wednesday in connection with the shooting death of his neighbor.

Lancaster County Attorney Mike Heavican said David Morris was arrested after he led police to the victim's apartment.

The victim, whose name was not released pending the notification of relatives, was found on the bed of the apartment. It appeared that he was killed by a shotgun blast to the head, Heavican said.

### Joubert decision in February

PAPILLION — A judge said he probably will decide in February whether to set aside the death sentence of John J. Joubert, who pleaded guilty to the 1983 killings of two Nebraska boys.

Sarpy County District Judge Ronald Reagan said attorneys for both sides will have seven weeks to file written arguments on the question of whether Joubert had sound legal advice when he pleaded guilty to the

two murders. Police received word shortly after 2 p.m. Wednesday that a man with a shotgun and blood on his clothing was walking down a north Lincoln street, Heavican said. Police found the man, Morris, and he led them to the apartment, Heavican said.

Morris and the victim lived in the same apartment building and other residents said they appeared to be friends, Heavican said.

An autopsy has been scheduled for Thursday and it will probably be Friday before charges are filed in the case, Heavican said.

Joubert's post-conviction hearing came to a close on Tuesday after the testimony of Michael D. Goech, an assistant Lancaster County public defender.

### Daily Nebraskan

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