

U.S. wants Cedras out of the country

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Haitian strongman Raoul Cedras is resisting intense pressure from the United States not only to step down next week, but to leave the country, close associates said Thursday.

U.S. Embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager said the army chief is not obliged to leave Haiti under an agreement signed last month. But he stresses Cedras' departure would ease the process of bringing back exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

One U.S. source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the United States would be willing to help Cedras leave, if necessary.

But Cedras associates, who also spoke on condition of anonymity, say the 45-year-old general is influenced by his forceful wife, Yannick, who is adamant they remain in Haiti.

One possible exit for Cedras was slammed shut Thursday when authorities in neighboring Dominican Republic said no more Haitian leaders would be welcome.

Dominican Foreign Minister Carlos Morales Troncoso said Port-au-Prince police Chief Michel Francois had been granted a "temporary entry permit," but Cedras and other Haitian leaders "should look for another nation to go to."

America has more poor

WASHINGTON — The number of Americans living in poverty climbed past 39 million last year, the most since 1961.

Income growth seems to be concentrated among better-off Americans, Daniel H. Weinberg of the Census Bureau said Thursday.

"The long-term trend in the U.S. has been toward increasing income inequality," he said.

The Census Bureau's annual poverty report said 39.3 million people fell below the poverty level in 1993, which was defined as an income of \$14,763 for a family of four.

Full-time workers experienced a significant drop in income last year, a pattern similar to that of the 1980s,

explained Isaac Shapiro of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Children are 40 percent of the poor, but just 27 percent of the total population.

If non-cash benefits such as food stamps, Medicare, Medicaid, public housing and fringe benefits at work were counted as income the poverty rate would fall to 12.1 percent.

Blacks had the highest poverty rate, at 33.1 percent, compared to 30.6 percent for Hispanics, 15.3 percent for Asians and Pacific Islanders and 12.2 percent for whites.

Poverty in metropolitan areas, at 14.6 percent, was lower than in rural areas, 17.2 percent.

Soldiers killed during training

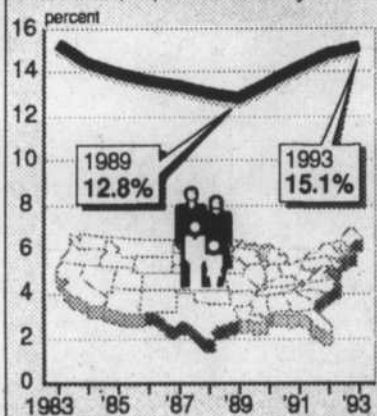
SEOUL, South Korea — Five U.S. soldiers were killed when their helicopter crashed in central South Korea, the U.S. military command in Seoul said Friday.

The HH-60G helicopter, from the 33rd Rescue Squadron in Kadena Air Base in Japan, was on a routine training mission when it crashed shortly after 8 p.m. Thursday near Jochewon, 94 miles south of Seoul, the command said.

The helicopter crashed in an unpopulated area and there were no injuries to people on the ground, the command said.

Poverty in America

The U.S. poverty rate rose to 15.1 percent in 1993. In all, 39.3 million Americans lived below the poverty level of \$14,763 for a family of four.



Source: Census Bureau

AP/Carl Fox

Bosnians strike back

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — In an attack that could jeopardize an agreement to reopen Sarajevo's vital airport link Thursday, government troops killed 16 Bosnian Serb soldiers and four nurses. All 20 were shot in the head.

U.N. officials said some were mutilated, others were burned, several were stabbed and some had their throats slit.

The Muslim-led government admitted its troops killed them, but denied the bodies were mutilated.

Yasushi Akashi, the top U.N. official in Yugoslavia, lodged a protest with Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic. Akashi said he feared the "tragic incident" could jeopardize an agreement with Serbs that reopened the Sarajevo airport Thursday.

Ejup Ganic, a deputy to Izetbegovic, admitted that Muslim-led government troops were responsible for the attack on Mount Igman, but said charges that the Serbs were mutilated was "pure fabrication."

"Our guys there just wiped them out," Ganic told The Associated Press. "We are not in the mutilating business, like the Serb side is."

Bosnia's Serbs, Croats and Mus-

Bosnia killings

□ Serb
■ Bosnian Serb
□ Croat
■ Muslim-Croat federation
□ Rebel Muslims



AP/Carl Fox

lims have all been accused of atrocities against ethnic rivals in the fierce 30-month war, but Serbs have been blamed for most of the abuses.

U.N. peacekeepers found the bodies Thursday afternoon just outside a demilitarized zone on the mountain southwest of Sarajevo.

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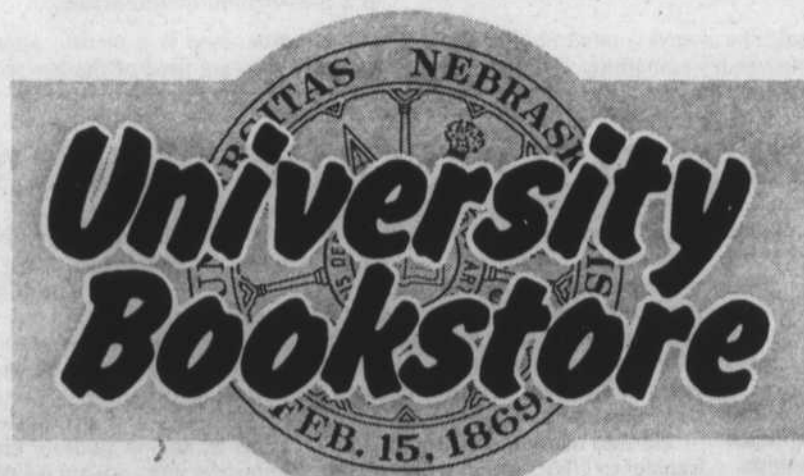
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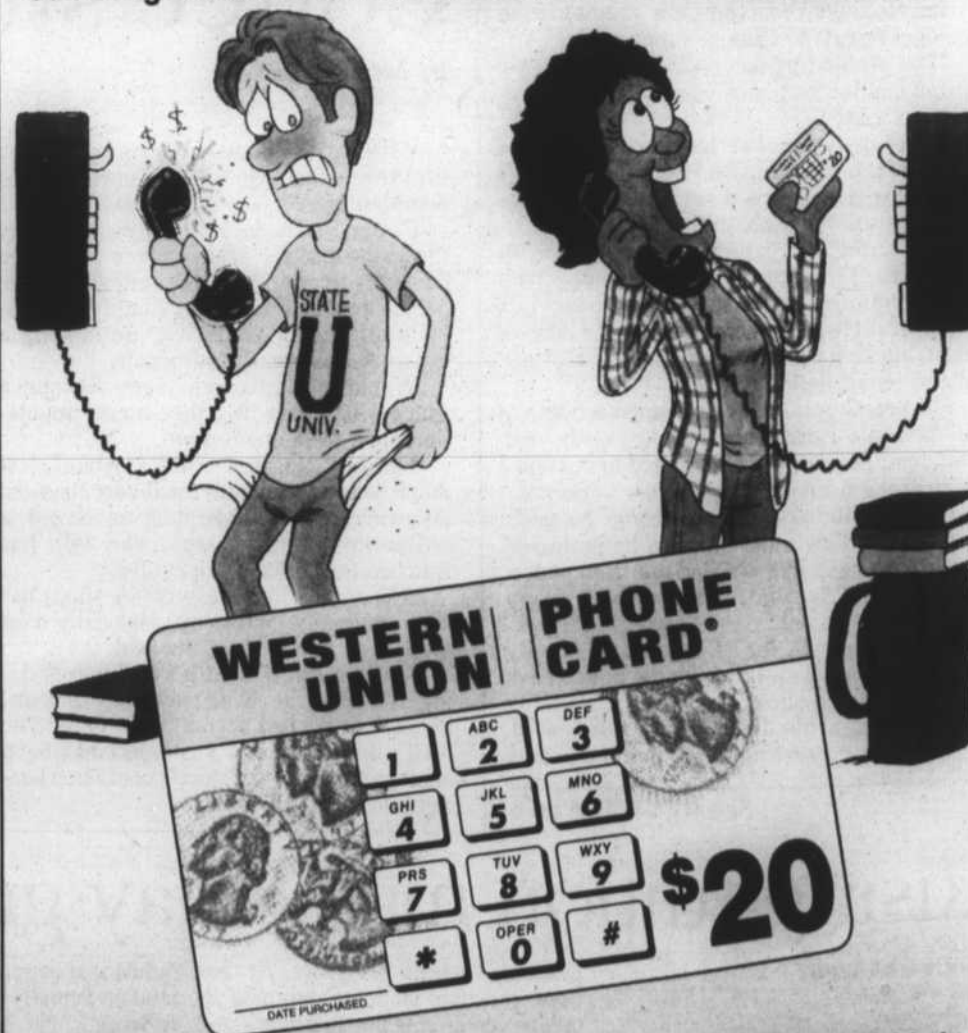


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