

Emergency declared after assassination in Colombia

BOGOTA, Colombia — Gunmen ambushed a prominent opponent of Colombia's president in a crowded Bogota street on Thursday, killing him and an assistant.

President Ernesto Samper declared a state of emergency, giving himself and security forces wide powers after the assassination.

Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, a former senator and ambassador to Washington, was hit four times in a hail of automatic weapons fire in front of the university where he taught law.

Gomez, 76, had written editorials in an opposition newspaper urging Samper to resign over allegations that the cartel had given millions of dollars to his 1994 election campaign.

In a somber, nationally televised address Thursday night, Samper said Gomez's assassination "makes the entire nation mourn."

He then announced police could make searches and arrests without court orders, and he placed limits on press freedom, saying the media

could not carry any declarations by persons involved in crimes.

A man telephoned radio stations and claimed responsibility for the attack on behalf of a group called "National Dignity."

"Await more actions," the caller said. In some of the calls, he demanded Samper's resignation.

A similarly-named group, "Movement for the Dignity of Colombia," claimed responsibility for an attack on Sept. 27 on Antonio Jose Cancino, a lawyer defending Samper against the allegations that drug traffickers had financially aided his election.

Cancino was lightly wounded and two bodyguards were killed in the attack, which some Colombians suspect was mounted to divert attention from the political crisis that threatens to topple the president.

Samper condemned Gomez's murder as "an attack on the entire nation." Army commander Gen. Harold Bedoya called it the work of terror-

ists trying to destabilize the country.

After the late morning attack, troops and riot police took up position in the streets. Hundreds of demonstrators clustered outside the hospital where Gomez died, chanting "Samper resign!"

Dozens of heavily armed police sealed off the area in front of Sergio Arboleda University, where the attack occurred. Bullet casings littered the street.

The attack killed aide Jose del Cristo Huertas and wounded a bodyguard and a street vendor.

The assailants escaped, possibly in a car or on a motorcycle, radio reports said.

The ambush recalled the worst days of the government's war against the Medellin cocaine cartel in the 1980s, during which dozens of senior officials were assassinated.

"It's not explicable. It's just barbaric," said former president Julio Cesar Turbay. "This is the blackest and darkest day we could have."

Bus hijacker killed; passengers are OK

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — For 75 terrifying minutes Thursday, an edgy man stood on a school bus with 11 disabled children aboard, repeatedly reaching into his jacket as if he had a gun and threatening to blow everyone up.

Four times, the bus, surrounded by police cars as it traveled 15 miles of Miami-area highways, came to a stop at his request. Several times, he shielded himself by crouching among his young hostages.

When negotiations failed, police shot him to death at the door of the bus and dragged him into an alley.

When it was over, the crying children were taken into Joe's Stone Crab restaurant, where the hijacker was a waiter, and given Cokes, french fries and ice cream.

The hijacker was identified as Catalino "Nick" Sang, 42, a native of the Dominican Republic who had lived legally in the United States since 1984 and went to

church every day.

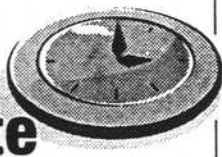
Sang walked off his job Wednesday night, telling his boss he couldn't handle the pressure. On Thursday morning, Sang asked his daughter to pray for him, went to church, became hysterical and started ranting, said Fred Taylor, director of the Metro-Dade Police Department.

"He was not coherent and he made several threats. He was disturbed, yelling. He was not rational," Taylor said.

Sang had been angry with the Internal Revenue Service and initially said he wanted to go to an IRS office, police said. The nature of his tax dispute was not immediately known. An IRS spokesman said the agency cannot discuss a private citizen's taxes.

During the hijacking, Sang carried a bag and told police he had a bomb. But the device turned out to be one of the children's respirators, and police found no weapon.

News in a Minute



Suicide bombings injure 11 Israelis

KISSUFIM JUNCTION, Gaza Strip — Suicide attackers set off back-to-back car bombs near Israeli buses in the Gaza Strip on Thursday, injuring 11 Israelis in apparent retaliation for the slaying of a radical Palestinian leader.

The first bomb went off shortly after 7 a.m. near an army-escorted bus carrying kindergarten teachers and baby sitters from Israel to the Gush Katif bloc of Jewish settlements in Gaza. Three soldiers, the driver, five baby sitters and two other women commuting to work were wounded.

The second attack was botched. The bomber tried to approach a bus and other vehicles waiting for an escort into Israel, but his car blew up 50 yards away.

Live-in couples can adopt in New York

ALBANY, N.Y. — In a ruling hailed by gay rights advocates, New York's highest court declared Thursday that unmarried people — homosexual or heterosexual — have a right to adopt their partners' children.

Since state laws recognize that single adults can adopt, regardless of sexual orientation, the right must also be extended to partners in gay or heterosexual relationships, the Court of Appeals decided in a 4-3 vote.

"To rule otherwise would mean that the thousands of New York children actually being raised in homes headed by two unmarried persons could have only one legal parent, not the two who want them," Chief Judge Judith Kaye wrote.

Truce of 35-year war begins

GUATEMALA CITY — Leftist rebels have begun the first cease-fire of Guatemala's 35-year civil war, a two-week truce for presidential elections that has raised hopes of lasting peace.

No cease-fire violations were reported Thursday, but the rebels warned in leaflets that the underlying causes of Central America's longest-running conflict must be addressed before any permanent accord can be reached.

President Ramiro de Leon Carpio said he hoped the truce, which began Wednesday, would be extended and spark accelerated peace talks between his government and rebels of the leftist Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity.

"The cease-fire will allow greater voter participation in the elections, but it should be prolonged indefinitely while issues are resolved at the bargaining table," de Leon Carpio said.

Drug use prompts conference

WASHINGTON — Marijuana use by black boys as young as 11 has tripled in four years. For white girls, it's more than doubled. And teens who carry guns or join gangs are more likely to use cocaine, a national survey says.

Against this bleak statistical backdrop, President Clinton said Thursday he will convene a White House conference to counter messages to teens that it's "cool, sexy, attractive" to drink or get high.

"This is madness, pure and simple. And we all have to do whatever we can to get it out of our lives," Clinton said in a speech before the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America.

The one-day conference, slated for January, would bring together police, academics and clergy, and officials in government, education and media to seek ways to reduce crime and drug use among juveniles, Clinton said.

As the president spoke, the Atlanta-based National Parent's Resource Institute for Drug Education, or PRIDE, released its annual survey of drug use and violence in junior and senior high schools.

With illegal drug usage by high school students steadily climbing over

"Clearly, the new movement back to drugs is led by younger students."

DOUG HALL

PRIDE spokesman

eight years and currently hovering near 35 percent, overall teen drug use will, in three or four years, reach 1979's all-time high of 51 percent, said PRIDE president Thomas J. Gleaton.

And junior high students seem to be leading the way.

The survey of 200,000 students in 32 states found that marijuana use in grades 6 through 8 skyrocketed during the 1994-95 school year. It measured 13.3 percent for black males for a 195 percent increase over the 1991-92 report; 6.7 percent for black females, a 253 percent increase over four years; and 7.2 percent for white females, a 118 percent relative increase.

Slightly more than 10 percent of white males in the same age group reported using marijuana last year, a 79 percent increase over the 1991-92

school year.

Overall, white students reported higher incidence of drug use than black students for the 10 substances studied, including cocaine, hallucinogens and inhalants. One example: 13.2 percent of white senior males used hallucinogens in 1994-95, compared with 4.6 percent of their black male peers.

Behavioral scientist Stephen Thomas at Atlanta's Emory University blamed the "disturbing" resurgence on waning national attention to drugs in the wake of Nancy Reagan's successful "Just Say No" campaign during the 1980s.

"Just Say No" really changed public perceptions," he said. "People were talking about the war on drugs. Now, there is a sense that the lack of attention to it as a national issue, has led to this relapse."

Boycott

Continued from Page 1

havior.

"We absolutely do not condone violence against women," he said. "We abhor it. For them to make that suggestion is absolutely wrong."

Popa said the Husker football team should set an example for how a "clean" football team should act. That means not keeping violent players on the team, she said.

As students, Popa said, the players also should be expected to behave in a certain way.

"I'm sick and tired of turning on the TV and seeing someone shoplifted something from Super K-Mart or beat another fellow athlete and threw her down the stairs," she said. "This is not

something Nebraskans should read about in the paper. It should not happen."

Popa said people also could boycott Nebraska football games or stop making contributions to the football program. "I already know some people who have sold their tickets and do not wish to participate in football games," she said.

Byrne said he thought the boycott was unfair to the sponsors, many of whom have been long-time supporters of women's athletic programs, not just the football program.

"The very people they are suggesting be boycotted are the ones who put a lot of time, effort and money to support opportunities for women," he said.

Nebraska has been a national

leader in offering athletic opportunities for women, Byrne said. If the boycott is successful, he said, it could hurt those opportunities.

"This type of boycott would reduce revenues we could put into women's programs," Byrne said. "That would be a real shame."

"When revenues go away, then opportunities decrease." Byrne would not speculate on how corporate sponsors may react.

Judith Kriss, director of the UNL Women's Center, said it was important to send a message to sponsors that violence against women was unacceptable.

"It's important that these sponsors realize a decision (to let Phillips back on the team) was made that did not send that message," she said.

Chancellor

Continued from Page 1

Arnold removed himself from the OSU president search last week, shortly before three finalists, including University of Nebraska at Kearney Chancellor Gladys Styles Johnston, were named.

Paul Risser, president of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, was appointed to the OSU post late Thurs-

day.

Arnold spent 20 years in the College of Agriculture at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He was hired at Oregon State in 1987 by then-provost Spanier, who came to UNL in 1991. When Spanier came to Nebraska, Arnold filled his position.

Arnold, who was raised in Lyons, Neb., has not been back to his home state since October 1994. He was awarded an NU Alumnus of the Year award from the College of Agricul-

tural Sciences and Natural Resources.

Arnold began his career at the University of Nebraska in 1967 in the department of food and science. In 1973, he was appointed to lead the department.

Seven years later, he was promoted to dean and director of the Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station. And in 1982 he became the vice chancellor at the Institute of Agricultural and Natural Resources, a position he held until leaving UNL in 1987.

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