

Israel puts financial freeze on Palestine

As more violence erupts, Israeli and Palestinian prime ministers fail to resume peace.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM - After rocketing Palestinian command centers, Israel announced Thursday it is freezing millions of dollars in tax transfers to the Palestinian Authority in an attempt to pressure Yasser Arafat to abide by truce agreements.

An envoy for President Clinton met separately with Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak but failed to nudge them toward resuming peace talks. Instead, more angry words of blame over the past seven weeks of violence flew between the two sides.

Two Palestinians were killed Thursday by Israeli fire in separate incidents near the West Bank town of Hebron.

In a rock-throwing clash in the West Bank refugee camp of Al Fawar, an 18-year-old Palestinian was shot and wounded in the chest. The victim's relatives said he bled to death when an ambulance was turned away at Israeli check-

points. The Israeli army said that because of an Israeli blockade of Palestinian towns, the patient was to be transferred to an Israeli ambulance, but there was confusion about the meeting point.

Later Thursday, a 30-year-old Palestinian man was killed at an Israeli checkpoint near the town of Beit Ummar. Palestinian witnesses said soldiers shot the man without provocation. The army said the man was killed when he tried to seize a soldier's weapon.

The deaths brought the number of people killed in the latest round of Israeli-Palestinian fighting to 223. The vast majority of the victims have been Palestinians.

On Thursday, thousands of Palestinians joined the funeral procession for a German man, 68-year-old chiropractor Harald Fischer. He was killed in an Israeli rocket and machine-gun fire attack on the West Bank town of Beit Jalla that came in response to Palestinian shooting Wednesday night on the nearby Jerusalem neighborhood of Gilo.

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, who is no relation to the victim, said he was "shocked and horrified" by the

killing. Israel promised an investigation and said Germany would be allowed to participate in the probe.

Israel enforced its blockade of Palestinian towns for a third day Thursday, barring residents from entering or leaving their communities. On the outskirts of the West Bank town of Hebron, Israeli soldiers stopped a Palestinian food truck. One soldier took the driver's keys and slashed the truck's tires. The army said tire-slashing was against policy.

Barak defended himself against growing criticism at home that the army was not responding harshly enough to Palestinian shooting attacks on Israelis. Four Israelis, including two civilians, were killed in ambushes this week.

Israeli helicopters rocketed three West Bank offices of Arafat's Fatah movement and an armory Wednesday night in retaliation for shooting attacks on Israelis. Israel believes Fatah's Tanzim militia is responsible for much of the violence.

"If we thought that instead of 200 Palestinian fatalities, 2,000 dead would put an end to the fighting at one fell stroke, then

"The transfer of funds has been stopped as part of our demand that the other side, too, will abide by agreements."

Ehud Barak
Israeli prime minister

perhaps we would use much more force," Barak told Israel radio.

Instead, Barak announced Thursday that Israel was withholding millions of dollars in tax revenues it owes the Palestinian Authority. "The transfer of funds has been stopped as part of our demand that the other side, too, will abide by agreements," Barak said.

On average, Israel had been transferring \$60 million a month in collected tax revenues to the Palestinian Authority, including money withheld from the salaries of Palestinian workers in Israel.

In the past six weeks, Israel has passed along only about \$7.5 million, said Salam Fijad, a representative of the International Monetary Fund in the Palestinian areas. Fijad said the taxes Israel collects make up

about two-thirds of the Palestinian Authority's total revenues.

Arafat said that withholding the funds is "part of the Israeli war against us."

The Palestinian leader met with Clinton's envoy, Dennis Ross, for nearly two hours Thursday in Gaza City. Arafat said Clinton, whose term ends in two months, "is insisting to achieve something (concerning peace talks) before his departure."

Asked whether there could be a peace agreement before then, Arafat said: "We hope so." Senior Palestinian officials have said confrontations with Israel would continue, even if talks resume.

Barak, who met with Ross late Wednesday, said he would only return to talks once violence was drastically reduced.

Gore awarded manual recounts

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Al Gore won his fight Thursday to expand manual recounts in Florida, even as advisers said he likely won't overtake George W. Bush's 300-vote lead before the Republican secretary of state certifies their marathon White House race Saturday. GOP lawyers asked courts to stop the counting and "the disintegration" of America's presidential election system.

The vice president and his team aggressively defended the hand recounts in Democratic-leaning counties, laying the groundwork for Gore's case to continue the vote-counting if he fails to pull ahead of the Texas governor before the secretary of state's deadline.

"The choice really is whether the voters are going to decide this election by having every vote count or whether that process is going to be short-circuited without all the votes being examined," Gore said in a radio interview.

The Florida Supreme Court later handed Gore a modest victory, authorizing officials in Palm Beach and Broward counties to recount ballots by hand. The effort, which officials said will take about six days, had been stalled on order of Secretary of State Katherine Harris.

The ruling did not say whether any votes found in the recounts can be added to Gore's totals — the heart of a legal clash that has thrust the presidential campaign into limbo. The justices are all Democratic appointees.

Within minutes, Palm Beach election officials decided to start recounting Thursday night.

After two full days of counting in 86 of 609 precincts, Gore had gained 21 votes in Broward County on the state's southeast coast.

"The Florida Supreme Court

"Once these votes are counted, we will know the final result of Florida's election and the nation's election. Win or lose, this election will be over."

Don Evans
Bush campaign chairman

has spoken: the counts can continue," said Gore chairman William Daley.

Bush supports the secretary of state's weekend deadline and wants a declaration of a Florida winner after the last overseas absentee ballots are due Friday at midnight.

"Once these votes are counted, we will know the final result of Florida's election and the nation's election," Bush campaign chairman Don Evans said. "Win or lose, this election will be over."

Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, who thus far has been unable to deliver the state for his brother, agreed: "Saturday morning we'll know who won the state," he said.

Democrats begged to differ. Gore's attorneys asked a state judge in Tallahassee to have hand recounts rolled into the election totals, even if the vote-counting isn't finished by Friday night.

They argued that Harris, a Bush supporter, acted arbitrarily when she refused to update vote totals with the results of manual recounts after a Tuesday deadline.

Bush looked to a federal appeals court in Atlanta to shut down the canvassing altogether, calling manual recounts inaccurate and prone to political mischief. Both sides said the case could be headed to U.S. Supreme Court.

"Eight days after Florida's presidential vote, the entire nation is witnessing the disintegration of a process that was designed to elect America's president," reads the Bush brief in the

federal appeal. "The Florida manual recount process is being used to eliminate any possibility of an orderly, rational and final end to the election."

The federal court also agreed to consider a related case filed by three Bush supporters from Brevard County. They claim their rights are being violated because their counties are not recanvassing votes by hand.

Some scenes were chaotic, bordering on the comical.

Broward County sheriff's deputies took custody of 78 tiny bits of paper after Republicans demanded that the scraps be held as evidence of potential ballot tampering. The paper, from the holes in punch-out ballots, was placed by police in an envelope marked, "Crime. Found Property."

Joked elections supervisor Jane Carroll, herself a Republican: "Let the chads fall as they may."

Later, a lawyer burst into the county's hurricane emergency center and served subpoenas on started county election officials.

"The nation is watching you," said Republican activist William Scherer, who filed a lawsuit on behalf of fellow attorney Steven Stoll.

The vice president began the day 300 votes behind Bush in Florida, with about 2,600 overseas absentee ballots to be counted Friday night.

Gore has hoped the additional hand recounting would vault him ahead of the Texas governor in the race for the state's 25 electoral votes and the White House.

Thousands greet Clinton in Vietnam

The president was the first in office to visit Hanoi, promises to 'build a better future.'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HANOI, Vietnam - President Clinton began a historic visit Thursday to Vietnam, stirring painful memories back home of America's longest and most unpopular war and promising a former enemy "to build a different future."

Clinton arrived in the communist capital late at night, the first U.S. president ever in Hanoi, a city once bombed by American warplanes. The welcoming ceremony was put off until morning, but that didn't stop thousands and thousands of Vietnamese from turning out at midnight to catch a glimpse of Clinton's limousine and jam the square in front of his hotel.

Even though the visit received scant advance publicity, the Vietnamese lined the streets, some just looking on and others waving and clapping when the president's motorcade passed.

"This only happens once in a thousand years," said homemaker Tran Thi Lan, 50.

Clinton was to be formally welcomed today by President Tran Duc Luong at an honor guard ceremony in the courtyard of the French-built presidential palace on Ba Dinh Square.

Reaching out to a generation of students born after the war, Clinton will speak at Hanoi National University to describe his vision for a new chapter in U.S.-Vietnamese relations. State-run television, in an unprecedented move, was to broadcast the address live.

More than 50 U.S. corporations sent executives to Vietnam during Clinton's visit in hopes of gaining a foothold in what they believe is a vast untapped market of 78 million people.

As a young man, Clinton "opposed and despised" the Vietnam War, organized protest marches and avoided the military draft. As commander in chief three decades later, Clinton acknowledged that "a lot of people still bear the wounds of war" in both countries.

The war cost 58,000 American lives and tore the nation with suffering and turmoil. The U.S. military buildup began in 1961, growing to 60,000 combat troops within four years and to 543,000 by 1969. U.S. forces in 1973 made a humiliating withdrawal that still haunts the Pentagon. North Vietnam's army captured Saigon in 1975, leading to the unification of the country under communist control.

The losses to the Vietnamese people were staggering: 3 million dead and thousands missing.

In a cautious rapprochement, Clinton lifted a trade embargo against Vietnam in 1994 and the next year restored diplomatic relations.

He opened the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi in 1996 and in 1998 issued his first waiver of a law that bars trade relations with communist nations that deny citizens the right to emigrate.

In July, the United States and Vietnam signed a sweeping trade agreement.

"I think it's a new chapter," Clinton said.

"The thing what makes America work over time is our ability to visualize new futures and achieve them."

Weather

TODAY Partly cloudy high 34, low 22	TOMORROW Partly cloudy high 33, low 21	SUNDAY Partly cloudy high 39, low 21
--	---	---

Daily Nebraskan

Editor: Sarah Baker
Managing Editor: Bradley Davis
Associate News Editor: Kimberly Sweet
Opinion Editor: Samuel McKewen
Sports Editor: Matthew Hansen
Arts Editor: Dane Stickney
Copy Desk Co-Chief: Lindsay Young
Copy Desk Co-Chief: Danell McCoy
Photo Chief: Heather Glenboski
Art Director: Melanie Falk
Design Chief: Andrew Broer
Web Editor: Gregg Stearns
Assistant Web Editor: Tanner Graham

Questions? Comments?
Ask for the appropriate section editor at
(402) 472-2588
or e-mail: dn@unl.edu

General Manager: Dan Shattil
Publications Board Chairman: Russell Willbanks, (402) 436-7226
Chairman: Don Walton, (402) 473-7248
Professional Adviser: Nick Partsch, (402) 472-2589
Advertising Manager: Nicole Woita
Assistant Ad Manager: Nikki Bruner
Circulation Manager: Imtiaz Khan

Fax Number: (402) 472-1761
World Wide Web: www.dailyneb.com

The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, 20 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448, Monday through Friday during the academic year; weekly during the summer sessions. The public has access to the Publications Board. Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by calling (402) 472-2588.

Subscriptions are \$60 for one year.
Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, 20 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Periodical postage paid at Lincoln, NE.
ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT 2000
DAILY NEBRASKAN

MLK's chief organizer loses battle with cancer

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA - Hosea Williams, the fiery lieutenant to Martin Luther King Jr. who was at the forefront of the civil rights struggle for more than three decades, died of cancer Thursday. He was 74.

Williams died at Atlanta's Piedmont Hospital, where he was admitted for an infection Oct. 20. He was diagnosed with prostate cancer three years ago and had a cancerous kidney removed last year.

"We were with him when he was absent with body and were present when the Lord took him," said Williams' daughter, Elisabeth Williams-Omilami. "He was selfless. What he did for this earth will now reveal itself because the fruit of the seeds he sowed will begin to emerge."

The chief organizer of King's marches and demonstrations, Williams helped lead the "Bloody Sunday" march in Selma, Ala., in 1965. Another leader, John Lewis, called Williams a patriot.

"Hosea Williams must be looked upon as one of the founding fathers of the new America," he said. "Through his

actions, he helped liberate all of us." Williams was also at the Memphis, Tenn., motel where King was shot in 1968.

He recalled his anger that day during a 1993 interview with The Associated Press: "I was wishing I could pull some molecules out of the air and make me a weapon and just wipe out every white person near, because I thought they had shot Dr. King at that time."

He continued: "I said to myself, 'America, racists, economic exploiters, you sure have messed up now ... because there lies the only one among us, the main one, who has tried to keep us calm. Now you've killed him.'"

The shot, he said, ended King's dream because it fragmented his lieutenants.

Williams was born Jan. 5, 1926, in Attapulgus, Ga., the illegitimate son of a blind girl who fled a state training school when she discovered she was pregnant. He was raised by his grandfather, whom he described as a tough man who had killed at least three people, including one on church steps on a Sunday morning.

World/Nation

The Associated Press

Washington, D.C.

Drop in corn exports concerns U.S. Grains Council

The government is reporting a steady drop in exports of corn, evidence that the mishandling of genetically engineered grain on Midwest farms is starting to damage U.S. markets overseas.

The Agriculture Department on Thursday reported net sales of 517,700 metric tons for the week that ended Nov. 9, about half the weekly rate in October. Japan, by far the biggest U.S. customer, purchased less than 150,000 tons during the week, less than half its normal amount.

Russia

Space station to end 15-year run in February

MOSCOW - Russia's Cabinet decided Thursday that the space station Mir will end its 15 years of pioneering achievements and white-knuckle mishaps with a fiery plunge into the Pacific Ocean in February.

Mir's successes and tribulations mirrored the epochal changes that shook Russia during its time aloft, and ditching it in a remote corner of the sea 900 to 1,200 miles off Australia will extinguish a potent symbol for many Russians.

But Mir is deteriorating, foreign investors who bought the station an eleventh-hour reprieve this year haven't met their commitments, and Russia wants to concentrate its revenues on the 16-nation international space station, which received its first crew last month, Russian Space Agency chief Yuri Koptev said.

Washington, D.C.

United States, Yugoslavia to reopen embassies

After an exchange of diplomatic letters, the United States and Yugoslavia will re-establish a relationship that soured in the conflict over Kosovo: They will reopen their embassies in each other's capital within the next few days.

In an interview Thursday with state radio in Belgrade, President Vojislav Kostunica said Yugoslavia was "returning to the world swiftly, its head high up, and with dignity."

He also said his government would focus its relations mostly on Europe and Russia, while also forging ties with "the most powerful country in the world — the United States," and others.

Yugoslavia

Country ready to renew diplomatic relations

BELGRADE - Yugoslavia's federal government announced it was ready to restore diplomatic relations with the United States, Germany, France and Britain, the Tanjug news agency reported Thursday.

The state-run agency quoted a statement issued by the government's Information Ministry as saying "The federal government today decided to renew diplomatic relations of the federal republic of Yugoslavia with the Republic of France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America."

The United States, Britain and France welcomed the move.

Florida

Air Force F-16 collides with Cessna, killing one

SARASOTA - An Air Force F-16 collided with a small plane Thursday and crashed in flames. One person aboard the small plane was killed, while the fighter pilot parachuted to safety onto a golf course and walked to someone's house to use the phone.

Pieces of the small plane, a Cessna, landed on the golf course.

The wreckage of the fighter jet started a fire in the woods a few miles away. No injuries were reported on the ground.