

state/nation/world

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Thoughts turn to religion as Easter approaches



One of the boys kisses the foot of a youth representing a disciple during a re-enactment of The Last Supper at St. John Lateran Basilica yesterday.

Jewish prof says facts confirm resurrection

By GEORGE W. CORNELL
AP Religion Writer

Originally, it was a band of shocked, incredulous Jews who told of the event celebrated this Sunday — the resurrection of Jesus. A present-day, scholarly Jew declares it a firmly authenticated fact.

Based on the evidence, that's the only conclusion, says Pinchas Lapide, an Orthodox Jewish professor of Scripture.

Citing various corroborating points, he says the sudden rise and worldwide spread of the church itself could not have been "the result of blind happenstance, or human error," but only of a galvanizing, factual event.

He hits modern Christian theologians for sometimes seeming "ashamed of the material (validity) of the resurrection."

"Without the resurrection of Jesus, after Golgotha, there would not have been any Christianity," Lapide writes in a book, "The Resurrection of Jesus: A Jewish Perspective," recently published by the American Lutheran Church's Augsburg Press of Minneapolis.

Although affirming the resurrection, Lapide contends that Jesus was not the messiah long awaited by Jews, and rejects the Christian concept of him as the divine son of God.

However, he does regard Jesus as the "savior of the Gentile church," seeing it as springing from and complementing Judaism, accepting its one, universal God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, but differing in considering Jesus divine.

Lapide, a Jewish specialist in the New Testament who teaches at West Germany's Gottingen University writes:

"The experience of the resurrection as the foundation act of the church which has carried faith in the God of Israel into the whole Western world must belong to God's plan of salvation."

However, he says Jews cannot regard Jesus as their messiah since Orthodox Judaism holds that his coming will establish God's reign of peace and justice for all — something that hasn't happened through Jesus.

Lapide sees Jesus as a significant link in God's work toward redemption, but says he is not the final redeemer, since the world remains far from redeemed.

Nevertheless, he contends Jesus' resurrection was real, and the "best proof" of "it is probably the realistic way in which the two oldest gospels (Mark and Matthew) describe the painful death and Jesus' cry of despair on the cross."

Noting that the disciples were "totally disappointed and on the verge of desperate flight because of the very real reason of the crucifixion," he adds:

"It took another very real reason in order to transform them from a band of disheartened and dejected Jews into the most self-confident missionary society in world history."

He says the New Testament accounts themselves could only have been written by men "who are deeply convinced that this miserable dying of the Nazarene neither was nor is the last word of God — that his exit from the world became the entrance into blessedness."

Several Christian scholars have applauded Lapide's work, and while it is controversial among Jewish thinkers, director Irving Greenberg of New York's National Jewish Resource Center calls the book a major breakthrough.

He says it is a "trenchant and moving argument that Christianity brought God's covenant with Israel to the Jews, and that the Jewish people are the recipients of the Jewish hope for total redemption and that this accomplishment could not be based on a fraud, a fabrication or a fantasy."

U.S. cashes in on credit for federal employees

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — It took three decades to do it, but Uncle Sam finally has a credit card.

Within three years, there are likely to be 350,000 or more federal employees saying "charge it" — to the tune of more than \$4 billion a year.

One of those employees, Vice President George Bush, appears with his card on the cover of "Management" — the magazine published by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management — which includes an article explaining the use of the cards in its current edition.

With the federal government carrying a debt of \$1.5 trillion, a new way to borrow money would appear to be the last thing Uncle Sam needs. But this frenzy of credit card use is expected to save money — up to \$200 million a year.

If the program draws the anticipated 350,000 to 400,000 participants, the General Services Administration, which is spearheading the conversion, estimates the savings at \$200 million annually.

The biggest portion — \$150 million — would come from eliminating the 10,000 cash advance windows now operating throughout the bureaucracy. With cash advances eliminated, the federal government would save \$25 million on interest by paying for the travel later rather than sooner.

Diners Club is supplying the government with computer printouts showing what airlines and hotels federal workers are using. The printouts will help the government negotiate discounts, and spot where the card is being used improperly.

The GSA, which is spearheading the credit card conversion, says it will bring procedures for the world's biggest group of travelers into the 20th century.

At any one time, the old joke goes, there are 20,000 bureaucrats up in the air. The tab for all of those airplane flights, restaurant meals and hotel rooms is running over \$3.5 billion annually. And it goes up every year.

The GSA had been toying with the idea of paying for travel with credit cards since they first gained popularity in the 1950s. But bureaucratic inertia and legal obstacles always thwarted a changeover.

All of the ideas had a common approach — thousands of credit cards issued to the federal government and then handed out to employees. Lawyers feared that cards handed this way would open avenues for unscrupulous employees to team with crooked hotel operators to bilk the government.

In addition, a limited experiment using charge cards issued by car rental agencies collapsed of its

Mom gets 4 life terms for drowning kids



Jeanne Wright

By ROBERT WADE
Associated Press Writer

CAMDEN, N.J. — A 26-year-old woman who confessed to drowning her four sleeping children by placing them in a rain-swollen river was sentenced yesterday to four concurrent life prison terms.

Rossetti said his sentencing of Jeanne Anne Wright was based on an eight-week study of psychiatric profiles which yielded evidence she was so distraught over her life that she came to believe her children would be better off dead than alive.

Wright initially rejected a plea bargain calling for the four concurrent life terms because he said prosecutors did not have the authority to first say Wright's case constituted a crime punishable by death and then opt to negotiate for a reduced sentence.

But later, after about two hours of argument and further consideration, Rossetti said he concluded the sentence was appropriate.

Wright must serve a minimum of 30 years in prison before becoming eligible for parole.

Rossetti said he decided on the life sentences because he found Wright suffered from a low level of self-esteem, borderline personality disorders and chronic depression. He said she suffered abuse by the three oldest children's father, Emilio Anzajar, who also abused the children.

"Miss Wright determined the children were better off dead than with their father," Rossetti said. He added that it appeared she lost "her ability to reason the consequences of her actions."

Public defender Anne Manning said her client spent several hours trying to determine what to do for herself and her children before she went to the river with the children just before midnight on Nov. 10 and that shortly thereafter the youngsters fell asleep on a railroad trestle along the river.

She said she then placed them one by one into the river.

Three of the children's bodies were recovered — Jonathan, 34 months, Juan Jose, 11 months, and Emilio, 5. The search for the fourth child, 7-year-old Janah, has been abandoned. Authorities said they believe her body was snagged on pilings and other debris beneath the railroad trestle.

Reports of bus hijacking differ

Photos indicate at least 1 terrorist may have survived siege

Editor's Note: The following dispatch was submitted to the Israeli military censor, who ordered several changes.

By NICOLAS B. TATRO
Associated Press Writer

TEL AVIV, Israel — A news photograph of a man, apparently unhurt, who was being led away in handcuffs from the scene of last week's bus hijacking has raised questions about the circumstances of the death of one hijacker.

The official version given by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and an Israeli military spokesman was that two terrorists were killed outright when Israeli troops stormed the bus early Friday and two others died of wounds on their way to a hospital.

But unpublished photographs show one, and possibly two, men who were obviously alive and uninjured being led from the scene after the raid had freed 12 dozen hostages.

One Israeli hostage, 19-year-old soldier Irit Portuguez, was killed and seven were wounded during the 10-hour drama that began Thursday night on the coastal highway between Ashdod and the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip.

Photographers who boarded the bus shortly after the hijacking were two reported seeing two dead hijackers — one in the driver's seat, a second in the rear of the bus.

A civilian medical worker at the scene told an Associated Press reporter a third hijacker was severely wounded, but he could not account for the fourth.

Initial army statements on Friday said two hijackers were killed and two captured. Later that day it was announced all four hijackers had been killed.

Alex Levac, a photographer for the daily Hadashot newspaper, said he took a picture of a man who seemed to be a suspect about two minutes after the bus was stormed. The picture, seen by an AP reporter, shows a

AT&T seeks long-distance billing options

By NORMAN BLACK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The American Telephone & Telegraph Co. yesterday unveiled two new long-distance calling options, one of which would allow consumers to place an hour's worth of calls for any part of the United States for a set monthly fee.

The new plan, dubbed "Reach Out America," has two components.

Under the first, customers could place an hour's worth of calls after 11 p.m. and on weekends for a monthly fee of \$10. The second option would require a monthly fee of \$11.50 and would provide the same hour's allotment of calls during night and weekend hours plus an additional 18 percent discount for calls dialed during evening hours from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The plans were presented in a filing to the Federal Communications Commission, which must give its approval before AT&T can offer them to customers.

The new optional calling plan represents a major departure from AT&T's long-standing practice of offering averaged long-distance rates that include a distance variable for the call, and thus the FCC's response cannot be predicted. Besides distance, AT&T's existing long-distance rates are based on the duration of the call, time of day and day of week.

state news briefs

Lawyers may fight police corruption

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Concerned about the corruption tainting Philadelphia's police department, Mayor W. Wilson Goode suggested yesterday that the city hire outside lawyers to help investigators "systematically root out the bad apples."

But Goode said he opposed creation of any civilian review board to police the police. He said that he, the managing director and police commissioner, should be able to properly supervise the 7,800 officers.

A 23-year-old federal corruption probe has sent seven officers to jail and led to the arrest of 13 others. More indictments are expected.

Last week, Deputy Commissioner James Martin, the department's No. 2 official, suddenly resigned after an FBI search of his car and office.

Police Commissioner Gregore Sambor said he didn't believe the appointment of outside lawyers to review internal police activities would hurt morale "because honest police officers want to get this resolved just as quickly, if not quicker, than anyone else."

Free meal by any name is as tasty

HARRISBURG (AP) — The free lunch is on its way to being legal again in bars — just as long as you don't call it by its real name.

The Independent Regulatory Review Board yesterday approved a Liquor Control Board regulation that would allow places that sell liquor to give away free food to patrons.

"You can give away any food item, just as long as you don't call it a free lunch," Bruce Bikin, assistant counsel to the LCB, said after the board's ruling.

Bikin said it probably will take another month before the attorney general's office, the office of budget and two legislative committees give their approval and send the regulation back to the LCB for a final vote.

In case you can't wait for a month to get a free sandwich with your drink, don't worry. The LCB already has voted not to enforce the present regulation that prohibits bars from giving away what has been known as the "free lunch."

"There's lots of places giving free food now," Bikin said.

nation news briefs

Standard Oil liable for tanker spill

CHICAGO (AP) — Standard Oil Co. of Indiana and two subsidiaries must pay damages for one of history's worst environmental disasters — the 1978 wreck of the Amoco Cadiz supertanker that spilled 68 million gallons of oil off the French coast, a federal judge ruled yesterday.

U.S. District Judge Frank McGarr said Standard and its subsidiaries are liable "to the full extent" for damages suffered by the French government, other French claimants and Petroleum Insurance Ltd., a Bermuda-based insurer, in the second largest oil spill in history.

The Chicago-based oil company and its subsidiaries were negligent in the design, repair and maintenance of the supertanker, McGarr said.

The ruling assigned responsibility for the accident but not the amount of damages. Attorneys have estimated damage claims could reach billions of dollars.

The March 16, 1978, spill created a slick 18 miles wide and 80 miles long, killing thousands of birds and sea creatures.

Researchers find likely AIDS cause

NEW YORK (AP) — Researchers in the United States and France have strong, new evidence that a type of virus first identified in AIDS patients in France last year might be the long-sought cause of the deadly disease, scientists said yesterday.

"I think it looks very good," said Dr. Donald Francis, coordinator of AIDS laboratories activities at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

The discovery of the cause of AIDS would not constitute a cure but it is a necessary first step that could vastly speed the development of a treatment or an anti-AIDS vaccine.

French AIDS researchers have found the virus, which they call lymphadenopathy virus or LAV, in 11 patients, six with AIDS and five with a pre-AIDS immune disorder.

world news briefs

Hondurans to move refugee camps

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — A day after a helicopter carrying two U.S. senators was fired upon, the Honduran government said Salvadoran refugee camps near the border have become sanctuaries for leftist rebels and that it would move them to the interior.

Col. Abraham Garcia Turcios, coordinator of the National Commission on Refugees, said yesterday that refugees from Colomocagua and San Antonio, two camps within a few miles of the border, would be shifted after the Easter holidays.

"The Salvadoran refugees have two choices: allow themselves to be relocated or be expelled from Honduras," he said.

On Wednesday, ground fire hit the helicopter carrying Sens. J. Bennett Johnston, D-La., and Lawton Chiles, D-Fla., and forced it to land as it approached the Colomocagua camp.

Soviets nyet chemical weapons ban

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union yesterday rejected the chemical weapons ban offered by Vice President George Bush, saying it contains "obviously unacceptable" requirements for inspection and verification at weapons production sites.

"Regrettably, the American draft, which was much publicized in advance, does not contain even a hint of a change in the old obstructionist stand of the United States," the official news agency Tass said.

The proposal outlined by Bush on Wednesday at the 40-nation Geneva Disarmament Conference included verification procedures that Tass charged were aimed at making the draft treaty unacceptable to the Kremlin.

"Washington intends to hold talks on a ban on chemical weapons while simultaneously intensively building up its huge arsenal of chemical warfare agents and means of their delivery," Tass said.

"This is the main characteristic of the 'new American initiative.'"

stock report

Holiday creates slow trading day

NEW YORK (AP) — A late return helped the stock market finish mixed in sluggish pre-holiday trading yesterday.

Several retail and technology issues advanced. However, mining and paper stocks peppered the list of stocks that declined.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials erased a 7-point deficit in the session's final hour and gained 1.57 to 1,158.08. The measure rose 7.95 for the week.

Volume Shares	90,152,520
Issues Traded	1,981
Up	693
Unchanged	475
Down	813
NYSE Index	90.89 + 0.06
Dow Jones Industrials	1,158.57 + 1.57

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