

state/nation/world

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Eight killed in South African violence

By ANDREW TORCHIA
Associated Press Writer

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Violence swept black townships throughout this white-ruled nation, killing eight people and injuring dozens in three days, official and civilian sources reported yesterday.

Police used whips, rubber bullets, tear gas and shotguns, and crowds threw stones and gasoline bombs in clashes in black townships at Theunissen, Graaff Reinet, Parys, Queenstown and Port Elizabeth — a 560-mile stretch of land reaching from the south coast almost to Johannesburg.

In several cases, accounts by spokesmen at national police headquarters in Pretoria and by residents of the townships differed widely and could not be reconciled. Police reports listed 41 incidents of rioting in 20 black communities and said at least 45 blacks were arrested.

More than 10 months of rioting against apartheid, the legalized race-separation imposed by the white-minority government, have cost the lives of about 450 blacks.

About half perished in encounters with police. The others were killed in fighting between rival anti-apartheid groups, criminal assaults, and attacks on local black officials and black police who are seen as fronts for white rule.

Residents of Masizakhe township near Graaff Reinet said police fired tear gas and rubber bullets at houses, individuals and groups of blacks for at least five hours yesterday.

They also said police fired on a crowd leaving a church Sunday night, wounding more than 20 people and killing a man.

Residents said they were afraid to take casualties to doctors' offices because police waited there to arrest the wounded, so they rounded up vehicles to carry victims to doctors as far as 155 miles away.

They said the trouble apparently arose from a general strike and consumer boycott called Saturday to protest the slaying by unknown assailants of Matthew Goniwe, a Cradock teacher whose dismissal caused one of the first school boycotts in early 1984 and made him a nationwide symbol of resistance.

A spokesman at national police headquarters in Pretoria, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said police in Masizakhe dispersed a stoning crowd and arrested one man. He said six policemen were injured, and confirmed an earlier resident's report that one demonstrator was killed.

Police in Darlington, near Port Beaufort, said they found a charred body under a pile of burning tires.

In Orange Free State, police scattered a stoning crowd. One woman was reported killed and 21 men were wounded. The men were arrested after treatment.

The South African Press Association said pupils threw stones and burned down two schools in Theunissen. It said several were injured when police called in reinforcements to quell the riot.

About 300 people attacked government buildings and destroyed homes of two black officials after a high school principal refused to allow a meeting of the militant Congress of South African Students, the agency said.

Police headquarters said it had only a report of a minor incident at Theunissen.

Residents of Tumahote, near Parys, said about 200 people marched to the offices of a white-run administration board to demand rent reductions. They said houses of former councilors were stoned and thousands went on strike in memory of a man from the township who died in detention a year ago.

One young man and a policeman were seriously injured, residents reported.

Police said only that they arrested three blacks after stone-throwing incidents.

George Phake, a member of the township Civic Association, said three policemen's houses were burned in Ratanda, east of Johannesburg.

Admin. pushes for abortion overruling

By RICHARD CARELLI
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Reagan administration yesterday urged the Supreme Court to overturn its 1973 decision legalizing abortions, arguing that women should not have a constitutional right to end their pregnancies.

Justice Department lawyers said the 1973 ruling, in a case known as Roe vs. Wade, "has proved inherently unworkable," and wrongly infringes on states' rights to limit abortions.

At Bethesda Naval Hospital, where President Reagan is recovering from intestinal surgery, White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the president had approved of the brief's filing.

Both "pro-life" and "pro-choice" forces predicted that the bold move will fail. The court two years ago strongly reaffirmed — by a 6-3 vote — the 1973 ruling, and its membership has not changed since that 1983 ruling.

Douglas Johnson, legislative director of the National Right to Life Committee, called the 1973 ruling "disastrous" but added, "I have no reason to believe that the current Supreme Court would overturn the decision."

Judy Goldsmith, president of the National Organization for Women, called the attack on Roe vs. Wade "unconscionable and perfectly predictable."

"It is a desperation tactic that's not going to work," she said. "It is a continuation of the Reagan administration's war on women."

The government's "friend-of-the-brief" in two abortion cases to be studied in the court term beginning in October argued that the justices should "return the law to the condition in which it

was" before Jan. 22, 1973, when the decision in Roe vs. Wade was announced.

That would leave states free to impose whatever limits they deemed appropriate — including banning all abortions except those necessary to save a woman's life.

In the 1973 ruling, the court said a woman's decision to have an abortion during the first three months of her pregnancy must be left to her and her doctor.

The court said states may interfere in the woman's abortion decision during her pregnancy's second trimester only to protect the woman's health, and may take steps to protect fetal life only in the third trimester when the fetus has grown "viable" — that is, able to live outside the womb.

The invalidated provisions of the Illinois law required doctors to use abortion methods least likely to harm the fetus if there was a possibility that it was viable and required doctors to tell patients that certain kinds of birth control cause "fetal death."

The invalidated Pennsylvania abortion regulations would have required:

—That a woman seeking an abortion be told about "detrital physical and psychological effects which are not accurately foreseeable."

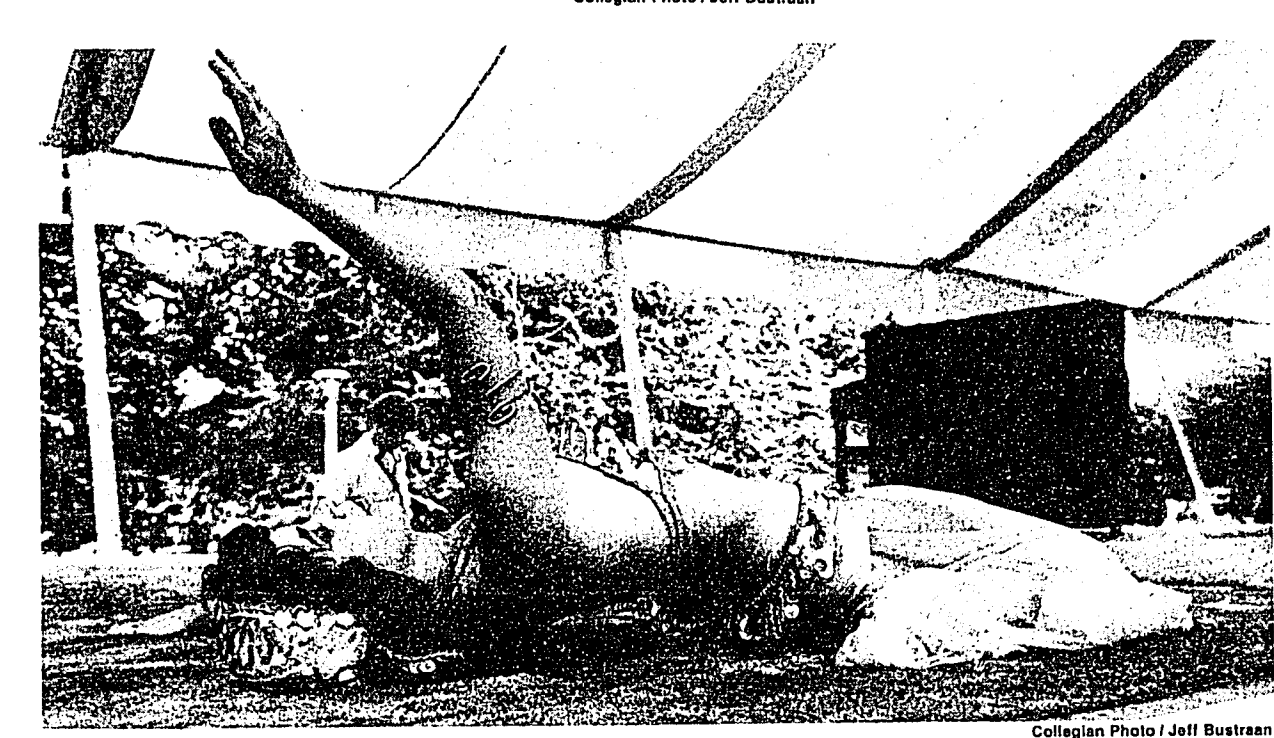
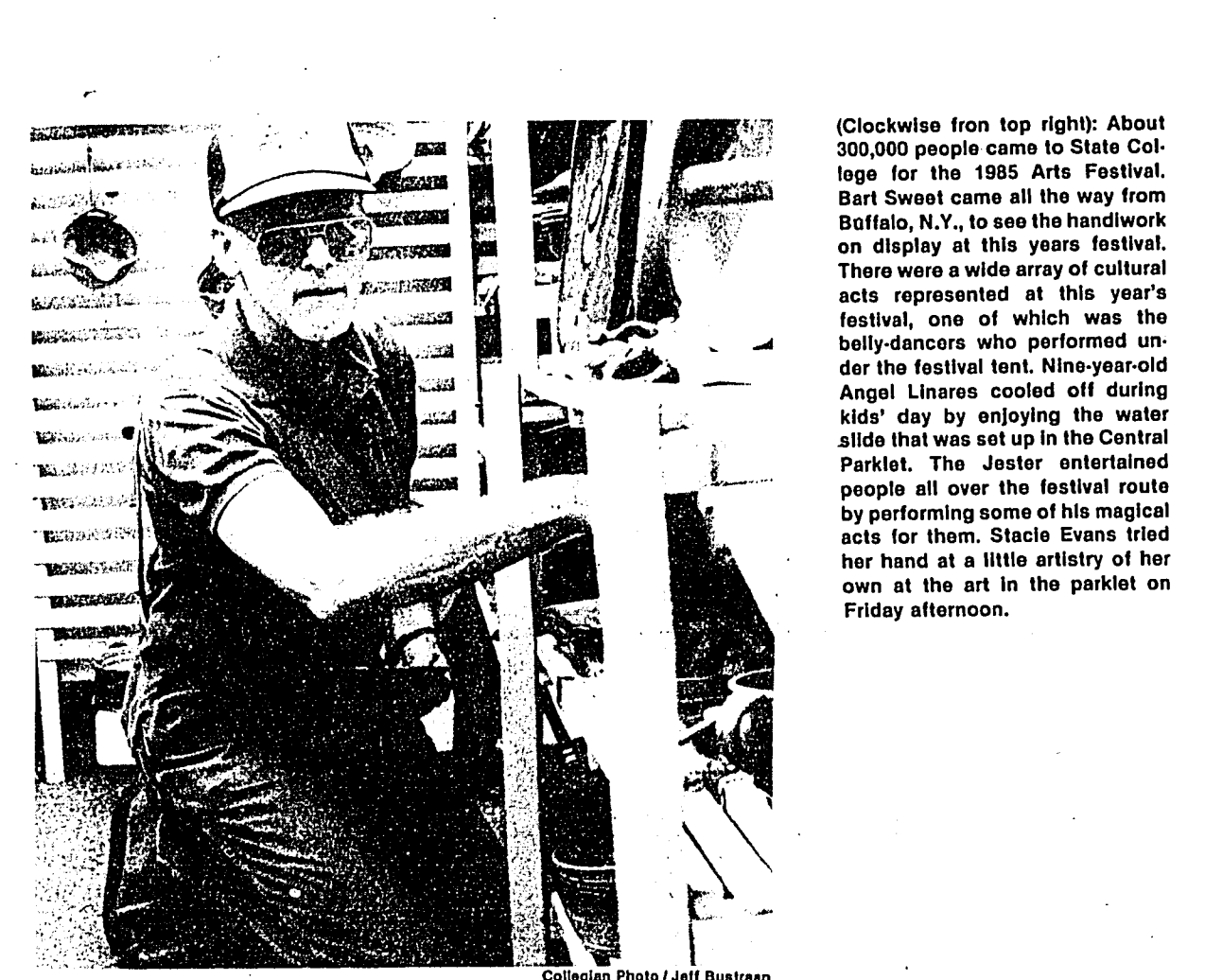
—That the woman be told medical assistance benefits may be available for prenatal care and childbirth.

—That doctors who perform abortions file reports with state officials explaining how they determined that a fetus aborted in a pregnancy's second trimester was not capable of living outside the womb.

—That certain abortion methods be used at various stages.



This years Art's Festival has come and gone, but it won't be forgotten



(Clockwise from top right): About 300,000 people came to State College for the 1985 Arts Festival. Bart Sweet came all the way from Buffalo, N.Y., to see the handwork on display at this year's festival. There were a wide array of cultural acts represented at this year's festival, one of which was the belly-dancers who performed under the festival tent. Nine-year-old Angel Linares cooled off during kids' day by enjoying the water slide that was set up in the Central Parklet. The fester entertained people all over the festival route by performing some of his magical acts for them. Steve Evans tried her hand at the art in the parklet on Friday afternoon.



Remembering
Governor Dick Thornburgh accepts a POW—MIA flag from Charles Langley, left, walked from Upper Darby to Harrisburg with the flag in one week to remind the of Upper Darby Township, Chuck Fraser of Ridley Township and Gano Bernas of Albuquerque, N.M. during ceremonies in Harrisburg yesterday. The men declared missing in Vietnam in 1972.

Group claims that Reagan exaggerates Nicaraguan abuses

By BRIAN BARGER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — A human rights group accused the Reagan administration yesterday of exaggerating human rights abuses in Nicaragua, and said such reports were intended to justify military action against the Sandinista government.

Americas Watch, a human rights monitoring group affiliated with Helsinki Watch, said in a report, "There is not a policy of torture, political murder, or disappearance in Nicaragua."

The report said some human rights abuses have occurred, mainly in 1981 and 1982, but added that the government "has acted in some cases to investigate and punish those responsible."

"Allegations of human rights abuses have become a major focus of the administration's campaign to overthrow the Nicaraguan government," the report said. "Such a concerted campaign to use human rights in justifying military action is without precedent in U.S.-Latin American relations, and its effect is an unprecedented debasement of the human rights cause."

The group said the anti-government Contra rebels are guilty of far more human rights abuses than the Nicaraguan government.

"The most violent abuses in human rights in Nicaragua have been committed by the Contras," the report said. "Contra combatants systematically murder the unarmed, including medical personnel, rarely take prisoners and force civilians into collaboration."

The Reagan administration has accused the Sandinista government of being "totalitarian," and engaging in systematic repression, including religious persecution.

The report said Reagan administration reports on conditions in Nicaragua were exaggerated, and said characterizing the Sandinista government as totalitarian is unjustified.

Elliot Abrams, assistant secretary for Inter-American Affairs at the State Department, said the report's findings.

"I find it ludicrous that anyone would say there is an improvement in human rights in Nicaragua," he said.

"If anything, the situation is deteriorating. If you look at the attitude in Congress, in Western Europe, everyone recognizes that except, apparently, Americas Watch."

The report said the issue of religious persecution in Nicaragua is "without substance," although it acknowledged some cases of abuses, including the expulsion last year of 10 foreign priests after they participated in an anti-government demonstration.

But the report concluded: "There is not a policy of anti-Semitism, nor of Christians, persecuted for their faith."

The report said the Sandinistas' human rights record with regard to the Miskito Indians "has improved dramatically," since 1982. It cited a government amnesty announced last year, negotiations with Miskito leaders, and repatriation of Indians who fled Nicaragua during 1981-82 when the government forcibly relocated thousands of Miskitos from the border areas.

The report noted, however, that the Contras' treatment of Miskitos and other Indians "has become increasingly more violent."

The November 1984 elections in Nicaragua, "though deficient, represented an advance over past Nicaraguan experience, and a positive step toward pluralism," the report said. But it also said the Nicaraguan government "should be prodded to take additional steps to advance the democratic process."

President Reagan has described last year's election as a "Soviet-style sham."

Americas Watch also charged that some Contra factions engage in "indiscriminate attacks against civilians."

"There have been many cases of torture and cruel and degrading treatment against prisoners taken by the Contras," the report said. It said Contra leaders have acknowledged the use of such tactics as a means of obtaining information.

"The Nicaraguan government must be held to account for the abuses which continue to take place, like restrictions on press freedom and due process," the report said. "But unless those abuses are fairly described, their debate on Nicaragua ceases to have meaning."

Brock: jobs will be lost unless deficit reduced

By JULIE AMPARANO
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — The nation's unemployment rate will rise or remain the same unless Congress reduces the federal deficit, Labor Secretary William Brock said yesterday in his first speech to a union audience since taking office in April.

"If the budget is reduced we will see more jobs; if the budget remains the same, we can expect unemployment to go up," Brock told the Communication Workers of America's annual convention.

The deficit, estimated at \$213 billion for the current fiscal year, is "like a big black cloud that hangs over us," Brock said at a news conference after his speech.

"The unemployment rate in the nation will pretty much remain unchanged until Congress resolves the budget problem," he said. "The unemployment has stood at 7.3 percent for the past five months."

Brock was sworn into office April 29 to replace Raymond Donovan, who resigned in the midst of criminal proceedings stemming from his former position as executive vice president of a New Jersey construction firm.

The CWA, the world's largest telecommunications union, represents more than 650,000 workers.

In his speech, Brock also called for tax reform to help labor.

"For too long we have burdened our workers and firms with a tax system that rewards accounting creativity instead of jobs creativity," he said.

Discussing the difficulty unions have had in negotiating contracts, Brock said, "No one can deny labor has lost a lot, but both labor and management have fallen on tough times."

Many labor advocates have attacked administration policy as anti-labor and have charged that it has fueled management attacks on unions, but Brock said he did not see labor-management conflict as a trend against organized labor.

Instead, he attributed the problems to worldwide competition, which puts "a lot of pressure on management and labor."

"We are slowly coming to grips as a society that we are part of a larger picture," he said. "We must face the challenge of worldwide competition more squarely than ever before."

Brock also defended the Reagan administration's advocacy of lowering the minimum wage to teenagers to reduce unemployment among that group.

"Currently, youth unemployment is one of our most intractable problems," he said. "When 45 percent of black teenagers can't get a job, it becomes a human tragedy for them, and a national tragedy for us."

'Star Wars' test partly successful

By NORMAN BLACK
AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon conducted the first in a series of new "Star Wars" laser experiments over the weekend in Hawaii, but the test was only partially successful because laser operators were unable to lock on the target properly, sources said yesterday.

A laser station on the island of Maui had succeeded in focusing a laser beam on a fast, high-flying rocket, but had failed to bounce the beam off an eight-inch reflective shield attached to the rocket, said the sources, who asked that they not be identified.

The Pentagon had announced July 10 it was preparing a new round of laser tests similar to one conducted last month when a lower-power, blue-green laser was reflected off the space shuttle Discovery. While declining to say when the experiments would begin, the Pentagon explained the new tests would involve firing small, higher-flying rockets into space from Hawaii and then attempting to hit a "retro reflector" attached to the rocket's side.

Yesterday, the Pentagon's Strategic Defense Initiative Organization, which directs the Star Wars program, issued a brief statement saying the first of the five planned experiments had been conducted early Sunday morning in Hawaii.

"It was only partially successful due to technical difficulties not associated with the experiment," the Pentagon added.

Officials in the Star Wars office refused to elaborate, beyond saying a Terrier-Malemute rocket had been successfully launched from the Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility and traveled almost 450 miles into space and that the laser had, in fact, been fired.

The sources did not call the test a failure, but said the laser station "had difficulty finding the right thing to focus on. They hit the rocket with the laser, but not the reflective shield, and so they didn't get a reflected beam back from the rocket the way they wanted."

The next time they do it, they won't have the same problem," one source said. "It's like learning how to drive on a simulator, then going out on the road in a car and finding out things are different on the highway."

The sources explained that prior to launching the rocket, the Pentagon had conducted a special computer simulation to help show laser operators on Maui what to look for. That simulation predicted the laser station wouldn't find the retro reflector attached to the rocket.



Collegian Photo / Jeff Bustran