

state/nation/world

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Voyager 2 discovers tenth Uranus ring

By LEE SIEGEL
AP Science Writer

PASADENA, Calif. — Voyager 2 has found another ring circling Uranus, a faint 1,900-mile-wide ribbon of material orbiting inside the other rings and only 7,000 miles above the planet's cloudtops, scientists said Wednesday.

"It's a diffuse sheet of material," said National Aeronautics and Space Administration scientist Jeff Cuzzi. "I'd call it a ring."

Scientists also offered evidence that more moons may orbit Uranus beyond the five, previously known, major moons and 10 small ones found by the unmanned Voyager. But they said additional moons may be too tiny to have been seen by Voyager's cameras.

Larry Soderblom, geological geologist at the University of Arizona, proposed that strange patterns of canyons and ridges on Miranda's lunar landscape may have been caused by huge rocks rising upward within the moon, throwing aside overlying material.

Soderblom also said Voyager revealed the major moons are about half ice and half rock, while Stanford University scientist Leonard Tyler estimated Uranus' atmosphere contains about 88 percent hydrogen, and at least 8 percent helium as well as clouds of methane.

Voyager 2's path will take it more than 4½ million miles from Uranus on Thursday as it speeds toward an August 1989 encounter with Neptune, the eighth planet from the sun.

Scientists will spend years studying Voyager's discoveries at Uranus, just as they are still poring over findings made by Voyagers 1 and 2 at Jupiter and Saturn in 1979-81. Both probes were launched in 1977.

"There are puzzles which will keep many people happy," said project scientist Ed Stone.

The faint ring was photographed by Voyager 2 less than an hour before the spacecraft's closest approach to Uranus when it flew past the planet, 1.3 billion miles from Earth on Friday.

It is more like the broad rings orbiting Saturn than Uranus' previously known nine thin rings and a 10th discovered by Voyager 2.

But because Voyager's photos have shown so many bands of dusty material between the 10 previously known rings, scientists are no longer sure what they should call a separate ring or how many exist around Uranus.

"We're not counting these rings individually," Cuzzi said.

The material making up the new ring has not been identified, Cuzzi said. Scientists had said earlier the 10 rings that were identified individually apparently contain chunks larger than three feet across, although only the material in one of the rings actually was studied.

They also have said the bands of dust between the rings are made up largely of microscopic particles, perhaps produced by the collision of chunks in the surrounding rings.



An elderly Palestinian walks past a guerrilla base rocketted by Israeli jets yesterday. The base was on the outskirts of a refugee camp near Sidon. AP Laserphoto

Israel attacks PLO guerrilla bases

By JUAN-CARLOS GUMUCIO
Associated Press Writer

SIDON, Lebanon — Israeli warplanes streaked in at dawn yesterday rocketing Palestinian guerrilla bases in citrus groves that border a refugee camp, flattening one building and badly damaging two.

Hospitals in this ancient southern port said one guerrilla was killed and five guerrillas and a Lebanese civilian were wounded in the first Israeli air attack this year inside Lebanon.

Four jets rocketed the bases of Syrian-backed guerrillas on the outskirts of the Ein el-Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp near Sidon, which is 25 miles south of Beirut.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres of Israel, who was in Berlin, said the air raid would not affect the plan for Middle East peace negotiations he is promoting on his European tour.

"It won't have any impact because the peace process does not contradict fighting terror and stopping terrorism," he declared, adding: "I understand the bombing worked out well and achieved its aim."

King Hussein of Jordan and Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat have been meeting in Amman this week to find ways to overcome U.S. objections to a PLO role in peace talks with Israel.

The Israeli air strike, the first in Lebanon since Oct. 27, occurred two days after the bombing of a Jerusalem pizzeria in which little damage and no casualties were reported.

Fatah-Uprising, a breakaway PLO faction, claimed responsibility for the Jerusalem attack. Two of the buildings rocketed yesterday were used by Fatah-Uprising and the other by a small PLO faction called the Palestinian Liberation Front. Col. Saed Mousa, better known as Abu Mousa, leads Fatah-Uprising.

Arafat's Syrian-backed opponents have returned to south Lebanon since Israel pulled most of its army out last June after three years of occupation.

In Beirut, Syria's allies increased pressure on President Amin Gemayel, a Maronite Catholic.

Gemayel scuttled a Syrian-arranged peace plan two weeks ago by defeating Elie Hobeika, who signed it, and is chief of Lebanon's largest Christian militia. There had been hope that the truce agreement would end the 11-year-old civil war that has cost more than 100,000 lives.

Hobeika and former President Suleiman Franjeh, also a Christian, joined Moslem leaders in demanding Gemayel's resignation. He has said he will complete his six-year term, which runs until September 1988.

Gemayel and most Christian leaders rejected the peace pact signed by Hobeika, Druse militia chieftain Walid Jumblatt and Nabih Berri, leader of the Shiite Moslem militia Amal in Damascus on Dec. 28.

They said it made too many concessions to Moslems — now about 55 percent of Lebanon's population — and would end the traditional Christian domination of the government, army and judiciary.

Jumblatt said: "The fight is just beginning and it's going to be a very fierce one. There can be no peace with the Phalange."

Uganda changes govt.

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Rebel commander Yoweri Museveni was sworn in as Uganda's new president yesterday, four days after his National Resistance Army stormed Kampala and brought down a six-month-old military government.

Museveni, taking an oath of office during a simple outdoor ceremony on the steps of Parliament, became Uganda's ninth head of state since the country of 14 million people gained independence from Britain in 1962.

Uganda's British-born chief justice, Peter Allen, bewigged and wearing a black robe and red tunic, read the oath, which Museveni repeated as his right hand rested on a Bible.

In an hour-long inaugural speech to a cheering crowd, Museveni pledged his government would stress democracy, security and unity in a country torn by coups, despotic rule, massacres and tribal fighting that has killed as many as 800,000 people since 1971.

"Nobody should think that what is happening today is a mere change of guard. It is a fundamental change in the politics of our country," he said.

"The people should be able to hire and fire their own governments," Museveni has said his government will be an interim one and promised referendum elections as soon as possible, but he has not given a date.

Libya's strongman Moammar Khadafi immediately sent a message of congratulations to Museveni and claimed that the rebels' victory was achieved with the help of massive Libyan arms shipments and other supplies.

— by EDWARD KITAKA



Opposition presidential candidate Corzon "Cory" Aquino is held back from an enthusiastic crowd yesterday during a campaign stop speech in Bagong Silang, Manila. AP Laserphoto

Marcos, Aquino give speeches

By RUBEN G. ALABASTRO
Associated Press Writer

DAVAO, Philippines — President Ferdinand E. Marcos said yesterday he'll be re-elected because God is on his side, and he dismissed suggestions that the U.S. government wants him to lose.

Opposition candidate Corazon Aquino spoke to a crowd of 100,000 slum dwellers in a park littered with horse and cattle manure, and said she filed first lady Imelda Marcos, a former beauty queen, because all she thought about was makeup and nails.

Winding up a two-day tour of Mindanao Island, a center of increasing communist insurgency, Marcos said, "I don't think the United States of America would come out openly in support of any candidate in an election like this."

"Part of your bureaucracy, though,

Botha to make policy speech

By ANDREW TORCHIA
Associated Press Writer

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — President P.W. Botha delivers his second crucial social-reform policy speech in six months on Friday, opening a legislative session his opponents describe as a last chance to promote orderly change away from apartheid.

Botha is expected to amplify the plans of his all-white cabinet to meet black-majority demands for political and economic equality.

After his speech to a provincial party caucus in August, observers cautioned against expecting too much on Friday.

The August speech turned out to be a restatement of principles rather than a detailed reform schedule, and the resulting disappointment was a factor in the refusal by foreign banks to renew billions of dollars in loans to South Africa.

No one expects Botha to agree to a one-man, one-vote system and scrap racially segregated neighborhoods, schools and hospitals, demands made by militants who have conducted violent anti-apartheid protests for 17 months.

Botha is likely to touch on a list of changes already hinted at or promised by Nationalist Cabinet ministers. Among the possibilities:

- Restoration of common citizenship for all 31 million South Africans, including a confederation of black homelands with the rest of the country.
- Universal suffrage that would preserve ethnic separation and prevent domination of the 5 million whites by 24 million blacks. Under the current apartheid system, the whites govern the black, who may not vote.
- Some kind of participation by blacks in central government, but not a black parliamentary chamber to match the separate chambers for whites, 800,000 Asians and 2.5 million people of mixed racial background.
- Granting blacks the right to own property in their townships nationwide, although few can afford to buy their homes. Currently blacks may only buy homes in a few townships.
- Power-sharing among 6 million Zulus led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthe, and whites and Asians in Natal Province, where conditions appear favorable for a racial settlement that could serve as a model for other regions.
- Abolition of pass laws requiring blacks to produce identity cards to police at any time and issuance of common identity papers for whites and blacks.
- Changes in influx-control laws that tie blacks to impoverished rural areas and restrict their movement to jobs and housing near white cities.
- Opening of central business districts in major cities to traders of all races.

The list falls far short of calls for the release of political prisoners and negotiations toward majority rule made by the outlawed African National Congress guerrilla movement and by the United Democratic Front, a multi-racial alliance within South Africa that endorses ANC goals of one man, one vote.

Small white conservative parties who made gains in special parliamentary elections in October complement the government but already have gone too far in weakening white control.

"The Nationalist," the party's monthly publication, pictured the country as on an upswing after prolonged reverses.

It said world prices for South African gold are rising, a crippling drought is over, the rand is climbing against other currencies, black studies have ended — at least temporarily.

Tutu not prosecuted

By TOM BALDWIN
Associated Press Writer

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — The government said yesterday it would not take any action against Bishop Desmond Tutu for what it called the "foolish" remarks he made against apartheid while touring the United States.

Racial violence across the country killed seven lives, including two blacks killed by police.

Under a new ban imposed by the government, a police official yesterday prohibited the public display of any political statement, including an T-shirt, for two weeks.

At a bus stop near Durban in Natal province on the Indian Ocean, a band of 50 Zulus armed with homemade guns shot and killed five fellow tribesmen today, police said. They said the killing grew out of a clan war between factions of the 6 million-strong Zulu tribe, South Africa's largest ethnic group.

Police said they shot dead one black in KwaNdebele, near the Indian Ocean city of Port Elizabeth, when a group of blacks was "allegedly intimidating shoppers and pickpocketing."

There was no further explanation.

Witnesses said police killed another black after some 2,000 blacks, mostly women, tried to march toward a police station in a white community, Krugersdorp, west of Johannesburg. Police waving clubs and firing tear gas scattered the marchers, witnesses said.

The marchers were protesting recent police attempts to break a three-week-old bus boycott by forcing residents out of taxis and onto buses. The marchers included mothers of some of the 400 youths detained briefly Tuesday for walking to school and refusing to board buses.

In banning the public display of political statements, police Brigadier Chris Swart said no person "may place, affix, display or distribute any placard, banner, sticker, pamphlet, clothing or similar object on or in which any viewpoint of a political nature or in relation to any system of government or constitutional policy is expressed."

Swart did not say who he issued the order. But for the next two weeks, the ruling National Party faces a no-confidence debate in Parliament.

Home Affairs Minister Stoffel Botha, who is no relation to President P.W. Botha, said the government was not considering punitive actions against Tutu, the winner of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize.

state news briefs

Mental-health records now evidence
WILKES-BARRE (AP) — A state appeals court has affirmed a 1985 landmark lower-court ruling that gave prosecutors access to the mental-health records of condemned mass murderer George Banks.

Banks, a former prison guard from Wilkes-Barre, was convicted of killing 13 people, five of them his children, in a 1982 shooting rampage. He was sentenced to death last fall.

Prosecutors had contended that Banks had feigned psychotic behavior to get admitted to a state mental hospital and avoid facing sentencing.

Luzerne County Orphan Court Judge Chester B. Muroski ruled in April 1985 that the district attorney had the right to see Banks' mental health records.

A three-judge panel of the Pennsylvania Superior Court affirmed the ruling without comment in an order made public this week.

"Certainly it's precedent-setting," said Public Defender Basil G. Russin, who represented Banks.

Report criticizes truck safety in Pa.

HARRISBURG (AP) — About one of every three tractor-trailer trucks checked at roadside tests had safety violations serious enough to pull them off the road, according to a legislative report released yesterday.

A study by the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, the General Assembly's investigative arm, said that spot checks of trucks traveling on state highways found 36 percent had "violations which were serious enough for the trucks or drivers to be placed temporarily out of service."

A study by the committee included problems with "fires, brake systems and safety lighting," the report said. It also included driver-related problems, such as spending too many hours behind the wheel, certification problems or intoxication, said Richard Dario, executive director of the committee.

The statistics were based on a 10-week period which the committee staff analyzed.

"There is apparently a very, very serious safety hazard," said Rep. George Pott, R-Allentown, a committee member.

But Kenneth Nicely, a deputy chief counsel in the Public Utility Commission's law bureau, said he had some doubts that the percentage was representative of overall truck safety in the state.

The percentage of trucks found to have serious violations may have been so large because authorities were probably more likely to pull over trucks which appeared to be in bad shape, Nicely said.

nation news briefs

Evidence says passive smoke unsafe
WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — It's time to stop dismissing non-smokers as "finicky busybodies" when they complain about inhaling other people's smoke, a government health-safety official said yesterday.

John C. Topping Jr., staff director of the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Air and Radiation, said evidence linking "passive smoke" to disease, though fragmentary, "seems sufficient to warrant strong steps to cut down involuntary exposure to cigarette smoke."

He said his agency was not proposing cigarette-smoke regulations. But he spoke approvingly of scattered cities such as San Francisco that have passed laws on the subject. And he said public health warnings, including some on cigarette packs, would be a good idea.

Topping said that:

- Last year's projection, by government and other researchers, of annual lung-cancer deaths from non-smokers' exposure to passive smoke has "gained acceptance in the public health community."
- "A 'mountain of evidence' links smoking parents with infants' illness."
- Other studies have indicated exposure to passive smoke "may significantly increase risks of heart attack."
- Topping said freeing non-smokers from exposure to others' smoke "would save the lives of thousands of non-smokers annually." And it would save many more smokers' lives in the bargain, since protecting non-smokers' lives would require restricting smokers' opportunities to light up, he said.

New N. American fossil site found

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — Discovery of a huge fossil deposit in Nova Scotia, containing thousands of bones from dinosaurs and other animals that lived 200 million years ago, means that long-overlooked rock outcroppings down the East Coast of the United States may be sources of valuable fossils, scientists say.

Researchers announced on yesterday the discovery of the largest fossil find in North America.

The finding on the shores of the Bay of Fundy northeast of coastal Maine illuminates the era when dinosaurs emerged to rule the Earth.

Geologist Paul E. Olsen of Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory and biologist Neil H. Shubin of Harvard University, with a half-dozen colleagues and students, found the cache last summer.

"Bones were sticking out all over the place," Shubin said of the site, located on the north shore of the bay near rural Parrsboro.

The fossils were found in a rock formation of sedimentary rocks, which are between 225 million and 175 million years old.

Some of the more significant finds so far are 12 skulls and jaws of T. rexes, the reptiles that are closest evolutionally to mammals. These are the first found in North America and represent the largest single collection of these rare fossils in the world, the scientists said.

world news briefs

Soviets praise Sen. Edward Kennedy
MOSCOW (AP) — A Soviet newspaper yesterday lauded Sen. Edward M. Kennedy as a last bastion of American liberalism who was forced to quit the presidential stakes by Wall Street and Democratic Party leaders.

Kennedy was expected in Moscow this week for talks that would have included a private meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev. He has postponed his trip because of Tuesday's explosion of the space shuttle Challenger.

The Communist Party-run Sovetskaya Rossiya (Soviet Russia) praised Kennedy in an article responding to a reader who had asked why Kennedy won't run for the office of the president of the United States in 1988.

"Kennedy's retreat from a politically advanced position could by itself serve as an epitaph for 'liberalism American-style,'" the newspaper said.

Kennedy's visit and expected talks with Gorbachev have not been announced in the Soviet Union. But the timing of the article made it appear the newspaper was setting the stage for Soviet treatment of Kennedy, who has been courted by the Kremlin for more than a decade.

Light earthquake shakes Mexico city

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A 5.0 earthquake in the Pacific Ocean shook the capital lightly yesterday, seismologists said. No damage or injuries were reported.

The Tacubaya seismological station said the earthquake's center was 240 miles southwest of the city, off the coast of the state of Guerrero.

A Sept. 10 earthquake measuring 8.1 on the Richter scale killed more than 7,000 people in Mexico City. Demolition work continues on buildings heavily damaged in that quake.

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12:15, 2:15, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15

A CHORUS LINE
TONIGHT 7:30, 10:00
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THE JEWEL OF THE NILE

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12:15, 2:15, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15

IRON EAGLE
TONIGHT 7:30, 10:00
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SAT. SUN. 2:00, 5:00, 7:55, 10:00

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