

## Polish referendum asks views on reform

By JOHN DANISZEWSKI  
Associated Press Writer

WARSAW, Poland — Millions of people voted yesterday in Poland's first referendum in 41 years, which asked them to endorse economic reforms including steep price increases and to back government-style democratization.

Police broke up anti-referendum marches by hundreds of people in Gdansk and Warsaw, which were the largest of several protests around the country, and many people boycotted the balloting that critics called a charade.

Large numbers of Poles, however, clearly were intrigued by the opportunity to voice their views and expressed hope the election would improve life in this country beset by shortages of goods and worker apathy.

Unlike past rubber-stamp elec-

tions in Communist Poland, people had to actively mark the ballots in order to vote and were encouraged to make their choices in secret.

"Calm prevails . . . and no one is disturbing the serious rite of the referendum," government spokesman Jerzy Urban told reporters.

State television said 63.8 percent of the 26.8 million eligible voters had cast ballots.

There was no way to independently verify the figure.

The government claimed 80 percent turnout in the 1985 general elections, a figure opposition activists disputed as high.

Polls closed at 10 p.m. and the government was not expected to announce results until today.

Approval of the first of the referendum's two questions would mean price rises averaging 40 percent next year, with increases of 110 percent for basic foods and 140-200



Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski

percent for heat and rents. The government says that if the question fails, increases would be less extreme.

A strong "yes" vote for the second question would strengthen progressive elements within the Communist government who argue for greater democracy and openness in line with Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev's reform campaign.

## Five bodies found after crash

By LAURINDA KEYS  
Associated Press Writer

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Search teams pulled five bodies yesterday from the Indian Ocean, where a South African Airways Boeing jumbo jet crashed with 159 people aboard and with no known survivors.

Authorities then suspended the search because of rough seas but said it would resume today.

The plane, apparently on fire, crashed early Saturday as it approached Mauritius for a refueling stop en route from Taiwan to Johannesburg.

The five bodies recovered yesterday were not identified. Two were men, two were women and the other too mutilated for the search crew to determine gender, airport officials on the island of Mauritius said.

Passengers on Flight SA295 came from 11 countries. There were no Americans.

It was the world's worst air tragedy this year and the worst in South African aviation history.

Officials would not speculate on the cause of the crash of the 747-200B "Combi," a jumbo jet designed to carry both passengers and cargo.

Contact with the plane was lost 10 minutes before the scheduled landing, after the pilot, Capt. Dawie Uys, 49, radioed to the control tower: "There is smoke coming into the cabin. I think we have a fire."

South African Airways spokesman Nico Venter denied a report that the plane was delayed in Taiwan because of a bomb threat. It was delayed one hour because of

weather and to accommodate passengers from other flights making connections, he said.

Ships from France, Mauritius, Taiwan and Japan were taking part yesterday in the search. Spotter planes also were in operation. The South African air force said it would send two helicopters today to join the hunt, centered about 100 miles northeast of Mauritius.

Venter said a life raft and inflatable dinghy were found, but that all aboard were presumed to have died.

"Efforts are now concentrated on locating the black box" or flight data recorder, he said.

The black box will send a signal for about 30 days, said Venter.

Airline officials said late Saturday that a baby carried onto the plane had not been on the passenger list, raising the number aboard to 160. But Cecile Taljaard, a spokeswoman for South African Airways, said yesterday that the baby had been listed and the total aboard was 159.

Among those aboard were 71 South Africans, including 19 crew members; 47 Japanese; 30 Taiwanese; two Australians; two Mauritians; two from Hong Kong, and one each from Holland, Britain, West Germany, Denmark and South Korea.

Tinus Jacobs, the airline's office manager in Taipei, said South African Airways was offering transportation and accommodation for relatives of passengers who wanted to travel to Mauritius this week.

He made the offer after relatives gathered at his office asking to be taken to Mauritius immediately.

## S. Korean plane pulls vanishing act

By BARRY RENFREW  
Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea — A Korean Air jetliner carrying 115 people on a flight from the Middle East vanished yesterday somewhere near Burma and apparently crashed into the sea or thick jungle, officials said.

An air operations official at Seoul's Kimpo International Airport said KAL Flight 858 from Baghdad, the capital of Iraq, to Seoul went missing without a trace and officials were trying to find out what happened.

"It just disappeared," said one official, who spoke on condition of not being identified.

KAL officials said it appeared the three-engine Boeing 707 crashed, although they would not rule out the possibility of hijacking. Airline officials also said a bomb may have destroyed the jet.

"There is the possibility that a crash may have been caused by explosives," a KAL airline statement said.

The jet was carrying 95 passengers and a flight crew of 20, the airline said. All but two of the people, an Indian and a Lebanese living in Abu Dhabi, were South Korean, officials said.

The Burmese Civil Aviation Administration in Rangoon said the plane was over the Andaman Sea, about 150 miles west of the Burmese coastal town of Tavoy, when contact was lost.

The Andaman Sea lies between the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia.

Burmese officials in Rangoon said the plane was making routine contact with air traffic controllers at Rangoon Airport before proceeding into Burmese air space when it disappeared.

The officials said the plane's last radio contact did not indicate any problems and the plane was due to make another routine contact with the tower 21 minutes later.

It never did. Burmese officials informed the South Korean government that a search operation for the plane was launched, but initial sweeps found nothing, officials in Seoul said.

Thai provincial police said the plane may have crashed near the Thai-Burmese border, but the time they gave for the incident did not agree with flight details released by Bangkok flight control.

KAL officials said Thai authorities would conduct an air search for signs of the missing plane.

A 21-man team of KAL and South Korean officials was to leave for Bangkok today to aid efforts to find the missing plane, officials said.

Airline officials said the plane may have crashed in thick jungle or in the sea where it would be difficult to find. They said the plane was flying at an altitude of 37,000 feet the last time it was heard from.

About 300 relatives and friends waited at Kimpo Airport for word of the plane. They sobbed, held each other, stared at the flight arrival announcement board.

Yoon Jae-hee, whose husband was on the plane, wept as she said, "If he died, I don't know how I will be able to live."

KAL officials held out hope the plane may have tried to make an emergency landing in Cambodia, Laos or Vietnam.

But a KAL official told a news conference the airline could not rule out the possibility of terrorism or hijacking. He said the plane could have been forced to land in a communist nation in Southeast Asia, possibly Vietnam.



## Merry Christmas by the truckload

Trucker Stan Lewis of Digby, Nova Scotia, adjusts the strapping on a truckload of Christmas trees scheduled to go from S. Portland, Maine, to Memphis, Tenn., for the holiday season. Lewis said the trees are the first of five loads he takes south for the holiday season.

## Freed hostage's report: Waite held in next room

By JEFFREY ULBRICH  
Associated Press Writer

PARIS — A French hostage just freed in Lebanon said yesterday that Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, was in the room next to him during his captivity and that American hostages were suffering greatly.

Roger Auque, 31, a free-lance journalist, was released Friday in Beirut by his Shiite Moslem kidnappers along with Jean-Louis Normandin, 36, a lighting engineer for the Antenne 2 television network.

In an interview on French television, Auque said Waite also was being held by the Revolutionary Justice Organization.

"I knew that Terry Waite was held by the same people as me, the same kidnappers, and was in the room next to mine in the apartment where I was held," he said.

Auque was optimistic about more releases soon.

"I think the French government has now found the key to hostage releases and that there will be more in the future," he said.

Waite dropped from sight in Beirut

on Jan. 20 while on a mission from the Anglican Church to negotiate with Islamic Jihad for the release of foreign hostages in Lebanon. His whereabouts were unknown, though it was widely assumed he had been kidnapped.

Auque also said he learned that two Americans being held by the Shiite organization were suffering.

Auque said he received information from a South Korean diplomat, Do Chae-Sung, kidnapped Jan. 31, 1986 and freed Oct. 29, with whom he shared a cell for two weeks.

"He was able to see other hostages, and I know that this group that was holding me held other hostages, notably British, American and also French, and above all the American hostages suffered very much," Auque said.

Do has declined to publicly discuss circumstances surrounding his kidnapping and captivity.

The Revolutionary Justice Organization claims to be holding two Americans — Joseph James Cicippio, 57, acting comptroller of the American University of Beirut, abducted Sept. 12, 1986, and Edward Austin



Jean-Louis Normandin

Tracy, 57, an author, kidnapped Oct. 21, 1986.

Twenty foreigners, including eight Americans, are missing after being kidnapped in Lebanon. If Auque's report proved true, Waite would be the 21st hostage.

Terry Anderson, 40, the chief Middle East correspondent of The Associated Press, kidnapped on March 16, 1985, has been held the longest.

A spokeswoman for the Archbishop of Canterbury said Sunday it was believed Waite was still alive.

Normandin and Auque returned home Saturday to a tumultuous welcome at Orly Airport

## Shultz: No problem with arms treaty

By DONNA CASSATA  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Secretary of State George P. Shultz said yesterday he foresees no last-minute problems to the signing of a U.S.-Soviet treaty eliminating medium-range nuclear weapons.

President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev are scheduled to sign the pact outlawing all U.S. and Soviet missiles with ranges of 315 to 3,000 miles during the summit on Dec. 8-10.

"It is all agreed, and everybody wants to see it go forward, and there really is not a problem," Shultz said on CBS-TV's *Face the Nation*. "It's just a question of doing things — continuing to do things carefully and patiently, and that's what we're doing."

Shultz said recent work on the treaty language has been "going on in a good way, and there isn't any particular problem about that, that I know of."

Conservatives have criticized the treaty, questioning the pact's verification provisions and accusing the Soviets of violating every previous arms control agreement.

Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., the ranking Republican member of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, has said he opposes all forms of arms control with the Soviet Union. Helms is expected to lead extreme conservatives in killing the pact.

Shultz, in the CBS interview, sought

to reassure conservatives about the treaty.

"What you have in verification is successive sets of layers of being able to keep track of possible places where violations might take place," the secretary said. "It begins right now as both sides exchange data on what they have in these missiles. The data that we have from the Soviet Union are credible in the sense that they are very much in line with our own intelligence estimates."

Shultz said there is a possibility that the Soviets will cheat, but emphasized that the chances are slim.

"I think if it occurs it would be in very small proportion," he said. "And the incentive to cheat under all these circumstances is small. Nevertheless, it's possible."

Earlier in the program, Sen. Steve Symms, R-Idaho, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said he will probably oppose the U.S.-Soviet accord even after a close study of the pact.

"Is it better to have the defense there and be strong and keep your peace through strength or sign a piece of paper with the Soviets, who are masters of camouflage, concealment, deception. They've been cheating on all past agreements," Symms said.

"Why is it that all of a sudden we're being asked to ratify a treaty with the same bunch of bandits that have been cheating on all their past treaties?" he asked, and later added that he would be "amazed if I were for it from what I know about it now."

## Turkish leader claims victory in elections

By EMEL ANIL  
Associated Press Writer

ANKARA, Turkey — Premier Turgut Ozal claimed victory for his Motherland Party with nearly half the votes counted yesterday in Turkey's first civilian-run general elections since the military ceded power in 1983.

Speaking briefly with reporters, Ozal said he was certain his party had maintained its parliamentary majority.

Running second was the main opposition Social Democratic Populist Party, which was making substantial gains in the 450-seat, one-house Parliament. It is led by Erdal Inonu, a nuclear physicist-turned-politician.

With 45 percent of the ballots counted, the Motherland Party had 36 percent of the vote, according to state radio and television. It said the Social Democrats had 24 percent, followed closely by the center-right True Path Party of former Premier Suleyman Demirel with 20 percent. Demirel was ousted by the military in 1980.

The other four parties in the race were below the minimum 10 percent nationwide required for entry in Parliament, but voting for them was cutting into support for the three larger parties.

The Moslem fundamentalist Prosperity Party was doing well in eastern provinces and former premier Bulent Ecevit's Democratic Left Party was dividing the Social Democrat vote in some industrialized Western provinces.

Unlike the 1983 elections that brought Ozal to power, yesterday's balloting was open to all legally established parties. Former leaders previously barred from politics by the military were running at the head of new parties.

Ozal called yesterday's elections a

year ahead of schedule to capitalize on the political stability and economic growth he helped foster.

Apart from a few skirmishes, voting at the nation's heavily guarded polling sites was calm and orderly, news agencies reported.

Hurriyet News Agency said supporters of Motherland and the center-right True Path Party clashed with sticks and stones in the southeastern province of Siirt. Five people were injured, it said.

In the eastern province of Bitlis, a ballot box official died of a heart attack trying to separate two groups fighting with knives, the semi-official Anatolia News Agency reported. It said three people were injured in the fight.

No other election-related violence was reported.

Turkey, a nation of 52 million people, has about 26 million eligible voters. Turnout was high. Those who do not vote are fined 12,500 Turkish lira (\$13).

Polls closed at 5 p.m. Unofficial results were expected to be in Tuesday. Votes are counted by hand so official results will take a week to compile.

National election officials ordered several editions of the daily Gunaydin newspaper confiscated. They said it violated an election-day ban on publishing anything intended to influence voters by reporting on expected price increases.

According to the latest public opinion poll published Saturday, voter support for Ozal's conservative economic policies slipped to 36.3 percent from 39.4 percent two weeks ago.

The poll, with a 2 percent margin of error, was conducted by the generally reliable PIAR polling agency.

It projected that Motherland would keep its majority and with it another five-year mandate.