

Israel ends mourning, begins fest

JERUSALEM (AP) — Looking back on 30 years of achievement and ahead to political uncertainty, Israel ended a day of mourning for its war dead and began a 24-hour nationwide birthday party at sundown Wednesday.

As Israelis started a round of picnics, street carnivals and flag-waving merriment in honor of Independence Day, Prime Minister Menachem Begin boasted that Israel has "massive strength" with which to confront its foes.

"Since the days of the Maccabees 2,100 years ago the people of Israel has not been

as rooted in our land as it is today," Begin said in a broadcast address to the nation, which declared its independence May 14, 1948, but celebrates the anniversary by the Jewish lunar calendar.

Pres. Ephraim Katzir said in another address that "first signs are appearing of chances for improving our relations with some of our neighbors...Although these negotiations are passing a crisis, we are firm in our belief that peace...will be achieved."

Defense Minister Ezer Weizman said at a memorial ceremony for war dead that "we

are living through historic times, fraught with the prospect of change in Israel's relations with the Arabs, even to the extent of a possible peace."

After the festivities, the Israeli Cabinet is expected to get down to crucial discussions for bridging the gap between Egyptian insistence on total Israeli withdrawal from captured Arab land, and Israel's demand to keep military control of the occupied West Bank of the Jordan River.

Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said in an interview he anticipates "a political break-

through" this year. He would not elaborate.

With the memory of the March 11 highway massacre that killed 35 Israelis fresh in mind, 30,000 police and soldiers set up a massive security net to screen merry-makers from possible guerrilla attacks.

Before the celebrations began, memorial ceremonies in every town and village reminded Israelis of the bitter price of survival — 15,000 soldiers killed in four major wars and in thousands of border skirmishes and acts of terrorism.

Italian police chief resigns in wake of Moro backlash

ROME (AP) — Aldo Moro was quietly buried by his embittered family Tuesday in a secluded village cemetery miles from a mounting political furor over his assassination and from the continuing wave of urban terrorism besieging this nation.

Italy's chief police official, Interior Minister Francesco Cossiga, resigned in the face of the growing backlash to the government's failure to save Moro. In Milan, a four-member "kneecapping" team gunned down an industrialist. And in Turin, an imprisoned leader of Moro's Red Brigades kidnappers ominously warned that the siege of terror is not about to end.

EPA recall tags exhaust systems

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal government Wednesday ordered American Motors Corp. to recall most of its 1976 autos for exhaust system repairs, an action that could cost the smallest of the U.S. car companies \$3.1 million.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ordered the recall because of a faulty part that can allow high levels of nitrogen oxide to escape into the air, said the EPA's deputy administrator, Barbara Blum.

"This pollutant can contribute to breathing illnesses, chest pains, and bronchitis in children," she said. "It helps form smog, that all-too-familiar source of headaches, smarting eyes and coughing among city residents."

Blum in general took automak-

ers to task for failing to produce effective emission control systems.

"Since 1972 almost 12 million — or one in five — new motor vehicles sold in the United States have been recalled because they were violating exhaust air pollution standards," she said.

"As a record of compliance with the law and as an expression of concern for public health, this marks a dismal showing by automakers," she told a news conference.

The AMC recall order involves 270,000 Hornets, Gremlins, Pacers and Matadors, the EPA said. The EPA also ordered AMC to recall 40,000 Jeeps and Post Office dispatcher trucks made in 1975 and 1976.

The widow and her children, who had vainly appealed to the government to negotiate with kidnappers in hopes of saving Moro's life, issued a terse statement after his bullet-riddled body was found Tuesday saying they wanted no state funeral or other public commemoration.

Four hundred mourners — all family members and friends — attended the funeral service in Torrita Tiberina, a village 30 miles north of Rome where the Moros had a house.

In one of his last letters during 54 days in captivity, Moro requested that no party or government official attend his funeral.

South Africans sidestep stiff morality rules

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Suburban groups of middle-class whites gather around television sets to watch clandestine videotapes of the U.S. porno film "Deep Throat."

Risking fines the equivalent in South African rands of more than \$460, young men pass smuggled issues of "Playboy" magazine hand to hand.

Untold hundreds of white men cross each weekend into neighboring black states — Lesotho and Swaziland are favorites — on what has become known as the "dirty weekend brigade," seeking to consort with black women, which is a violation of South Africa's segregation laws.

These are some of the signs of what sociologists here see as widening cracks in the massive wall of morality, religion and politics constructed by the ruling Afrikaners against what they regard as the evils of permissiveness

World at a glance

From Associated Press reports

More jets to Israel urged

WASHINGTON — Two Cabinet officers urged Pres. Carter Wednesday to promise Israel an additional 20 jet fighters as a way to keep Congress from rejecting his proposed sale of war planes to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, a White House source said.

The source, who asked not to be identified, said Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Defense Secretary Harold Brown recommended that Carter propose the sale of the added planes for Israel.

If Carter agrees to such a compromise, the Israelis would receive 90 jet fighters under the package now before Congress and an additional 20 planes at a later date.

Soviet's wife commits suicide

MOSCOW — The wife of Soviet defector Arkady Shevchenko took her own life in her Moscow apartment, her son said Wednesday.

Leongina Shevchenko, 49, died Monday from an overdose of sleeping pills, according to well-informed Soviet sources. Her body was found Tuesday in a closet in the apartment she shared with her daughter, Anya, 16.

In New York, her husband charged that his wife was kept from speaking with him about his decision not to go home. He said the Soviets forced her to return to Moscow.

Princess Margaret to divorce

LONDON — Princess Margaret will divorce her husband Lord Snowdon, ending a stormy 18-year marriage and flying in the face of Britain's old taboo against royal divorce.

Princess Margaret, sixth in line to the throne, split up with her photographer husband two years ago. Since then, she has been in hot water in Parliament, the press and the public over her friendship with socialite Roddy Llewellyn, an aspiring pop singer 17 years her junior.

Czech plane skyjacked

FRANKFURT, West Germany — A Czechoslovak passenger plane on a flight from Prague to the West German capital of Bonn was hijacked today to Frankfurt, an airport spokesman said.

The spokesman said the plane had landed but gave no further details.

Cal snowpack nears record

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The National Park Service, citing one of the deepest California snowpacks on record, said Wednesday some facilities will be late in opening for the season in the mountain parks, normally well groomed by this time for the arrival of heavy tourist business.

So great is the pack at Lassen Volcanic National Park that the park road will be impossible to open at all this month

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