

making the news

From Associated Press reports

TEL AVIV — Israeli commandos stormed ashore and attacked a Palestinian "terrorist" stronghold in southern Lebanon early Tuesday and Israeli naval vessels bombarded guerrilla "concentrations" along the coast, the army said.

The army denied the attack was made in retaliation for a Palestinian terrorist raid at Maalot in northern Israel last Saturday in which an Israeli woman and all three guerrillas were killed.

The statement said the operation was "consistent with Israel's policy of hitting the terrorist organizations and foiling their plans to attack Israel."

BERN, Switzerland — Swiss foes of topless bathing said Tuesday they have succeeded in forcing a showdown on the issue at the polls.

Organizers said they collected more than 12,000 signatures backing a draft ban on "bare bosoms in publicly accessible" places in Bern.

Under the constitution, the petition obliges authorities to put the question to a referendum.

The petition denounces the topless fad as an "offense against female dignity, a direct threat to the moral development of juveniles, and an indirect danger to the stability of marriages and families."

SALEM — Oregon's law making motor vehicle insurance mandatory has caused a dramatic drop in the number of uninsured motorists in the state, Administrator Harold Grover of the state Motor Vehicles Division said on Monday.

In testimony before the state Senate Transportation Committee, Grover said accident reports indicate that in the six months the law has been in effect, the number of insured motorists has jumped from 85 to 95 percent of the state's 1.7 million licensed drivers.

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Three Moslems hijacked a Lebanese jetliner Tuesday and, after unsuccessful attempts to land in Turkey and Cyprus, returned to Beirut, where they freed 10 of their 79 hostages, airport officials reported.

The hijackers, described by airport officials as armed, told government negotiators they were protesting the disappearance of the leader of the Moslem Shiite sect of Lebanon, Imam Mousa al-Sadr.

According to a government spokesman, the skyjacksers said they would not harm any of the remaining 60 passengers and nine crew members still held aboard the Middle East Airlines Boeing 707 if Lebanese authorities arranged a news conference for them with the ambassadors of all Arab nations present.

Weeping shah leaves Iran

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, a weeping king driven from his kingdom, flew his royal jet out of Iran Tuesday on a journey from which he may never return.

His departure set off an explosion of joy by millions of his people. If his triumphant foes have their way, the shah's flight means the end of monarchy in a land ruled by kings for 2,500 years.

Jubilant Iranians poured into Tehran's streets, singing and dancing, cheering each other in celebration of victory in the bloody year-long popular struggle against the man who has ruled their nation since 1941.

The 59-year-old monarch took the controls himself and piloted his "Shah's Falcon" Boeing 727 jetliner into the bright skies over Tehran and on to Aswan, Egypt.

He is expected to stay there for a few days before flying on to the United States for what is officially described as an "extended vacation."

At Tehran's airport, two royal guard officers fell tearfully to their knees to try to kiss the shah's feet as he neared the plane ramp, an eyewitness reported.

The monarch — "Shah of Shahs," "Center of the Universe," "Shadow of the Almighty" — left behind shattered dreams of glory for his Pahlavi dynasty and a volatile political situation.

Prime Minister Shahpour Bakhtiar, the shah's choice to lead Iran, won parliamentary approval for his Cabinet Tuesday. But the powerful Khomaini, head of the nation's dominant Shiite sect, has branded the new, U.S.-backed

government "illegitimate" and vowed to establish an Islamic republic.

Bakhtiar, a courtly French-educated lawyer and longtime foe of the shah, had agreed to form a government if the monarch left the country. He allowed the shah to remain titular head of state, leaving open the possibility of his eventual return. A nine-member Regency Council was formed to act for him in his absence.

In his farewell message to his 34 million subjects, the shah appealed for the preservation of the monarchy and support for the new

government. He also urged revival of the economy, paralyzed by strikes in oil, communications and other vital industries.

Speaking to the lower house of Parliament before it gave him its vote of confidence Tuesday, Bakhtiar also vowed that Iran, a big buyer of U.S. arms "will no longer spend billions of dollars" to act as the policeman of the Persian Gulf, protecting Western oil interests.

In his address to parliament, Bakhtiar pledged again to dissolve the hated SAVAK secret police and said 100 agents had already been fired.

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Feds send pot to help patients

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — Capsules containing federally grown marijuana were en route to four cancer patients Tuesday under provisions of a pioneering New Mexico law aimed at easing side effects of chemotherapy.

"The capsules are on their way here, I'm told," said George Goldstein, secretary of the state Health and Environment Department.

The shipment from the National Institute of Drug Abuse will be the first under New Mexico's law that legalizes marijuana and its basic chemical component, THC, for use in cancer treatment research.

"There is consistent evidence that marijuana does inhibit vomiting and facilitates sleep," Goldstein said. "There is some literature indicating that it also relieves pain."

The first four patients approved by a state patient qualification review board include two in Albuquerque and two in Las Cruces, said program administrator Dr. Edward Deaux.

Goldstein said names of the patients were being withheld.

He said the state had ordered both oral capsules containing the marijuana derivative and marijuana cigarettes.



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