

making the news

From Associated Press Reports

BOSTON — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, saying "I want to get going," moves a step closer to becoming a presidential candidate today with the formation of an exploratory committee.

The Kennedy camp, having picked up the support of Chicago's mayor over the weekend, will announce in Washington that a committee is being set up to collect funds and assess the Massachusetts senator's chances against President Carter in 1980.

However, aides say Kennedy will officially announce his candidacy soon, perhaps even this week.

On a flight across Massachusetts on Friday night, Kennedy told reporters: "I'm tired of screwing around with this. I want to get going."

Kennedy is already considered to be a candidate by the Federal Election Commission.

LONDON — Britain, seeking to impress China of its potential as an important trading partner, welcomed Chinese Premier Hua Guofeng on Sunday with a glittering display of pomp and calls for closer ties with the Communist nation.

The premier and Communist Party chairman arrived in London after a weeklong visit to West Germany. He is to confer twice with Mrs. Thatcher, a vocal critic of the Soviet Union, and is expected to feel more free to lash out at the Kremlin than he did during his just-completed West German visit. West Germany, a supporter of detente, had asked him to tone down his anti-Soviet remarks.

Britain ranks only ninth among China's trading partners, but had great expectations from an economic cooperation agreement signed in March, which envisioned last year's level of \$425 million in bilateral trade expanding to a cumulative \$14 billion in the next six years. Businessmen say contracts so far have fallen short of that level.

SEOUL, South Korea — Losing a frantic race against death, rescue teams found the bodies of 25 miners early Monday in two smoke-filled auxiliary shafts of a coal mine where an underground fire had trapped 126 workers Saturday, police reported.

It raised the death toll to 30 in the disaster at the Unsong Mine in Munkyong, 80 miles south of Seoul. Eleven miners were still missing.

A total of 85 miners were rescued Sunday. Mine officials earlier had reported 110 were saved, but it turned out they were counting among the rescued the 25 trapped in two shafts off the main shaft. Because it was determined earlier Sunday that these men were still alive, officials apparently were confident they could be reached quickly and pulled out of the mine.

Police officials said it was believed the fire was caused either by an overheated motor for the conveyor inside the shaft or by a short circuit in a power line in the shaft. The rescuers were able to step up their efforts after technicians restored the main elevator system and communications links that had been knocked out by the fire.

NEW YORK — Responsibility for a bomb that damaged the Cuban Mission was claimed by a group that said it wanted to strike two weeks earlier during Fidel Castro's visit to New York but was foiled by heavy police protection.

"We didn't want to kill any policemen," an anonymous caller told The Associated Press after the explosion near the mission late Saturday night.

On Sunday, the official Soviet news agency, Tass, denounced the blast as a "hostile provocation" that stirs "anti-Cuban hysteria" in the United States.

The explosion in a trash container blew out a side door of the mission and shattered windows. Two policemen were treated for cuts and bruises.

After the blast, a caller told several news organizations that a group called Omega Seven was responsible. The group has also taken credit for similar attacks along the East Coast and in the city.

Korea calls murder deliberate

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Pres. Park Chung-hee and five bodyguards were gunned down deliberately in an assassination planned and executed by the head of the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency, the government said Sunday.

The official report said KCIA chief Kim Jae-kyu killed Park Friday night because he was out of favor and feared he would be fired. It did not explain why the government first reported that Kim killed the president accidentally during an argument with chief presidential body guard Cha Chi-shul.

"Kim was reprimanded by Park on several occasions for incompetence in carrying out his duties. There was recently talk of a reshuffle of top posts. So Kim, worried about his dismissal, committed the crime," chief investigator Chon Doo-hwan told reporters. He said Kim shot Park and Cha three times each during a dinner at a KCIA building 500 yards from the presidential palace.

By prior arrangement with Kim, five KCIA agents waiting in an adjoining room killed four presidential bodyguards and seriously wounded another as soon as they heard Kim's shots, Gen. Chon said. Kim, his five agents and many other KCIA agents have been arrested and were being interrogated, he said.

The government has denied that Kim planned a coup and U.S. officials in Seoul said, "We have not seen the type of events normally associated with a coup attempt, such as mass arrests and seizure of communications facilities."

Despite apparent calm in the nation of 37 million, martial law continued under acting Pres. Choi Kyu-hah, who was Park's prime minister.

Close to 12,000 troops were posted throughout the capital, the usual midnight to 4 a.m. curfew was expanded to 10 p.m. to 4 a.m., unauthorized public gatherings were prohibited, and the news media were under military censorship.

Korean sources predicted a leadership crisis following the death of Park, who left no clear successor and tolerated no political rivals after he took power in a military coup on May 16, 1961.

But even leaders opposed to Park's authoritarian regime

publicly mourned him and warned Communist North Korea to take no belligerent action during a possible leadership crisis.

"I warn North Korea not to take advantage of the current situation as the entire people's voice is united (against the Communists), transcending political differences," said dissident politician Kim Dae-jung in

statement read by a Seoul radio station.

"We must avoid any internal confusion. However, the current difficulties can be solved only through restoration of a democratic system. Only a democratic government can strongly ensure the happiness of the people by winning their support and cooperation," he said.

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