

inter/national news

From Associated Press reports

Egyptian voting turnout heavy

CAIRO, Egypt

Officials reported a heavy turnout today in balloting on a national referendum to name Hosni Mubarak, the only candidate, to succeed Anwar Sadat as president.

No incidents at polling places were reported by police, who were ordered to shoot anyone "disturbing stability and security." However, the Interior Ministry reported bomb blasts at Cairo International Airport and a gunbattle with Moslem extremists in Giza.

The ministry said two bombs exploded on an Air Malta Boeing 737 shortly after it had arrived from Libya and its 93 passengers had debarked. Airport officials said the blasts killed an airport employee, believed to be a baggage handler, and injured a stewardess and two security guards. No group immediately claimed responsibility.

The ministry also said that security forces arrested five Moslem extremists after a short gunbattle near the pyramids at Giza. It said two of the men were accused of instigating two days of violence in the southern city of Assyut.

Official results from the referendum, in which the 12 million voters were asked to mark "yes" or "no" next to Mubarak's picture on their ballots, could be announced as early as Wednesday.

Spanish king visits Reagan

WASHINGTON

Pres. Ronald Reagan hailed Spain's King Juan Carlos Tuesday as "a champion of democracy" and said the United States stands solidly behind ef-

orts to make his country the first new member of NATO since 1955.

In private, the monarch told Reagan that Spain would be of "whatever help it could" in promoting peace in the Middle East, and he volunteered that he has a good relationship with Jordan's King Hussein and the royal Saudi family, a senior American official said.

"Any help of that kind will be welcome," said the official, who declined to be identified. He added that the king's offer would be pursued by Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

The United States has been seeking support for the Camp David peace process from both of the moderate Arab states.

The monarch's visit comes as the Spanish parliament nears a vote on whether to pursue membership in the 15-member NATO alliance, as well as the European Economic Community. Juan Carlos had been scheduled to visit Reagan earlier this year but the trip was postponed because of an abortive coup attempt by rightist forces last February.

Oregon banks lower prime rate

PORTLAND

Oregon's three largest banks announced Monday they have lowered their prime interest rate a full percentage point to 18 percent.

First Interstate Bank, U.S. National Bank of Oregon, and the Oregon Bank followed the lead of several major eastern banks.

It is the first decline in the interest rates since Oct. 5.

The prime rate is charged to a bank's biggest corporate customers.

Elvis' doctor pleads innocent

MEMPHIS, Tenn.

Elvis Presley's doctor pleaded innocent in Criminal Court today to 14 counts of over-prescribing dangerous drugs.

James Neal, attorney for Dr. George Nichopoulos, entered his client's formal plea before Judge Bernie Weinman. Earlier, Assistant District Attorney General James Wilson read charges accusing Nichopoulos of dispensing drugs in violation of the law and accepted medical practice.

Nichopoulos was Presley's physician for 11 years before the rock 'n' roll king died in 1977.

Nichopoulos, 53, is charged with violating state law by prescribing amphetamines, barbiturates and painkillers in amounts exceeding accepted medical practices.

The indictment lists Nichopoulos himself as well as Presley, singer Jerry Lee Lewis and nine others as the patients who received the medication. Two counts accuse the doctor of prescribing addictive drugs to patients already dependent on medication and failing to cure their drug dependence.

American wins Nobel prize

STOCKHOLM, Sweden

Yale University Prof. James Tobin, the chief architect of a theory analyzing how families and businesses juggle debts and assets against risk and return, has been awarded the 1981 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Science.

The Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the prize Tuesday to the 63-year-old native of Champaign, Ill., for his "analysis of financial markets and their relations to expenditure decisions, employment, production and prices."

Tobin, who became the 10th American in 13 years to receive the Nobel Memorial award, had been a front-runner for several years for the prize set up and funded in 1968 by the Central Bank of Sweden.

Morocco claims 'enemy' attack

RABAT, Morocco

King Hassan II said forces from a neighboring country invaded Morocco's Sahara territory Tuesday with highly sophisticated weaponry, attacked Moroccan forces and shot down two aircraft.

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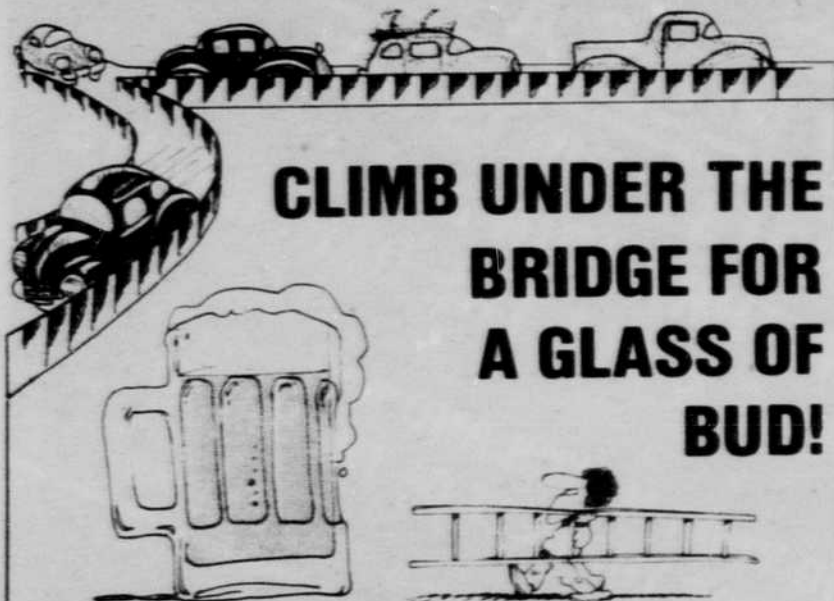
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