



World beat

International

Ethiopian plane crashes

LONDON (AP) — An Ethiopian air force plane carrying 54 passengers and crew crashed in the Eritrean provincial capital of Asmara on Tuesday and kill-

ed everyone on board, the official radio reported.

According to the report on the official Ethiopian Radio, monitored in London by the British Broadcasting Corp., the crash was due to a mechanical failure.

The plane, carrying air force personnel, was en route to the

capital of Addis Ababa when the plane suddenly went out of control, the radio said.

"It crashed while it was trying to land after developing sudden problems about three minutes after taking off from Yohannes the Fourth Airport (in Asmara)," the broadcast said.

Hotel worker arrested

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — A Dupont Plaza Hotel maintenance worker was arrested Tuesday and charged with 96 counts of murder for the New Year's Eve fire at the posh hotel.

The hotel worker, Hector Escudero Aponte, was the first person arrested in the case, but Justice Secretary Hector Rivera Cruz said officials believed he had not acted alone.

Rivera Cruz said in a statement that Escudero Aponte was charged with "setting fire to the Dupont Plaza Hotel on New Year's Eve, in agreement with others." But he said the investigation was continuing and therefore he could provide no further information.

Escudero Aponte used a Sterno-like fuel to torch new furniture stacked in the hotel's ground-floor ballroom, according to a complaint filed by the FBI in U.S. District Court.

Ambassador shot

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — A gunman approached Colombia's ambassador to Hungary outside his residence Tuesday and shot the former leader of the South American country's anti-drug campaign five times.

In Bogota, Colombian Foreign Minister Julio Londono told reporters that Ambassador Enrique Parejo, a former justice minister, was shot three times in the head and twice in the arms but appeared out of danger.

He said surgeons removed two bullets from the ambassador's brain and were trying to extract the third.

Londono quoted witnesses as saying a man approached Parejo as he was leaving his Budapest residence at 11:30 a.m. (5:30 a.m. EST) and asked him in Spanish "Are you Mr. Parejo?"

When the ambassador responded that he was, the gun-

man opened fire, Londono said.

Lebanon bombed

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Israeli warplanes bombed and rocketed Palestinian guerrilla positions in eastern Lebanon near the Syrian border Tuesday in their third raid in five days. Police said two guerrillas were killed and seven wounded.

Four Israeli fighter-bombers made three lightning sorties at 3:20 p.m. near the Bekaa Valley village of Yanta about four miles from the Syrian border, police said.

The raid was one of the closest Israeli air strikes to the borders of Syria, the Soviet Union's closest ally in the Middle East, since Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Police said the blasted positions belonged to Col. Saeed Moussa's Fatah-Uprising faction, which broke away from Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat's mainline Fatah in 1983.

Amtrak was speeding

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Amtrak train that collided with three freight locomotives was exceeding speed restrictions by 23 miles an hour, and investigators are trying to determine if that contributed to the severity of the accident that took 16 lives, officials said Tuesday.

The National Transportation Safety Board investigation, meanwhile, continued to focus on why the engineer of the Conrail locomotives, which also was speeding, apparently did not heed a stop signal until he was almost on top of it, causing the locomotives to skid into the path of the Amtrak train.

At a news conference, it was disclosed that speed recorders showed the Amtrak locomotive, pulling 12 cars, was traveling 128 mph when the brakes were applied.

Job security protected

WASHINGTON (AP) — States may require employers to give pregnant workers job protections not available to other employees, the Supreme Court ruled Tuesday.

The court upheld a California

law requiring employers to grant unpaid leaves of absence of up to four months to women whose pregnancies leave them unable to work even if leaves are not granted for any other disability.

Although the 6-3 decision was a major victory for working women, some feminist lawyers said the decision did not go far enough in promoting on-the-job equality.

Regional

Hanford bill introduced

SALEM (AP) — Measures to create a Hanford Waste Board and to exempt the state from liability in case of a nuclear incident were among the bills introduced Tuesday in the Oregon Legislature.

The waste board bill, SB13, is aimed at giving the state a larger voice in the U.S. Department of Energy's consideration of the Hanford nuclear reservation as a possible nuclear waste repository.

The southeast Washington state site is one of three being considered by the department to permanently dispose of the nation's high-level radioactive waste. Other sites are in Texas and Nevada.

Elections director named

SALEM (AP) — Secretary of State Barbara Roberts on Tuesday named William Flynn as the new director of the state Elections Division.

Flynn, 43, replaces Ray Phelps, who recently resigned after serving 10 years as head of the agency.

Flynn has been with the division since 1979 and before that worked in Benton County's Department of Records and Elections.

He'll receive a \$42,000 salary as head of the division, which, among other things, investigates complaints of election law violations and assists county officials in running elections.

Phelps, who resigned from the division last month, has been hired under contract by the Metropolitan Service District in Portland to review the district's performance.

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ANNOUNCEMENT
Academic Learning Services
has been awarded money from the U.S. Department of Education
to provide free learning support services, such as tutoring in most subjects and workshops in math and writing, to University of Oregon students.
Not all students can qualify for these services under federal guidelines. To find out whether you are eligible, stop by the ALS office, 108 Library.

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