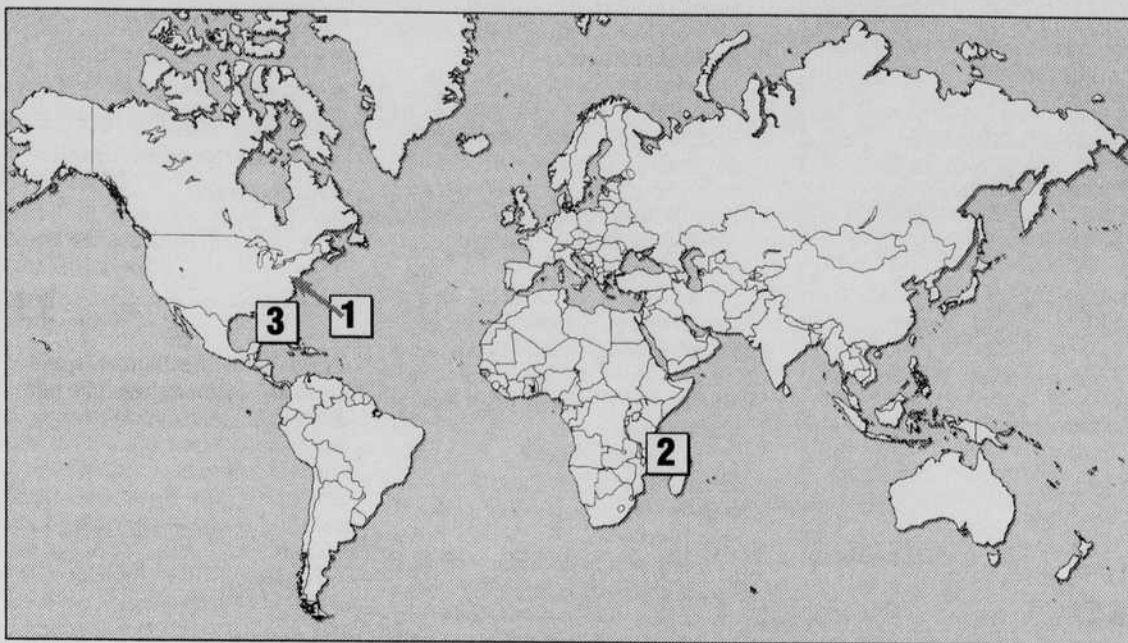


NEWS DIGEST

your quick guide to news from around the world



NATO force will work to reunite Bosnia

1 WASHINGTON, D.C. — Now that NATO arms have separated Bosnia's warring factions, a smaller NATO force is going there to help tackle the tougher job of pulling Bosnians back together.

Clinton administration officials voiced optimism that the extended troop deployment to Bosnia can accomplish its mission by June 1998 and leave the war-torn country able to sustain itself. Critics worry the administration has plunged U.S. troops into an open-ended commitment without clearly defined goals.

Interviews with Pentagon and NATO officials in the week since the follow-on force was announced indicate that no concrete plan has emerged for the 31,000-member force — 8,500 Americans among them — set to deploy in mid-March. The positioning of the troops, the number of tanks and the cost of the mission have yet to be fixed, although some options are on the table.

What is clear is that the Bosnia Sustainment Force, or SFOR, will have less than its predecessor IFOR, the departing Peace Implementation Force.

Drunken hijackers cause plane to crash

2 MORONI, Comoros Islands — Boaters pulled corpse after corpse Sunday from the shattered, submerged fuselage of an Ethiopian airliner, commandeered by drunken hijackers who forced the pilot to fly until the jet ran out of fuel and crashed into the Indian Ocean.

Only 52 people survived when the Boeing 767 cartwheeled into the waves off Comoros Islands on Saturday, killing 123. The survivors included two people of the three hijackers, who struggled for the controls of the aircraft even as one engine and then the other ran dry and stopped.

The hijackers refused Capt. Leul Abate's pleas to let him land the jet safely at an airport in the Comoros Islands capital of Moroni.

"He wanted to go there, but they wouldn't let him," co-pilot Yonas Mekuria said from his hospital bed, where he was being treated for cuts and bruises.

"I guess they understood it," the co-pilot said of the fuel shortage. "But they didn't give a damn."

Columbia astronauts work to avoid crash

3 CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Concerned about a possible collision, NASA warned Columbia's astronauts Sunday that they may have to retrieve a semiconductor-growing satellite one day early.

"We may have to call on you guys to roll with it a bit today," Mission Control told the shuttle crew.

As of Sunday afternoon, the two-ton satellite trailed Columbia and its five astronauts by 28 miles. And 28 miles farther back was the ultraviolet telescope. Both were released by the crew last week.

But the telescope was traveling faster than expected as it sped through the thin upper atmosphere, slightly lower than expected. Flight controllers fretted over how close the 3.5-ton telescope might be to Columbia if the astronauts wait until early Tuesday to retrieve the semiconductor saucer as planned.

NASA safety rules stipulate that a shuttle be at least 12 to 20 miles from another orbiting object. A collision between two spacecraft could be disastrous.

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Influenza vaccinations will be given at the Student Health Center for faculty and staff every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and for students Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Beginning Wednesday Oct. 9

Students \$3.50

Faculty and Staff \$4.00

Annual flu immunizations are recommended for the following:

1. Healthy persons 65 years or older.
2. Persons with long-term heart or lung problems.
3. Persons with any of the following: kidney disease, cystic fibrosis, diabetes, anemia, severe asthma and conditions which compromise immune mechanism.

Influenza vaccine may be given to persons wishing to reduce their chances of catching the flu, persons who provide essential community services and students or others in schools or colleges.

For more information, call the Student Health Center at 346-4441