



The Ocean Post

S.S. "ROTTERDAM"

FEBRUARY 16, 1977

Captain: A.H. Lagaay

WASHINGTON: The Mexican president Jose Lopez Portillo offered Tuesday to help the United States and Cuba restore diplomatic relations, but said Washington and Havana seem ready to take that step on their own. In a speech to the National Press Club, Lopez said Mexico believes the United States and Cuba must have healthy relations and Mexico which has diplomatic relations with Cuba and would be pleased to act as intermediary. Washington and Havana broke relations in 1961. He also urged the United States to restore full sovereign and national dignity to Panama by negotiating a new canal treaty acceptable to the Latin American nation. President Carter has already dispatched his negotiator on that project. Lopez earlier conferred more than an hour with Carter, the second and last round of meetings in a visit that seemed to designed restore and harmony to U.S.- Mexican relations. Aides said the Carter - Lopez talks ranged over economic relations, trade, emigration problems, drugs, smuggling, agriculture and the problems of American jailed in Mexico.

WASHINGTON: The House Assassination Committee, booked down in budget cutting and split over leadership, Tuesday worked under both an acting staff director and the original staff director, who refused to be fired.

WASHINGTON: A congressional report suggested Tuesday, it may be possible to achieve full employment balance. The Federal budget start new social programs and limit federal growth all at the same time. These are all national goals widely furred by politicians for the next five years.

WASHINGTON: Communications workers president Glenn Watts said Tuesday, that a union demand for job security, could propel the 500,000 telephone workers out on strike next August.

WASHINGTON: The Department of Health Education and Welfare is facing suits from hundreds of asbestos workers, who claim the government failed to warn them about a disabling lung disease.

WASHINGTON: Barriers between cities and their suburbs must be broken down through busing and other measures if racial isolation is to be eliminated from the nation's public schools, a report by the U.S. commission on civil rights said Tuesday.

WASHINGTON: Last month was the coldest January on record in the east and mid-west and this could turn out to be the most frigid winter since colonial days, the Commerce Department reported Tuesday.

PHILADELPHIA: The Evening Bulletin was on the streets again Tuesday, after the newspaper guild in the second week of a strike, the rival Philadelphia Inquirer and Daily News ordered the pickets withdrawn, to allow union members to report for work under court orders.

DETROIT: Paced by record Ford Motor Co. says, the U.S. auto industry rebounded from a harsh winter with early February new car sales, the best in 12 years and the second highest for the period in history.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

LONDON: Foreign Secretary Anthony Crossland 58 is in a coma from a stroke and sinking fast, his personnel assistant said Tuesday. Political sources said even if he survives, he will not be able to resume his duties.

VANCE BEGINS MIDDLE EAST TOUR.

JERUSALEM: Secretary of State Cyrus Vance arrived in Israel Tuesday on his first overseas mission, and said, the United States is deeply committed to the survival of Israel and its values. Israel Foreign Minister Yigal Allon who greeted Vance said, his first trip to the Middle East was a signal to revive the region's political momentum and begin moves for peace. A newspaper in Kuwait reported, Vance's visits to all the Arab nations surrounding Israel will include a meeting Friday with the Palestine Liberation Organization Chief Yasser Arafat. There was no immediate confirmation from the U.S. party. Vance said, he came to the Middle East with one the message that the United States is convinced of a fundamental underlying principle in the search for peace which is enduring trust and confidence between the two nations. During the flight from Washington officials aboard Vance's jet said, the Secretary brought with him no specific U.S. proposal on renewed Middle East peace talks, which have been stalemated on the question of Palestinian representation at the same table with Israel.

BOMBAY INDIA: Lillian Carter saying, she was touched to the bottom of her heart Tuesday, flew home from an emotional visit to the small company town where 10 years ago she care for the sick as a peace corps nurse.

BANGKOK: Vietnam in a brow to President Carter's overtures Tuesday, accused the United States of using undercover military agents in the Green Beret Teams in Laos to sabotage peace in southeast Asia.

BOGOTA COLOMBIA: A band of 50 guerrillas kidnaped an American peace corps volunteer in a two hour battle in a central Colombian town, which left a policeman and a guerrilla dead, the U.S. Embassy said Tuesday.

CASABLANCA MAROCCO: A court Tuesday sentenced 44 persons to life imprisonment Tuesday and 132 others to terms ranging up to 30 years for plotting to overthrow King Hassan and set up a Marxist Leninist regime.

BELGRADE YUGOSLAVIA: Yugoslavia accused the west Tuesday of injecting the issue of human rights in an attempt to poison the atmosphere before the review of the 1975 Helsinki Agreement, scheduled for this summer.

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