



The Ocean Post

S.S. ROTTERDAM

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CAPTAIN A.H. LAGAAY

DOMESTIC NEWS

WASHINGTON (UPI): Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal said Wednesday, corporate executives, who pay bribes should be criminally prosecuted. He said, the Carter Administration has decided that strong government action in the form of further Legislation is needed. Blumenthal also revealed that the internal revenue service has begun 50 criminal investigations of corporations and corporate executives for alleged bribery. In the past four years, more than 360 corporations have been connected with questionable payments of hundreds of millions of dollars. Much of this money was paid to officials at the highest levels of foreign governments, to influence buying decisions. Blumenthal's testimony before the Senate Banking Committee was a departure from the Ford Administration, which preferred to deal with bribery through international channels.

WASHINGTON (UPI): Reputed underworld figure Santo Trafficante, Jr, Wednesday refused 15 times to answer Congressional questions on what he knew of the assassination of John Kennedy and plots to kill Cuban Premier Fidel Castro. Trafficante was questioned at an open hearing of the House Assassination Committee.

CLINTON, MASSACHUSETTS (UPI): Jimmy Carter flew to this carefully chosen typical new England Hamlet Wednesday for a mock town meeting Wednesday night, where people chosen by lot may ask him anything they want.

WASHINGTON (UPI): Oregon officials told Congress Wednesday removal of criminal penalties for marijuana did not result in a surge of pot smoking in their state. They said, alcohol is a worse problem among the young in Oregon.

WASHINGTON (UPI): The White House Wednesday outlined a presidential plan for strong administrative actions, including tighter shipping standards and international jawboning, to reduce the risk of oil spills in American waters and compensate spill victims for their losses.

WASHINGTON (UPI): Defense Secretary Harold Brown expressed doubt Wednesday, that a new strategic arms limitation agreement with the Russians could result in large savings in the defense budget.

WASHINGTON (UPI): Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said Wednesday, this weeks American air shipments to Zaire will carry two million dollars worth of military and other equipment.

WASHINGTON (UPI): Four prominent Irish Americans Wednesday issued a St. Patrick's day appeal for an end to violence in Northern Ireland. It was contained in a joint statement by House Speaker Thomas O'Neill, Senator Edward Kennedy and Daniel Patrick Moynihan and New York Governor Hugh Carey.

WASHINGTON (UPI): Plans to turn the Panama Canal over that central American nation were strongly questioned Wednesday, as negotiators Elsworth Bunker and Sollinowitz privately briefed a House Committee on the canal talks.

WASHINGTON (UPI): Herbert Ley, a former chief of the food and drug administration said Wednesday, he believes Congress will revise the law so that saccharin or some other artificial sweetener, such as cyclamates can be put on supermarket shelves in the coming months.

WASHINGTON (UPI): Dr. Guy Newell, who is acting director of the National Cancer Institute, reported Wednesday, there are major improvements in recovery rates among persons under age 35, suffering various forms of cancer.

WASHINGTON (UPI): The Senate Finance Committee voted Wednesday to give one year of grace to one million Americans hit with a surprise tax increase this year, when they discovered the sick pay exclusion had been abolished. Another 100,000 Americans working overseas also would be given another year before there is a reduction in their special income exclusion.

I N T E R N A T I O N A L N E W S

BEIRUT (UPI): Unidentified gunmen assassinated leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt Wednesday, as he traveled to his hometown in the Lully region, South of Beirut. Details remained incomplete, but the initial reports said, the 59 year old chieftain's car had been ambushed and fired on by men in two cars and that Jumblatt's driver and bodyguard also were killed in the attack. Troops of the Arab peacekeeping force immediately were put on red alert and shops in Beirut and other districts began to close as news of the incident spread quickly. One report said, two cars ambushed Jumblatt's vehicle and one car blocked the road, while the other opened fire with machine guns at Jumblatt's car, killing him, his driver and his bodyguard. A UPI's reporter at Jumblatt's house said, reports reaching there said, at least three other persons had been killed by stray bullets. Leaders of Jumblatt's party immediately went into a meeting with political allies such as the communists and pro Iraqi Baathists.

ZURICH (UPI): Two Swiss police agents, disguised as Spanish Airline pilot Wednesday ended the longest hijacking on record by overpowering the Italian auto mechanic Luciano Porcari, who in two days forced his commandeered jetliner to cover 10,000 miles over two Continents. The harrowing ordeal for hostage passengers and crew of the Liberia Airlines B-727, hijacked by Porcari on what was to have been a short hop from Barcelona to Majorca, lasted 43 hours and 20 minutes. Porcari, 37 years old, was demanding custody of two daughters. He was officially described as mentally disturbed. One of the two Swiss Police Agents was shot in the leg by Porcari, when they overpowered him on board the aircraft at Zurich Airport, but none of the original seven crewmembers or remaining 15 pax. were harmed.

CAIRO (UPI): Leaders of the PLO, toughening their positions in the face of a challenge from hardliners, vowed Tuesday, they would never recognize Israel or guarantee it secure borders.

CAIRO (UPI): A spokesman for the PLO charged Wednesday, that Israeli regular troops are fighting Palestinian guerrillas in South Lebanon.

KINSHASA (UPI): With American military and medical equipment, due within hours, Zaire Wednesday waged a widening fight near the Angolan border against invaders, it strongly suggested were led by Cuban mercenaries with the support of Moscow.

HANOI (UPI): The first White House mission to Vietnam, since the communist takeover two years ago, arrived to unexpectedly warm welcome Wednesday and pledged to put the bitter past behind us in talks on missing American.

SALISBURY (UPI): P.M. Ian Smith's Rhodesian front party decided Wednesday to stage a national congress in a few weeks to clear the air.

MOSCOW (UPI): Dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov charged Wednesday, the arrest of Jewish activist Anatoly Shcharansky is part of a Kremlin attempt to blackmail the United States before the visit of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

PARIS (UPI): Dr. Detlev Rohwedder, the new head of the International Energy Agency, said Wednesday, the Western industrialized nations must rapidly develop nuclear and other energy sources or face a dramatic shortage of oil in the next few years.

JERUSALEM (UPI): P.M. Yitzhak Rabin said Wednesday, the gap has narrowed between Israeli and American positions on a Middle East settlement, but differences remain on the question of defensible borders for the Jewish state.