

the world



Battalion photo by Patti Shoquist

Not just a man's world

Attired in safety glasses and a hard hat, Jennifer Rische of Dallas, one of the few female senior Engineering Technology majors, prepares a sand mold in order to make a casting in the E.T. foundry.

Congo government assault thwarted by president

United Press International
KINSHASA, Zaire — The People's Republic of the Congo, whose 18 years of independence have been marked by a series of coups and assassinations, has survived yet another attempt to topple the government, according to President Joachim Yhomby Opango.

Opango said the plot was foiled hours before an air, sea and ground assault was to begin on the capital of Brazzaville Monday night. The assault was planned to kill him and other members of his military junta. The conspirators apparently intended to take power before the Congo's national holiday Tuesday.

In a radio speech monitored in Zaire, Opango gave a sketchy account of the plot against his regime, which he said involved mercenaries and high officials who served under former presidents.

The conspiracy was directed against "the security of the state and the revolutionary institutions," he said.

Opango did not reveal how the plot was thwarted. He said he knew where the mercenaries were stationed and warned them, "I will have no mercy."

He said leaders of the conspiracy included Dieudonne Miakassissa, a former National Assembly speaker, Felix Mouzabakani, a former army

commander, Bernard Kolela, a former aide to the Congo's first president, Fulbert Youlou.

The Congo, which gained its independence from France Aug. 15, 1960, has a long record of coups in its short history as a sovereign country. Political instability has ham-

pered efforts by the rulers of the Montana-sized nation, across the River Congo from Zaire on Africa's West Coast, to develop reserves of oil and timber.

Youlou, a priest turned politician, served for three years before he was toppled by a coup.

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Chinese, Japanese sign treaty

United Press International
TOKYO — Japan, the capitalist stronghold of Asia, and Communist superpower China Tuesday signed a peace and friendship treaty that could deepen the rift between Japan and the Soviet Union and hasten Sino-American rapprochement.

A Japanese government spokesman said Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda and his Chinese counterpart, Huang Hua, signed the pact in the presence of Chairman Hua Kuaifeng and powerful vice chairman Teng Hsiao-ping in Peking's Great Hall of the People.

The importance the Chinese attach to the pact, which is openly opposed by the Soviet Union, was demonstrated by Hua's and Teng's presence at the signing ceremony.

The signing of the pact came six years after the two nations normalized diplomatic relations in 1972.

Treaty negotiations re-opened in Peking July 21 after a three-year lapse caused by disagreement by the two sides over the delicate anti-hegemony issue.

China insisted on including a clause in the pact condemning dominance by any third nation in Asia. Japan, fearing the Soviet Union would take offense at the provision, proposed a second clause to be inserted stating the treaty was not aimed at any specific third nation.

For its part, the Soviet Union has made it ultra-clear that it is opposed to the treaty and that it will be forced to "revise" its policy toward Japan.

The negotiations came to a close Friday with the successful drafting of a treaty consisting of a preamble and five articles that embody a compromise in the wording of the Japanese-proposed clause on hegemony.

Political observers in Tokyo said China's flexible attitude in the last stages of the negotiations was due to its long-range international strategic considerations, particularly concerning relations with the United States and the Soviet Union.

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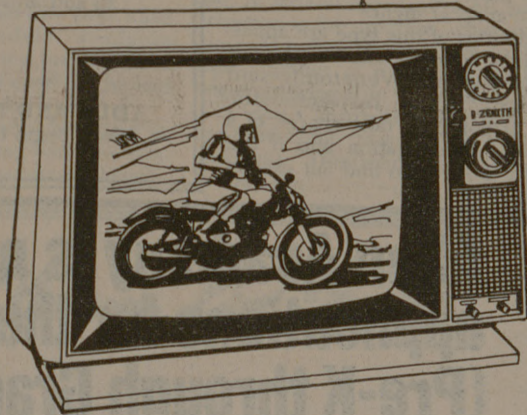
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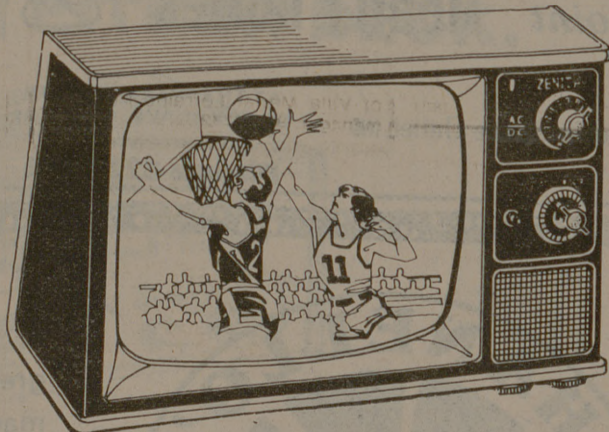
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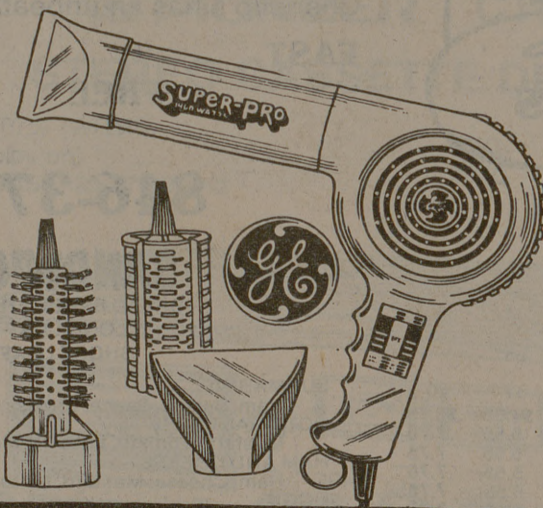


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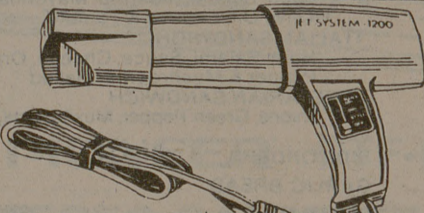
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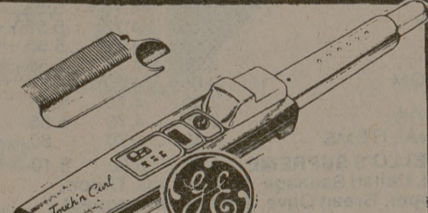
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