

the world

Iraqi ambassador wounded

United Press International
BEIRUT, Lebanon — The Iraqi ambassador to Lebanon, Abdel Hussein Muslem, was wounded Monday when gunmen raked his car with machine gun fire as he drove to his embassy on Beirut's sea-side highway.
Beirut's state-owned radio said Muslem, his driver and his bodyguard were wounded in the ambush 100 yards from the embassy. Muslem was shot in the back and legs. Thank God his injuries are

not serious," an embassy official said. "But he is in the hospital."
Beirut Radio said unidentified gunmen fired a rocket-propelled grenade at Muslem's car as it approached the Iraqi Embassy building at 8:30 a.m. (2:30 a.m. EDT).
Then they riddled the car with machinegun fire, the radio said.
Muslem, in his late 30s, had been named to the ambassadorial position earlier this year.
Police and security officials began an immediate investigation into the

shooting which came less than 24 hours after a vehement verbal attack against the Iraqi regime by a top aide to Palestinian guerrilla leader Yasser Arafat.
Abu Saleh, who is generally believed to represent the left wing in the Fatah guerrilla group, blamed Iraq for the killing of a Palestinian journalist in Beirut 40 days ago.
Saleh also criticized the Baghdad regime for the execution earlier this month of 21 top Iraqi government and Baath Party officials.

"They (the Iraqis) murdered many of their own comrades. We condemn these killings because we in the Palestinian revolution appreciate the value of human life. By killing their own comrades, they are actually killing the independence of their country," Abu Saleh told a

rally in Beirut Sunday.
He said after the killing of the Palestinian journalist, Fatah security men arrested several persons "who confessed they were sent by an Iraqi Embassy official. We have documents to prove this."

Rain causes dam collapse, at least 700 killed in India

United Press International
NEW DELHI, India — At least 700 people died and hundreds more are feared dead in the collapse of a dam that sent a 15-foot wall of water surging through the city of Morvi and a nearby village in northwest India, officials said Monday.
The torrential rains that strained the Manchu Dam to the breaking point late Saturday continued to pound the area Monday, preventing military helicopters from landing to give aid to survivors, Indian Air Force officials said.
All-India Radio said Morvi, in Gujarat state 300 miles northwest of Bombay, was without food, water and telephone service.
Local officials in the state capital of Ahmedabad, 100 miles east of Morvi, said at least 700 persons were killed by the rushing waters and the death toll could rise to 1,000.
The Press Trust of India, reporting from the Gujarat state capital of Ahmedabad, said the town of Morvi was engulfed by the flood waters within minutes "after the dam cracked. The surging waters swept over some two-story homes as it crashed through Morvi and flattened the village downstream.
Former Morvi Mayor Mahanad

Jewsani told the Indian news agency 60 percent of the homes in the area appeared to have been destroyed.

"Bodies are lying everywhere on both sides of the submerged town and the nearby areas," he said.

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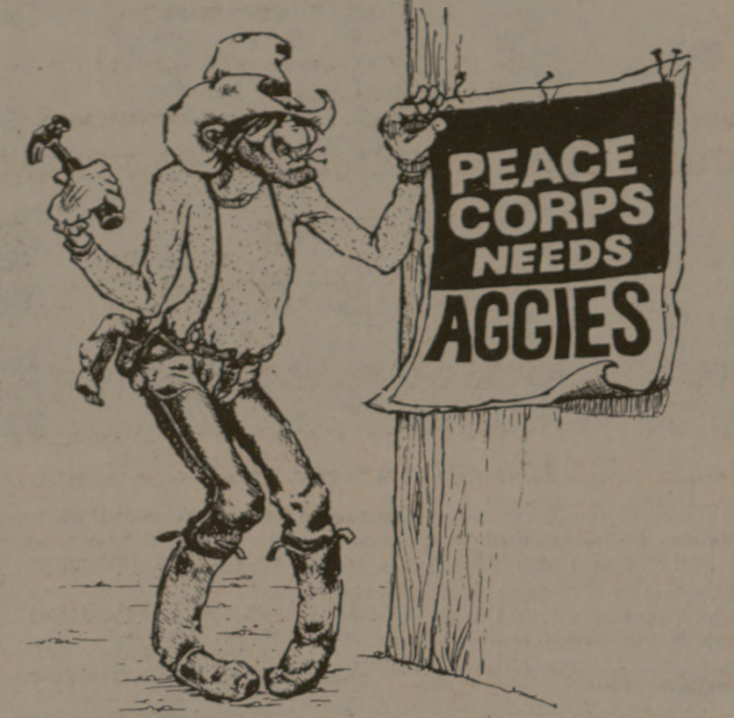
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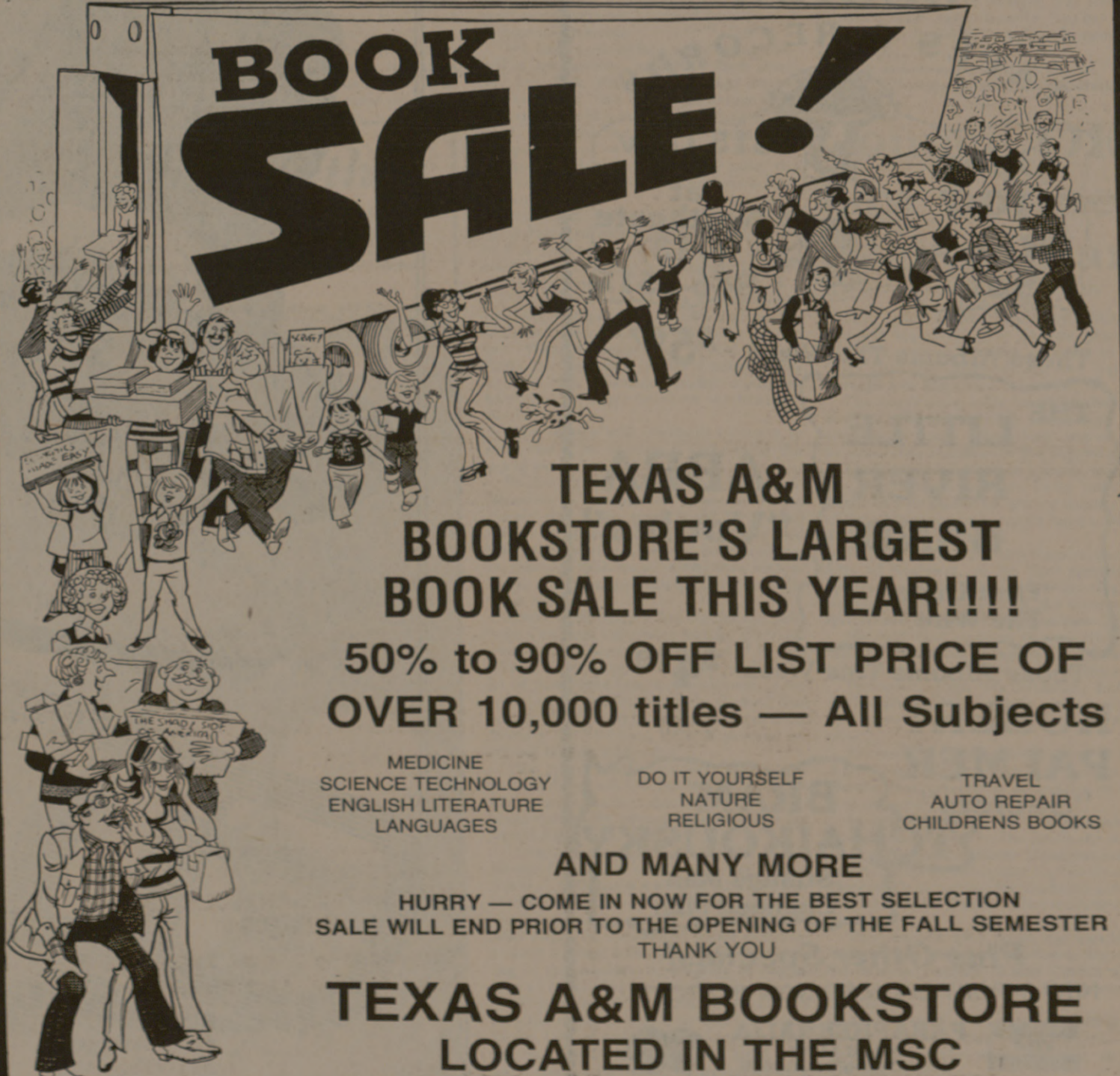



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