

Bishop tries bargain to aid Surinam rebels

United Press International
PARAMARIBO, Surinam — A Roman Catholic Bishop Thursday tried to negotiate the surrender of former Prime Minister Henck Arron to the rebel sergeants who overthrew him in a coup d'etat in which six people were killed.

Bishop Aloysius Zichem of Paramaribo has denied military rebels' accusations that Arron, missing since Monday's coup, is hiding in the Roman Catholic cathedral in Paramaribo.

Soldiers manned police stations and directed traffic in the city of 150,000 Thursday, but otherwise life was normal and businesses were open.

The Rev. Sebastian Mulder, an aide to the bishop, said Arron's wife called Zichem Wednesday and asked him to negotiate the conditions of Arron's surrender.

A long-standing dispute between the government and the union, representing soldiers in Surinam's 1,000-man army, led to the coup by soldiers who have sought better pay. The military blamed "arrogance and hate" in the government, which it said had refused to consider union demands.

Surinam, formerly Dutch Guiana, is located on the northeast coast of South America.

Anti-Soviet demonstrators executed in Kabul streets

United Press International
Soviet-backed Afghan troops herded more than 1,000 people together in the Afghan capital of Kabul and machine-gunned them to death in a mass execution to retaliate for a weekend of anti-Soviet rioting, travelers from Afghanistan reported Thursday.

Afghan soldiers backed by Soviet troops swept through Kabul after the weekend's disturbances and arrested an estimated 5,000 people, the travelers said on arrival in Peshawar, Pakistan, near the Afghan border.

The travelers said at least 1,000 of them were herded together and machine-gunned to death.

One of the travelers was asked if minority Shiite Moslems who were blamed for last week's riots were the main victims of the retribution, but he said there was no apparent singling out of one group.

Other sources have said, however, that the Soviet-backed authorities have focused their retaliation on Shiite groups which represent 20 percent of Afghanistan's 15 million people.

Dollar falls, gold steady

United Press International
LONDON — The dollar fell slightly Thursday on most money markets and the price of gold held steady in quiet trading.

Gold opened at \$647.50 an ounce in London after an overnight close of \$642.50. In Zurich, an ounce of gold rose from \$631.50 to \$638.50.

The dollar started the day with a fractional gain in London, but fell everywhere else.

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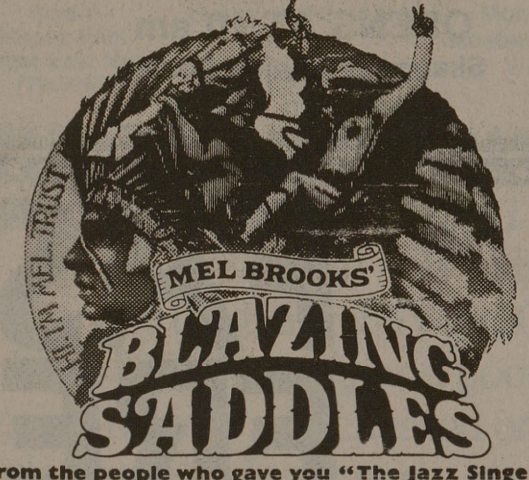
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