

World

# Giant birthday fete set for 'Queen Mum'

LONDON — Her title is Queen Mother Elizabeth, but her affectionate nickname from one end of this island kingdom to the other is "Queen Mum." She is the most beloved woman in Britain.

Cyril Smith, the biggest (in girth) man in Parliament, suggested she could recently, in her presence in the House of Commons, that her 80th birthday, set for Aug. 4, should be a national holiday. The idea ignited an instant re-sponse, though Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher cooled it slightly with the sympathetic suggestion that perhaps it would be more in keeping with the way the nation thinks of the queen mother to have local celebrations instead.

One thing seems certain — it will be the most warmly observed royal occasion of the year.

The British have a natural rever-

ence for age, but that isn't the only reason that her people will honor her birthday. The more they have learned of her, the more her former subjects have come to realize what a bargain the throne got when the shy, stammering Duke of York persuaded her to marry him in 1923.

A biographer quoted her as saying: "It was my duty to marry Bertie. I fell in love with him afterwards."

A lucky thing for everyone. When King Edward VIII abdicated in 1936 for love of an American divorcee, and his terrified brother realized he would have to ascend the throne, there she was at his side, solid as the granite of her native hills. She coaxed him to take therapy for his stammer, helped carry the load of royal obligations, and sadly prepared her daughter, Elizabeth, to be a queen.

The queen mother is energetic,

enthusiastic, carries out more than 100 public engagements a year, almost always wearing a large hat, pearls and long gloves.

Besides fishing and gardening, the queen mother has a stable of steeplechase horses. Her favorite reading is *Sporting Life*. She goes to the races frequently and trainers recognize her knowledge of the sport.

The media like the small, round lady whose bright blue eyes have seen, sometimes through tears, so much of the British history of this century. She is always willing to pose and, unique for the royal family, will let photographers re-stage a shot they missed.

History will list as her greatest achievement helping restore the monarchy after the abdication. If her grandson, Prince Charles, is a great king, she will deserve some of the credit. He adores her.

# Paraguay militia harms peasants

LONDON — Amnesty International said Wednesday Paraguayan troops and police killed more than 20 people and arrested several hundred others to keep peasants from organizing to improve their conditions.

The non-governmental human rights organization said the crackdown by the Latin American government "appears to be a renewal of repressive campaigns which have followed attempts by the peasants to organize themselves."

An Amnesty statement said the killings came "in raids in several parts of the country" by an estimated 5,000 soldiers, militia and government supporters.

"Some 300 peasants have been taken to a notorious police torture center called 'Investigaciones' in the capital of Asuncion," it said. "Among the prisoners is a wounded 12-year-old girl."

It said "an unknown number" of other peasants also was being held in Villarrica and Paraguari.

"Among those killed or imprisoned were peasant leaders who had

previously been held without trial and tortured during earlier crackdowns on the now-outlawed agrarian leagues, which tried with Roman Catholic church backing to organize peasants in defense of their land and economic rights," Amnesty said.

Amnesty International said it had cabled Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner asking for a public explanation, and asking that the bodies of those killed be turned over to their families for religious burial.

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# IRA bomb hurts six British troops

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — A bomb detonated by remote control destroyed a British Army armored car Wednesday, critically wounding one soldier and injuring five others.

The outlawed Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility for the slow detonation, which was a virtual duplicate of a bombing three weeks ago that killed a British soldier.

Police said a bomb planted in an abandoned van on a roadside at Crossmaglen, near the border with the Republic of Ireland, was detonated by remote control as the armored car passed.

The driver of the armored car was critically wounded and taken to a Belfast hospital. His five passengers were treated for shock and lacerations.

A military spokesman said the force of the blast blew the military vehicle from the road.

The incident occurred just hours after Irish police and troops found what they described as a massive IRA supply dump near the border.

Irish police said rockets, mortars, grenades, blast bombs, parts of land mines, at least 20 high-caliber rifles and thousands of rounds of ammunition were buried in a concrete bunker beneath a cow shed near Drogheda.

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# Chinese paper critical of rights

PEKING — Free debates and wall posters neither guarantee democratic rights nor promote China's modernization program, China's leading intellectual newspaper said Wednesday.

The right to free speech, hanging wall posters, opinion, and free debate, called the "big four" in China, are not a good method for the construction of the four modernizations, said the newspaper.

The big four have never had an effective function in preserving people's democratic rights, the newspaper said in a statement reflecting the Chinese Communist Party's decision in February to revoke the "big four" even though they were written to the constitution.

The big four were first produced during the 1950s campaign against "rightism" and developed to a peak in the Cultural Revolution, the newspaper said. "During the '50s they were mistakenly used to criticize and lead people."

The daily said the "big four"

wreaked serious damage against China's democracy during Mao Tse-tung's 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.

"During the 10 years of the Cultural Revolution, when the big four reached perfection, this was when socialist democracy and legality suffered its most serious damage and sabotage."

It said posters were being used by some to further their political ambitions.

**Bomb threat false alarm**

DENVER — A New Mexico man was held Wednesday in an investigation of a bomb threat and alleged assault on a Frontier Airlines employee.

Police said Joseph Lazzara, 47, of Rio Rancho, N.M., claimed he put a bomb aboard a Frontier jet which left for Las Vegas, Nev., after he had been taken off the plane by police at Denver's Stapleton International Airport.

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- 1. Inspect the Foundation.** Walk completely around your home checking for mud "tunnels" on the foundation. Termites live in the soil and travel into the house via mud shelter tubes which extend from the ground level up to the brick or wood exterior material.
- 2. Inspect Sheetrock Walls for Holes.** Termites which have gained entry to a house live in the walls. In the spring they swarm into the house via tiny holes usually the size of a kitchen match. Holes are usually at eye level (or higher) and are sealed with mud by worker termites.
- 3. Be alert for swarming insects.** Termites swarm in the spring. They are attracted to light and gather on the floor near a window or door. Soon they fall to the floor and shed their wings. A homeowner will have no difficulty detecting a termite swarm. The insects are numerous and their milky white wings usually create enough residue to require a dust pan and broom to collect.

If your home fails this simple termite test, now is the time to act. These destructive insects won't just go away — when the swarm disappears it only indicates a new termite colony is being formed underground.

Do-it-yourself treatment with household insecticides cannot be relied upon to provide control of these destructive pests. Termite control is a job for professionals with expert knowledge and experience. And most homeowners want the best service possible to protect their family's most valuable investment.

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