

world

# Queen ends reign

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands — Queen Beatrix, 42, became the Netherlands' 14th monarch in 1980 on Wednesday on the official abdication of her mother, Queen Juliana, who turned 71 Wednesday, officially ending her 32-year reign in an emotional ceremony in which both the new and old queens signed the abdication documents in the Moses Hall of the Royal palace, a room decorated with biblical scenes.

The two, surrounded by other members of the royal family and members of the Cabinet, clasped each other by both hands, and Beatrix said emotionally that at her mother's birth, "We chose the name Beatrix as one who brings happiness."

Queen Juliana, who announced Jan. 31 she would resign on her 71st birthday in favor of Beatrix and now regrets to being a princess, said she hoped the new queen would now bring happiness to the nation.

"I am pleased with my successor," Beatrix said. "She will do her job well."

Beatrix stood by, regal in a black and white dress with a lace collar reminiscent of old master Dutch portraits.

A 101-gun salute boomed and every church bell in the capital rang out to celebrate Beatrix's taking the throne of the European nation that is about twice size of New Jersey.

In the investiture ceremony, Beatrix will walk 70 yards from the palace to the main entrance of the 600-year-old Nieuwe Kerk (New Church), whose entrance was lined by an honor guard, to be sworn in as monarch in the Netherlands' royal dynasty that traces back to 1581.

The short walk to and from the church are the only times that she will step out of the palace.

Beatrix, the mother of three sons and a sculptress in her free time, will not wear a crown at any time during the ceremony, making it an investiture not a coronation. The relatively modest crown will remain on a red velvet cushion to one side.

Representatives from 10 other royal families, including Britain's Prince Charles, were on hand for the ceremony. The day will end with a

fireworks display and dancing in the streets.

Almost 5,000 police, with perhaps that many again in reserve, braced for battles with youths who have occupied more than 6,000 empty buildings in Amsterdam to protest real estate speculation and shortage of housing.

The squatters have vowed there will be "no coronation" if they do not get homes. But police have turned much of central Amsterdam into a "no go" area to counter the threats.

Beatrix will be the sixth modern Dutch sovereign in the relatively short history of the Dutch monarchy of Orange-Nassau. Willem I was invested in the same church in 1814 and the two Willems who followed him began their reigns under the same high roof.

Juliana became queen in 1948 and was invested in the Nieuwe Kerk as Beatrix will be.

Beatrix and her husband Prince Claus, 54, have three children, the eldest of whom, Willem Alexander, 13, automatically becomes prince of Orange and heir to the throne.

# Iran says spying OK

TEHRAN — In a surprisingly conciliatory statement, Iran's defense minister said spying by embassies was an "internationally accepted practice" and called for the release of American hostages once U.S. "misdeeds" were exposed to the world.

In a related development, the bodies of the eight American servicemen killed in the failed mission to rescue the hostages are expected to be taken shortly to a neutral country, probably Switzerland, for return to their families.

But in another twist to the handling of the bodies, an aide to President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr displayed two charred body parts to reporters at a news conference attended

by Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, who is to take custody of the bodies.

Iran's military remained in a heightened state of alert and Tehran Radio warned the armed forces to anticipate "extensive action by the U.S. Armed Forces."

The warning came one day after U.S. Navy fighter jets intercepted an Iranian C-130 patrol plane 50 miles from the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz and escorted it back to Iranian airspace. Iran charged the American jets fired on its plane, but the Pentagon denied the charges.

The Iranian militants have maintained some of the hostages were spies, but Defense Minister Mostafa Ali Chamran said embassy spying

was an "internationally accepted practice," and added, "you cannot arrest and try a person whose mission is politically acceptable to the world and is doing only what everyone is doing."

He then said the hostages should be released when the United States' misdeeds are exposed.

At a news conference attended by Capucci, Moussavi Garmaroudi — Bani-Sadr's press adviser — reached into a box, and pulled out a charred foot and another unidentified body part.

Last Sunday the remains of the eight American servicemen were displayed during a news conference at the U.S. embassy.

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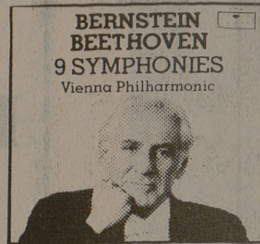
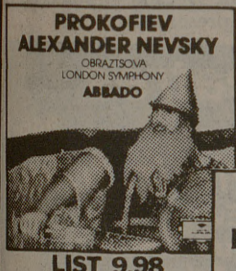
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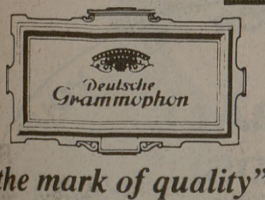
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