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Hijackers injure hostage

United Press International
WILLEMSTAD, Curacao — Two air pirates holding 79 hostages on an island-hopping hijacking Monday shot and wounded the wife of an Argentine businessman who failed to return to a hijacked plane after promising to raise \$1 million of a \$5 million ransom they demanded, the plane's pilot said.

The pilot told the airport control tower by radio that the wife of Federico Puertas, an Argentine industrialist, was shot and bleeding inside the Aeropostal DC-9 airplane parked on the runway at Cuacao international airport.

The plane was seized Sunday after takeoff from Caracas, Venezuela, in a hijacking punctuated by gunfire and threats to blow up the plane and 85 hostages, including four U.S. citizens.

Meanwhile, the White House said the United States has sent a team of "technical advisers" to Curacao to help resolve the matter, "at the request of the government of the Netherlands Antilles."

White House officials in Santa Barbara, Calif., where President Reagan was vacationing, would not comment on reports that U.S. military transport planes had been seen in or around Curacao.

The terse statement did not identify the advisors or specify what their roles might be. The military has had a secret anti-terrorist force for several years.

Puertas was one of six people released by the hijackers Monday when he said he could obtain \$1 million of his own money as partial ransom of the \$5 million demanded, officials said. There were 79 hostages still on board.

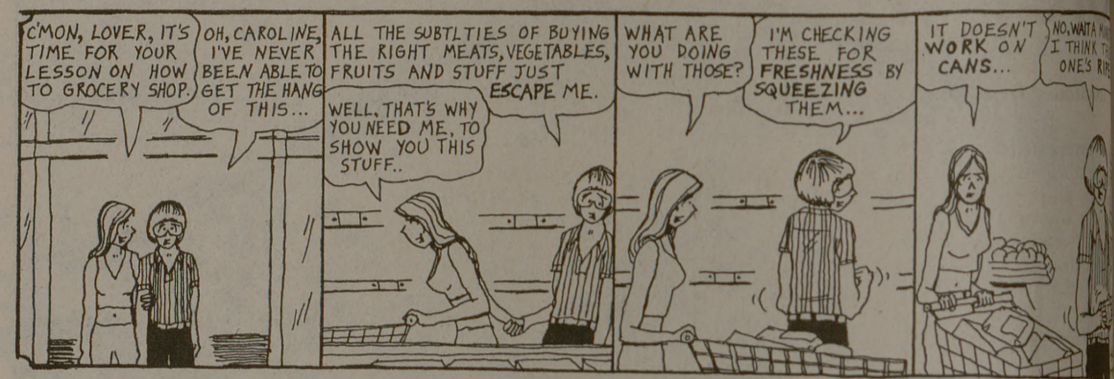
The hijackers, identified as Hilarant Dominique, a former captain in the Haitian army living in exile in Venezuela, and a Dominican, gave Puertas four hours to return to the plane with the money. If he failed to return, Puertas was told, his wife would be put in the doorway of the Aeropostal DC-9 and shot to death, officials said.

At about 7:30 p.m. EDT, the pilot of the plane radioed the control tower that the wife of Puertas had been shot and was bleeding profusely, airport officials said. He said the hijackers, armed with two guns and what was described as a bomb, refused to let an ambulance come near the plane, which was parked on the far eastern end of a runway.

"They will allow a doctor to come on board," said the pilot, who was not identified. But Netherlands Antilles authorities reportedly were finding it difficult to persuade a doctor to board the plane.

Four hostages, including a child, were released Monday in good condition in exchange for water. Several hours later a man carrying a young woman in his arms were freed. All were taken to a local hospital for observation.

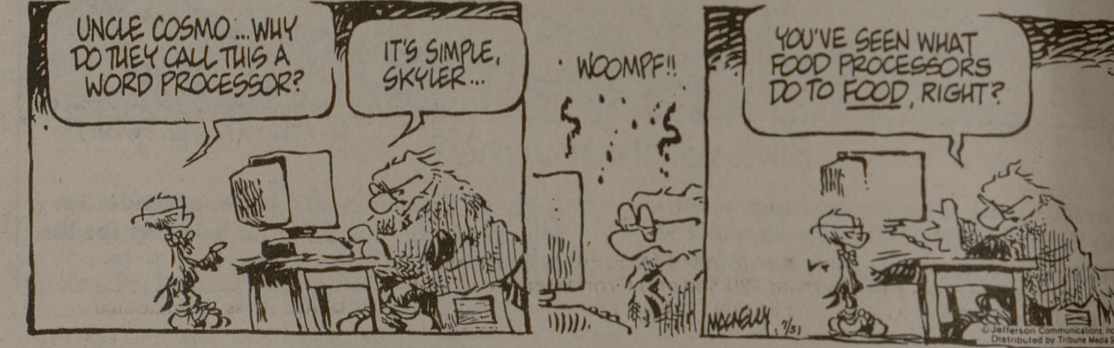
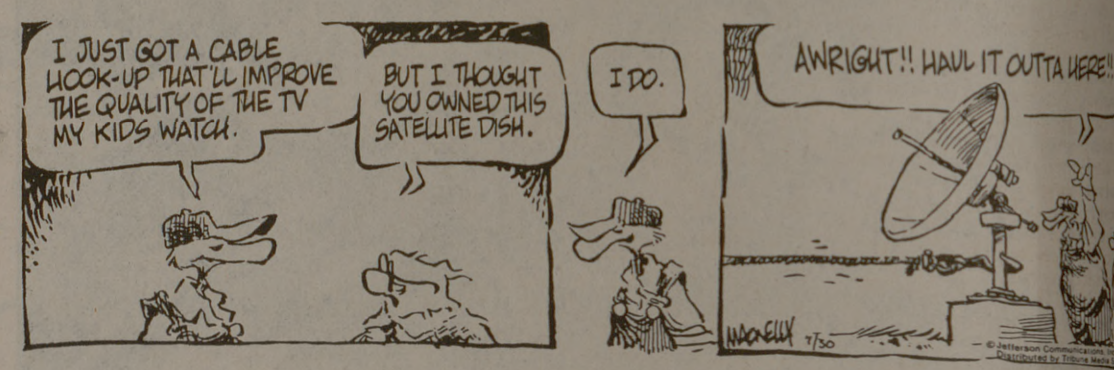
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On the Fringe



SHOE



Today's almanac

United Press International
Today is Tuesday, July 31st, the 213th day of 1984 with 153 to follow.

The moon is leaving its new phase.

There is no morning star.

The evening stars are Mars, Mercury, Venus, Jupiter and Saturn.

Those born on this date are under the sign of Leo. They include author and jurist James Kent in 1763 and actress Geraldine Chaplin in 1944.

On this date in history:
In 1498, on his third voyage to the New World, Columbus landed on the island called Trinidad.
In 1792, Director David Rittenhouse laid the cornerstone in Philadelphia for the United States Mint, the first building of the federal government.

In 1974, John Ehrlichman was sentenced to 20 months in prison for his role in the break-in of the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

In 1982, a multi-vehicle highway accident in France killed 53 people, including 44 children aboard a bus — the worst highway crash in French history.

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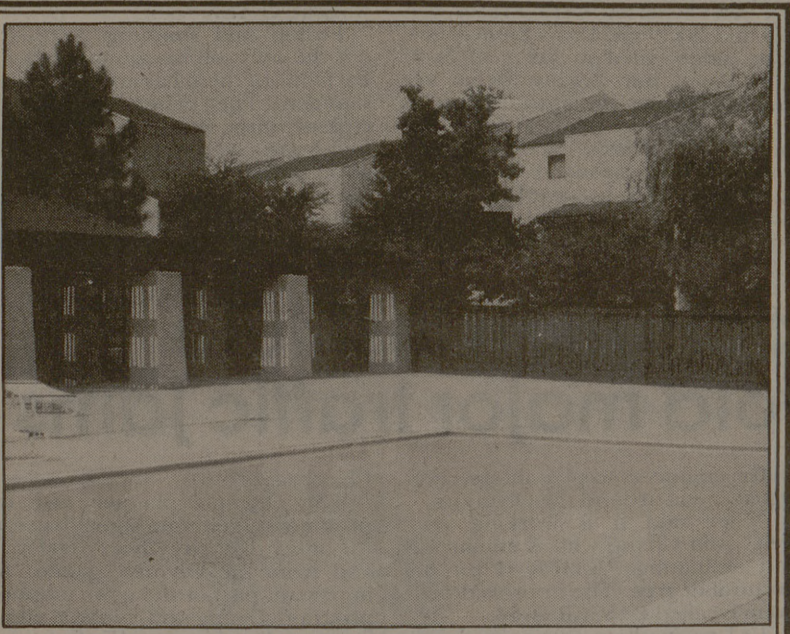
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SAT. 8/4	6:30/8:00	BUFFET	\$11.00/12.00

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