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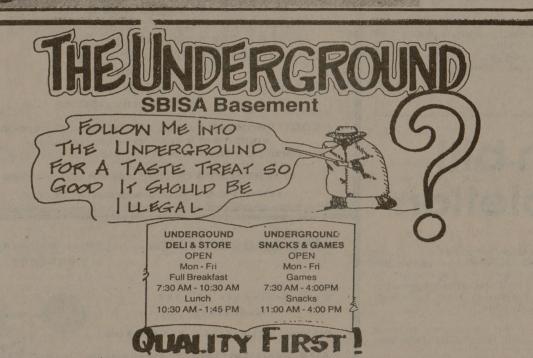
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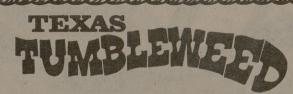
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Page 8/The Battalion/Wednesday, September 26, 1984

# Afghan jet carrying 30 hit by Moslem rebel fire

NEW DELHI, India - An Afghan jumbo jet carrying 308 passengers was hit by Moslem rebel fire and forced to make an emergency landing at the Kabul airport, Kabul radio and a Western diplomat reported Tuesday. No casualties were reported.

The state-run radio said the pilot safely landed the crippled Ariana Airlines DC-10 Friday at the end of a flight carrying pilgrims from the 10 plane of Ariana Afghan Airlines Moslem holy city of Mecca in Saudi coming from Kandahar with 308 Arabia via the southern Afghan city of Kandahar.

According to the Western diplomat in New Delhi, the attack was the third on Afghan airliners in a week. It came less than a month after a rebel bomb ripped through Kabul airport Aug. 30, killing 28 people and injuring as many as 350 others.

The diplomat said the jumbo jet wing were damaged as well.

"Captain Wali had informed the ground personnel of the damage and attack but was able to land the plane safely. The damage to the

"was struck on the wing or tail section by machine gun fire or a rocket between Gazni and Kabul."

'The plane circled Kabul five times and was seen dropping its fuel before making an emergency landing," said the diplomat, who asked not to be identified. Gazni is 75 miles south of Kabul in southeastern Af-

Kabul radio said in a broadcast monitored in New Delhi, "The DCpassengers was attacked with an explosive bullet made in America. As a result, hydraulic systems numbers 1 and 3 were damaged and the engines of the left side along with the

wing were damaged as well.
"Captain Wali had informed the

plane runs into thousands can dollars.

The diplomat said rebels ha

ried out two other attacks at the port during the past week. "On Sept. 19, two Yak-40 prop planes of Afghanistar mestic Bakhtar Airlines were aged by rocket and gunfire Western source said. "Three

tails of the second attack. Soviet occupation forces s up security around the Afgha tal to counter some of the fiero bel attacks in Kabul since the De ber 1979 Soviet invasion diplomat said.

soliders were killed." He gave

Guerrillas fired six rockets d a 20-minute span on Sept. 17-hitting the grounds of Radighanistan and two others dam houses of Afghan officials ner

# U.S., Nicaragua renew talks aimed at reducing tension

**United Press International** 

MEXICO CITY — The United States and Nicaragua opened a new round of talks Tuesday in the Mexican Pacific port of Manzanillo, Mexican diplomatic sources said.

The latest meeting between the two countries comes three days after Nicaragua announced that it had signed the Contadora peace plan for Central America.

The peace plan was formulated by the Contadora Group — Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela —in consultation with the five Central American nations.

U.S. Special Envoy Harry Shlaudeman and Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco have represented their governments at the previous talks.

Mexican diplomats said they could not confirm which United States and Nicaraguan officials were meeting in Manzanillo, some 330 miles west of Mexico City.

Sources in El Salvador reported that Shlaudeman left San Salvador Tuesday morning en route to Mex-Relations between the two coun-

tries have been tense for several Nicaragua says the United States

should stop backing rebels fighting to overthrow the government.

Tuesday's talks are the fifth meetings held at Manzanillo aimed at reducing tensions between the two na-

The dialogue between the two nations got started when Secretary of

visit to Nicaragua June I and with Junta Coordinator Danie

The first direct talks between cials of the two government the aim of reducing tensions June 25 at Manzanillo. The meeting was held in Atlan other sessions between the two tries have been held in Manzan

The talks have been shroud secrecy. Both U.S. and Nicara officials have consistently declin comment about the talks.

Mexico has no official repres tion at the talks but had presse United States in May of this initiate a dialogue with Nic

## Soviets criticize Reagan speech

**United Press International** 

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union sharply criticized President Reagan's speech to the United Nations as an election ploy, and President Konstantin Chernenko said Tuesday the United States fails to grasp the need for normal relations with the

Reagan, at Monday's opening of the General Assembly, called for "constructive negotiations" with Moscow, a call dismissed by the official news agency Tass as "a vessel with nothing inside of it."

Tass said "his speech contained no

indication of any change in the essence of the present U.S. policy" and was "only meant to camouflage Washington's basic foreign policy guidelines and its interventionist policy in all regions of the world."

Reagan's policy, according to Tass, continues to be directed at ag-

achieving military superiority and parent reference to Reagan interfering in the internal affairs of the-cuff microphone test last other countries.

"The U.N. rostrum was actually used by Reagan for his political, electioneering aims," the official news agency said. "That was the reason behind his attempt to present his old policy in a new, more attractive package without changing its es-Chernenko, in a speech to the 50th anniversary plenum of the Soviet Writers's Union, said the Rea-

gan administration does not understand the importance of normal superpower relations.

"The grim truth of the present in-ternational situation is such that the nuclear threat is, regrettably, great," Chernenko told the union.

"One cannot hide from it, nor

West Texas aridity studied

**United Press International** 

AUSTIN — Israeli consultants will survey state-owned West Texas land to determine if their country's much heralded irrigation methods can turn the arid acreage into productive farmland, Land Commissioner Garry Mauro said Tuesday.

Mauro said his agency had agreed to pay an Israeli consulting firm—Consulting Engineers Ltd. of Tel Aviv—\$14,000 to study the West Texas land and determine if there were two or three large tracts suitable for water management projects.

The state owns nearly 800,000 acres of West Texas land, but much of it can only be leased for grazing

because the high cost of irrigation makes farming unprofitable.

"They (the Israelis) are probably

the most experienced water engineers in the world," Mauro said. 'But this is not an academic project. We want something we can put in place right away."
Mauro said the Israeli firm would

try to locate land in the Trans-Pecos area that would be suitable for raising cotton, corn or other products using both fresh and brackish water.

"We know the desert will bloom if you spend enough money," Mauro said. "That's not what we want to do. I'm going to be very pessimistic and skeptical about this project.

mer saying he had outlawed R and the bombing would begin in

Chernenko made no mentio Reagan's U.N. call for talks of

wide range of issues.

### Police Beat

The following incidents reported to the University Department through Tuesday MISDEMEANOR THEFT

· A black Huffy Wind Spi 12-speed bicycle was stolen in outside the University Policelle partment.

 A silver Schwinn 10-spe bicycle was stolen from outsi ogy Building • A blue Premier 12-speed

cycle was stolen from outsit Moore Hall.

• A black Schwinn 10-sper bicycle was stolen from E-R at Walton Hall.

A white Kia 10-speed biod was stolen from the bike rada the east end of Dunn Hall.
 A blue Ross Grand Towl

10-speed bicycle was stolen the bike racks at Dorm 12. · A brown Schwinn Tra

12-speed bicycle was stolen for the bike rack at the north end Dorm 12. A maroon Sears Free S 10-speed bicycle was stolen

the southwest corner of the Lam

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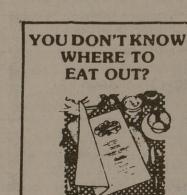
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