

Union Carbide chairman posts bail, flies back to U.S.

United Press International

NEW DELHI, India — Union Carbide Chairman Warren Anderson flew home Sunday after being refused permission to tour a Union Carbide plant that spewed poison gas, killing more than 2,250 people. Victims were still dying at the rate of 30 a day.

Tens of thousands of others exposed to the poisonous cloud remained hospitalized with what officials feared would be lasting injuries from the Dec. 3 gas leak at the plant, operated by the U.S. firm's Indian subsidiary.

U.S. Embassy spokesman William Miller said Anderson, chief of the \$9 billion Union Carbide conglomerate, left New Delhi before noon on a private jet to New York. Airport officials said the jet was scheduled to stop in the Persian Gulf state of Bahrain.

Union Carbide officials at company headquarters in Danbury, Conn., did not know when Anderson would arrive but said he would hold a news conference 1 p.m. Monday at the Danbury Hilton Hotel.

In New Delhi, Union Carbide's Indian subsidiary announced it was contributing \$800,000 to the state relief fund for victims of the gas leak.

Offering its "sincere condolences to the families of the deceased and sympathies of those who have suffered," the company also announced it would open an orphanage in Bhopal for children whose parents died in the catastrophe.

Indian officials, who detained Anderson for six hours Friday on his arrival in Bhopal, 350 miles south of New Delhi, asked that he be deported because of fears for his safety.

The Press Trust of India Sunday put the death toll at 2,250 and said 100,000 had been treated at hospitals or in emergency medical stations.

Anderson and two company officials taken into custody with him were released after the Union Carbide chairman put up \$2,000 bail. The three officials were charged under seven sections of the Indian penal code for "criminal liability," carrying maximum punishment of life imprisonment.

Madhya Pradesh state chief minister Arjun Singh said the bail meant Anderson would be required to return to India any time the state government ordered his presence.

Doctors in Bhopal Sunday said victims of the gas, methyl isocyanate, were dying at a rate of 30 a day and

reports said new cases showed symptoms of possible poisoning by food contamination.

But the death toll was substantially down from earlier in the week, leading Indian officials to believe the worst was over.

"Today the situation is much better," said Dr. N.R. Bhandary, superintendent of the city's largest hospital. "If the present trend continues, the situation at the hospital and city should normalize within one week."

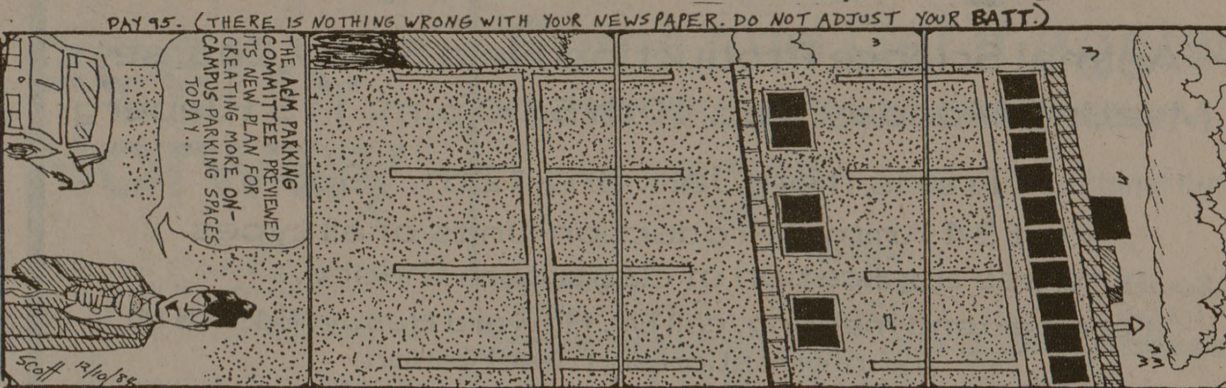
"According to doctors, the new cases are showing symptoms of shivering, yellow face, dry mouth and throat, vomiting, congestion, breathing trouble, and in some cases diarrhea," a news report said. It was suspected that some of the victims might have eaten contaminated fish from Bhopal Lake, he said.

The major fish market in the city remained closed Sunday as a precautionary measure, but the big meat markets reopened.

The Press Trust of India, quoting an official spokesman, said Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's government wanted "to get the best deal possible for the victims, whether this meant suing in India or in the USA."

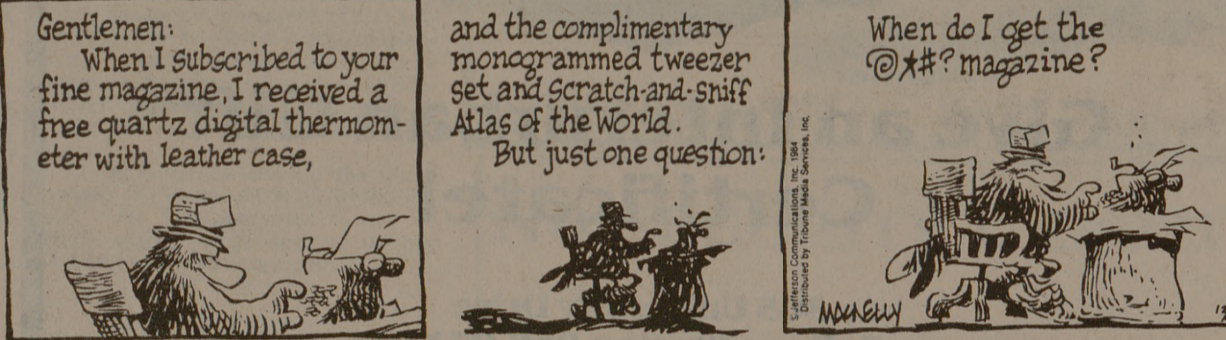
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Survivor found in Taiwan coal shaft

Miner eats human flesh

United Press International

SHAN SHA, Taiwan — A miner trapped in a coal shaft for 100 hours was rescued Sunday and wept as he told how he survived by eating flesh from the corpses of three fellow workers.

"After starving for two days, I couldn't stand it any longer," Lu Chou-chung, 56, told a news conference. "I carved some flesh from the calf of a body I found."

"It smelled and tasted awful because it was rotten. I got more flesh from a second corpse, it was the same. The flesh from the third body was better because ... because, I guess, he was younger and died not too long ago."

Chou was one of 96 miners trapped in the Hai Shan coal mine Wednesday near the village of Shan

Sha, 22 miles southwest of Taipei.

Two miners besides Chou have been found alive. By Sunday afternoon, 46 bodies had been recovered, leaving 47 still missing in the mine collapse.

Lu, who looked haggard but suffered no injuries, told reporters at the Ya Tung hospital of his experience in a loud and strong voice, broken by loud sobs.

"I could not chew the flesh," he said. "I did not dare to chew it. I just washed it down with the water I collected in my helmet." He said he did not recognize the bodies of his fellow miners.

Lu's teenage daughter tried many times to stop him from talking, offering him milk from a carton which he repeatedly refused.

The miner said he was able to breathe because he found a broken ventilation pipe after he had crawled some 1,200 feet toward the exit. "I pressed my nose against a crack of the pile and there seemed air coming out of it all the time when I was not eating."

He said he found water after noticing the shoes of one of the corpses were wet. "When I saw his shoes were wet, I looked up and there was water dripping down from the rocks. I collected it with my helmet."

Lu said he believed other miners might still be alive. Rescue workers trying to dig through the rubble of the collapsed mine have been hampered by its narrowness and by additional collapses.

Threats reported on U.S. targets

United Press International

ROME — The pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad has dispatched at least six terrorists from Lebanon to carry out suicide bombings against U.S. targets in Europe, the newspaper II Tempo reported Sunday.

The newspaper said the CIA and the secret services of Italy and other European nations have gone on red alert against "human bombs" wearing TNT strapped to their bodies.

A U.S. Embassy spokesman declined to comment on the report and Italian officials could not be reached.

II Tempo, a conservative Rome daily newspaper, gave no source for its information but said the warning against the terrorists came from Lebanon.

"They left Lebanon several days ago and scattered throughout the old continent, waiting to strike, perhaps one at a time, perhaps all together," the newspaper said. It said the next few days could "prove crucial."

U.S. and Italian authorities announced Nov. 27 they had foiled a plot by Lebanese terrorists to detonate a truck guided by a suicide

driver laden with explosives into the U.S. Embassy compound in Rome.

Italian investigators said the men arrested Nov. 24 in Italy, an alleged accomplice held in Switzerland and one suspect still sought belonged to the Islamic Jihad, or Holy War.

Islamic Jihad has claimed responsibility for three suicide bomb attacks against the U.S. Embassy and Marine barracks in Beirut that claimed more than 300 lives.

In an apparent effort to mobilize against the new plot, the CIA station chief in Rome held "an urgent meeting several nights ago" with Italian secret service officials.

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Off Campus Connection

The Off Campus Connection is sponsored each month by Loupot's Bookstore at Northgate as a service to Texas A&M students. Stories and artwork are provided by the staff of the Off Campus Center.

Holiday Crime: An Expected Surprise

Christmas vacation is a time of unexpected surprises — some will be good, and some may be bad. After finishing exams most of you will be leaving town for the holidays. This means that your apartment, mobile home, duplex or house will be unattended for several weeks. With so many students away during the holidays, some homes become prime targets for burglary. Although some apartment complexes provide security for their tenants, others do not. The types of security that do exist vary from one complex to another.

In order to protect your belongings from theft, you should begin immediately by taking steps to insure their safety. Fenter's insurance is one type of protection for your personal property. Here are some additional security steps which might be taken:

1. Strong locks are the single best deterrent to break-ins. Use a rod to "double lock" sliding glass doors or windows.
2. Do not leave hidden keys outside your home. If you can find them, so can an intruder.
3. Never leave notes indicating that you are away.
4. Keep an inventory of your valuable possessions, including serial numbers, brand names, and model numbers. Send a copy to parents or a relative in case your copy is destroyed. You might also take photographs of valuable items. This is good support for your insurance claims.
5. Engraving your Texas driver's license number on valuable items is a good idea. Operation ID, a program supported by the local police departments, enables people to protect their property by doing this. An engraver can be checked out from the University Police.
6. If possible, take all valuables with you — especially stereos, TVs, cameras, typewriters and bikes.
7. You may wish to use an automatic (on-off) timer on a lamp. Timers can be purchased for as little as \$7.00.
8. Stop all deliveries including mail and newspapers.
9. If possible, ask a trusted friend to watch your home. Leave a number where you can be reached in case of emergency.
10. Don't panic if your apartment has been entered. Contact the police and manager immediately. Do not "tidy up." Even the smallest detail might provide valuable information for the police.

We urge you to check with your apartment manager or property owner prior to the installations of any security device and for additional security steps.

We hope you have no unexpected surprises when you return to Aggieland. For brochure and other information on crime prevention, contact the police department, or come by the Off Campus Center located in Puryear Hall. Drop by or call between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, 845-1741. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Cold Weather Energy Tips

The following tips can help reduce energy consumption and keep those monthly utility costs down:

- 1.) Lower thermostats to 68° during the day and 60° at night. If these settings reduce the temperature an average of 6 degrees, heating costs should run around 15 percent less.
- 2.) Clean or replace the filter in force-air heating systems every month.
- 3.) Keep draperies and shades open in sunny windows; close them at night.
- 4.) Close off unoccupied rooms and turn off the heat in these rooms.

As costs continue to soar, conserving energy has become important to everyone. These tips on conserving energy are simple ways to save money throughout the year — money which could be spent on such necessities as the Hall of Fame and Blue Bell, of course.

An Aggie Tradition

Texas A&M University is well known for its Aggie traditions. These traditions characterized Texas A&M by bringing students closer together in fellowship and friendship. In an effort to accomplish this same goal, J.E. Loupot, Sr., class of '32, began serving Aggies back in 1929.

During his years as a student at Texas A&M, "Army Lou", as his friends call him, began selling clothing to other students and later opened a small cafe. Several years later he became involved in the book business. As Loupot's Bookstore grew, so did Army Lou's reputation as being a friend to all Aggies.

This column, the "Off Campus Connection," is another example of Army Lou's continued support of Aggies. With his assistance, the Off Campus Center is able to provide this monthly column especially for off campus students.

It is easy to see why Army Lou has become a special Aggie tradition. His friendship is priceless and his dedication unmistakable. Thanks Lou, from all of us!