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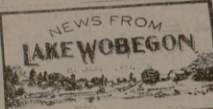


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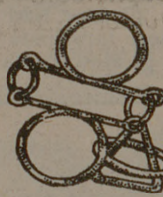
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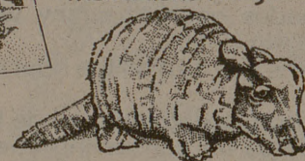
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# Guerrillas end Duarte's hopes for holiday truce

United Press International

SAN ANTONIO — Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte said Saturday leftist guerrillas have ended all hopes for a Christmas truce in the country's bloody civil war, but that he will continue to press for a long-term cease fire.

Duarte, accompanied by El Salvador Supreme Court President Francisco Jose Guerrero and U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering, told reporters he came to the United States to explain the peace process currently underway in the troubled Central American nation.

Duarte said leftist guerrillas are engaged in two wars — one against the military and the other against the Salvadoran people.

"The first step is to eliminate the war against the people," he said, adding he was sorry that "the people on the left ... have rejected this possibility."

Duarte said negotiations with guerrilla leaders at La Palma and elsewhere failed to end with the adoption of his Document for Peace, which calls for a temporary truce.

He said he would continue to negotiate for the adoption of a second

document, the Human Session, which calls for a cease fire, an end to long-term hostilities and bringing the guerrillas into the Democratic process.

"What we have to do now is make them come back and reason," he said. "I have plans to resume the talks. The problem is, is it possible? Do they really want to have peace talks?"

"We have to make them understand that I am ready for peace, but not ready to be an instrument of tactical dialogue," he said, referring to guerrilla tactics of using the talks for propaganda purposes.

Duarte said El Salvador needs economic aid from the United States and Europe to keep pace with arms being funneled into the country from leftist forces in Nicaragua.

"I'm really worried about the next shipment of armaments (from the Soviet Union)," he said. "What is going to happen to the helicopters and planes they (Nicaragua) have now? It could be the next escalation in this process."

"If we don't get aid, it will be easy for the guerrillas to take over."

Duarte said the peace process is

being hindered by the extreme forces, which seek total victory over the guerrillas.

"There is no question the truce would like me to be hard, but (peace initiative) is the aim of people," said Duarte, whose name appeared on a death list when he agreed to negotiate with the guerrillas.

"I don't accept pressure from right or the left, the inside or outside," he said.

About 60 demonstrators opposed U.S. policy in Central America and waived signs outside the University, where Duarte addressed more than 2,000 people at a National Affairs Council forum.

He repeated his pledge to further peace talks with the guerrillas.

Duarte traced El Salvador's problems to East-West struggles between the United States and the Soviet Union, and the country's concentration of power in the hands of a few ruling families.

"I've been fighting for 23 years to find my country in a Democratic situation. I will not stop now," he said. "I believe this is the best way to do, fight for peace."

# Iraqi attack on supertanker meant as warning for Iran

United Press International

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates — An Iraqi warplane fired a missile into a Bahamanian-registered supertanker in the Persian Gulf Sunday, damaging a tank but causing no injuries in the second such attack in less than a week.

Gulf shipping sources and Lloyds of London said the 163,155-ton B.T. Investor was hit by the Iraqi missile as it sailed toward Iran's main oil terminal at Kharg Island.

The supertanker was hit in a wing tank, but there was "no loss of life, no ingress of water," and the vessel was proceeding south to the United Arab Emirates port of Dubai for repairs, a spokesman for Lloyds, the world's foremost shipping insurer, said.

An Iraqi government spokesman said Sunday's attack was meant as a

warning to Iran's clients that Baghdad was continuing its blockade of Kharg Island and all Iranian ports within a war zone it declared at the northern end of the Gulf.

"Those who are dealing with the Iranian regime should suffer from the outcome of their attitude toward their peoples and the world public opinion," the official Iraqi news agency, monitored in Abu Dhabi, quoted the Iraqi spokesman as saying.

The latest attack came less than a week after Iraqi warplanes attacked the Cypriot-owned Minotaur, damaging the 392,543-ton supertanker as it was sailing toward Kharg Island.

The Minotaur, the largest vessel hit in the Persian Gulf conflict, sailed to the Dubai dry dock for repairs.

The missile attacks broke a six-

week lull in the so-called tanker war between Iraq and Iran, which has been at war along their border at the northern end of the Persian Gulf more than four years.

At least 56 ships have been hit in year in raids and counter-raids as Iraq began attacking Gulf shipping in a bid to cripple Iranian oil exports in need to finance its war effort.

The lull, coupled with a rise in oil prices to \$3 a barrel and bourse seamen willing to travel to the zone, have pushed up Iranian production to about 2.5 million barrels a day, above its OPEC quota of 2.3 million barrels a day, Gulf oil experts said.

Diplomats said the renewed attacks also indicated Iraq had lost patience in so far unsuccessful regional and international peace initiatives to end the conflict.

# Baptist baptisms declining with other church activities

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The Southern Baptist Convention, the nation's largest Protestant denomination, is projecting the lowest record for baptisms in five years for 1984 and expects a sluggish year overall for other key church activities.

The denomination reported a projected decline in baptisms of 6.5 percent and the lowest number of baptisms since 1979.

According to projections last week by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, small gains are expected in church membership, Sunday school enrollment, church music enrollment and Brotherhood (men's auxiliary) enrollment.

Total membership in Southern Baptist congregations was projected to increase by 1.2 percent when final year-end statistics are compiled, according to the Sunday School Board. That would bring the church's total membership to 14,355,679 — the smallest increase since 1977.

In recent years the denomination has been embroiled in what some have called a "holy war" between fundamentalists and moderates over control of the church.

Issues in the fight include methods of biblical interpretation, ordination of women to the ministry and church-state relations. The fundamentalists have claimed the church's seminaries, boards and agencies are becoming too liberal.

The dispute has led some leaders to warn that the internal struggle is sapping the denomination's

mission and evangelism energy and sowing confusion among rank and file Southern Baptists.

A meeting of state evangelism directors held last week in Vancouver, British Columbia, expressed concern over the baptism figures — a key category for the health of the denomination.

"We are not winning America to Christ, we are losing it," the state directors said.

According to Southern Baptist officials, it is the second time in the 1980s that the number of baptisms has sunk below the 400,000 mark.

A report by Baptist Press, the denomination's official news agency, said one evangelism official at the Vancouver meeting blamed the decline in baptisms on controversy in the church and Baptist press reporting of it.

"Baptisms are down, and I'm not surprised," said Joe Ford, associate vice president in the Home Mission Board evangelism section. "Even the Baptist press has 'bought into' the value system of the secular press. Rather than seeking to diffuse some of the controversy, they (Baptist editors) have fanned the fires of it in our convention."

Other statistics projected by the Sunday School Board included modest gains in both mission giving and total receipts for the church.

Mission expenditures are projected to increase by 6.7 percent to nearly \$565 million dollars — higher than inflation rates but lower than last year's 8.7 percent gain.

# Others may contest Pickens' bid

United Press International

NEW YORK — Analysts are divided over whether other contenders will jump into the ring to outbid maverick oilman T. Boone Pickens Jr. in his current campaign to take over Phillips Petroleum Co.

Some believe Pickens, the catalyst for Chevron Corp.'s \$13.2 billion purchase of Gulf Oil Corp. and a promoter of other megabuck oil mergers, is trying to goad Phillips into making a counter offer for Mesa Petroleum Co., which he heads.

Pickens and his partners plan to launch a \$60-a-share cash tender offer for 23 million shares of Phillips in a move to gain eventual control of the nation's 10th largest oil company. At \$60 a share Phillips, which has more than 154 million shares outstanding, would cost the Pickens' group about \$9.5 billion.

Analysts in the bearish camp think declining oil prices will deter potential takeover candidates from topping Pickens' bid.

But other specialists expect at least one large oil company to dive in after Phillips because its 750 million

barrels in U.S. oil reserves are worth far more than \$60 a share.

"There are no white knights left anymore in the oil industry," said William Randol, analyst at First Boston Corp. "Pickens had better be prepared to win this one with Phillips."

Industry sources who asked not to be identified said Pickens, armed with more than \$400 million in profits that he made on the Chevron-Gulf merger, chose Phillips as his takeover target because its management is the weakest among the oil giants.

Some industry officials are convinced that Pickens, who started his career at Phillips in 1951, is committed to buying the Oklahoma company and revolutionizing the way it is run.

"I saw the need for a lot of innovation at Phillips," Pickens told UPI in an interview last year. "If I could have kept my mouth shut, I probably would have moved into senior management — not necessarily the CEO — but in the top ranks."

Pickens seems unperturbed at the prospect of a bigger company gob-

bling up Mesa, a relatively small player ranked 92nd in the U.S. oil industry, and has flirted with the idea of becoming a financial investment advisor in New York.

"Phillips is more attractive than other frequently mentioned takeover targets, such as Unocal or Phillips," said Alvin Silber, head of Pershing Perspective energy research. "Phillips has more domestic reserves of the kind of assets that ultimately should appeal to a larger oil company buyer."

Phillips has the added advantage of operating a small refining and marketing network, the traditional stumbling block in antitrust suits of oil mergers, he said.

Silber thinks a major oil company — perhaps Exxon Corp., Amoco, Richfield Co. or Standard Oil (Indiana) — will toss its hat into the ring and better Pickens' \$60-a-share offer.

"Even at \$75 a share Phillips would be a good buy," Silber said. "Large oil companies are having increasing difficulty replacing U.S. oil."