

American hijack victims recall tragic events of six-day ordeal

United Press International
 BEIRUT, Lebanon — Hostages rescued from a hijacked airliner, including two Americans who were savagely beaten and tortured with burning cigarettes, described from a Tehran hospital Monday six days of "sheer hell" at the hands of their captors.

Iran vowed to put on trial the four hijackers, believed to be Lebanese, captured Sunday by Iranian security guards disguised as cleaners who stormed aboard the Kuwait Airways jetliner at Mehrabad Airport in Tehran.

But there was no word from the Iranian news service on where the hijackers were or what charges would be brought against them.

"I was tied up all the time," said Charles Kapar, 57, a career auditor for the State Department's Agency

for International Development. "Whenever they hit me, I was tied up ... I was getting dizzy spells after the first day."

Kapar, a former Navy jet pilot, and John Costa, a 52-year-old businessman from New York, were among seven hostages freed from the jetliner by the Iranian raid.

Two other Americans were shot to death in cold blood during the six-day ordeal.

Kapar said the hijackers kept "using cigarettes to press their point home" and to force him to say he was a spy for the Central Intelligence Agency. His insistence that he was only an AID auditor infuriated his tormentors, he said.

"So they would hit me harder and harder, and then I told them point blank, 'If you don't believe me, shoot me,'" Kapar, badly bruised and

unshaven, said in an interview from Tehran broadcast in London by Independent Television News.

Costa, 50, who was badly bruised and had blisters on his face, chest and back from cigarette burns, said the gunmen also tried to force him to admit he was a CIA agent.

"What they wanted was for me to say I was from the CIA," he said. "That's all they wanted to hear. Among the places they kicked me was in the throat, which is why my voice is bad."

"I was also beaten in most places. If they got angry they would beat you and then they would offer you orange juice."

The Sunday night rescue ended a terror-filled drama that began when the Arab-speaking hijackers seized the A-300 Airbus with 166 people aboard after a stop in Dubai, the

United Arab Emirates, en route from Kuwait to Pakistan.

"It was sheer hell," British pilot John Henry "Harry" Clark, who called the air pirates "crazy men," said on British television. "It was terror for six solid days."

In Kuwait, officials praised Iran's rescue and government sources said a jetliner was ready to fly to Tehran to retrieve the passengers.

Another aircraft was needed to pick them up because the hijackers shot out about a dozen windows of the hijacked Kuwait Airways jetliner, rendering it unable to fly.

Two AID officials, Charles Hegna, 50, of Sterling, Va., and William Stanford, 52, were slain by the air pirates in the first days of the hijacking.

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Massachusetts bans 'happy hours' in bars

United Press International
 BOSTON — It cost more to wind down after work with a cold one in Massachusetts bars Monday as the nation's first ban on "happy hours" took effect in an effort to stem drunken driving.

An empty stomach after work, mixed with cut-rate drinks and jovial chatter, can translate into disaster on the ride home, Gov. Michael Dukakis said in signing the law the day before Thanksgiving.

Two-for-one drinks, "chug-a-lug" beer-guzzling contests and all price reductions on drinks are illegal under the law outlawing "wholesale promotional activities aimed solely at encouraging excessive drinking."

Tavern operators also are barred from delivering more than two drinks to a person at a time or offering "all-you-can-drink" deals at a set price.

Violation can mean suspension or revocation of a tavern's liquor license, fines of \$50 to \$500 or jail terms of one month to one year.

"I'm not expecting drastic cuts in business," said Doug Edwals, bar manager at Guadalalaharrys, a trendy Boston bar near the waterfront which has given away about \$180,000 per year in free drinks.

"The people who come out to get drunk will come out and get drunk and pay for it," he said. "Those who don't care about the social atmosphere will go to package stores, and those who wanted the social atmosphere will come anyway."

Edwals predicted liquor distributors — not bar owners — will be hurt most by the law because taverns will buy less booze and beer.

On college campuses, where student budgets didn't go very far even at reduced happy-hour prices, the reaction was mixed.

"I think the idea is really good in terms of stopping drunk driving," said Boston University sophomore Ian Fisher.

Since Dukakis signed the regulations, at least two other states, Florida and New Mexico, have been looking at similar happy hour bans.

Pamphlet spells out benefits tax

United Press International
 WASHINGTON — The Social Security Administration is mounting a \$67.5 million campaign to attempt for the first time to collect taxes on benefits from more than 3 million Americans, acting Commissioner Martha McSteen said Monday.

McSteen said the effort includes 1,900 toll-free telephone lines, several pamphlets, instructions to hundreds of district offices and tax forms already tested on groups of nursing home residents.

Under a Social Security rescue bill of tax hikes and benefit curbs signed by President Reagan last year, upper-income Americans will have up to half their old-age, survivor and disability benefits subject to income tax for the first time in 1984.

The money — \$27 billion by 1989 — will go to the Social Security trust funds.

Social Security benefits are taxable if "countable income" is more than \$32,000 for married couples filing jointly and \$25,000 for single people. For couples filing separately but living together for any part of 1984, the threshold is zero, to discourage people from trying to evade taxes.

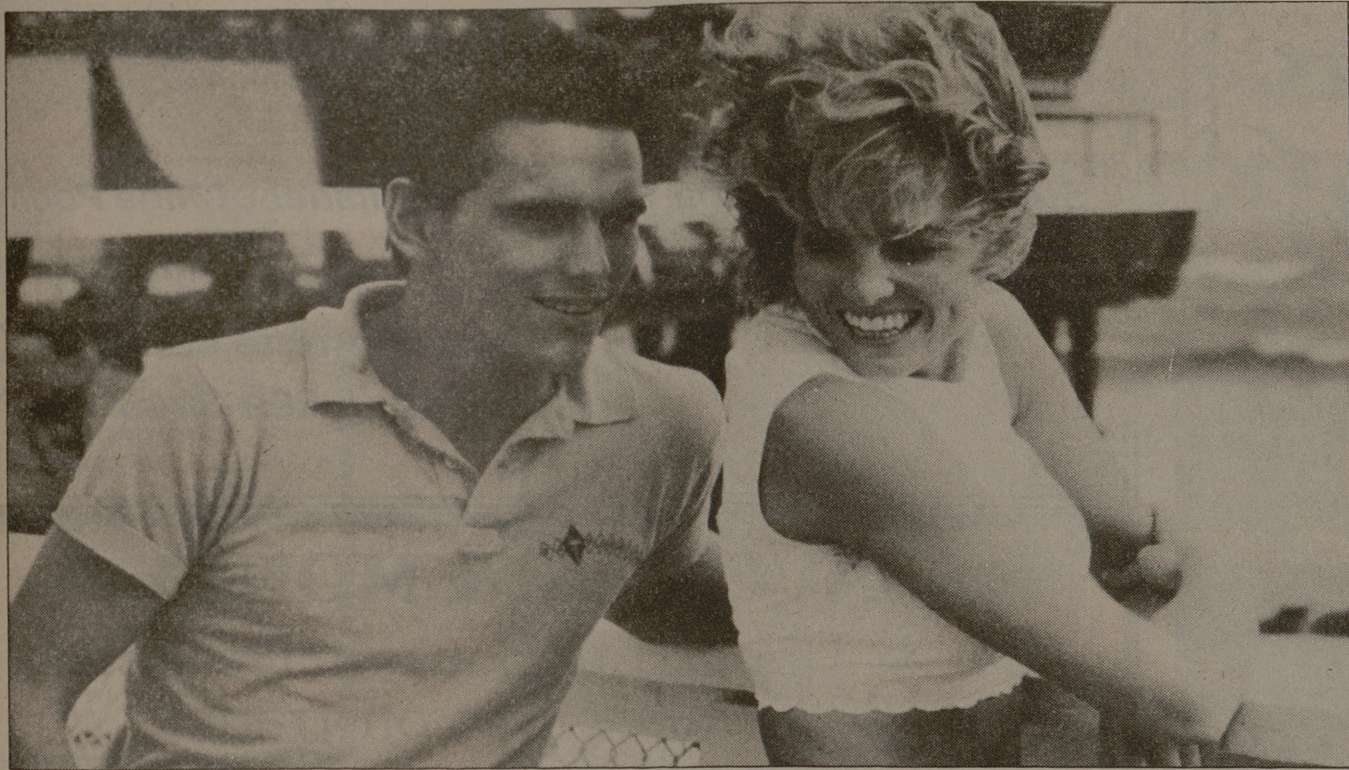
"Countable income" is the sum of adjusted gross income; tax-exempt interest, mainly from municipal bonds; and half the Social Security benefit. Tax-exempt interest is included for calculation purposes only; it is not taxed.

The amount of taxable benefits is either half the amount over the \$25,000, \$32,000 or zero threshold, or half the Social Security benefit, whichever is smaller.

For example, a married couple with \$25,000 in taxable income, \$4,000 in tax-exempt interest income and \$11,400 in Social Security benefits (half of which, \$5,700, is counted), would have a "countable income" of \$34,700. That is \$2,700 over the threshold; half of that, \$1,350, would be included in their taxable income, so taxable income would total \$26,350.

Between Jan. 5 and Jan. 29, the Social Security Administration will send two buff-colored forms explaining the new tax to 40 million Americans — anybody who got a benefit check this year.

One form, numbered SSA-1099, lists the total Social Security benefit paid in 1984, including Medicare premiums that were withheld.



Matt and Janet — a breath of fresh air.

A NEW MATT DILLON...ON THE MOVE

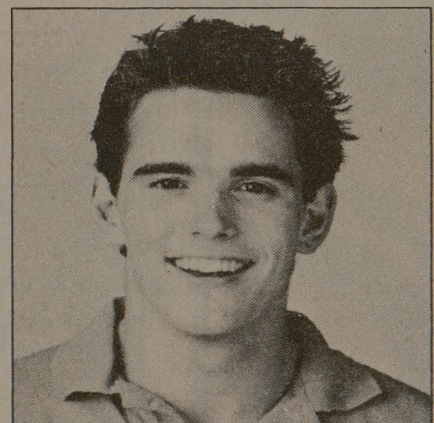
OK, smart guy! What would you do if you were Jeffrey Willis? It's your last summer before choosing between college and jobless oblivion. Now comes a summer dream job at the ritzy El Flamingo Beach Club, a luxurious haunt of the New York rich absolutely dripping easy money and overrun with beautiful girls. You rub more than shoulders with a gorgeous blonde coed visiting from California, you are taken under the wing of the Club's resident "get-rich-quick" artist and, suddenly, college is coming in a very distant second.

So, in September, what will it be? For Matt Dillon as Jeffrey Willis in Twentieth Century Fox's "The Flamingo Kid," the decision won't be easy. Everyone has an idea about what he should do with his life — and they're ALL wrong.

Flair for comedy

As the bright but less than "Easy Street" smart Jeffrey, Matt Dillon takes on a role tailored to show the talented young actor in a new light.

Although he is only 20, Matt Dillon has starred in eight films since a casting director found



Matt Dillon is "The Flamingo Kid."

the actor at age 14 in junior high school and put Dillon in "Over the Edge" (1978) as a tough street kid. Several top flight roles followed, with Dillon becoming a new symbol of teenage rebellion in "My Bodyguard," "Little Darlings," "Tex," "The Outsiders," "Liar's Moon" and "Rumblefish." But in "The Flamingo Kid," there is a new Matt Dillon to be discovered. Sure, he's still a legend in his own neighborhood, but he's a rumblefish out of water with a flair for comedy and a crush on shapely newcomer Janet Jones.

"Dance Fever" star in major film role

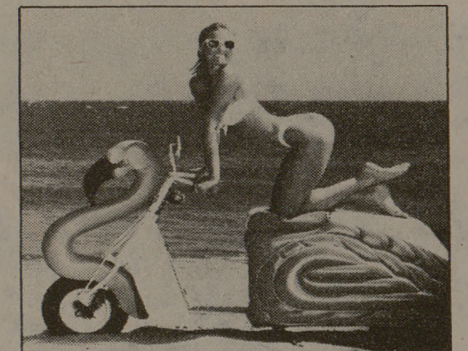
The tall, sunny blonde shines in her first major film role after brief appearances in "One From the Heart" and "Grease II." A veteran at age 22 of five seasons on TV's "Dance Fever" team, Janet Jones will follow her role in "The Flamingo Kid" by starring in the eagerly awaited film version of "A Chorus Line."

Also starring is a seasoned trio of top performers. Richard Crenna (as slick sports car dealer Phil Brody) recently made his mark in "Body Heat" and "First Blood," and will soon reteam with Sylvester Stallone in a second "Blood" called "Rambo;" Hector Elizondo (as Jeffrey's concerned father) was last seen in the hilarious "Young Doctors

In Love," and Jessica Walter (as the status-conscious Mrs. Brody) is best remembered for asking Clint Eastwood to "Play Misty For Me."

Director Garry Marshall shoots for the stars

For director Garry Marshall, "The Flamingo Kid" is a comedy right up his alley. Known for his knack with youthful casts of hit TV shows such as "Happy Days" and "Laverne & Shirley," Marshall



Shapely newcomer Janet Jones.

guides "The Flamingo Kid" on the heels of his first hilarious feature, "Young Doctors in Love."

For a dash of summer in the dead of winter, here comes "The Flamingo Kid." Your last days before college were never this hot and bothered.