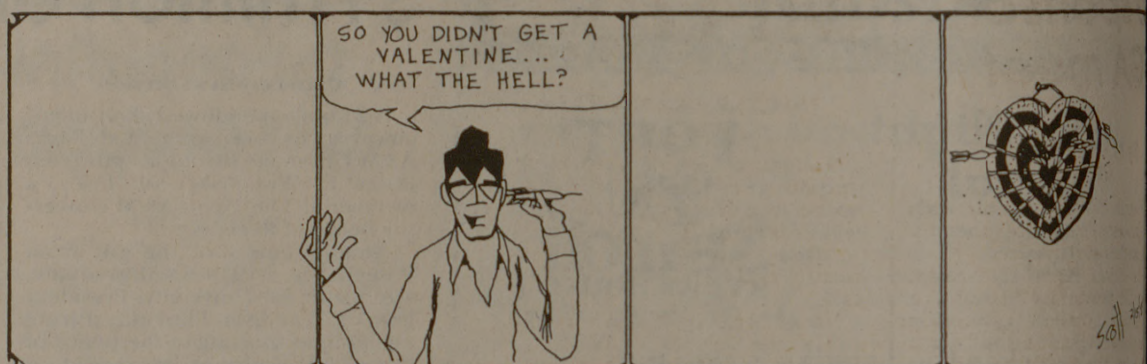


WORLD AND NATION

Warped

by Scott McCullough



Israelis raze buildings in 8-hour Lebanon raid

Associated Press

SIDON, Lebanon — Israeli soldiers rolled into a southern Lebanon village Thursday, pushed French U.N. peacekeeping troops aside and bulldozed four buildings they claimed were guerrilla weapons storehouses, United Nations officials reported.

Sources in the area, who spoke on the condition that they not be identified, said the Israelis knocked down three houses and a Shiite Moslem civic center and arrested more than 60 villagers during an eight-hour occupation of Bourj Rahal.

Military sources in Tel Aviv said one man was killed in the raid, and reporters said two villagers were wounded.

Timur Goksel, spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon, said

French peacekeeping troops tried to prevent destruction of the houses and the Husseinieh cultural center in the village northwest of Tyre, a port city in Israeli-occupied territory.

"There was a scuffle and strong arguments between the French and Israelis," Goksel said. "The French were trying to prevent them from demolishing the houses."

Goksel said the Israelis claimed the buildings contained weapons and explosives. Israeli forces frequently raze buildings they suspect are being used for arms storage.

The U.N. force, known as UNIFIL, has been in place since Israeli forces withdrew in June 1978 after their first invasion of southern Lebanon in pursuit of Palestinian guerrillas, which lasted three months. Is-

rael invaded again in June 1982, now is in the first phase of a stage withdrawal.

The report by the Israeli military command said 11 guerrillas killed and nine captured near Awali River, which forms the northern line of Israel's current occupation zone. It said Israeli troops countered the 20-man guerrilla force after the guerrillas crossed Awali.

The Israelis are preparing to pull back from the Awali, 47 miles from the Israeli border, to a new deployment line 17 miles further south. Under a plan approved by the Israeli Parliament last month, the first phase of the withdrawal from Lebanon is to be completed by Monday.

Group doubts low inflation outlook

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The country would be wrong to say 4 percent annual price increases are a victory against inflation, a group of former government officials said Thursday.

It warned that America's luck in reducing double-digit inflation could soon turn sour.

The group is headed by Herbert Stein, chairman of President Richard M. Nixon's Council of Economic Advisers, and Henry Fowler, Treasury secretary under President Lyndon B. Johnson. It said the Reagan administration was premature in boasting that inflation has been subdued.

Stein and Fowler are co-chairmen of the Committee to Fight Inflation, a bipartisan group of 14 former government officials formed in 1980.

"Neither congratulations nor complacency are warranted," the group said in a policy statement. "The reduction of inflation to the neighborhood of 4 percent is in no sense a victory."

In his budget message to Congress earlier this month, President Reagan noted the small rise in consumer prices in 1984 and said, "Inflation remains well under control."

Consumer prices had risen only 3.8 percent in 1983, the lowest rate in more than a decade, after a 3.9 percent increase in 1982.

While the recent price performance looks good compared with double-digit rates in 1979 and 1980,

the increases are still above the 1.5 percent annual average turned in during the 1950s and early 1960s, Stein noted.

The Reagan administration is projecting that inflation will be just over 4 percent through 1987 and drop to 3.8 percent in 1988.

But Stein and his colleagues said a 4 percent inflation rate would cut the purchasing power of the dollar in half in less than 18 years and do enormous continuing damage to our economy and our society.

Of even greater concern, the group said, was the danger that inflation may well start heating up again.

"Some of the forces that have recently helped slow inflation, including the strong dollar and ample worldwide supplies of food and oil, cannot be counted on to continue indefinitely," the committee said.

In addition, the current mood of complacency presents the danger that officials will be lured into abandoning government policies needed to keep inflation low — specifically in the areas of budget deficits, money growth and trade policy, the group said.

The committee called for prompt action to reduce the federal budget deficit, projected to hit \$222.2 billion this year, saying the \$50 billion deficit cut called for in the president's budget was a good first step.

Parasites threaten sushi fans

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Sushi may be savory, but people who eat the raw fish risk acquiring parasitic worms that can cause sharp abdominal pains, Japanese doctors say.

The worms must be removed by an endoscopy, a procedure where forceps are stuck down the patient's throat and esophagus into the stomach.

In 15 years, doctors in Japan treated 178 patients who got roundworms from eating uncooked fish. The patients had abdominal pains within 12 hours after eating, and many suffered nausea and vomiting.

This condition is rare in the United States despite the increasing popularity of sushi, said Dr. Robert Fontaine of the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

One possible reason, he said, is that these worms are more common in fish in Japan than in the United States. They are found regularly on the muscles of only a few species of fish found in U.S. waters, he said.

Fontaine said the first case in the United States was reported last year in Hawaii.

He reported the conclusions of the Japanese doctors from an article published in the Journal of the American Medical.

Thailand Vietnamese troops topple Khmer Rouge stronghold

Associated Press

KHAO SARAPEE, Thailand — Vietnamese troops sweeping through the jungle behind a ferocious artillery barrage overran one Khmer Rouge stronghold Thursday and seized part of another in the western Cambodia mountains, Thai military officers reported.

The Thai border commander predicted the entire guerrilla complex would fall by today.

A knowledgeable Soviet bloc diplomat said it may be the "turning point of the war" that broke out after Vietnam invaded Cambodia and ousted Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge regime in January 1979.

With guerrilla forward defense lines shattered by three days of artillery fire, 13,000 Vietnamese troops surged from the south and east in a pincer movement that overwhelmed the Khao Din stronghold and captured half the guerrilla headquarters at Phnom Malai, said Col. Chetha Thannajaro, deputy commander of the Eastern (border) Field Force.

The force commander said Vietnamese troops were within two miles of Phum Thmei, the Khmer Rouge showcase camp reported operations center at Phnom Malai protected.

Maj. Gen. Salya Sriphen said Khmer Rouge could be finished today.

Hundreds of guerrillas fleeing assault on Khao Din trudged toward near this hamlet about 19 miles south of the key Thai border town Aranyaprathet.

The seasoned fighters, who roamed the Cambodia countryside for years, took everything with them — field guns, food, even elephants.

Also driven by the Vietnamese offensive, which intensified with thousands of artillery and mortar rounds Tuesday, were up to 400 civilians fleeing every major Khmer Rouge-controlled camp along 40-mile battlefront south of Aranyaprathet.

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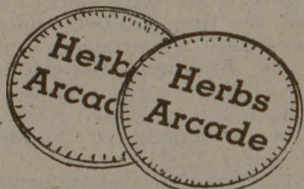
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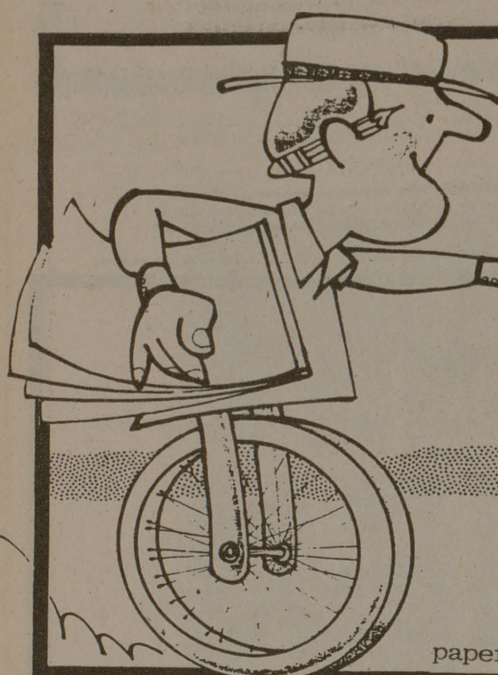
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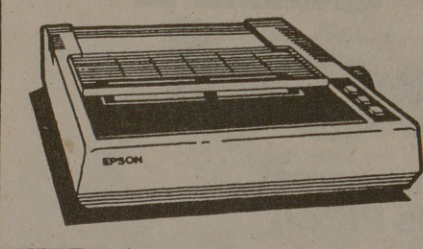
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