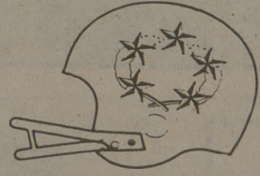




Pastor wants to drop the word 'Baptist' from church's name

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Generals not letting down heading into USFL playoffs

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The Battalion

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Separatist groups suspects in Air-India crash

Associated Press

NEW DELHI, India — Reported claims that Sikh and Kashmir Moslem separatists blew up an Air-India jumbo jet highlight the turmoil in India's two northern powder kegs — the states of Punjab and Kashmir.

The Boeing 747 crashed into the Atlantic Ocean on Sunday with 329 people aboard. All aboard are believed to have been killed. Claims of responsibility were made by three telephone callers in the names of the extremist All-India Sikh Students' Federation; the Dashmesh Regiment, believed to be its military-terrorist wing, and the militant Kashmir Liberation Army.

There was no confirmation that the claims were authentic. The leader of the Sikh extremist political faction in Punjab called them "vi-

cious lies" and said Sikhs do not kill innocent people.

Indian authorities said there was a strong possibility that a bomb caused the crash and they were investigating the claims. The three groups have records of political assassination, random murder, hijackings, arson and sabotage.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was murdered Oct. 31. The government says her assassins were two Sikh members of her personal security guard, who apparently sought revenge for the army attack last June on the Golden Temple, the holiest shrine of the Sikhs.

Gandhi ordered the raid to drive out heavily armed Sikh extremists who had taken refuge inside the temple in the Punjab city of Amritsar.

2 Sikhs sought by FBI may be linked to crash

Associated Press

CORK, Ireland — Suspicions grew Monday that a bomb planted by terrorists caused an Air-India jumbo jet with 329 people aboard to crash off the Irish coast.

Canadian officials said they were convinced the crash of the

Boeing 747, which went down Sunday on a flight from Canada to India, was caused by terrorists.

Many international airports increased security after the crash. An Air-India Boeing 747 about to leave London for New York on Monday was evacuated after the airport received an anonymous

See Crash, page 7

A wave of bombings killed at least 87 people May 10-11 in northern India. No group claimed responsibility, but police blamed Sikh extremists

and arrested more than two dozen Sikhs in New Delhi.

Separatists seeking independent homelands are active in the Sikh-

dominated state of Punjab and in the predominantly Moslem state of Kashmir.

Extremist Sikhs and Moslems in the troubled states bordering largely Moslem Pakistan claim they are oppressed in Hindu-dominated India.

In letters to newspapers, the Dashmesh Regiment pledged more violence and said it would kill an important person every day unless the government withdrew paramilitary forces from the Golden Temple and lifted the ban on the student group.

The Dashmesh Regiment calls its members latter-day crusaders of the 10th and last guru, Gobind Singh, who organized the Sikhs into a warrior sect to fight Moslem invaders in the 17th century.

The Sikh Students Federation was

close to terrorist preacher Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, who was slain in the Golden Temple attack. The group, which claimed to have several hundred thousand members, was banned in March 1984 because the government said it was trying to raise a 150,000-man guerrilla army to fight for an independent Punjab.

Hundreds of activists were jailed and some still are being held in Punjab, but the government recently lifted the ban in an effort to resolve the Punjab problem.

Kashmiri separatists are not as well-known as the Sikhs. Moslem extremists of the Kashmir Liberation Army, an offshoot of the Kashmir Liberation Front, want a nation independent of both India and Pakistan. But both countries claim their Himalayan state.

Shiite leader demands removal of U.S. warships

Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — The Shiite Moslem leader who has taken responsibility for 40 American hijack hostages added another condition Monday for their release: withdrawal of U.S. warships that have taken up positions off Lebanon.

Nabih Berri, chief of the Shiite militia Amal and Lebanon's justice minister, also dismissed as a "political zigzag" Israel's release of 26 Shiites and five Sunni Moslems who had been captured in south Lebanon and held prisoner.

Berri and the hijackers demand the release of all 766 Lebanese prisoners held by the Israelis, more than 500 of whom are said to be Shiites, in exchange for the Americans held captive since the hijacking of a TWA jetliner June 14.

At the airport on Monday, gunmen aboard the TWA aircraft summoned a doctor to attend to one of the American crewmen, but would not say which one. They said he suffered stomach pains.

The Amal leader told reporters: "The advance of the 6th Fleet towards our shores forces us to add one more condition — this time for the Amal movement — and that is

the withdrawal of the 6th Fleet from our coast."

He has claimed that the 6th Fleet ships led by the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz are prepared for a "military operation." The Defense Department denied Lebanese reports that F-14 fighters from the carrier flew over Beirut on Saturday.

The warships were reported to be 25 miles off the Lebanese coast.

Berri offered a glimmer of hope for an early solution to standoff. "The hostages are not in danger," he said. "This (situation) should not last for too long."

The chief of Amal's politburo, Akel Haidar, said later: "President Reagan knows that he can't make any military operation. . . . Everybody knows that the Marines can take over Lebanon in one stroke. But he can't really free the hostages by force. He would pass over their dead bodies.

"We're not going to kill them. But I'm sure that if he shells the area he'll kill them before he kills us. He (Reagan) knows he can't handle this thing with an army. Israel thought so and everybody knows what happened to them."

Two young Shiites seized TWA Flight 847 on a flight from Athens to

Rome. They killed a U.S. Navy man and released all but the 40 people now held, most of them at stops in Beirut and Algiers.

The red-and-white Boeing 727 has been on the ground in Beirut since June 16, with the three-man flight crew aboard. The 37 passengers were taken to hiding places in and around Beirut.

The hijackers are believed to be from the Hezbollah (Party of God), a radical Shiite group that organized a demonstration at the airport last Friday. Although Berri has taken over the negotiations, Amal and Hezbollah gunmen are said to be guarding the hostages jointly.

As the 31 Lebanese prisoners were handed over to the International Red Cross in an Israeli-controlled south Lebanon "security zone," Berri told reporters the 40 Americans will be held until all the prisoners are freed.

Israel has said that it had intended to release the prisoners, and that setting them free is not related to the hostage situation. Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said in a television interview Monday: "When there will be quiet (in south Lebanon) there will be no reason to keep these prisoners."

'Old Army' never existed

Simpson: Corps a lot better

Editor's note: The following is the first of a two-part series on Lt. Gen. Ormond Simpson.

By JERRY OSLIN
Staff Writer

During his 15 years with Texas A&M, Lt. Gen. Ormond R. Simpson has seen both the good and the bad in the Corps of Cadets.

Simpson, Class of '36, retired from the Marine Corps in 1973 and became assistant vice president for student services and an informal adviser to the Corps a year later.

"The Corps today is a lot better than it was in 1936," Simpson said. "There is no comparison."

The Corps from 1932-36 was dominated by "really brutal hazing," Simpson said.

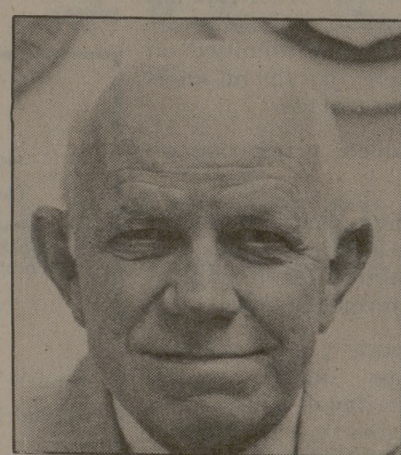
"It was brutal in the sense there was wide-spread use of the board and that sort of thing for freshmen," he said. "They were hazed unmercifully."

Simpson, who will retire on August 31, also said the Corps in the 30s was limited in its leadership training possibilities.

"When I was a cadet, the cadets made no decisions whatsoever," he said. "They were told what to do by the commandant and the Corps' tactical officers. Today, the Corps is a great opportunity to learn leadership."

The lifestyle of the Corps in the 30s was different from today's lifestyle, he said.

"There were seven student-owned automobiles and the keys were kept in the commandant's office," he said. "We had no telephones in our rooms



Lt. Gen. Ormond R. Simpson

and the only way to get from one place to another was either by train or by hitching a ride."

Also, the Aggie Band was not as good as it is today, he said.

"I was in the band back then and we didn't know anything about the precision-type drills they do now," he said. "The band back then was comparable to a third-rate high school of today. We were terrible, just lousy."

Simpson said the changes in the Corps since 1936 mostly are for the better.

"The cadets today are a lot more mature, a lot more worldly wise," he said. "I'm very encouraged by the willingness of the present Corps leadership to try and take the lifestyle of the Corps out of the 60s and

put it in the 80s."

The attitude toward the Corps by the cadets also is changing for the better, he said.

"I have been stressing, ever since I came here, that you come to A&M to get an education first and everything else is secondary, including the Corps of Cadets," Simpson said. "It's taken a long time but that idea is beginning to take hold because the data from the spring semester show that the grades of the freshmen in the Corps were a little bit higher than the grades of the freshmen in the University as a whole."

Simpson said he also is encouraged by the resolve of the Corps' leadership to protect underclassmen from severe hazing.

"Curt Van De Walle (Corps Commander) is a very fine, strong individual supported by a strong staff, and I believe they will do whatever is necessary to make sure the Corps is a more pleasant place for freshmen and sophomores," Simpson said.

"There won't be any physical hazing and I don't think you'll see anybody's dignity insulted or anybody do things that will demean somebody."

Simpson said he expects some resistance to the anti-hazing changes in the Corps.

"There will always be people associated with the Corps, as in any other group or organization, who will object to any change that is made," he said. "These people are called 'Old Army,' but that's a fictitious name

See Simpson, page 7

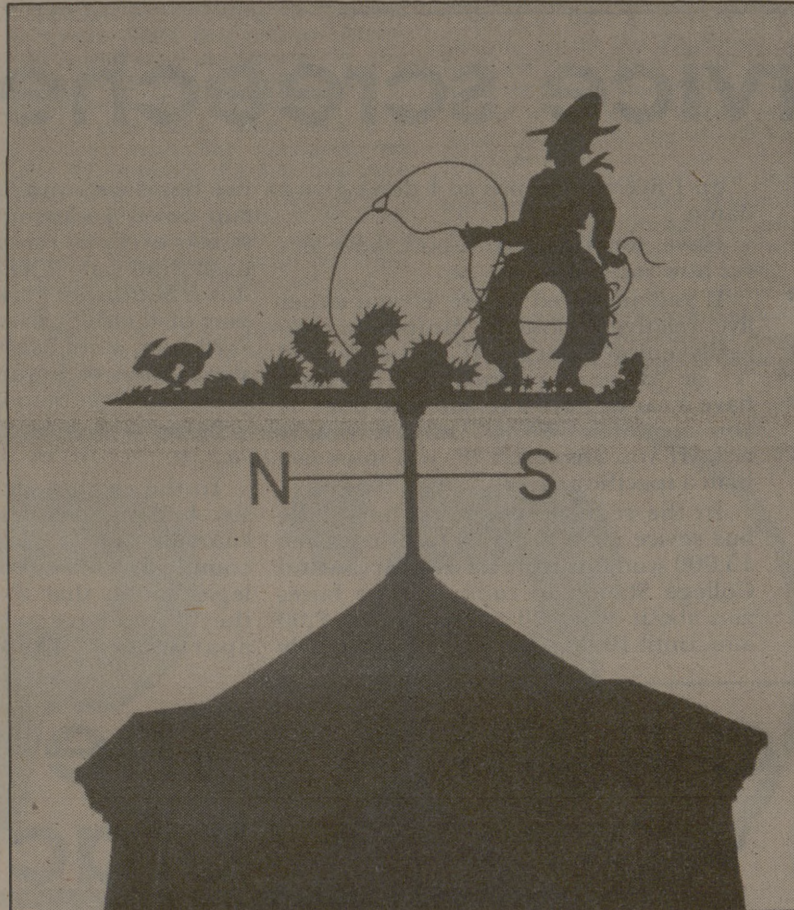


Photo by GREG BAILEY

Whatever the Weather

This weather vane cowpoke is too busy to bother with the what might be happening in the sky above the Forest Science Building. For the rest of the people with their feet on the ground, today's weather will be partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain and a high of 88 degrees.

Reagan cancels vacation because of hostage crisis

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Reagan, concerned about being on vacation while 40 American travelers remain hostage in Beirut, abruptly canceled plans to spend the July Fourth holiday at his ranch in California, the White House announced Monday.

Presidential spokesman Larry Speakes said Reagan would travel to Chicago on Friday for a speaking engagement and might visit some family members of hostages who live nearby. But Speakes said Reagan told his staff he had decided not to continue on to California for the 10-day vacation he had planned to spend at Rancho del Cielo in the Santa Ynez mountains near Santa Barbara.

Speakes refused to comment on a new demand by Shiite Moslem leader Nabih Berri that the U.S. 6th Fleet withdraw from the coast of Lebanon, other than to say the U.S. warships are "not in Lebanese waters."

The Pentagon has confirmed that a naval task force led by the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Nimitz is in the eastern Mediterranean, and other reports have put the naval group about 25 miles off the coast of

"We condemn in the strongest possible terms the despicable acts by terrorists during the past days against innocent travelers." Secretary of State George Shultz.

Lebanon, where TWA's hijacked jetliner and 40 American male passengers are still being held following the June 14 hijacking.

Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger said in an interview Monday that the U.S. warships are in international waters and that the United States has no intention of yielding "to demands of terrorist hijackers."

Weinberger said terrorist attacks amount to war and that the United States has the right to move its ships however it wants in international waters.

But the Pentagon chief also said that while the administration "has reserved its rights to take whatever action seems to be proper," the United States will not retaliate mili-

tarly against the hijackers just for revenge.

Reagan, meanwhile, met with his top national security advisers to review the latest terrorist incidents around the world and get an update on the Beirut situation. Deputy White House press secretary Robert Sims said after the 90-minute meeting that diplomatic efforts would continue as the United States seeks to gain the hostages' release. He refused to discuss the meeting in detail.

At the State Department, spokesman Bernard Kalb labeled as "preposterous" a Soviet charge that the United States was using the hostage crisis as an excuse for a military buildup in the Middle East.

Kalb said Secretary of State George P. Shultz had sent letters "expressing our shock and indignation" to the foreign ministers of India, Canada and Japan" following the fatal crash Sunday of an Air India jumbo jet and the explosion of a bomb in Tokyo that apparently had been planted aboard a Canadian Pacific flight that was being unloaded after a flight from Vancouver.

"We condemn in the strongest possible terms the despicable acts by terrorists during the past days against innocent travelers," the American spokesman said.

Police foil IRA plan to bomb hotels

Associated Press

LONDON — Police have uncovered an Irish Republican Army plan to bomb hotels in 12 English seaside resorts at the height of the tourist season in mid-July, the head of Scotland Yard's Anti-Terrorist Squad said Monday night.

Commander Simon Crawshaw, speaking to a news conference in London, refused to confirm press reports linking five men and two women being held in connection with the bombing campaign to last October's IRA bomb attack in Brighton.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her Cabinet narrowly escaped death in the bombing of Brighton's Grand Hotel, which killed five people. The IRA claimed responsibility for the attack, one of its most spectacular terrorist acts on the British mainland.

Police discovered the plan for the July hotel bombings as a result of papers found when five people were arrested in Scotland on Saturday under provisions of the Prevention of Terrorism Act, Crawshaw said.

Scotland Yard used the information to find and defuse a bomb with a long-delay timer at the Rubens Hotel near Buckingham Palace on Sunday and to arrest two more people in London on Monday under the same law, he said.