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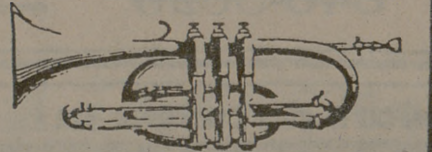
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Classified 845-2611

'Hitler Diaries' trial ends; 3 sentenced

Associated Press
HAMBURG, West Germany — A Hamburg court convicted three people Monday of arranging the sale of the forged "Hitler Diaries," but the judge also said Stern magazine was too easily duped in the \$3.1 million swindle.

The prosecution called it the literary hoax of the century. Chief Judge Holger Schroeder told a packed courtroom that the Hamburg-based, mass circulation magazine "stood naked," without any proof that the journals were real, as it went to press with them in April 1983.

Historians and the public alike rushed to peek into the private thoughts of Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler as Stern began publishing its sensation. Stern hailed the excerpts as the "journalistic scoop of the post-war period."

Experts quickly denounced the 60 volumes as crude fakes. Stern never got back any of the \$3.1 million it paid for the fake diaries.

Convicted of fraud were former Stern reporter Gerd Heidemann, 53, who procured the fake diaries for the magazine, and confessed forger Konrad Kujau, 47, a dealer in Nazi memorabilia and a handwriting expert. Heidemann was sentenced to four years, eight months imprisonment, and Kujau to 4 1/2 years.

Edith Lieblang, 44, a friend of Kujau, was convicted of receiving stolen property — some of Kujau's earnings from the forgeries. She drew an eight-month suspended sentence.

Both Heidemann and Kujau had been held in "investigative custody" for two years, and that time will be deducted from their sentences.

Lawyers for all three told the State Court of Hamburg they would appeal and all three were released until then.

Kujau, an East German emigrant, said he expected the verdict. "I wrote the things, didn't I?" he said.

Prosecutors charged that Heidemann kept at least \$600,000 of what Stern paid for the diaries.

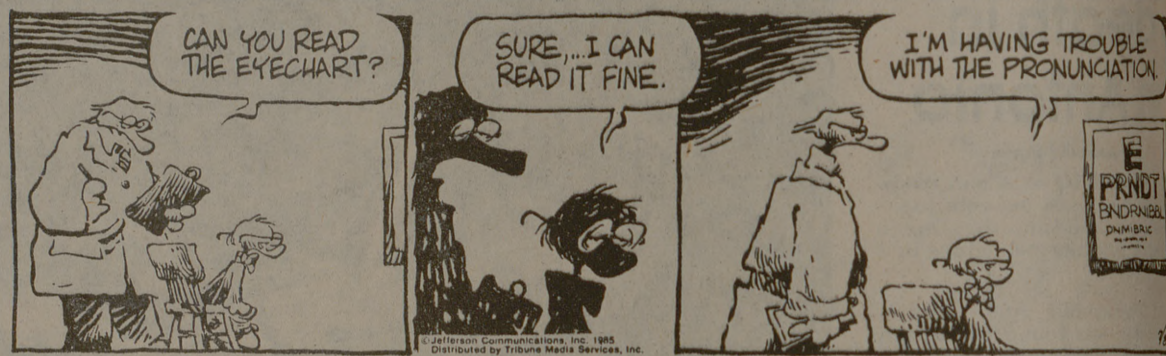
Stern magazine published two installments of the diaries, in April and May 1983, before government experts denounced them as bogus.

Stern said in a statement Monday it accepted the court ruling, including the parts in which Stern and Gruner, its publishing company, and Jahr were rebuked for acting carelessly.

The judge said Stern and its publishing company helped cheat themselves by not checking the diaries' authenticity and by carelessly funneling millions through Heidemann.

He said Stern's top management "failed to stop the countdown" to publication though they knew government experts said more tests were needed to authenticate the one page of the diaries Stern had asked them to verify.

"No one (at Stern) asked, 'Are the diaries really valid?'" the judge said.



by Jeff MacNeill

Lebanon

Moslem leaders discuss U.S. sanctions, ways to bring civil war to an end

Associated Press
BEIRUT, Lebanon — Moslem leaders met Monday in Syria, the power broker in this war-ravaged nation, seeking ways to halt the bloodshed and to counter U.S. sanctions imposed on Lebanon in retaliation for the TWA hijacking.

The sounds of combat filled the air in west Beirut and the northern port of Tripoli, where they have become as common as traffic noise in other cities. Two buildings used as sniper roosts were blown up in Tripoli, killing eight people, police said.

Political and religious leaders of Lebanon's Shiite, Sunni and Druse sects met with Abdel-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice president, for five hours Monday in the first session of the two-day conference in Damascus.

They were expected to draw up a security plan intended to curb feuding between Moslem militias and end a wave of lawlessness in west Beirut that has grown in 10 years of civil war.

As the meeting began in Khaddam's office, gunmen of Nabih Berri's Shiite militia Amal, and the Druse Progressive Socialist Party led by Walid Jumblatt fought a one-hour battle in west Beirut's Mousseibeh, Lija and Ras el-Nabaa neighborhoods.

A joint Amal-Druse security committee called a cease-fire, but the fighters continued trading sniper fire and grenades.

The battle began when Amal tried to put up a poster

of one of their slain "martyrs" in Druse territory, the sort of act that often sets off firefights in this nation of many factions and little government.

Heavy fighting was reported in Tripoli, 50 miles north of Beirut, between the Syrian-backed Araba Knights and the Islamic Unification militia.

Police said two people were killed and at least one wounded in 10 hours of fighting in Tripoli's Baal Mohsen, Bab Tabaneh and Mallouleh districts.

A cease-fire was arranged for 3:30 p.m. by officials of the rival groups, and Lebanese and Syrian army representatives.

An official statement in Damascus said Syria's Transport Workers' Union decided Monday to "take a number of measures to confront American threats to impose a siege of Beirut airport," according to the official Syrian Arab News Agency.

The statement followed a meeting in Damascus between union president Nasser Mohrez and the leader of the Lebanese transport workers, Abdel-Amri Najda.

Mohrez said Syria and Lebanon were calling an extraordinary session of the Pan-Arab Federation of Transport Workers to "adopt a collective Arab reaction against the U.S. measures."

The Reagan administration has denied U.S. landing rights to Lebanon's passenger and cargo-carrying airlines and has said it is taking political and legal steps to isolate Beirut International Airport, which it called a haven for hijackers.

Flash fires continue to blaze out of control in western U.S.

Associated Press
A savage 55,000-acre California brush fire destroyed five homes Monday and sent thousands of people fleeing flames and choking smoke, challenging fire forces already weary from hundreds of blazes across the western United States and Canada.

Firefighters beat back a 30-foot wall of flame that licked at the north-eastern flank of San Luis Obispo, Calif., but wind gusts sprayed chunks of embers over rooftops, streets and yards.

The advancing fire, which started 130 miles northwest of Los Angeles on July 1, was among the latest and largest of a series of fires which have killed three, leveled more than 140 homes and chewed through more

than half a million acres since late June. Many fires still burned out of control Monday.

Firefighters battled brush, forest and range blazes, large and small and many lightning-caused, in California, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, Montana, Washington, Nevada and Oregon on Monday.

Other fires in Arizona, Nebraska and Wyoming were either contained or controlled over the weekend, firefighters said.

The San Luis Obispo fire started near Santa Margarita Lake, gutting seven homes and 14 other buildings in its early going, said California Division of Forestry spokeswoman Rhonda Lazzarini.

But Monday morning, erratic winds fanned it into a firestorm that advanced on the city of 35,000, and

thousands fled their hillside homes ahead of the wall of flame. By mid-morning, police said at least five homes were charred.

Highways and the airport were closed, telephone lines were jammed and municipal water pressure dropped as people sprayed their homes. Smoke looming over the city kept aerial firefighting equipment on the ground.

"That fire's getting close," said resident Dan Dorn as evacuation orders were barked over a loudspeaker in his neighborhood. "It could take the hillside and come down."

"I sure hope those guys can stop it." He then loaded his family in his possession-packed station wagon and left.

Poll: Most Americans find time to exercise

Associated Press
NEW YORK — Almost six in 10 Americans exercise to keep fit, according to a Media General-Associated Press poll. Most of those who don't run, lift weights, bicycle or otherwise put their bodies in motion blame lack of time or say their strenuous schedules give them enough of a workout.

In a nationwide telephone survey of 1,402 adults, 57 percent said they exercised in addition to their normal daily activities.

Walking was the most common form of exercise, with one-third of the respondents saying they walked to keep physically fit. Half of the respondents said they got their exercise indoors: jumping rope, lifting

In a nationwide telephone survey of 1,402 adults conducted by Media General and the Associated Press, 57 percent said they exercised in addition to their normal daily activities.

weights, dancing and doing calisthenics, aerobics or yoga were among the exercises mentioned.

"I think the American public is more sophisticated about how to exercise for fitness purposes, but I don't think they're as sophisticated as we would want them to be," said Ash Hayes, acting director of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

The Media General-AP poll found that four in 10 people without

they exercised every other day.

One-third of the exercisers said they had started exercising for enjoyment. Twenty-seven percent said they did it to improve their health, and 21 percent said they wanted to lose weight.

Despite the recent popularity of road races and other recreational competition, racing was not a concern for most of those in the survey.

Respondents in the Media General-Associated Press poll included a random, scientific sampling of 1,402 adults across the country May 1-7.

For a poll based on about 1,400 interviews, the results are subject to an error margin of 3 percentage points either way because of chance variations in the sample.

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