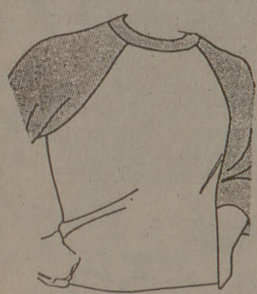


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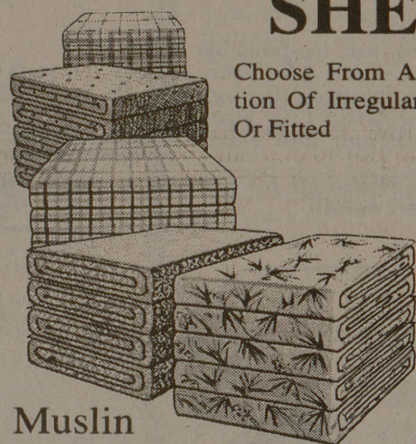
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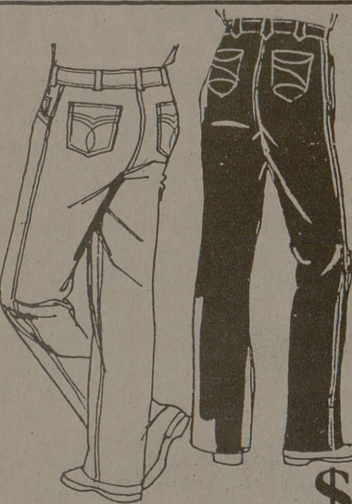
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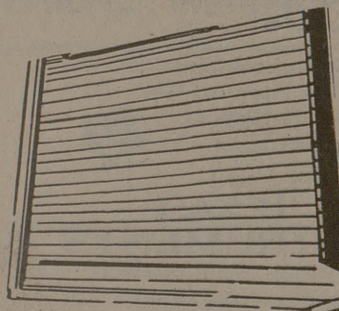
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## U.S. sees decline in poverty, increase in income in 1984

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States experienced its first significant decline in poverty in nearly a decade last year, as the improving economy helped 1.8 million Americans climb above the poverty level, the government said Tuesday.

"There was a very significant increase in income and decrease in poverty in 1984," said Gordon W. Green Jr., who is in charge of socioeconomic statistics for the Census Bureau.

Green said the national poverty rate declined nearly one percentage point to 14.4 percent, or 33.7 million people living below the poverty line. The poverty rate in 1983 was 15.3 percent, or 35.5 million people.

The poverty threshold for an urban family of four was \$10,609 last year, up from \$10,178 a year earlier. The rate is slightly lower for rural families.

The drop in poverty had been widely anticipated, and even critics of the Reagan administration had expected a significant improvement.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors said in a statement that it was pleased the report "shows some progress in some areas." But it added that poverty "continues at an unacceptably high rate."

Although there were small de-

clines in poverty in 1977 and 1978 — before the sharp increases of the last few years began — the last significant drop came between 1975 and 1976 when poverty dropped from 12.3 percent to 11.8 percent, according to bureau records.

At the same time the poverty rate was falling, median family income was growing by 3.3 percent to \$26,430 last year. That was the second annual increase, following some years of declining real income in the face of inflation and recession.

That income figure is nearly the same as the median family income of \$26,480 reported for 1975, but Green cautioned against defining this as a stagnant income level.

Although the constant dollar figure is similar, he said, there have been significant changes in families over the same period. The result is more families headed by females without husbands, and more single people living alone, meaning that families are smaller on average, with fewer people sharing the same amount of money.

Other major findings in the new report included:  
• The poverty rate among people 65 years and over dropped sharply, falling 1.8 percentage points to 12.4 percent last year. Increases in Social

Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits may have counted for this, Green said.

• Among children under 18, the poverty rate declined from 22.2 percent in 1983 to 21.3 percent last year. The rate among white children fell 17.5 percent to 16.5 percent, but was unchanged for blacks at 28 percent.

• The overall poverty rate for whites dropped from 12.2 percent in 1983 to 11.5 percent, while it fell from 17.2 percent to 13.8 percent for blacks. Among Hispanics, the rate was unchanged at about 28 percent.

• Two-earner families — 42 percent of all families — had a median income of \$31,710, compared with \$20,290 for one-earner families.

• The poverty rate declined in the South and the West, which were no significant changes in the Northeast and Midwest.

The rate for the South in 1984 was 16.2 percent, compared with 17.2 percent in 1983. For the West, it was 13.1 percent in 1984, down from 14.7 percent.

The Northeast had a 13.2 percent poverty rate in 1984, compared with 13.4 percent in 1983 and the Midwest had 14.1 percent last year, compared with 14.6 percent in 1983.

## Three arrested for cafe massacre

Associated Press

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — Three leftist guerrillas suspected of participating in a cafe massacre in which four U.S. Marines were killed are dead, President Jose Napoleon Duarte said Tuesday.

A government conference, Duarte read a letter he sent to President Reagan advising him of the arrests.

Duarte and members of the military high command, who flanked the president at the news conference at the executive mansion, refused to say when, where or how the three were captured.

A government communique later identified those arrested and the suspect killed as members of the Central American Revolutionary Workers' Party, known by its Span-

ish initials as the PRTC. It is the smallest of five guerrilla groups in the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front coalition that is battling the U.S.-backed government.

Duarte's letter to Reagan praised the U.S. government for providing "efficient and disinterested aid" to Salvadoran authorities in tracking down the suspects and making the arrests. American help included the cooperation of the FBI.

Gen. Adolfo Blandon, the chairman of the armed forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the arrests had not been made when U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger announced last month that those responsible for the cafe massacres had been killed or captured.

Blandon called the arrests "a strong blow to terrorist organizations" and said more arrests would

follow. He said other guerrillas took part in the June 19 killing of 13 people at two sidewalk cafes in San Salvador have been identified and are being sought.

Among the 13 slain by the guerrillas were four U.S. Marines and four Marine guards at the U.S. Navy base who were off duty and American businessmen who were working for a computer company.

The Marines were identified by the Pentagon as Sgt. Thomas Handwork, 24, of Beavercreek, Ohio; Cpl. Gregory H. Weber, 23, Cincinnati; Sgt. Bobby J. Dier, 27, of Tuscaloosa, Ala.; and Patrick R. Kwiatkowski, 20, of Kansas, Wis.

The American businessmen were George Viney, 48, of Miami, Fla.; Robert Alvidrez, 47, of Lexington, Mass.

## Detroit school district averts teachers' strike

Associated Press

School district and union negotiators in Detroit agreed to a tentative contract Monday, averting a strike by 11,500 teachers in a system with 292,000 students.

Students pondered the possibility of extended vacations in Philadelphia and Chicago, where teachers had no contracts in place for the coming year.

eight-hour bargaining session Sunday failed to end the city's first teacher strike.

The district's acting superintendent, S. Paul Wright, said classes for the city's 1,860 students would start two hours late with substitute teachers at the blackboards.

Gabriel said economic issues prompted the strike, which began Friday.

John Elliott, president of the Detroit Federation of Teachers, said he expected his members to ratify a proposed two-year pact calling for a 10 percent pay raise the first year and a 5.5 percent boost the second year.

In Philadelphia, where classes for 194,000 pupils are scheduled to begin Sept. 5, teachers are seeking pay increases of 18 percent over three years. The district has offered raises of 14 percent, but in return wants more control over teachers.

Peter Gabriel, president of the Girard Education Association, said teachers in Girard, Ohio returned to the picket lines Monday after an

In Chicago, the teachers' union has vowed to strike Sept. 3, one day before the start of classes, if there is no agreement then.

## Monument to honor Knievel jump

Associated Press

TWIN FALLS, Idaho — Robert "Evel" Knievel, the daredevil who tried to jump the Snake River Canyon 11 years ago, will return to the scene of that epic on Sept. 9.

Mike Dolton, manager of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce, said Monday that Knievel says he plans to attend the dedication of a marker in honor of the jump attempt across the canyon.

"He told me he is making the transition from his former daredevil role to that of an artist and he will bring some of his paintings along," Dolton said.

The chamber will place a 3,000-pound granite marker on the Perrine Memorial Bridge

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