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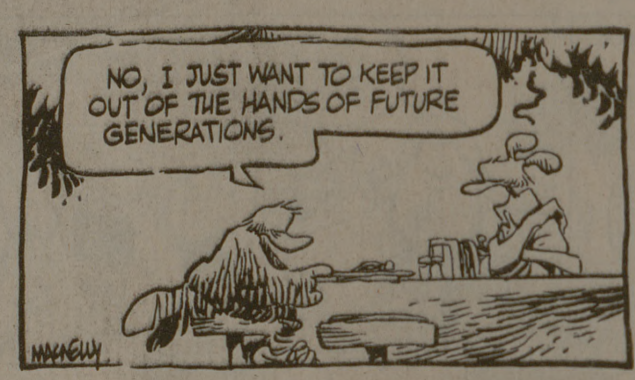
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WORLD AND NATION

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Titanic discoverer planning for closer look next summer

Associated Press
WOODS HOLE, Mass.—The chief scientist whose expedition found the Titanic said Wednesday he plans to return to the site, possibly next summer, and inspect the wreckage close up in a small manned submarine.
Dr. Robert Ballard, a geologist, also said a remotely controlled camera yielded vivid color pictures Wednesday of wine bottles, undamaged plates and a small flagpole on the bow "still standing there totally pristine" on the upright ship, 2½ miles below the surface of the Atlantic Ocean.
Ballard told associates at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on Tuesday that an unmanned submersible was doing only preliminary exploration of the ocean liner.
"It's a very dangerous operation," he said. "We're leery of all the rigging."
Ballard plans to examine the ship

later from the Alvin, a three-man, deep-water research submarine.
"What we're doing now is the hardest part," Ballard said. "Going in on it with Alvin will be a very, very nice thing."
Dr. Robert Spindel, head of the engineering department at the institution, said the Alvin could not be sent to the Titanic before next summer because it already is promised to other projects and is scheduled for overhaul.
The Titanic was the most luxurious liner of its time and was thought to be unsinkable, but an iceberg cut a 300-foot gash in its side on its maiden voyage April 14, 1912. About 700 people escaped by lifeboat, but 1,513 others drowned.
Of videotapes done Wednesday, Ballard said: "About 10 minutes ago we saw beautiful color pictures of cases and cases of wine bottles, to-

tally undamaged plates, all sorts of other material that did not break up, whereas other parts of the ship were damaged."
Ballard would not give the exact location or depth of the liner, which was found Sunday.
"I would like to keep that confidential, as others are talking about coming out here and dredging or dragging and damaging it," Ballard said. "The Titanic is in beautiful condition and we don't want anyone to come out and maul it."
It is believed that items from the ship would fetch high prices from collectors, but Ballard has said any attempt to salvage the wreck would be "silly." He said it would desecrate a gravesite.
Woods Hole officials have said the primary purpose of the dive was not to find the Titanic but to do engineering tests on the Argo.

Unsolved case linked to 'Night Stalker'

Associated Press
LOS ANGELES—Fingerprints found in the apartment of an elderly woman killed 15 months ago match those of Richard Ramirez, the man accused of being the "Night Stalker" linked to at least 14 slayings this year, police said Wednesday.
Police Chief Daryl Gates said police are reviewing all unsolved homicides, burglaries, kidnappings and molestations since 1981 to determine any link to the recent six-month string of serial killings that have terrorized California.

Investigators are "looking back on all of our homicides that had strange circumstances," Gates said.
He refused to elaborate, but investigators have said that drawings of inverted five-pointed stars, a satanic symbol known as a pentagram, were found at several crime scenes.
Court documents filed by investigators claim that Ramirez, 25, was obsessed with satanism and the pentagram symbol.
On June 28, 1984, Jennie Vincow, 79, was found slain in her northeast Los Angeles apartment, Gates said.

Her throat had been slashed and she had several other knife wounds.
Investigators have blamed at least 14 killings and 21 other attacks on the Night Stalker.
Guns, knives and other weapons were used, and some victims had been mutilated and tortured.
The killer may also have kidnapped and molested four children, detectives have said.
Ramirez was charged Tuesday with one of the serial murders and seven other felony burglaries, robbery and sexual assault counts.

He declined to enter a plea immediately during his arraignment.
Meanwhile, police cadets saw a section of northeast Los Angeles for a gun believed dropped by Ramirez found three items beside the way, said sheriff's Deputy Lyndamonds.
She refused to identify them.
"Until the task force has a date to examine them, we can't say they are linked to the Night Stalker or say what they are," Edmondson said.

Hurricane Elena's aftereffects felt

Associated Press
The dying stages of Hurricane Elena dumped more than 8½ inches of rain on Arkansas on Wednesday, while the East Coast and Texas sweltered in temperatures above 90 degrees, with record highs set in two eastern cities.
A woman drowned Wednesday after her car was swept off a low-water bridge by the surging waters of a storm-swollen creek in Mountain

Home, Ark., authorities said.
Mountain Home received 8.95 inches of rain, causing flooding and forcing about 10 families from their homes. The evacuees were allowed to return home by afternoon.
Showers and thunderstorms also were scattered from central South Dakota into southwest Minnesota and from Michigan across the lower Great Lakes. Thunderstorms were

reported along Florida's east coast.
Temperatures were unseasonably warm over much of the central Atlantic Coast, with temperatures in the 90s scattered from southern New England to the South Carolina coast by early afternoon.
Temperatures around the nation at 3 p.m. EDT ranged from 55 degrees at Bellingham, Wash., to 101 degrees at Hobart, Okla.

Bomb wounds diplomat, kills 14

Associated Press
BEIRUT, Lebanon—A car bomb exploded on Wednesday at a vegetable market in Zahle, a Christian enclave in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley, killing 14 people and wounding 46.
Israeli warplanes attacked a Palestinian guerrilla base about six miles southwest of Zahle three hours later, in their 11th raid inside Lebanon this year.
The Tel Aviv military command said the base at Qabb Elias was a key

post of the Palestinian Arab Revolutionary Committee, a Libyan-backed group.
Lebanese Civil Defense officials said a Chinese diplomat from Peking's embassy in Amman, Jordan, in Lebanon on a business trip, was among the wounded in the car-bombing. They identified him as Zhang Tiejian, an attaché, but did not disclose his condition. He was injured when his diplomatic car was hit.
In south Beirut, Shiite Moslem

militiamen and Palestinian guerrillas battled around a refugee camp. Police said five civilians were killed, including two Shiite children, and 27 were wounded.
The Zahle car bomb was the sixth in Lebanon since Aug. 14. At least 140 people were killed and 250 were wounded by the five earlier explosions in Christian and Moslem areas.
Police said the bomb, estimated at 330 pounds of TNT, was rigged in a Renault sedan. The blast tore a 3-foot-deep hole in the street.

History today

Associated Press
Today is Thursday, Sept. 5, 248th day of 1985. There are 260 days left in the year.
Today's highlight in history: On September 5, 1972, Israeli athletes and the five terrorists who had taken them hostage were killed in a shooting with West German police during the Munich Olympics.
On this date:
In 1698 Russia's Peter the Great imposed a tax on beards.
In 1774, the first Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia.
In 1836, Sam Houston was elected president of the Republic of Texas.
In 1882, the nation's first Labor Day parade was held in New York.
In 1905, the Treaty of Portsmouth ending the Russo-Japanese War was signed in New Hampshire, President Theodore Roosevelt having mediated the settlement.
In 1939, the United States proclaimed its neutrality in World War II.

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