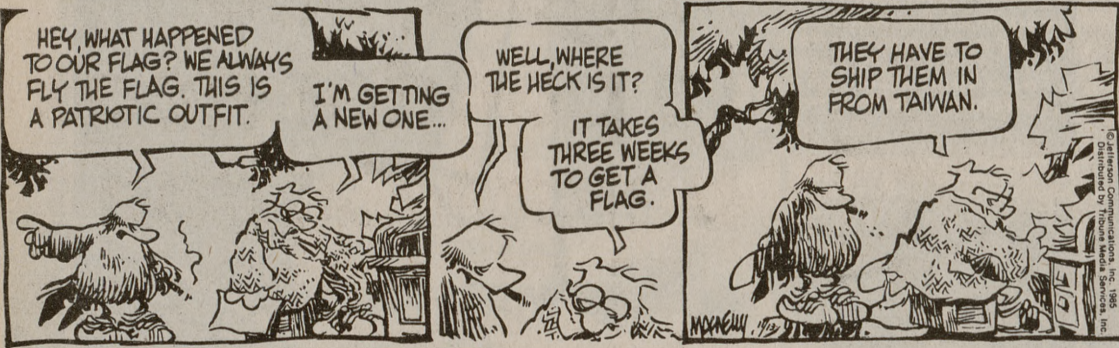


# World and Nation

SHOE

by Jeff MacNelly



## Car bomb in Lebanon kills 4, injures 26 at monastery

Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — A suicide bomber crashed a pickup truck loaded with explosives into a monastery where six senior Christian politicians were meeting Tuesday. The bomber, two army guards and a woman were killed and 26 other people were injured, police said. They said a 2½-foot-thick stone wall shielded the politicians from the main force of the blast, which gouged out a 20-foot-wide crater. Three bombs exploded overnight in various parts of Moslem west Beirut, killing four civilians and wounding eight, police reported earlier in the day. The meeting in the Christian suburb of Aukar in east Beirut was to discuss opposition to a draft Syrian-sponsored armistice agreement

reached last month by Lebanon's three strongest militias in an effort to end the 10-year-old civil war. The six politicians gathered at the monastery belonging to the Lebanese Front, a Christian political coalition which was excluded from the negotiations. An anonymous caller claiming to speak for the previously unknown "Vanguard of Arab Christians" told a Western news agency in Beirut: "We have staged this bombing and we shall carry out more sacrifices." Speaking in Lebanese-accented Arabic, the caller accused Christian leaders of seeking to align Lebanon's Christian community with Israel and said "This (the bombing) is the end of everyone who is in Israel's lap." All six senior members of the Lebanese Front were injured, but only one, former Defense Minister

George Skaff, 55, was hurt seriously, police said. They said those slightly hurt included former President Camille Chamoun, 85, and his son, Dany, 51, leader of the National Liberal Party. Others wounded included bodyguards, passersby and four soldiers, police said. In the attack on the Christian leaders, the driver of the red and blue Dodge pickup was blown to pieces in the explosion. Police said all they could find was a toe. Officers said the pickup truck carried 660 pounds of explosives. The Lebanese Forces, a Christian militia once allied with Israel, called for a 24-hour general strike Wednesday in all Christian areas to protest what a militia communiqué called "this criminal attempt to get rid of historical leaders" of Lebanon.

## At least 17 dead, dozens stranded after onslaught of winter storms

Associated Press

Up to two feet of snow fell Tuesday over northern Arizona and Utah as a storm turned eastward after piling up huge drifts in the Sierra Nevada, stranding hunters and hikers and breaking records for cold temperatures. At least 17 deaths had been blamed on a series of winter-like storms since last week, but most hikers and hunters reported missing in Northern California had been found as of Tuesday. Trucks slid off roads and power lines fell in Utah, and schools were closed in northern Arizona. "We're projecting significant winter weather across the mountains at fairly low elevations for this early in the season, and significant snow should remain over the mountains"

into today, Jack Hales of the National Severe Storms Forecast Center in Kansas City, Mo., said early Tuesday. Winnemucca, Nev., posted a record low of 8 degrees below zero Tuesday, and Yakima, Wash., had a record low of 7 degrees. Eureka, Calif., on the northern coast, had a record low of 31 for the second day in a row. The heaviest snow Tuesday moved into northern Arizona and Utah. Ten inches of snow fell during the night in northern Utah at the Alta ski resort. In northern Arizona the city of Flagstaff, at an elevation of about 7,000 feet, got 10 inches in five hours. Grand Canyon had 14 inches and 24 inches of snow was on the ground at Jacob Lake, on the

sparingly populated Kaibab Plateau between the Grand Canyon and the Utah border. One woman was found dead Tuesday in a pickup, apparently a victim of carbon monoxide poisoning as the engine was kept running for heat, said Yakima County emergency service spokeswoman Karen Dean. "It's probably going to take all week to get everybody out," said Jack Bartley, Yakima County search and rescue coordinator, adding that 50 to 75 had walked to safety by early Tuesday and National Guard helicopters rescued 31 Monday. In Northern California's mountain counties, at least 45 people including campers, hikers, hunters and others had been led to safety as of Tuesday by sheriff's deputies and rescue ski patrols, said Erik Holst, a forest spokesman.

## Airlines lower fares to promote holiday travel

Associated Press

FORT WORTH — Three of the biggest U.S. airlines have announced Thanksgiving fare cuts of up to 85 percent to lure impulse travelers who otherwise would stay home during the four-day holiday. The first to offer the reduced fares was American Airlines, which was quickly followed by United and Delta. Mike W. Gunn, American's senior vice president for passenger marketing, on Monday said a 48-hour Thanksgiving special on the nation's second largest carrier applies on flights from Thanksgiving day through noon Nov. 30. One-way coach fares will cost \$29 for trips of 500 miles or less, \$49 for flights of 501 to 1,500 miles, and \$79 for flights of more than 1,500 miles. In response, Chuck Novak, a spokesman for No. 1 United Airlines, said United will match American in the markets in which it competes with American.

"Traditionally in the Thanksgiving holiday period, we have always been very light. The planes will be going anyway, the crews will be going anyway. This is just an opportunity to put the two together." — Mike Gunn, American Airlines

Delta Air Lines announced later in a press statement that it would cut fares on flights to 100 U.S. cities by 70 percent in the Thanksgiving period, and then added that the same fares would be offered for the three days after Christmas. Northwest, Continental and Braniff airlines said they had no immediate comment on the fare reductions. But Russell Marchetta, spokesman for People Express Airlines Inc., said the no-frills carrier had no plans to match the offers. "Most Thanksgiving travelers already have made plans for Wednesday through Sunday," Marchetta

said. "We don't see this as hurting our flights." Some airline-industry analysts saw the fare reduction as part of a pricing strategy in which carriers offer discounts during specific dates when they know passenger traffic will be light. "It's really not a gimmick. It's an effort to induce people to fly," said Timothy P. Petee of L.F. Rothschild, Unterberg, Towbin, a New York investment firm. "It's something the airline industry has latched onto in the last year or so, looking at their forward bookings and seeing where the weak spots are."

## Man claiming to be Hudson's lover files suit

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A man who says he was Rock Hudson's lover in the last years of the actor's life filed a \$14 million lawsuit Tuesday, claiming Hudson repeatedly had sex with him while concealing the fact he had AIDS. "He asked Rock, and Rock denied he had it," attorney Marvin Mitchelson told a news conference as 31-year-old plaintiff Marc Christian sat by silently. The suit alleges bodily injury, mental suffering and damages for fraud and deceit against executor Wallace Sheft, secretary Mark Miller and an unspecified number of doctors.

It seeks \$10 million from the estate plus \$1 million each from Sheft, Miller and two of the doctors, saying they all conspired to hide the actor's affliction from Christian. A woman who identified herself as a secretary in Sheft's New York City office said he was gone for the day Tuesday. Dale Olson, who had been Hudson's spokesman before the actor died Oct. 2, said he would relay a request for comment to Miller about the Superior Court lawsuit. Mitchelson said Christian lived with Hudson for 2½ years and was flown to Paris for AIDS testing last summer while the dying 59-year-old actor was hospitalized there. But Mitchelson's suit says: "It is probable that claimant has contracted AIDS from Hudson." Mitchelson, who said Christian has love letters from Hudson which would be brought to court as evidence of their relationship, said the actor insisted to Christian that he was suffering from anorexia and purposely trying to lose weight but was not suffering from acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

"This is the most unpleasant lawsuit I've ever been involved in," said the celebrity attorney. "There's nothing glamorous about it. It's a tragedy." Hudson died at home Oct. 2 of complications from AIDS. The attorney called the suit the first in the nation to deal with the subject of AIDS. The key issue, he said, is whether Hudson's doctors had a duty to tell Christian he was being exposed to the disease by engaging in sex. "Certainly, they have a duty not to hide it," said Mitchelson. He didn't name the doctors accused in the lawsuit. The lawsuit said Hudson learned of his affliction in June 1984, but Mitchelson said the actor continued to have sex with Christian through February 1985.

Gunn said the special fares apply anywhere in American's system covering the 48 continental states and must be bought on a round-trip basis within three days of making a reservation. Reservations must be made by Nov. 26. "Traditionally in the Thanksgiving holiday period, we have always been very light," Gunn said. "The planes will be going anyway. This is just an opportunity to put the two together." Gunn did not specify how many Thanksgiving bookings American has for its holiday-period schedule of 1,200 flights a day, but said most travelers normally fly on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and return on Sunday. "We really think with this level of discount, we're playing to the impulse market," Gunn said. "We see it as an opportunity. We're appealing to the people who said, 'Gee, I really can't afford to go.'"

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