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WANTED:

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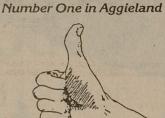
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The Battalion



U.S. military adviser, 43 soldiers

killed in base raid in El Salvado EL PARAISO, El Salvador (AP) — Guerrillas raided a major army base before dawn Tuesday,

old civil war. El Salvador's military commander said the American, identified as Staff Sgt. Gregory A. Fronius, 27, of Greensburg, Pa., was killed by mortar fire near a command post.

killing at least 43 soldiers and a U.S. military ad-

viser, the first to die during battle in the 7-year-

The military said 35 soldiers were wounded by leftist rebels who assaulted the base behind a barrage of cannon, mortar and grenade fire. Base commander Col. Gilberto Rubio, who was slightly wounded, said the number of attackers had not been determined.

Officials said seven guerrillas died in the attack on the 4th Infantry Brigade garrison at El Paraiso in Chalatenango province, a rebel stronghold, and some penetrated the camp. El Paraiso

is nearly 40 miles north of San Salvador, capital of this Central American country.

Gen. Adolfo Blandon, chief of the armed forces, said, "Because of the seriousness of the injuries, the number of dead (soldiers) may increase." He visited the base to assess the situation. Soldiers on the scene estimated government

casualties at about 65 dead and more than 100 According to U.S. policy, American advisers do not participate in offensive military action or

enter areas where combat is occurring or likely, but may visit "carefully selected and secure sites" such as garrisons. They are armed and may re-

spond if fired upon. The United States has a self-imposed ceiling of 55 on the number of advisers serving in El Salvador at one time, but sometimes fewer are on

Tuesday's rebel attack was the largest June 1986 guerrilla assault on the armyb San Miguel, 86 miles east of San Salvador military said 50 soldiers were killed or wo

there, but the rebels claimed a total of 250. U.S. Embassy spokesman Pen Agnews:
nius was training Salvadoran troops at the I

Blandon said the rebels began firing mo grenade launchers and a 90mm can aiming at the command post, barracks and cers' mess. He said 250 soldiers were at the

Most of the dead and wounded were barracks and "there may have been infil because some of the bodies of the terrors found inside the barracks," Blandon said

The command post, a barracks and and mess were destroyed and other building aged. Reporters saw at least three destroyed

Japanese official says retaliation possible if U.S. imposes penalties

TOKYO (AP) — Anti-American sentiment among Japanese citizens will grow if the United States goes ahead with penalty duties on up to \$300 million worth of Japanese electronic goods, a senior government official said Tuesday.

"The atmosphere in Japan against the Americans would become — not so good," said Noburo Hatakeyama, director general of the International Trade Administration Bureau.

"They would think the United States is emotional and illogical," he

Hatakeyama repeated warnings from other Japanese officials that Ja-pan would consider retaliation if its negotiators cannot dissuade the United States from going ahead with the penalty duties. But he did not offer any details on what form the retaliation might take.

derstand the true situation. And we can retaliate after that if necessary."

U.S. penalty duties because it is doing nothing wrong, Hatakeyama

"If we offer any concessions, then that suggests we acknowledge hav-ing violated the agreement," he said. "But in this case we've done nothing wrong, so there is nothing we can

The Reagan administration said last week it plans to impose prohibitive tariffs on a range of Japanese electronic goods in mid-April to force Japan into compliance with an accord on semiconductors.

"We might get tough," he told a Japan agreed last year to open its group of foreign journalists. "What home market to U.S.-made chips

is important is to ask them to with-draw the duties and ask them to un-eign markets at unfair low prices.

Trade concerns caused in part by the semiconductor dispute caused Although Japan is striving to cut its huge trade surplus, it cannot make any concessions on semiconductor trade to fend off the planned to fend of had been its lowest point since modern exchange rates were set in the

The steep fall of the dollar, al-though it should help shrink trade imbalances, has raised fears of recession in Japan and inflation and higher interest rates in the United

Prices on the Tokyo stock market dipped again Tuesday in reaction to dollar jitters.

Hatakeyama said the duties on electronic products, scheduled to take effect in two weeks, would have minimal financial impact, but "the psychological impact would be very big."

Wall Street comes ba from drop

NEW YORK (AP) -Street recovered Tuesday the drubbing it received in lysts differed on the signifi of the rally.

The Dow Jones average industrials rose 26.28 points

Volume on the New Stock Exchange totaled million shares, against million the previous session Advancers outpaced d

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by a 7-to-4 margin, with sues up, 563 down and such anged. Despite differences over gain, analysts said the m

looks healthy for the long ten

Kidnappers report hostage's health deteriorating rapidly, demand swap

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Moslem kidnappers said Tuesday that the health of hostage Alann Steen was "deteriorating day by day" and renewed a demand to swap him, two other Americans and an Indian for 400 Arabs in Israeli jails.

"Steen's death will not alter the demand for the release of 400 prisoners," the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine said in a handwritten Arabic statement delivered to the offices of the Beirut indepen-

Turner, said the captives "have been cause of high blood pressure.

committed for investigation into

"All indications suggest that we shall reckon with them and punish them as long as the American administration and the Zionist enemy are not responsive," it said.

The statement said the health of Steen, 47, of Boston was "deteriorating day by day despite continuous medication."

The group had released a videodent newspaper An-Nahar.

The statement, accompanied by a photograph of U.S. hostage Jesse taped message last Thursday in which Turner said Steen had difficulty in breathing and was dying be-

Steen had fallen ill in captivity and would die within 10 days. In that statement, however, the group of-ferred to free him if Israel releases 100 Arab prisoners.

The group demanded the release of 400 Arab prisoners on Jan. 24, when gunmen disguised as Lebanese riot policemen abducted the four educators from the campus of Beirut University College.

But two weeks later it withdrew the offer, claiming U.S. and Israeli

pressure Israel into a trade. Turner, 39, is from Boise,

The other two hostages are Polhill, 53, of New York (in Mithileshwar Singh, 60, 21 India and legal resident alies United States

An employee at An-Naha the photograph showed a bea bespectacled Turner weam camera flashbulb. The han Israel had announced it would not statements by the shadowy

Reagan optimistic about economic gauge

government's main gauge of future economic activity rose 0.7 percent in February, prompting renewed optimism from the Reagan administration about economic prospects later this year.

However, many private economists said the Index of Leading Indicators was overstating economic strength. They said the long-awaited rebound in growth will be a modest

in February followed a revised 0.5 percent January decline and was the best showing since a 2.4 percent surge in December.

At the White House, presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said the February gain was a good sign that the economy "appears to be back on track after a brief pause the first month of the year."

Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige said the index has risen at a

the past six months, supporting the administration's hopes for faster growth this year.

"Based on past relationships, that gain is consistent with stepped-up growth in real gross national prod-uct during the first half of 1987," Baldrige said.

In another economic report released Tuesday, the Commerce De-

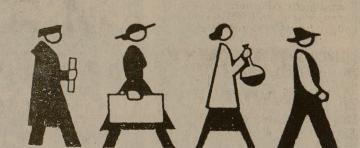
factories for manufacture boosted by a surge in der military hardware, rose 4.8 in February, the best showi months.

Economists said the ord

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The increase put Februar at \$194.6 billion.

vance and the jump in the index were both signs the will continue growing this ye