

Battalion Classifieds

World and Nation

U.N. council asks Israel to stop deportation of nine Palestinians

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Security Council voted unanimously Tuesday to ask Israel not to deport

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Palestinians from the occupied territories. It marked the first time the United States voted against Israel in the council since 1981.

The United States is Israel's main defender at the United Nations and usually wields its veto power on behalf of the Jewish state.

But Israel's crackdown on riots in the occupied territories has provoked strong criticism in the United States. On Dec. 22, the United States

rebuked Israel by abstaining from a Security Council vote condemning the crackdown.

On Tuesday it joined the other 14 members of the council in calling on Israel not to deport nine Palestinian activists.

Israel has defended the expulsions as necessary to prevent more unrest in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which it captured from Egypt and Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war. Since rioting broke Dec. 8, Israeli troops have fatally shot at least 24 Palestinians.

The latest person died Tuesday, when Israeli soldiers in the Gaza

Strip open fire to disperse hundreds of rioters on a march from the home of one of the nine deportees.

Israeli Ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu told the Security Council all nine Palestinians scheduled to be deported are instigators of unrest and affiliated with terrorist groups.

He said the council was playing a "rigged game."

"We've never had a Security Council convene to condemn the murder of a Jew," he said. "Not once."

The council met Tuesday evening at the request of Jordan, Israel's neighbor.

Shaker Arabiat, a Jordanian representative to the United Nations, defended the nine Palestinians.

"They cannot be deported to their own land," Arabiat said. "At least four of the Palestinians are appealing the deportation order, which was issued Sunday."

The resolution also says the deportations would violate the 1948 Geneva Conventions, which prohibit any forcible transfers or deportations of protected civilians from occupied territories.

The United States has called publicly on Israel to refrain from the deportations.

Crews try to supply water for residents after oil spill

PITTSBURGH (AP) — School closed for 20,000 pupils and 15,000 suburban residents were without water Tuesday while crews scrambled to jury-rig water supplies three days after a million-gallon oil spill on the Monongahela River.

"This is a nightmare come true," said Joyce May, nursing home owner. Joyce May as she moved 37 elderly patients out of a steam-heated building where the Robinson Township Municipal Authority was forced to cut off water.

"It's terrible," she said as the patients were led to an adjacent gas-heated building. "We've had to wash down some of the elderly patients with cold water, and it's terrible."

The Robinson Township authority, with only a 24-hour water reserve, closed its Ohio River water intake Sunday, a day after an Ashland Oil Co. diesel fuel tank collapsed. Ashland said 3.5 million gallons of the smelly oil gushed from the broken tank upstream from Pittsburgh and an estimated one million gallons flowed over a dike.

Meanwhile, the head of Ashland Oil acknowledged Tuesday that the crumpled tank was built without written permits and did not undergo standard tests, but he said there was

"This is a nightmare come true. It's terrible. We've had to wash down some of the elderly patients with cold water, and it's terrible."

Joyce May, nursing home owner

as yet no proof that those failures were the cause of the accident.

John Hall, Ashland chairman and chief executive officer, said he was sorry for the accident and the company would pay for cleanup and some related costs. The work is expected to cost millions of dollars.

"We're doing everything we know how to clean up the damage as rapidly as possible," Hall said. "I want to apologize to the people of the Pittsburgh area for the inconvenience they have suffered as the result of this incident."

The diesel oil flowed into the Monongahela, which joins with the Allegheny River in downtown Pittsburgh to form the Ohio River.

The Robinson Township authori-

ty's 15,000 customers were forced to lug buckets, tubs and jugs to locations where the National Guard, state and Allegheny County officials had placed water tanks.

Floating booms were placed on the Monongahela to stop the oil, but some oil escaped and floated down the Ohio River past East Liverpool, Ohio. That city closed its Ohio River water intakes when oil was detected Tuesday and began using a 36-hour reserve supply for 30,000 residents.

At a news conference, Hall said the cause of the tank collapse was unknown. Battelle Institute of Columbus, Ohio, had been hired to do an independent investigation.

"Construction of the tank was begun and completed on verbal communication with the authorities," Hall said. "I wish our people would have pursued the application more diligently. I do not know if we were in compliance with the law or not."

Under Pennsylvania law, construction of a tank holding fuel must be approved by the county's fire marshal's office. Officials in the office said that no written permit had been filed, and Allegheny County Fire Marshal Martin Jacobs said Tuesday that he knew of no verbal communication on the construction.

Processor issues recall on hams

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Pennsylvania meat processor has expanded a voluntary recall of products to include an estimated 3,000 boneless prosciutto hams suspected of being contaminated by salmonella, a food poisoning bacteria, the Agriculture Department said Tuesday.

The latest recall involves approximately 30,000 pounds of hams, each weighing about 10 pounds. On Dec. 30, the company, Citterio-U.S.A., Freeport, Pa., recalled 5,000 pounds of small salami, Sopressata Capagna, suspected of containing salmonella.

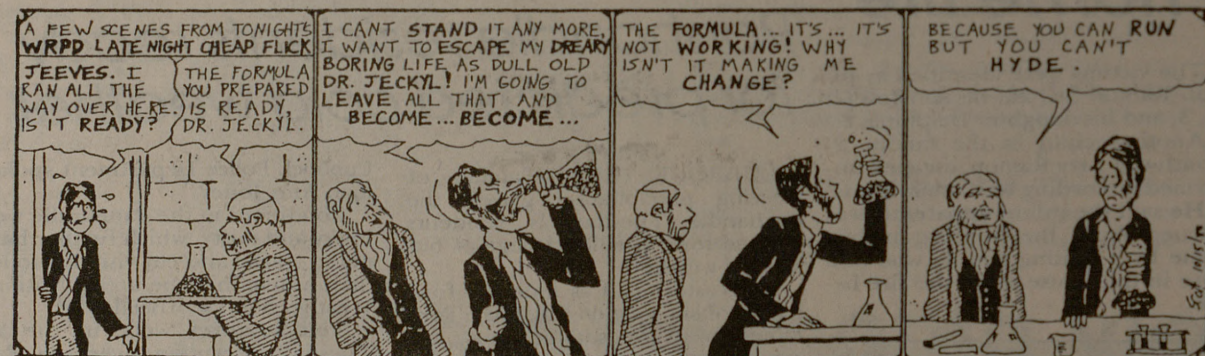
Lester M. Crawford, administrator of the department's Food Safety and Inspection Service, said the hams are foil wrapped and have a netting. Each is labeled Citterio Boneless Prosciutto, and "Est. 4010" appears inside the USDA inspection tag end.

The ham generally is bought by delicatessens from distributors, then sliced for the retail trade, he said.

Crawford said the ham is being recalled from 23 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Bermuda. The states are California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Wisconsin.

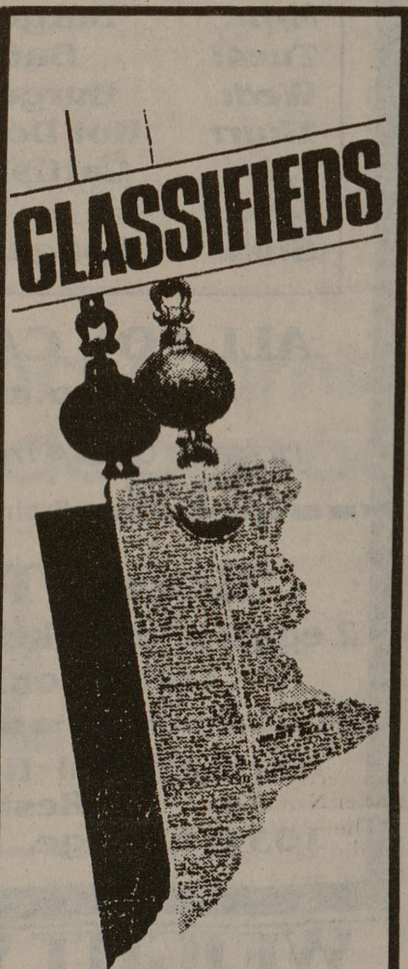
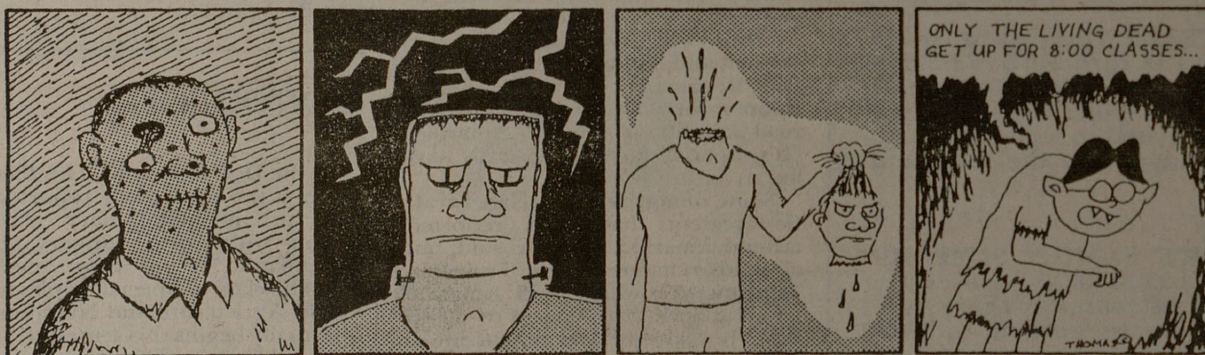
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