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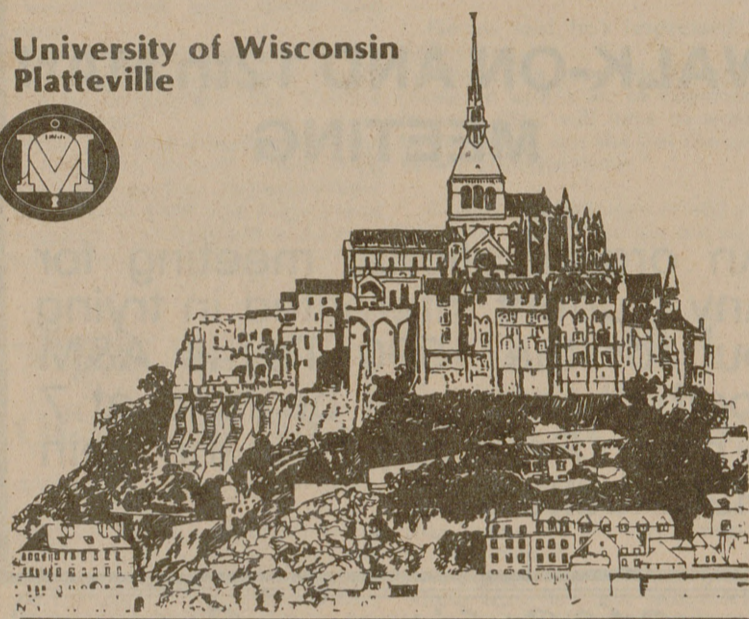
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WORLD & NATION

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Monday, February 19, 1990

Nicaraguan opposition holds pre-election rally

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Tens of thousands of opposition supporters waving blue-and-white flags gathered Sunday for their last rally before next week's elections to decide whether the leftist Sandinistas will remain in power.

Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, the presidential candidate of the 14-party United National Opposition, or UNO, is challenging President Daniel Ortega for a six-year term.

Chamorro is publisher of the opposition newspaper La Prensa and widow of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, a civic leader whose memory is revered by all sides of the Nicaraguan political spectrum.

She was scheduled to address the rally to end UNO's campaign. She promises economic recovery and a more conservative administration.

The Sandinistas hold their final rally in Managua on Wednesday.

The U.S.-backed UNO coalition is the strongest rival to the Sandinistas in the Feb. 25 general elections, but most public opinion polls show it lagging behind the ruling party.

Some 1.7 million Nicaraguans, nearly half of the

population of about 3.8 million, have registered to vote in the elections for president and vice president, National Assembly, 144 municipal councils and two regional councils on the remote Atlantic coast.

Public transportation in the greater Managua area was scarce or non-existent Sunday, perhaps in an attempt to diminish attendance at the UNO rally.

There were unconfirmed reports of authorities stopping an UNO caravan from leaving the northern town of Matagalpa on its way to Managua and of police barring trucks carrying UNO supporters from entering the capital.

Both complaints were broadcast on Radio Corporacion, one of 11 radio stations nationwide transmitting in tandem for the rally. The Sandinista government controls the majority of Nicaraguan radio stations.

However, dozens of trucks from outlying districts began arriving in Managua at dawn and continued to come in at mid-morning, jamming some of the main avenues.

Young women wearing UNO T-shirts clustered at street corners handing out the alliance's blue-and-white plastic flags to passing motorists.

Man killed by police at celebrations

BANJUL, Gambia (AP) — Police shot and killed an elderly man at independence celebrations Sunday attended by Britain's Princess Anne, Nigerian leader Ibrahim Babangida and one of President Bush's sons, witnesses said.

Senior security sources confirmed an unidentified man was killed but said he died when a gun accidentally discharged.

Witnesses said a police officer shot the man as he tried to get into the stadium where the celebrations of this West African nation's 25th anniversary of independence from Britain were held.

President Sir Dawda Jawara and his guests — who included the daughter of Britain's Queen Elizabeth, George Bush Jr. and the Nigerian leader — apparently were unaware of the shooting.

Zambian plane crashed Sunday

LUSAKA, Zambia (AP) — A Zambian air force transport plane crashed while trying to land at Lusaka's international airport, killing all 28 people aboard, the government said Sunday.

Defense Secretary Alex Shapi said the Canadian-built Buffalo transporter was on a routine flight from Mbala in northern Zambia late Saturday when it crashed, scattering wreckage over a wide area near the airport.

The dead were identified only as 14 air force personnel, 11 civilians, one army officer and two national service staff.

Shapi refused to speculate on the cause of the crash, saying an investigation would be conducted. Military planes routinely use the civil airport in Zambia.

India grounds planes during investigation

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — The government Sunday grounded all 13 Airbus-320s operating with state-owned Indian Airlines pending an investigation into a crash last week that killed 91 people, news reports said.

The 150-seat plane, the only passenger aircraft with fully computerized flight control capabilities, will be grounded until all aspects of its operation are investigated, the United News of India said, citing unidentified officials.

The news agency said pilots had criticized the use of the plane by Indian Airlines because its sophisticated technology required commensurate ground maintenance, which was not available in India.

On Wednesday, a 3-month-old Airbus-320 crashed while it was coming in to land at Bangalore airport, killing 91 of the 146 people on board.

The cause of Wednesday's crash remained a mystery. The weather was clear, and the pilot had not reported any emergency.

Salvadoran rebels attack substation, cut off electricity

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Leftist rebels attacked an electric substation, knocking out power briefly and injuring a guard, before they were repelled by army soldiers, the military said Sunday.

The skirmish Saturday night in the western part of the capital did not result in long or widespread power outages for the area, a statement issued by the military said.

No injuries to soldiers of the U.S.-supported government or rebels of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front were reported.

The last major rebel offensive occurred in November when more than 1,000 people were reported to be killed in fighting occurring in and around San Salvador.

In his Sunday homily, San Salvador's Roman Catholic archbishop, Arturo Rivera Damas, said that government policies and rebel attacks were causing great hardship to the nation and its people.

"The pain has been immense," he said. "The voice of our Lord resonating strongly on all horizons to say that violence brings about more violence, that only love can build a new world."

Child-sex tape in stolen VCR leads to arrest

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The discovery of a homemade child-sex tape in a stolen videocassette recorder led to the arrest of the VCR owner on charges of molesting a 9-year-old neighbor girl, authorities said Thursday.

Ward Rafay, 28, was arraigned Wednesday on nine counts of child molestation and one of possessing a kilogram of marijuana for sale, and was being held on \$50,000 bail.

Two weeks ago, Rafay told police that a VCR was stolen from his apartment in Downey, 10 miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles. Deputy District Attorney Dean Shotwell said the thief sold the VCR with the telltale tape inside.

The buyer recognized the girl on the tape and arranged through another party for the tape to be turned over to the girl's mother, he said. Authorities do not know the identities of the thief or the buyer.

Rafay was arrested hours after the enraged mother contacted police.

If convicted of all charges, Rafay faces up to 25 years in prison.

W. German minister hailed in E. Germany

HALLE, East Germany (AP) — After years of championing better East-West relations, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher of West Germany returned to his East German hometown to be hailed as the architect of unification.

The whirlwind events of the last few months have bolstered Genscher, one of the first to take Mikhail

flappable veteran diplomat whose protruding "elephant ears" have become his trademark.

Referring to Genscher's legendary globe-trotting, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze once joked that whenever two airliners cross paths over the Atlantic, "Genscher is on both of them."

While German unification itself would be his crowning achievement, Genscher's trip back home Friday to the decaying industrial city of Halle provided an emotional high point.

About 60,000 people crammed into the marketplace to give him a rousing hero's welcome, handing the 62-year-old diplomat flowers and chanting for him to stay with them.

While the outdoor event was a campaign rally for the East German counterpart of Genscher's Free Democrats, there was no doubt about the real star of the show.

A large banner on the town hall steps read "Halle Welcomes Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Architect of Unity."

"Genscher was the man who made all these developments toward German unity possible," Albrecht Klemenz, a 37-year-old physicist in Halle, said. "He worked for years to win trust and improve relations between the two blocs, and that was an important precondition."

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— Albrecht Klemenz, physicist

S. Gorbachev at his word when the Soviet leader promised reform.

Even occasional backbiting by U.S. and British officials failed to stop Genscher, an affable and un-

Thousands ignore protest ban

Crowd demands resignation of party leaders

MOSCOW (AP) — Thousands of people defied a ban on protests in Dushanbe, the violence-torn capital of Tadjikistan, to demand the resignation of the entire local Communist Party leadership, Soviet media said Thursday.

A crowd estimated at 8,000 also demanded jobs for tens of thousands of unemployed, better housing and an end to the sale of pork, which the largely Moslem population is forbidden to eat, the official news agency Tass reported.

Another demonstration outside the main government buildings attracted 2,000 to 5,000 people who chose a committee that recommended settling problems peacefully, Tass and other sources said.

Mansur Sultanov, deputy chairman of the Tadjik branch of Gostelradio, said by telephone there were no shootings or riots Thursday, but Tass said bands of armed militants roamed the streets.

The news agency said 18 people had been killed and 200 injured since the violence began Saturday night in Dushanbe, 1,600 miles southeast of Moscow near the

borders of China and Afghanistan. It said 57 soldiers were among the wounded.

A report of a bizarre incident said an Italian actor whose crime-fighting television show has been broadcast in the Soviet Union was caught in the violence Saturday night and found himself signing autographs when a tank that rescued him stopped at some burning buses.

Corriere Della Sera, an Italian newspaper, said Michele Placido of the television show "Piovra" arrived in Dushanbe on Saturday to make a movie about the war in Afghanistan.

It said one Soviet member of the film crew was killed and others were injured when a mob stormed their hotel and partially burned it.

Riots began when rumors spread that ethnic Armenians fleeing persecution in the Azerbaijan republic were being moved into Tadjikistan.

Mob involvement surrounds dispute of tape-recorded bribery allegations

CHICAGO (AP) — The city of Al Capone and feisty politics has been abuzz for a week over claims by a suspected crime boss that the mob bribed local politicians and even helped engineer Mayor Richard M. Daley's election last year.

Cook County Republican Party Chairman James Dvorak is at the uncomfortable center of the controversy over allegations he was paid thousands of mob dollars in bribes. He and others hit by the tape-recorded allegations, including his one-time boss, Sheriff James O'Grady, deny the claims.

There also are questions about why federal prosecutors would let explosive taped allegations against known officials be played in open court with no advance notice, little follow-up and, to date, no criminal charges filed.

The tapes dominated local news-casts and had wide play in Chicago's two largest daily newspapers, the Chicago Tribune and Chicago Sun-Times. Tribune columnist Mike Royko, though a longtime critic of politicians, said the feds' tactics were

unfair. "It seems to me that the federal prosecutors, out of fairness, should do something more than play a tape that causes a media uproar, then

"It seems to me that the federal prosecutors, out of fairness, should do something more than play a tape that causes a media uproar, then clam up."

— Mike Royko, columnist, the Chicago Tribune

clam up," wrote the Pulitzer Prize-winning commentator.

"It's great fun for the news business and for the political enemies of those mentioned on the tape," Royko wrote. "But I didn't know that the Justice Department believed

in trial by a jury of gossip column items."

Ira Raphaelson, acting U.S. attorney, declined to comment on the tapes' release.

The story began with a continuing federal probe into organized crime that yielded indictments of 20 people and allegations that they used murder, other violence and threats to run a gambling operation.

U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh jetted in to announce the busts in a Feb. 7 news conference, calling the operation one of the largest crackdowns ever on organized crime in Chicago.

That generated some interest, but nothing like the detention hearing two days later that sent politicians scrambling to clear their names.

At that hearing, prosecutors played a secretly recorded conversation of Rocco Infelise, a reputed mob gambling boss, in which he talked about payoffs to officials and about influencing the last Chicago mayoral race.

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