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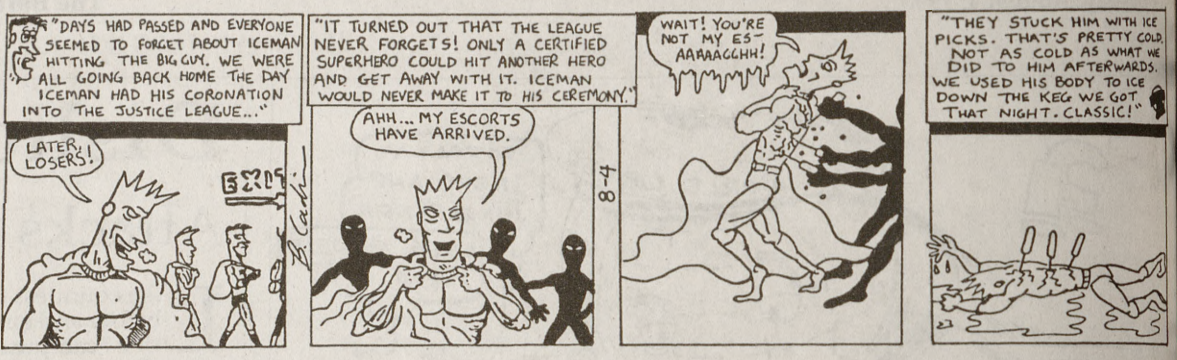
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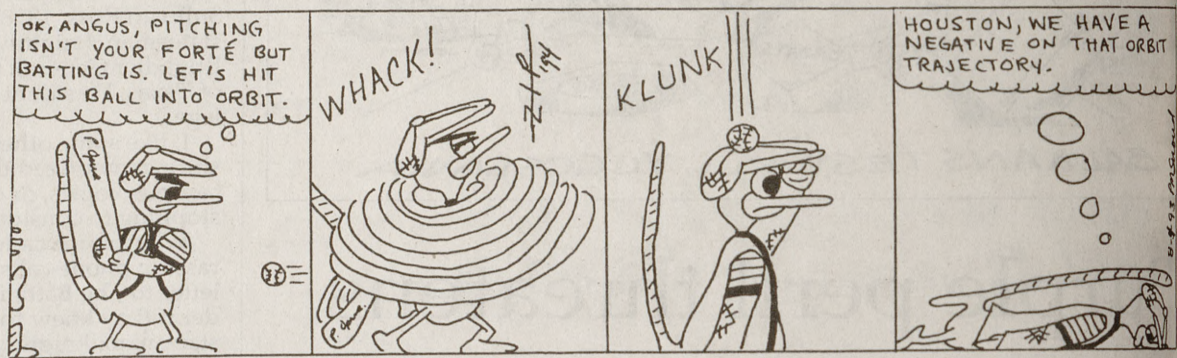
Tubes-THE LOST YEAR

By Boomer Cardinale



ANGUS THE SERIES

By Paul Stroud



NATO allies threaten to hit Bosnian Serbs with air strikes

Envoy stops Liberian relief shipments Private agencies threaten fragile peace, U.N. says

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRUSSELS, Belgium — After rebuffing Washington's first call to bomb Serbian targets, the NATO allies have gone along with a U.S. plan for limited air strikes against the Bosnian Serbs.

It remains unclear how quickly the NATO warplanes will be called in. Also unclear is who has authority to order the strikes.

The allies' decision to back the American initiative was attributed to attacks on peacekeepers and a worsening of conditions that could end in the defeat of the Bosnian government.

On Tuesday, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization ordered contingency plans drawn up for its first offensive military operation in its 44-year history.

The decision to go on the offensive marked a radical shift in the allies' position.

Last May, Secretary of State Warren Christopher was unable to persuade Washington's allies to support air strikes and end the U.N. weapons embargo on Bosnia that has hurt the outgunned Muslims most of all.

Britain, France and others with thousands of peacekeepers on the ground in Bosnia flatly refused to endanger their soldiers with an air operation.

After 12 hours of wrangling in Brussels, the holdouts changed their minds. Diplomats attributed the turnaround in part to the deteriorating conditions in Bosnia.

U.N. peacekeepers have become targets in the 16-month-old war. Gunners recently fired on French and Spanish peacekeepers, killing one Spaniard and wounding 17 others.

Diplomats said, the allies believed that a tough warning of air strikes could help force the warring Serbs, Croats and Muslims to reach a settlement at peace talks in Geneva.

The allies don't want the situation to get so bad that the Bosnian government will have no choice but to capitulate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MONROVIA, Liberia — The U.N. special envoy to Liberia has halted secret shipments of food to tens of thousands of starving people in rebel-held territory, a move relief groups say could cost thousands of lives.

The U.N. envoy, Trevor Gordon-Somers, asked the government of Ivory Coast on Monday to stop private relief agencies from traveling from that country into Liberian territory controlled by rebel leader Charles Taylor.

A copy of the letter obtained by The Associated Press said the aid shipments would endanger the precarious peace agreement signed a week ago by the warring factions in Liberia's civil war.

Gordon-Somers' New York office said he was on vacation and no one was authorized to speak on his behalf.

Relief groups said the move threatens more than 220,000 refugees living in the rain forest between the front lines of Taylor's rebels and their enemies: a Nigerian-led West African coalition army and two other Liberian factions.

"There are 25,000 children suffering from malnutrition in this area," said the Rev. Kenneth Vavrina, head of U.S. Catholic Relief Services in Liberia.

"This is a scandal. We're barely keeping the boat afloat," said Lucas Van Den Broeck, coordinator for Doctors Without Borders. "You are paying for the peace process with thousands of lives."

Both relief groups are contributing aid to convoys being run by Doctors Without Borders of Holland.

Vavrina said one-third of the 25,500 malnourished children just north of Kakata, which is at the front lines, are so malnourished that they will die within three weeks without help.

An estimated 500 children are dying weekly north of Kakata, said Paul Bonard, head of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Liberia.

Children are initially the most vulnerable to starvation, but relief workers said adults also are at risk. People are also dying from tropical diseases at a greater rate because of their weakened condition.

There are several other pockets of displaced people, many of them residents of Sierra Leone who fled into Liberia when rebels in Sierra Leone launched a rebellion in concert with Taylor's revolt.

Relief to people in Taylor's territory is a volatile political issue. The West African army has shot at and bombed relief groups trying to reach Taylor's territory, claiming the convoys were carrying arms.

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What's Up

Thursday

Al-Anon: is having a meeting from 12-1pm. For more information call CDPE: The Rainbow Center at 845-0280.

What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Items for What's Up should be submitted no later than three days before the desired run date. Application deadlines and notices are not events and will not run in What's Up. If you have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3313.

AUGUST GRADS

Join the 12th Man Foundation through the New Grad Program and receive a GIFT along with your first year's free membership. Membership includes west-stand seating at Aggie football games, a donor card, the Sports Hotline newsletter, a decal, and a lapel pin. For information, please stop by our table in the MSC, August 2,3,4,5,6,9,10, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. So remember, if you are a fan of Aggie athletics, get involved with the 12th Man Foundation. Gig 'em!

