



# THE BATTALION

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## Israel approves self-rule plan for Palestinians

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel's Cabinet approved a self-rule plan for Palestinians in the occupied territories Monday after Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said "the time has come" to take a chance for peace.

The approval by the 18-member Cabinet was the first significant sign of progress since the peace talks began 22 months ago. Sixteen ministers voted for the plan and two abstained.

The plan calls for autonomy to begin in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho within months. Months of detailed negotiations, however, will be needed to work out details of self-rule in those areas and elsewhere.

"This is the first agreement that has been reached between Israel and the Palestinian people," said Environmental

### Agreement calls for autonomy in Gaza Strip, Jericho within months

Protection Minister Yossi Sarid. "All ministers expressed satisfaction over the fact that the security of the state of Israel is being assured."

During the five-hour Cabinet meeting, 4,000 Jewish settlers and right-wing activists hurled eggs, then stones, and called Rabin a "traitor." Some scuffled with leftist demonstrators who held signs saying "give peace a chance."

In Jericho, some 20 right-wing demonstrators, including two members of Parliament, moved into an old synagogue on the northern outskirts of the town and staged a sit-in, Israel radio and television reported.

The army declared the town, scheduled to be the seat of the self-rule government, a closed military area and was trying to get

the squatters to leave voluntarily.

On the Palestinian side, there were also bitter divisions over the plan.

"I am very enthusiastic that the process continue. I hope to be able to work with the (Rabin's) Laborites in Israel toward peace," Bassam Abu Sharif, a top aide to PLO leader Yasser Arafat, told French television.

In the Gaza Strip, Islamic fundamentalist groups issued leaflets and wrote wall slogans denouncing the self-rule plan. Hamas demanded a general strike Tuesday, saying over loudspeakers circulating in Gaza that it would "cut the throat" of anyone who dared even use a car.

Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Front faction of the PLO opposed to the plan, said in an interview from Dam-

ascus that Arafat should heed the grass roots opposition to the deal.

"The bureaucratic group in Tunis should listen to the people's minarets and sirens of danger. The people are rejecting this dirty game," he said in a telephone interview.

Palestinian and Israeli negotiators were to sit down Tuesday for the start of a new round of talks expected to finalize the self-rule plan.

"Every change has its risks, but the time has come to take a chance for peace," Rabin said in a speech before the Cabinet vote. "We stand on the verge of a great opportunity."

"There is movement along the whole Arab front in readiness for peace," he said. "There are obstacles. There are diffi-

culties, but I'm convinced the horizons for peace are open."

In Washington, President Clinton said before the Cabinet's decision that he was "very much encouraged" by the apparent breakthrough in the peace talks, but said it was too early to say whether it would lead to renewed dialogue between the United States and the PLO.

There was a clear difference of interpretation between Israeli and Palestinians on the self-rule plan.

Rabin portrayed it as an agreement that would exclude Jerusalem from negotiations, prevent settlements from being uprooted and keep security in the hands of the Israelis.

In Israel's view, the plan to implement autonomy in Gaza and Jericho was a test of the Palestinians ability to govern themselves without posing a threat to Israel.

## ALL-UNIVERSITY NIGHT AT KYLE FIELD: Fights mar annual event

By Melinda A. Rich

THE BATTALION

Despite efforts by Texas A&M University student leaders and the administrators to control the amount of negative rivalry and fighting during All-University Nights in the past, Monday's event concluded with yet another clash between students.

Two females and a male were taken to area hospitals with minor injuries resulting from an altercation that began after the program concluded.

The Texas A&M University Police Department could not confirm who was involved, but bystanders said the argument was between residents of opposing dormitories.

The horseshoe of Kyle Field was filled to capacity as thousands of Aggies came together to participate in All-University Night, an annual event which welcomes students back for another school year and generates support for the fall athletic sports.

School officials and student leaders expected this year's All-University Night to return to its original purpose of motivating students to preserve the Aggie spirit.

Last week Student Body President Brian Walker said student leaders from across the campus had been working to find ways to solve the problems of fighting and profanity.

"To some groups it's good bull, but actually it's bad bull," he said. "Rivalry can be good, but sometimes it can go too far. Aggie spirit is about preserving pride and being fired up about A&M. Fighting and profanity are not parts of that spirit."

Dr. Malon Southerland, interim vice president of Student Services, said scheduling changes, such as opening the gates early and making sure the program started on time, were put in place to lessen the amount of negative rivalry seen in past years.

Walker opened the program by saying that a new year brings new beginnings, and students should take advantage of what A&M has to offer. Walker said all Aggies should remember A&M traditions and strive to uphold them.

Southerland supported Walker's statements and added that A&M operates as a family. He said students can build a strong foundation for their life at A&M and learn to handle change.

Texas A&M Interim President Dr. E. Dean Gage expressed his excitement for the upcoming year and said he wants to form a partnership with A&M students so that they may apply themselves and take advantage of what the school has to offer.



Kyle Burnett/THE BATTALION

Rennie Rebe, the only senior on the 1993 Lady Aggie Soccer Team, whoops after being introduced at All-University Night on Monday.

## Clinton tackles Bosnia issue, NAFTA after 11-day vacation

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Listing conditions for sending U.S. peacekeeping troops to Bosnia, President Clinton said Monday he'd have to be convinced that any war-ending settlement was fair, enforceable and supported by the beleaguered Muslim-led government.



Clinton

"I'm certainly open" to the use of American forces "but I also want to know whose responsibility it is to stay for how long," Clinton said. Estimates of the number of U.S. troops required have hovered around 20,000.

On his first day back from an 11-day vacation, a tanned and relaxed Clinton answered questions at a brief news conference following a meeting with Caribbean leaders.

The president also began drafting strategy for winning approval of a controversial free-trade agreement with Mexico and Canada despite opposition from many Democrats in Congress.

"I think in the end my position will prevail," said Clinton, who's relying on strong support from

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## Montana teens kill selves after chase through Texas

The Associated Press

POST, Texas — Two Montana teen-agers fatally shot themselves early Monday after speeding through four counties in a stolen truck.

The chase ended at 3:19 a.m. when Garza County sheriff's deputies and state troopers shot out the truck's back tires just inside the Post city limits.

Officers watched as the passenger, 15-year-old Dustin Newman, shot himself once in the head. Cory Barley, 17, used the same .243-caliber rifle to shoot himself, also once in the head.

"We were about 50 to 60 feet away and tried yelling out loudspeakers: 'Drop the weapons. Put your hands up. Stop what you're doing,'" said Garza County Sheriff Ken Ratke.

"The driver stuck his hand up in the air and gave us an obscene gesture and then shot himself," he said.

The teens were neighbors from Roundup, Mont., who had been missing since Aug. 22. Ratke said no one knows why they were in Texas or where they had been since they left Roundup.

## East Coast prepares for hurricane

The Associated Press

HATTERAS, N.C. — Thousands of people boarded up windows and fled inland Monday as Hurricane Emily strengthened and headed toward the sandy, low-lying Outer Banks island chain with 95 mph wind.

Hurricane warnings were posted from the central North Carolina coast to Virginia as the storm threatened to pass over land Tuesday afternoon, and forecasters said there was a growing threat to the East Coast farther north.

"I'm taking this seriously after Hugo and Andrew," said Hatteras Island native Janice Spake, 43.

Though Emily was unlikely to

approach the ferocity of those hurricanes, it was expected to strengthen, with top sustained wind possibly exceeding 100 mph. And coastal areas it threatened were left vulnerable by two major dune-flattening storms last winter.

At 8 p.m., Emily's center was about 260 miles southeast of Cape Hatteras, near latitude 32.2 degrees north and longitude 73.0 degrees west. Wind and rain from the hurricane hadn't reached shore but ocean swells along the coast had grown to 10 feet, the National Weather Service said.

The hurricane's maximum sustained winds were near 95 mph, up from 85 mph three hours earlier, and additional some strengthening was likely as the storm tra-

## 'A night in hell' U.N. raid misses target in Somalia

The Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia — For the U.N. military command in Somalia, the pre-dawn raid on a two-story villa in southern Mogadishu was "a textbook example of how these operations should go."

For Larry DeBoice and eight other U.N. employees, it was a night in hell.

Fifty helicopter-borne elite American soldiers raided the house and an adjoining office under an almost full moon early Monday, apparently thinking they were a command and control center for fugitive warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid.

They weren't. They were the residence and office of DeBoice and three other foreign employees of the U.N. Development Program, one of many U.N. agencies operating in Somalia.

In Washington, a Defense Department official who spoke on condition of anonymity said military intelligence officers had expected to capture some of Aidid's lieutenants. But he conceded they were

wrong and the mission missed its target.

"Our information is that they thought it was a command and control center," DeBoice said in Mogadishu. "We weren't asked. We were told to shut ... up."

DeBoice and his colleagues were awakened around 3 a.m. by the roar of helicopters overhead — more than a dozen of them by the U.N. military's count.

"Then we got some concussion grenades and shots in the house," DeBoice said. "At that point we knew something was going on right here."

DeBoice said some of the raiders landed on the roof of the villa from ropes suspended from helicopters, others smashed through doors on the ground floor.

DeBoice, 45, a Canadian, said he and his colleagues had their hands bound behind their backs with plastic cuffs and were told "to keep our heads down and not look at anybody."

"I don't think there was any doubt in anybody's mind that if we said anything, looked at anybody, moved, we'd be shot," he said. "Those dudes were serious."

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#### OPINION

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#### WEATHER

• Tuesday: mostly cloudy with scattered showers, highs in the 90s

• Forecast for Wednesday: mostly cloudy with scattered thunderstorms

• Your Battalion extended forecast: same old stuff - scattered rain, not too hot

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