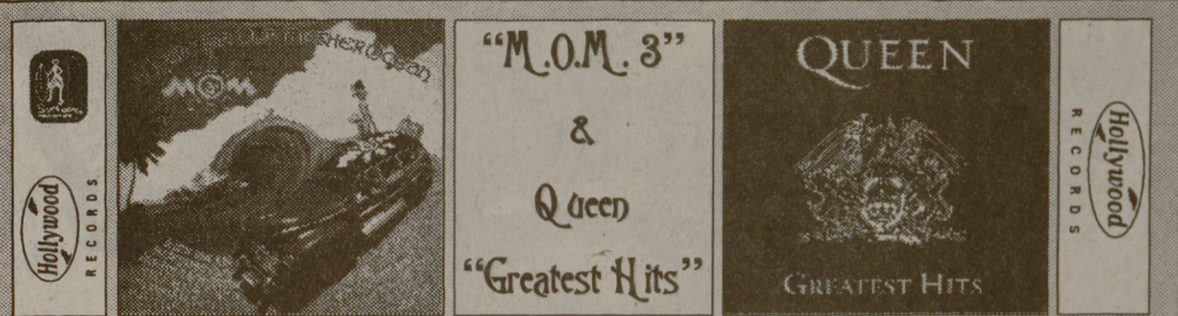


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U.N. to enter East Timor

DILI, Indonesia (AP) — Heavily-armed international peacekeepers landed in East Timor at dawn today, clearing the way for a U.N. approved force charged with restoring order and helping usher the Indonesian province toward independence.

A camouflage-green Hercules C-130 transport plane set down at Dili airport, the first in a wave of planes and ships expected by the end of the day.

About a dozen elite Australian troops in full combat gear quickly took up defensive positions.

About two dozen Indonesian troops greeted the Australians, and the first minutes of the arrival appeared cordial.

Indonesian troops had to chase a herd of goats off the runway shortly before the dawn touchdown as sirens wailed to warn several dozen onlookers.

Supplies and personnel soon started streaming in at breakneck speed to bring peace to a territory devastated by pro-Jakarta militias and their allies in the Indonesian army.

Soldiers in a second plane that arrived 30 minutes later unloaded ammunition, grenades and explosives, along with vehicles.

Pallet after pallet was pulled out onto the runway, as camouflaged vehicles were driven down ramps from the backs of the Hercules cargo planes.

Five planes in all had arrived within the first two hours, bringing in several dozen soldiers and vital supplies. Many of the soldiers were to head to the city's port area, to clear the way for combat ships heading toward East Timor.

Australian, British and New Zealand soldiers quickly secured the perimeter of the small airfield.

The soldiers, squinting in the tropical sun, wore helmets equipped with goggles to keep out the dust that constantly sweeps across the capital city.

Some of the soldiers crouched down, their guns at the ready, as they secured the airport. Others pushed into the tall grass and palm trees around the airfield, creating an ever-widening circle of control.

Dili's airport is the lifeline for the peacekeeping force, which will require huge amounts of supplies and backup personnel.

By this afternoon, 2,500 soldiers, helicopters and armored personnel carriers would be on the ground in Dili, East Timor's capital, Australian Defense Minister John Moore said from the peacekeepers' staging area in Darwin, Australia.

Nine warships from Australia, Britain and New Zealand were sailing toward East Timor with troops from more than a half-dozen nations.

Bus crash 26 Spaniards

LA MUELA, Spain — A passenger bus going on a day trip to the coast crashed a highway in northeastern Spain yesterday, killing at least one person and injuring dozens, according to authorities.

Rescuers found more than a dozen bodies under the wreckage. A crane lifted it more than 24 hours after the crash, Juan Cordoba, spokesman for the national government, said.

He said all of the 27 Spaniards, although some identities were not immediately released.

A stream of dozens of ambulances rushed to the scene and took the 27 injured to hospitals as they were pulled out of the bus.

The bus, carrying 30 passengers and the driver, was on the route from Madrid to the town of Gerona when it fell off the N11 highway and into a ditch full of water.

The accident occurred after 1:30 p.m. close to the eastern city of Zaragoza.

The cause of the accident is unknown, although police do not rule out that it was caused by the heavy rains in the region.

NATO, KLA discuss disbanding army

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia (AP) — NATO and the Kosovo Liberation Army were reported in intense discussions early today in an effort to reach an agreement on what will become of the former rebel army after it disbands.

NATO officials insisted the June agreement for the KLA to demobilize remains in effect.

But they acknowledged unspecified problems prevented the two sides from signing an agreement by the deadline, yesterday at midnight, on transforming the KLA into a 5,000-member civilian Kosovo Corps.

The KLA wants the new organization to become the nucleus of a new army of an independent Kosovo — something NATO has refused.

NATO has insisted the peacekeepers must be the only armed force in Kosovo. The Russians and the Serbs — who consider the KLA terrorists responsible

for attacks against Serb civilians — oppose a formula that might enable the KLA to continue the same organizational structure under a different name.

The transformation agreement was to be signed yesterday morning by peacekeeping commander Gen. Mike Jackson and the KLA military leader, Gen. Agim Ceku, but the ceremony was canceled.

NATO and the U.N. mission were to be finalizing the Kosovo Corps this morning.

The group was to help combat natural disasters and take on other humanitarian and civilian tasks such as firefighting and rescues.

In a clear warning to the former rebel army, spokesman Lt. Col. Robin Clifford said the agreement was mobilization agreement. He said Ceku was to sign it at midnight "because after that the KLA must disband. So does its general staff."



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Sept. 26	Sept. 6-21
Oct. 2	Sept. 13-21
Oct. 2-3	Sept. 13-21
Oct. 2	Sept. 13-21
Oct. 5	Sept. 20-Oct. 4
Oct. 9-10	Sept. 20-Oct. 4
Nov. 24-28	NOW-Nov. 14
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