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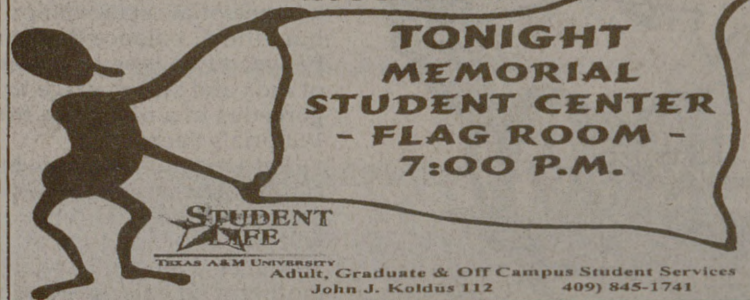
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## Dili residents return home

DILI, East Timor (AP) — With East Timor's capital secured by an international peacekeeping force, Dili residents returned from makeshift refugee camps yesterday to find a looted, burned city.

There was almost no water and no electricity. All the windows were smashed, most buildings had been burned down and the only signs of life were the throngs of homeless at the city's docks.

Even the hunched vendors who used to sell soft drinks from rickety carts outside the port were gone.

"Indonesia will have to pay reparations for the loss of our hometown," 34-year-old Filomena Bianco said.

Jose Alexandre "Xanana" Gusmao, the feisty East Timorese independence leader, said he never expected his foes were prepared to destroy East Timor before abandoning it.

"We didn't suspect the violence would take such dimensions," he said yesterday while visiting refugees who were evacuated to the northern Australian town of Darwin. Tanks, trucks and armored per-

sonnel carriers rumbled off warships yesterday in East Timor, and troops from 10 countries poured in for the second day without resistance from pro-Indonesia militias.

**"We didn't suspect the violence would take such dimensions."**

— Jose Alexandre Gusmao  
East Timorese independence leader

About 3,000 multinational troops will be on the ground by today, nearly half the total contingent of 7,500.

But force commander Maj. Gen. Peter Cosgrove cautioned that the rest of East Timor will not be under full control for some weeks and will remain dangerous until then, particularly with villages still burning.

He said his troops were to begin

moving outside the capital on today.

"It is too early for us to assert that the security situation overall is anything approaching benign," Cosgrove said.

The multinational force is attempting to restore order to a province where militias — aided by some elements in the Indonesian army — engaged in a campaign of arson, terror and murder, driving tens of thousands of people from their homes.

Human rights workers and refugees say hundreds, perhaps thousands of people, were killed.

The militias had hoped to nullify an Aug. 30 vote, in which nearly 80 percent of the East Timorese people opted for independence from Indonesia.

Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975 after Portugal abandoned its former colony.

The peacekeepers' task of securing the entire province is daunting in a jungle climate filled with rugged hills and mountains.

In many villages, troops may have to conduct house-by-house searches to flush out the militias.

## Blair: Diana memorial built in Britain

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Tony Blair said a memorial to Princess Diana will be built in Britain, a move based tabloid reported.

"It is very important to honor the memory of a woman who not only is very dear to the people in this country but also achieved a lot," Blair said as telling *The Mirror* he was working on something both permanent and which the princess would approve and be proud of.

Since Princess Diana died on Aug. 31, 1997 in a crash, there have been calls for a memorial to be built in her honor.

A memorial committee last year had proposed a memorial garden near her former home, Kensington Palace, but the plan was put on hold after local residents objected.

In the weeks leading up to the second anniversary of her death, *The Mirror* led a campaign to revive the memorial. The tabloid said today it received 193,000 phone calls in support.

Chancellor Gordon Brown, who heads the government, has committed to a memorial, was quoted as saying new plans for a memorial are under discussion.

He did not specify what the plans were, but said he was taking the ideas to Diana's family and the parks agency for consultation.

*The Mirror* said Diana's relatives were pleased to have the government's renewed support for a memorial.

Frances Shand Kydd, Diana's mother, was quoted as saying "This news will be welcomed by many, many people — which I am one."

Buckingham Palace has no objections.

## Bank funds frozen in laundering case

BERN, Switzerland (AP) — Swiss banks have frozen \$16.8 million in Russian accounts suspected to be linked to the Bank of New York money-laundering case, officials said yesterday.

Folco Galli, spokesman for the Federal Office for Police Affairs, told the Associated Press the banks had reported the action as required under a new Swiss law.

Under the 1998 law, banks are required to freeze accounts and report their action to the Swiss government when they have well-founded suspicion of money-laundering.

Galli said "a number of such reports" had been received in the Bank of New York case.

American investigators reportedly believe that up to \$10 billion was illegally channeled by the Russian mob through the Bank of New York, possibly including loans from the International Monetary Fund.

No one has been charged, but the case has been described as potentially one of the biggest money-laundering affairs ever uncovered in the United States.

Galli said federal authorities had referred "about a dozen" reports of bank accounts to cantonal (state) authorities in Geneva, who are conducting the main Swiss investigation into money-laundering and corruption from Russia.

He stressed that the federal office only acted as a relay point and that so far the banks had only operated on a basis of suspicion.

Swiss authorities have expressed eagerness to help the United States in its Bank of New York case as soon as U.S. authorities send a request for judicial assistance, but Galli said so far no such request had been received.

Under international treaties the Swiss must receive such a request before they can start investigating.

Daniel Devaud, the investigating judge looking into allegations of money-laundering in connection with Russian corruption, told *The Associated Press* Tuesday that he had found no direct link between the Bank of New York case and a Swiss construction company that had carried out work for the Kremlin.

He said names of companies which were linked to the Bank of New York case had also appeared during the investigation of that affair.

Last January, Swiss authorities raided the Mabetex construction company in Lugano in connection with suspicions that several high-ranking Russian officials received "a great deal of money" for helping the firm get large contracts for renovating the Kremlin.

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