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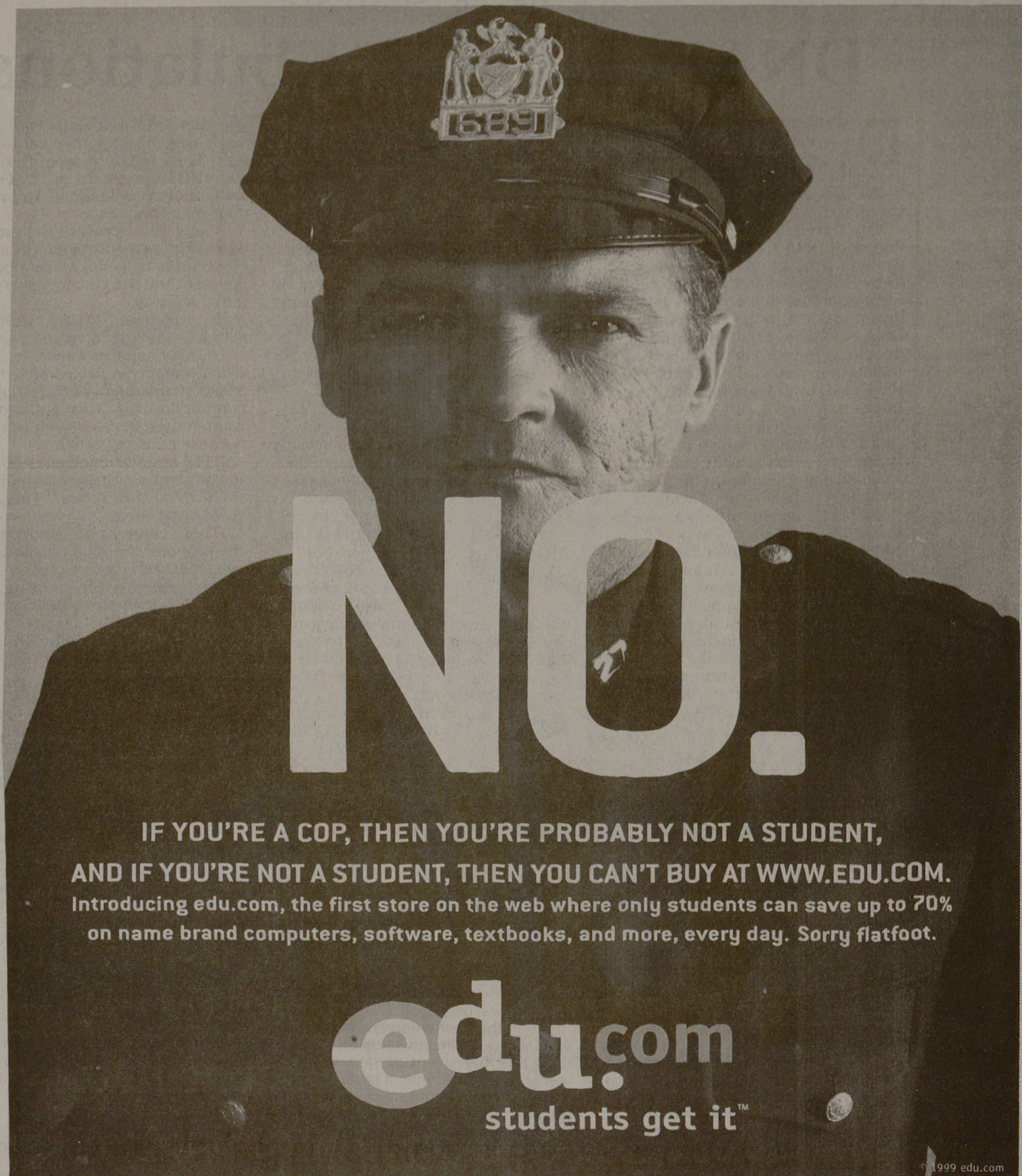
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NATO selects new Secretary Generals

Javier Solana's successors in NATO

On Wednesday, Javier Solana stepped down as NATO Secretary General. Sergio Silvano Berlusconi will serve as acting Secretary General until George Robertson takes the post in mid-October.

A look at the three men:



Javier Solana
Born in 1942 in Madrid, Spain

- 1977-95 Is a member of Parliament.
- 1982-92 Holds a variety of Cabinet posts such as: Minister of Culture, government spokesman, and Minister of Education and Science.
- July 1992 Becomes Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- Dec. 5, 1992 Becomes NATO Secretary General and Chairman of the North Atlantic Council.
- Oct. 6, 1999 Steps down from NATO.
- Oct. 18, 1999 Starts as the European Union's foreign policy representative.



Sergio Silvano Berlusconi
Born in 1934 in Bologna, Italy

- 1969 Enters the Italian Foreign Service.
- 1969-72 Serves as Secretary to the Permanent Italian Mission at the OECD in Paris, as Vice Counselor in Neuchatel, Switzerland, Deputy Counselor in Zurich, and as Counselor in Nairobi.
- 1975-82 Becomes Counselor in Athens and then in Ottawa, in charge of the NATO Special Secretariat.
- 1990-94 Serves as Italy's Ambassador to Canada.
- Feb. 1, 1994 Becomes NATO's Deputy Secretary General.



George Robertson
Born in 1946 on the Isle of Islay, Scotland

- 1976 Is nearly killed in a car collision with a Navy vehicle carrying explosives. Once he recovers, he becomes chairman of the Seabed Survivors Campaign.
- 1997 Is appointed defense secretary.
- Oct. 14, 1999 Is scheduled to become NATO Secretary General.

Source: NATO, AP Research

Typhoon Dan blows through Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Typhoon Dan maintained its strength as it blew away from the northern Philippines yesterday, dumping heavy rains, damaging hundreds of houses and killing at least one person on the main island of Luzon, officials said.

Forecaster Leny Ruiz said the typhoon, the 13th to hit the country this year, was expected to gather strength as it moves toward southern China.

One man drowned in the swollen Maluyo River in Balaoan, La Union province, Aurora Moya of the regional Office of Civil Defense, said.

Elvira Calina, head of civil defense in Tuguegarao, the capital of Cagayan province, the first to be hit by the typhoon, said

initial reports houses in the area were damaged. Son was injured. Electrical lines were toppled in some areas and flooding in others, roads and roads in some areas were damaged.

Calina said 100 miles north of the town were shut off as the typhoon approached.

Residents of Agno River in the town were alerted yesterday to move to higher ground after released from stream.

Floods forced people in towns of Sur and Ilocos provinces to evacuate homes, Moya said.

Japanese prime minister inspects nuclear plant

TOKAIMURA, Japan (AP) — Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi inspected the site of Japan's worst nuclear accident yesterday as outrage swelled over growing evidence the accident was caused by a stunning — and possibly criminal — disregard of safety procedures.

"This accident has become a concern not only to Japan but to the whole world," Obuchi said after spending 25 minutes in the Tokaimura nuclear complex. "I wanted to come to the site as soon as I could."

Obuchi visited Tokaimura, 70 miles northeast of Tokyo, as the investigation into the accident intensified with police raids on the uranium-processing plant and the Tokyo headquarters of the plant's operator, JCO Co.

Authorities are searching for evidence of wrongdoing behind the Sept. 30 accident, which sent three workers to the hospital, forced the evacuation of surrounding homes and kept hundreds of thousands locked in their houses for fear of contamination.

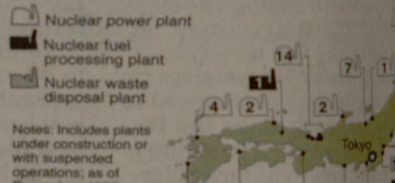
Japanese media reported that the Science and Technology Agency was considering revoking JCO's operating license after confirming that the company had ignored government-approved processing procedures.

Agency officials, however, said no decision would be taken until the investigation was finished.

Police said late yesterday that about 260 items were seized in the raid on JCO's Tokyo office and about 700

Japan's nuclear presence

Tokaimura, where Japan's worst-ever atomic accident occurred, is not the only region with a nuclear presence. The following map shows nuclear-related facilities in the nation. Figures indicate number of plants.



Notes: Includes plants under construction or with suspended operations; as of December, 1998.

Source: Citizens' Nuclear Information Center, AP research

items were seized from the Tokaimura plant. Among the items were reports on procedures and other documents.


Kyodo News service said they included the manual workers had used at the plant for shorter their work, but police would not confirm.

Obuchi, who also planned to visit with families evacuated in the aftermath of the accident, acknowledged that the government's response was lacking.


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