

Salary Evaluation Seminar



At this seminar a basic benefits package will be presented. Participants will be given guidelines for analyzing the total package in an effort to make the best decision about a job offer.

Wed. March 22 - 5:30pm - 308 Rudder

Career Center 209 Koldus 845-5139 <http://aggienet.tamu.edu/cct>

Attn: Graduating Seniors Open House

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Thursday, March 30, 2000
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
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This is a come and go event with refreshments provided. Business attire requested. EOE. If you are unable to attend but still wish to apply, please fax or mail your resume to:

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This Week

Thursday:
Legendary Guitarist
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\$10 cover



Friday:
Houston Marchman
w/opener:
Bleu Edmondson*
\$6 cover

Saturday:
The Aggie NeoSwing
Fundraising
Dance-A-Thon
Sat. 8 p.m. - Sun. 8 a.m.
\$8 cover/\$5 w/student ID
Lessons between 8:30-9:30 p.m.



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WORLD

THE BATTALION

Wednesday, March 22, 2000

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11 cases of fever found in Congo

GENEVA (AP) — Eleven new cases of a deadly hemorrhagic disease known as Marburg fever have been confirmed in a remote, rebel-controlled area of northeastern Congo, the World Health Organization said Tuesday.

Eight fatal cases of Marburg fever — a type of hemorrhagic illness similar to the feared Ebola virus — were found in the town of Durba, about 400 miles northeast of the eastern city of Kisangani, and are believed to be linked to a gold mine there.

Six of those infected in the latest outbreak beginning in January were gold miners, three were housewives, one was a farmer and one a nurse, WHO said in a statement.

Three of the 11 survived the disease; reports that another four people died from hemorrhagic fever have not been confirmed, WHO said.

More than 60 people in Durba are believed to have died from Marburg fever in May 1999. Eight more people died in October.

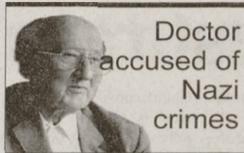
"Disease activity is clearly still continuing in the area, and appears to be linked to the gold mine in Durba," WHO said.

Health experts said many of those sickened in the May outbreak were gold miners. The miners spend up to 48 hours at a stretch in caves deep underground. Water is scarce, and the miners often drink groundwater.

"Surveillance is continuing, but the security situation in the area and poor communications and transport mean that information is only available intermittently," the WHO statement said.

The area is under the control of rebels fighting the government of President Laurent Kabila.

Hemorrhagic fevers, which include Marburg and Ebola, cause high body temperatures and bleeding. The Marburg virus is a close relative of Ebola, but appears to be more treatable, experts say.



Doctor
accused of
Nazi
crimes

Dr. Heinrich Gross went on trial Tuesday for the third time, accused of the deaths of nine children in a Nazi-run euthanasia clinic. The trial was suspended indefinitely.

Gross was first thrown out in 1950 because of legal technicalities; in the 1980s because the 30-year statute of limitations on manslaughter expired.

Case stems from the deaths of thousands of handicapped children labeled "unworthy lives" by the Nazis.

The stifling of Austria's Nazi past until the 1980s permitted Gross, a prominent postwar neurologist and recipient of a high state award, to evade responsibility for alleged crimes during that era.

Gross went on to achieve prominence in his field and served as an expert witness in hundreds of court cases up to the mid-1980s.

Basing his research on the preserved brains of children killed by the Nazis, Gross published nearly a dozen articles by 1966.

Across Europe, 75,000 people, including 5,000 children, were murdered for being mentally or physically handicapped.

Children were killed by injection, medical experimentation or simply starved.

Sources: Compiled from AP wire reports AP

Trial of doctor tied to Nazis suspended

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — The trial of an aging doctor accused in the deaths of nine children in a Nazi-run euthanasia clinic was suspended indefinitely Tuesday after a psychiatrist testified the defendant was suffering from increased dementia.

Dr. Heinrich Gross, 84, went on trial Tuesday in a Vienna court for the third time in a case stemming from the deaths of thousands of children killed by the Nazis because they did not fit Adolf Hitler's vision of a perfect world.

About a half hour into the session, the judge, Karlheinz Seewald, suspended the proceedings indefinitely after a court-appointed psychiatrist, Dr. Heinrich Haller, testified that Gross' dementia had worsened since two previous examinations in 1998.

Seewald ordered further tests over the next six months, leaving open the possibility the trial could resume. Based on the psychiatrist's testimony, however, it appeared unlikely that Gross would ever stand trial.

Gross, who attended the session, shook hands with supporters after the proceedings were halted.

The defendant was put on trial twice before, but the case was thrown out in 1950 because of legal technicalities and again in the '80s because the 30-year statute of limitations on manslaughter had expired.

Prosecutors, however, filed a new set of charges, accusing him of complicity to murder in the cases of nine children who allegedly died as a result of abuse.

Gross has pleaded innocent, "always against euthanasia," he told a weekly magazine News. "I never up anyone's death, nor did I see anyone to do so."

Gross' lawyer, Nicolaus Lehner, his client was at the war front during the time the nine children were killed. Lehner also has argued that his client was responsible only for initial examinations of children admitted to the clinic.

"If a child dies after being admitted to an institution, it is not the doctor administering the institution examinations," Lehner said.

Lehner has called the trial "politically motivated" and "scandalous" time when Austria's Nazi past is under intense scrutiny. Austria's government includes a far-right party whose leader, Joerg Haider, praised the Hitler era.

Prospective witnesses include a survivor of the clinic, Johann Gross, who is not related to the defendant. For the trial, Johann Gross said he did not see the defendant kill anyone, but other memories of abuse are vivid.

"I would crawl on my hands and knees, my legs behind me because I was so devoid of sensation," Gross said, recalling injections he said were given by the defendant as punishment for trying to escape the institution. "I would throw up, again and again."

Some infants were left on hospital balconies naked or dressed overnight during winter months, Gross said.

Navy exercises causes whales to beach, die



FREEMPORT, Bahamas (AP) — Eight whales beached and died soon after the U.S. Navy conducted anti-submarine exercises off the northern Bahamas, prompting an investigation and calls for an end to such exercises.

The Navy said Tuesday that there was no evidence to link the whale deaths to last week's exercise testing sonar detection of submarines.

Navy Cmdr. Greg Smith said the sonar tests were scheduled only one day and took place from about 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. March 15 off Abaco Island.

Marine biologist Ken Balcomb of the Earthwatch environmental group said beachings began that same day and within two days at least 14 whales had grounded themselves on Abaco, Grand Bahama to the north, and Eleuthera to the south. Eight died, prompting investigations by Bahamian and U.S. scientists and authorities.

"A whale beaching in the

Bahamas is a once-in-a-decade occurrence," said Balcomb, an American who has been studying whales around Abaco island for nine years.

"We will be making recommendations to the Bahamian government that these sort of exercises be terminated," he said. "The fact that it coincides with the military exercises cannot be just coincidental."

But the Navy spokesman said there was no evidence linking the two events and the Navy planned to continue such tests.

"There's no suggestion we have, and no scientific data, that the testing that we are doing was in any way linked to the current, unfortunate demise of great mammals," Smith said.

"My understanding of the actual locations would put the island between the operations where the 'sonobuoys' were located and where the whales eventually beached themselves," Smith said.

Naomi Rose of the Washing-

ton-based Humane Society of the United States, maintained the signals could still do damage.

"These signals, depending on frequency, could travel quite a distance and could even wrap around the island," said Rose, a marine mammal scientist. "One could argue that they fled the area where the sonar was being transmitted."

Another U.S. marine biologist here to investigate, Charles Potter of the Smithsonian Institute, said the number of whales beached is "extremely unusual. But he said the postmortems showed the whales had suffered no physical damage, such as broken ear drums.

Balcomb said the mammals included several deep-water beaked whales, goose beaked whales measuring 16-19 feet, dense beaked whales measuring 10-13 feet, baleen whales measuring up to 27 feet and some small minke whales.

Michael Breynan, director of the Bahamian Fisheries Department, said he was working

with U.S. scientists to try to determine the cause. Breynan said his department kept no records of beached whales but added, "I am not aware of any similar incident [having occurred] in the Bahamas."

He said further tests on dead whales would be carried out in the United States, a process that could take months.

Smith said the exercise was being for upgrades of what the Navy calls the Directional Command and Activated Sonobuoy System.

The exercise involved Navy P-3 aircraft dropping sonobuoys north of Abaco, one close as 35 miles to the island, the other 70 to 75 miles from island. One buoy emitted a sound signal which was received by the other, and a submarine was moving between the two buoys.

He said the exercise had nothing to do with low frequency active sonar, a new and controversial system that transmits sonar pulses so loud they can match the roar of a rocket launch-

News in Brief

NATO: U.S. jets used depleted uranium rods

GENEVA (AP) — U.S. jets used 31,000 depleted uranium rounds over many attacks in the Kosovo war, a U.N. task force on Kosovo war damage said Tuesday, citing confirmation by NATO.

Some specialists believe the rounds, which have been used as far back as the Persian Gulf War, are environmentally harmful, especially when people and animals inhale the dust that forms when the shells disintegrate on impact.

In the past, the U.S. Defense Department has robustly defended the use of depleted uranium saying the rounds pose no more health risk than conventional anti-tank weapons.

United Nations: Aging populations require action

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — With fertility rates low and anti-foreigner sentiment high in Europe, a new U.N. study suggests that significant increases in migration might be needed to keep populations from decreasing.

More foreigners would also help Europe compete with the United States, whose baby boomer population is aging but is being supported by a constant flow of working-age laborers coming to America — 1.1 million every year from 1990-96, the report says.

The study, released today by the U.N. Population Division, notes that Japan and South Korea face significant population declines over the next 50 years and that migration would offset the economic impact.

The report could have serious implications for governments grappling

with the increasingly vocal immigration debate but also realizing they may not be able to support their surging number of retirees without an infusion of workers.

Joseph Chamie, director of the U.N. Population Division, cautioned that the report was not making recommendations or "putting forward a demographic recipe for countries to follow."

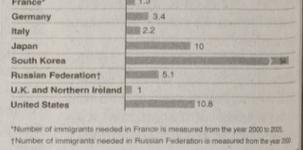
Rather, he told a news conference, the United Nations was merely looking at the causes of population trends and indicating some future demographic trends and options.

The report examines demographics in eight countries — France, Ger-

Replacement migration

A U.N. Population Division study suggests that increases in immigration are needed to maintain the ratio of the working-age population (from age 15 to 64) to the retired-age population.

For instance, in Europe as a whole, 25.2 million people need to immigrate each year in order to maintain its present size. Here is a look at selected countries.



*Number of immigrants needed in France is measured from the year 2000 to 2050.
†Number of immigrants needed in Russian Federation is measured from the year 2000.

many, Italy, Japan, Russia, South Korea, Britain and the United States — and two regions: Europe and the European Union.

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