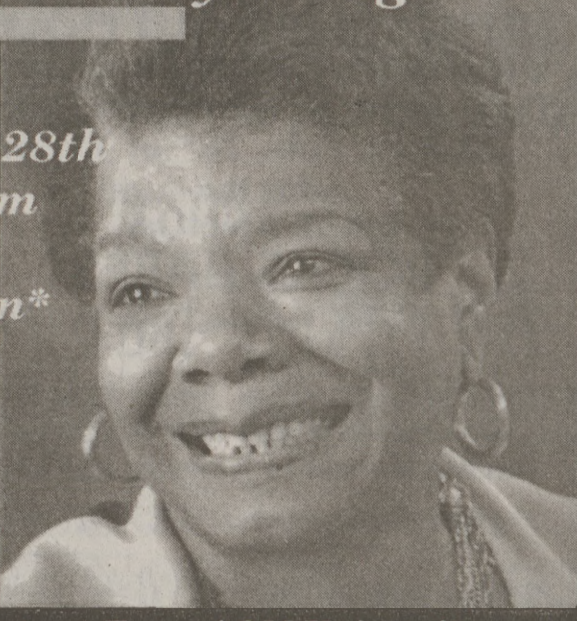


MSC Diversity Presents
"An Evening with Maya Angelou"

Saturday, February 28th
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 6:30 p.m.
Free Admission*

*Please note: seating is on a first come, first serve basis.
 Doors open at 6:00 p.m.



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For more information, or information regarding ADA accessibility, please contact MSC Diversity at 845-1515

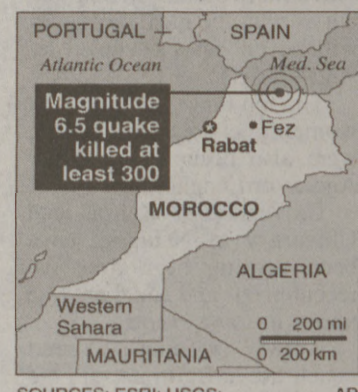
Earthquake strikes northeast Morocco killing hundreds

By Ali Naji
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AL HOCEIMA, Morocco — A powerful earthquake devastated an isolated, picturesque region of northern Morocco on Tuesday, killing more than 300 people as they slept, injuring at least 600 and laying ruin to villages that suffered for decades under government neglect.

Rescuers with pick axes and sniffer dogs were searching for survivors trapped under the rubble of their fragile mud-and-stone homes, which crumbled easily in the 6.5-magnitude temblor. Victims were most likely women, children and the elderly because men in the region tend to emigrate to the Netherlands and Germany in search of work, said Mohammed Ziane, a former human rights minister.

The quake, which rattled apartment buildings as far away as southern Spain, destroyed rural communities near the coastal city of Al



SOURCES: ESRI; USGS; Associated Press

Hoceima, a hideaway tucked between the Rif Mountains and the Mediterranean Sea that draws European tourists with its sandy beaches.

Selaam Bennaissa, a farmer who lives in Ait Daoud, 12 miles from Al Hoceima, said he was home when the quake struck at 2:27 a.m., and barely escaped before his house came crashing down. "Fortunately it didn't fall on me," he said. He estimated

about 90 percent of the houses in his village collapsed.

Authorities were scrambling to reach about a half-dozen remote villages, including Ait Kamara, Tamassint and Imzour, where 36,000 people live.

Josephine Shields of the International Committee of the Red Cross, citing civil defense officials in Al Hoceima, said he heard reports that Ait Kamara — a village of 6,000 — was destroyed. Rescuers reported difficulty getting to the stricken area, with mountain foothills and some by narrow, poor roads. As they arrived, they found some families already buried their dead.

French LCI television showed men with pick axes chipping the way through debris left by flattened buildings — while others used their bare hands — to try to reach trapped victims.

More than 200 relief workers from the Moroccan Red Crescent were at the scene along with helicopters filled with emergency supplies.

Rebels threaten Haiti's capital as Aristide appeals for help

By Mark Stevenson
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Haiti's president urgently appealed for the world's help Tuesday to avert a bloodbath and a new exodus of boat people as rebels threatened the capital. Despite last-ditch diplomacy, an opposition coalition rejected a U.S.-backed peace plan.

Supporters of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide armed with old rifles and pistols built junkpile barricades blocking the road into Port-au-Prince, setting some of the barriers ablaze with burning tires.

The opposition rejected a peace plan that would have kept Aristide as president, but with diminished powers and compelled to share government with his rivals.

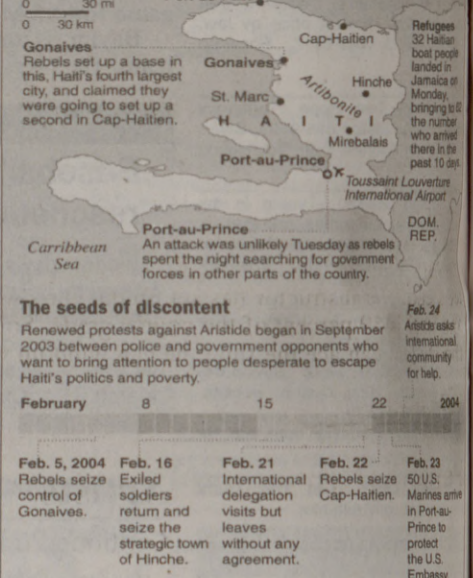
"We sent our position (paper) and a signed letter saying no to the proposal," opposition leader Paul Denis told The Associated Press. He said the letters from the Democratic Platform were delivered to David Lee of Canada, the Organization of American States representative in Haiti.

"There will be no more delays. Our answer remains the same. Aristide must resign," said Maurice Lafortune, president of the Haitian Chamber of Commerce that is a member of the Democratic Platform, following a coalition meeting.

Secretary of State Colin Powell on Monday had asked the opposition leaders to delay their formal response for 24 hours — until 5 p.m. Tuesday — and opposition leaders said he had sought to assure them that the international community would call for Aristide to step down if he did not honor any agreement.

Aristide appeals for help

President Jean-Bertrand Aristide appealed for the world to come to Haiti's aid on Tuesday. In the meantime, the rebels say they'll reject a proposed peace plan.



SOURCES: Associated Press; ESRI

The neighboring Dominican Republic sent 1,200 extra troops to patrol its border with Haiti, said military spokesman Col. Juan Julio Tejada Madena. He declined to provide the total number of troops at the 225-mile border and said he didn't expect a mass influx of refugees, "but we are ready."

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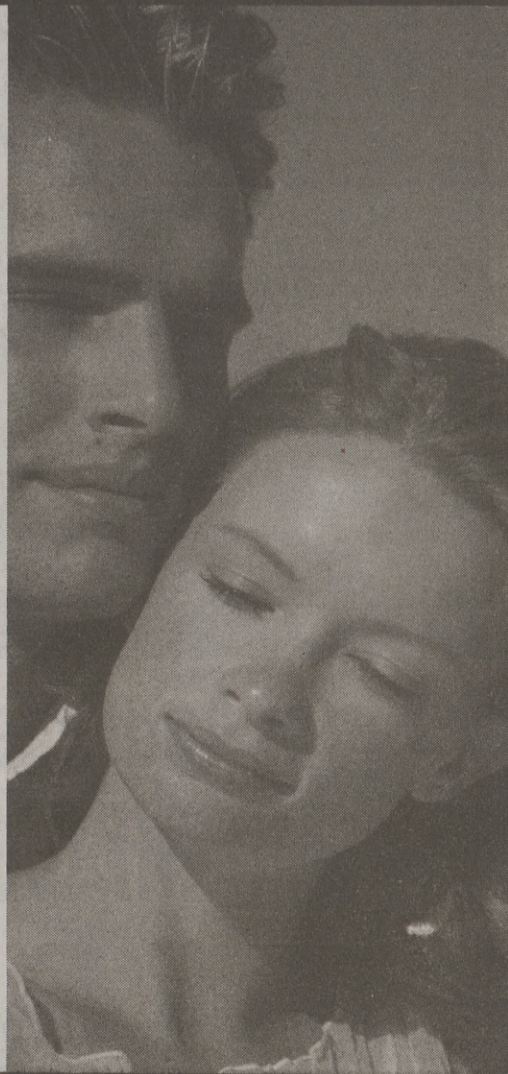

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