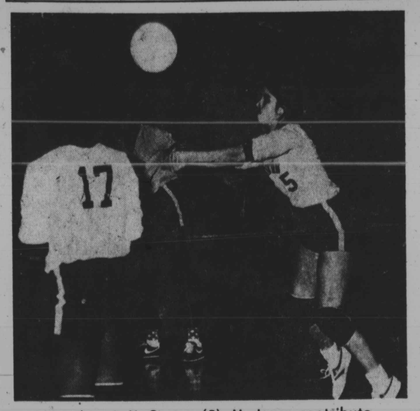
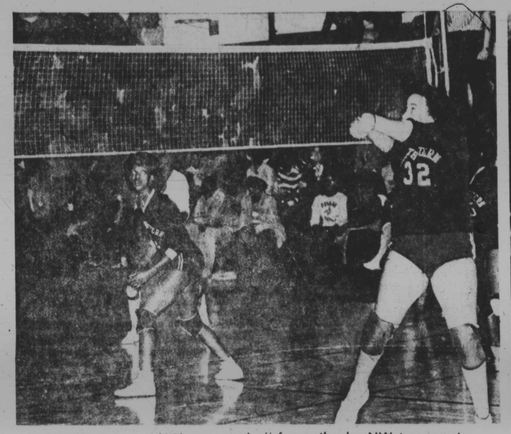
MSA girls have their day in spotlight

AFRO pictorial by Roman Hankewycz

Jubilant Southern volleyballers celebrate JV victory over Dunbar



Southern's K. Casten (5), M. Jones contribute

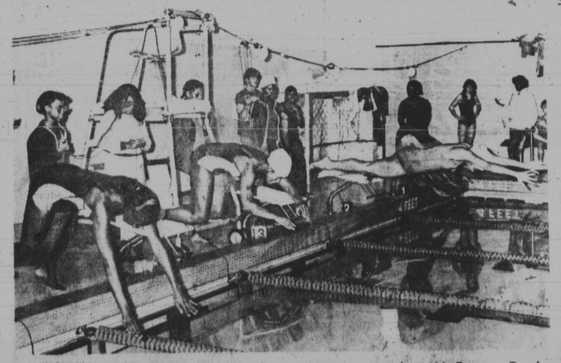


Angela Burnett (32) sets up ball for spike by NW teammate

City's Ruth Matthews (10) returns; Lydia Brown (5), Anita Hill (2)

Northwestern's Ursula Randle (10) makes fine save for Felicia Lockett (56)

Douglass' versatile T. Miller wins 50-yard freestyle



D. Brown, L. Clifton; K. Taylor, Dunbar; T. Miller, Douglass; V. Boone, Dunbar

R. Rice, Patterson; C. White, Poly; K. Powers, Western; V. Hineline, Patterson, M. Thomas, Mervo

Sudanese-backed civil war reported in Chad

NDJAMENA, Chad (UPI) — President Goukouni Weddeye said Sudanese - backed rebels have invaded Chad and the commander of Libya's departing troops predicted they would be in the capital before an African peace - keeping force.

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig said Nov. 12 the United States will support Nigeria's request to set up the 5,000 - man, seven - nation peace - keeping to replace the Libyans.

Goukouni, charging that insurgents were trying to take advantage of Libya's pullout, said in an interview he does not expect the Organization of African Unity force to be ready by the end of the month.

The Libyan withdrawal, requested by Chad Oct. 28, began Nov. 7 and was continuing with Libyan troops loading heavy war material onto giant Soviet transports at Ndjamena Airport.

Col. Radwan Saleh Radwan, commander of the Libyan troops, predicted fighting in Ndjamena by the time the peace - keeping force is organized to separate the warring factions.

Radwan said his men would be out of the capital by last weekend but it would take another two weeks for all his forces to leave Chad, driving north in three armored columns the 2,000 miles through the desert to Central Libya.

Interviewed in his palace in Ndjamena, Goukouni accused Sudan and rebel Chadian forces led by former Defense Minister Hissene Habre of attacking Eastern Chad from Sudan.

"The day before yesterday (Nov. 12)) we were attacked on the frontier at the town of Adre," Goukouni said. "Indeed, the fighting is continuing.

"The attacking force was certainly composed of Sudanese elements and of some Chadian elements from the traitor Hissene Habre," he said.

Sudan denied it was involved in the fighting.

Goukouni said the fighting was concentrated on the Sudanese border and at Guereda, 110 miles inside Chad, but declined to give any idea of the scale or casualties.

Libyan leader Moammar Khadafy sent troops at Goukouni's request last December to help him in a protracted civil war against Habre, who was then driven back to Sudan by the Libyans.

Apparently prompted by French and U.S. assistance offers, Chad asked the Libyans to leave and they quickly began complying.

Goukouni said the OAU force from Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Zaire, Guinea, Senegal and Gabon "is not yet fully composed" for lack of funds. Radwan said the delay could be crucial.

"When the African troops finally land in Ndjamena, they will find Habre already has grabbed half of Chad," Radwan said. "This is a good chance for Habre because the Chadian platoons are very weak. They can't defend the border and they can't stand up against Habre."

UPI photo

Voters line up to cast their ballots in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad Nov. 9 in the most hotly contested elections in 25 years. The elections posed the first real challenge to the People's National Movement which has run the Caribbean nation of Trinidad and Tobago for 25 years.

Liberia curtails public spending

MONROVIA, Liberia (UPI) — Austerity in Liberia means government officials not only won't be able to drive as much, they will no longer be able to fly in the Boeing 737. The government's only jet is for sale.

President Samuel K. Doe, who was a master sergeant when he took power in a 1980 coup, said in a statement from the Executive Mansion the jet would be replaced by a smaller aircraft.

Doe also banned the purchase of new government vehicles for the next six months and announced a 50 percent cut in gasoline allotments for government officials.

The government will freeze all official payments except salaries for November and all foreign payments for three months, except for oil, foreign missions and government - sponsored students abroad.

The statement said a committee headed by the new finance minister, G. Alvin Jones, would also study a possible reduction in the number of foreign missions.

Doe also banned foreign trips by government officials for the next three months to save funds for development programs.

Woman acquitted of rape charges

UPPER MARLBORO, MD. (UPI) — A Prince George's County jury has acquitted a 24 - year - old woman from Sierra Leone of charges she raped and abused an 8 - year - old boy she was babysitting last May 6.

Mary Conteh had been charged with second and third - degree rape, and with child abuse. Prosecutors said they believed the case marked the first time a woman had been tried for rape in Maryland.

The jury deliberated for more than three hours to find Mrs. Conteh innocent on all counts.

In explaining the verdict, juror Jim Sari said the prosecution's case, which was based entirely on the testimony of the boy, "was shot full of holes."

After the verdict was announced, Mrs. Conteh cried, embraced her attorney and left the courtroom.

Defense attorney Fred Joseph said, "I'm ecstatic. I believed in her innocence from the beginning."

During the trial the defense attacked the credibility of the 8 - year - old. Mrs. Conteh, testified the boy had stolen toys from other children and then lied to her when she asked him about it.

The youth, who is also a native of Sierra Leone, had testified that his parents left him and his 3 - year - old sister at the Conteh home in the Washington suburb of Hyattsville while they went on a trip.

Mrs. Conteh was arrested May 27 and held in jail for three months. She came to this country about two years ago to study hairdressing, and was five months pregnant at the time of the alleged incident.

The rape law under which Mrs. Conteh was charged prohibits sex between a person under 14 and someone more than four years older.

Ruling party returned to power in Trinidad

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad (UPI) — The People National Movement which has ruled Trinidad and Tobago for the past 25 years, was swept back into power for another five years in nationwide elections, according to official results.

Jubilant supporters took to the streets before dawn, dancing to calypso beats from steel bands which paraded throughout Trinidad in the traditional "jump - up" celebration.

Preliminary figures released by the Elections and Bondaries Commission showed the ruling party won 26 of the 36 seats in parliament, an increase of two seats.

Two of the parties in the opposition coalition called the National Alliance won 10 seats — two for the Democratic Congress and eight for the United Labor Front, two less than it had.

The opposition Organization for National Reconstruction failed to capture any seats, prompting charges from its leader, Karl Hudson - Phillips, that the election was unfair.

Spokesmen for the moderate ruling party saw the election victory as an endorsement of the politicians who inherited power from the late Prime Minister Eric Williams — the man who founded the Peoples National Movement in 1956 and led it to victory in five successive elections through independence from Britain in 1962 to his death last March 29.

He was succeeded by Prime Minister George Chambers.

"The people in Trinidad have recognized the fact that the (party) has represented progress," said Alvan Quamina, general secretary of the ruling party. "They recognize that overall the party has been moving the country forward."

In the last seven years, higher prices have provided the oil - rich nation with $3.1 billion in foreign reserves and a per capita gross national product of $4,500, one of the highest in this hemisphere.

But the opposition has accused the government of spending hundreds of millions of dollars to keep inefficient state industries going. They also charge roads, health and public services are inadequate, and there have been repeated reports in the press of scandals involving alleged bribery of government officials.

UPI photo

FIRST DAY AT GAMES — PFC Frederick Brom of the 35th infantry enjoys part of his "C" rations during his first full day at Cairo West Nov. 9 where he is part of U.S. troops taking part in war games between the United States and four Arab nations.

U.S. paratroops mount mock assault in Egypt

CAIRO WEST AIRBASE, Egypt (UPI) — More than 800 American paratroops mounted a mock airborne assault on an Egyptian desert location in a joint exercise aimed at demonstrating U.S. ability to quickly move combat forces into the Middle East.

In less than six minutes, 24 giant military transport planes coming from the United States and Europe dropped 856 paratroops from the Rapid Deployment Force and 10 Egyptian Air Force men as well as 180 tons of equipment into a five - square - mile - wide zone.

Three U.S. paratroops were injured in the otherwise smooth operation. Briefing officer Capt. Bill Maddox said a major fractured his hip and was evacuated by helicopter. Two other unidentified paratroopers suffered "minor" injuries.

One vehicle, a "gamma goat" all - terrain wheeled car, was crushed apparently because of a parachute fault, he said.

When asked what lesson the exercise would give the Soviet Union or any other potentially hostile power in the Middle East, Lt. Gen. Robert C. Kingston, commander of the Rapid Deployment Force, said "the main lesson is that, first of all, we have to be invited in.

"Secondly, we will work in coordination and cooperation with the host countries, and thirdly we have the capability to project sizable force in a limited time."

Kingston watching the airdrop along with senior Egyptian military commanders said operation had been in the planning for a long time. But he said in a real emergency, "I could have this size force in less than four days on the ground here."

The zone is located in the western desert area of Djabal Hamza, five miles from the Cairo West Airbase.

The exercise is the largest part of war games code - named Bright Star 82 which the United States is having with Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Oman between now and mid - December.

Voodoo on Haitian boat probed

MIAMI (UPI) — Federal officials are investigating claims that two Haitian women were thrown overboard as a sacrifice to voodoo gods by a "priest" and an "executioner" during a three - week journey to South Florida.

Eli Joseph and Wilson Alexandre, survivors of the journey aboard a hand-hewn vessel that departed Cap Haitian Oct. 1, also told investigators that the "executioner" would beat passengers with ropes, sticks and iron bars.

After three weeks of island - hopping and encounters with other boats that provided fresh water and food, the small boat began breaking apart and washed up on Miami Beach Oct. 21.

Martin Raskin, chief of the criminal division of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Miami, said four people are being held at the Federal Correctional Institution in South Dade County pending an investigation of the accusations.

Immigration and naturalization Service spokeswoman Beverly McFarland said the voodoo "priest" and "executioner," identified by Joseph and Alexandre, are among those held at the prison.

Officials would not release their names. No charges have yet been filed in the case.

"We have heard these allegations in the past," Raskin said, "but only recently people have begun to come forward to speak to authorities on conditions they suffered on the way over from Haiti."

"There have been reports of these atrocities from time to time. We don't know why all of a sudden these people are coming forward to tell us about them."

Joseph, 30, said the journey was organized by professional smugglers who remain in Cap Haitian. He said when the sailboat left the Northwest Haitian coast, there were 88 people aboard.

Three days into the voyage, two Haitian women went into trances and "were possessed by the Loa (voodoo gods)," Joseph told the MiamiNews.

"The Lao asked for a sacrifice. So the hungan (voodoo priest) chose two victims and his bourreau (executioner) threw them overboard," he said.

Joseph said the next day the women — still in trances — demanded the sacrifice of two more female passengers.

"We (Joseph and Alexandre) had knives and I said, 'No, I won't permit any more sacrifice.'"

Alexandre, 22, said if it weren't for the knives, "They'd have thrown a lot more people overboard."

Joseph said a friend arranged passage on the boat for his five family members, who paid $40 each. Alexandre told authorities he had to pay $160 to get him and his wife, Gertha Toussaint, 21, on the boat.

The passengers were divided into two groups — those from Cap Haitian and those from Port - au - Prince, Joseph said. Those that died were from Port - au - Prince, he said.

The incident — if true — is the latest in a series of tragedies that have befallen Haitian refugees struggling to reach U.S. shores.

Two boat captains were indicted last month by a federal grand jury of conspiracy and smuggling charges stemming from a July voyage in which up to 96 refugees were starved, strangled, thrown overboard or hacked to death by machetes on a boat called the Jesula.

In that case, however, prosecutors said the deaths were profit motivated in that many were killed because they could not pay for food or water.

And authorities are still investigating the deaths of 33 Haitians, who drowned Oct. 26 when their dilapidated sailboat capsized off the coast of Hillsboro Beach. Thirty - four survived.

International economics focused

PHILADELPHIA — International economics and its effect on both Americans and the poor of the developing countries was the subject of a Global Partnership Seminar at Cheyney State College, November 10 and 11.

Deputy Chief and Permanent Representative of the Indian Government to the United Nations, S.V. Puruschottam, and Jeremiah Novak, economic columnist for Worldwide Magazine, were among the speakers for the two-day event.

Seminar coordinator, Dr. Catherine Wilson, said, "All the speakers addressed the central issues of the "Brandt Report," published in paperback as North-South: The Struggle for Survival. The publication reckons with the problems of relations between the rich nations of the West and poorer Third World countries."

The seminar was sponsored by the Council on Religion and International Affairs, an arm of the Carnegie Endowment and New World Foundation of New York.

Jamaican journalists denied entry into T&T

KINGSTON, Jamaica — Jamaica's Daily Gleaner columnist Wilmot Perkins and three other journalists from the government - owned Jamaica Broadcasting Company were prevented from entering Trinidad and Tobago to cover that country's Nov. 9 elections. The three other journalists were Dermot Hussey, Jose Walton, and Rudolph Matherson.

It was learned that no working visas were available for the group at the port of entry, although Trinidad authorities had earlier indicated the visas would be ready there. The journalists spent a night at the airport in Port of Spain, capital of Trinidad.

Trinidad radio reported that six journalists from the United States and Canada were also denied entry into the country.

Haitian envoy to speak on refugee issue

WASHINGTON — The impact and consequences of the migration of Haitian refugees to the United States will be the subject of an address by Haitian Ambassador George N. Leger Nov. 23 at Howard University.

Leger will speak during a two-day seminar on health problems of Haitian and Cuban refugees, sponsored by the Howard department of psychiatry and the College of Medicine continuing education program. The talk starts at 11 a.m. in the medical school auditorium, Room 3019.

The seminar is the first of two planned programs to evaluate the health status of these refugees through discussions between health professionals and others from Haiti, Cuba and the United States. The second program is scheduled for Dec. 13-15 in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

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