

Palestinian militia leaders will respect a cease-fire

By the Associated Press
INTERNATIONAL
JERUSALEM — Palestinian militia leaders said today they would respect a cease-fire ordered by Yasser Arafat, but senior Israeli officials complained that the Palestinians were not doing enough to prevent attacks on Israelis.

Arafat doesn't have much longer to prove that he is serious about enforcing a truce, said an Israeli government spokesman, Cabinet minister Danny Naveh.

Naveh confirmed that if the brittle cease-fire collapses, Palestinian Authority facilities will be among the targets to be hit in an Israeli air strike to retaliate for Friday's deadly suicide bombing at a Tel Aviv disco. Twenty young Israelis were killed in the blast for which the Islamic militant group Hamas claimed responsibility.

Arafat convened leaders of his Fatah movement late Sunday to deliver his orders to activists. In the past eight months of Israeli-Palestinian fighting, more than two dozen Israelis were killed in shooting ambushes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Many of the gunmen are Fatah members.

LIMA, Peru — Peruvians elected a frags-to-riches economist as their next president in a vote that highlighted

ap news capsules

persisting racial divisions in the land where Spanish conquistadors defeated the ancient Inca Empire.

With 75 percent of the vote counted early today, Alejandro Toledo had defeated Alan Garcia, 52 percent to 48 percent. International observers said Sunday's runoff election was Peru's cleanest vote in years.

"Tonight Peruvians celebrate the triumph of democracy," Toledo told thousands gathered in front of the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Lima. "I swear, brothers and sisters, I will never let you down."

Toledo, a shoeshine boy who rose from poverty to become a World Bank economist before entering politics, will become Peru's first freely elected president of Indian descent and probably the first president ever in Latin America who made Indian pride a cornerstone of his campaign.

Toledo campaigned largely on a populist platform. He has pledged to create 2.5 million jobs, raise salaries for public workers and lower taxes.

NATIONAL
ALLIANCE, Ohio — More than 10,000 people, some fearful of contact with their family and friends, lined up at hospitals for preventative antibiotics after a meningitis outbreak killed two high school students and left a third

teen-ager seriously ill.

Health officials began handing out antibiotics Saturday when Christin Van Camp, 18, of Marlinton High School, was hospitalized with an unidentified strain of Neisseria meningitidis. She was listed in serious condition late Sunday afternoon.

Freshman Jonathan Stauffer, 15, died May 23, and Kelly Coblentz, 16, a sophomore, died May 25 after being diagnosed with identical strains of Neisseria meningitidis. The two may have shared a water bottle at their Beloit West Branch High School picnic last month, Superintendent Louis Ramunno said.

Doctors expected to know by today if all three students contacted the same strain of meningitis, Hostettler said. If Van Camp's strain turns out to be identical, Alliance would likely launch a vaccination program.

Meningitis is spread by close contact, such as intimate kissing, drinking out of the same container or sharing an eating utensil, health officials said.

SANDPOINT, Idaho — Bonner County Sheriff Phil Jarvis remembers what a British colleague once told him in assessing U.S. law enforcement.

"He said, 'You Americans try to do things too damn fast.' And he was

right," Jarvis said Sunday. "One of the things you learn in a job like this is patience is probably the greatest quality you can develop."

Jarvis' patience, developed during more than three decades as a police officer in San Diego, Calif., helped him peacefully resolve a stalemate with five children, protected by a pack of feral dogs, in the northern Idaho backwoods.

On Thursday, 15-year-old Benjamin McGuckin gave up and was placed in custody of state child welfare workers. On Saturday, the remaining five McGuckin children, ages 8 to 16, agreed to leave their ramshackle home in the lakeside community of Garfield Bay.

The sheriff and former captain, coaxed back to police work 10 years after his retirement, is credited with setting the low-key, nonconfrontational tone that led to the McGuckin children being taken safely into protective custody, five days after their mother was arrested on a felony child neglect charge.

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Two-time Oscar winner Anthony Quinn, a former shoeshine boy and preacher who became an international leading man with a film career spanning six decades, has died of respiratory failure. He was 86.

Both Quinn's screen presence and

personal style were larger than life. The barrel-chested actor fathered 13 children and starred in 100 feature films, including the fierce Bedouin leader in "Lawrence of Arabia" in 1962 and the earthy hero of the 1964 film "Zorba the Greek."

He won his first Oscar for his work in the 1952 film "Viva Zapata!" as the brother of Mexican revolutionary leader Emiliano Zapata. He picked up his second award for supporting actor in the stylish 1956 drama "Lust for Life."

Quinn died of respiratory failure Sunday morning at a Boston hospital, said Providence Mayor Vincent "Buddy" Cianci, a friend of the actor. Quinn lived in nearby Bristol. Quinn's family asked Cianci to make the announcement.

Born in Mexico and raised in poverty in East Los Angeles, Quinn went from stage and B-movie roles to become an international leading man. He is survived by his wife, Kathy Benvin, who is the mother of the two youngest of his 13 children.

MARIETTA, Okla. — An 86-year-old woman survived nearly 48 hours in her submerged car after it flipped into a creek while she was driving home from the airport.

"I was just sitting there in a weed patch with bugs all about me," Wanda Irene McKinnis said Sunday. "I was thorough about getting the bugs away from me. I'm not a person that likes bugs."

McKinnis, who lives in Achille, Okla., drove about 90 miles south to Dallas, Texas, on Thursday to pick up her husband at the airport. After failing to find him, she headed home.

At about 11:30 p.m., McKinnis got lost and drove her 1987 Pontiac Firebird off the road. The car landed upside down in the creek and McKinnis maneuvered until her head was in what she called "a bubble" of air.

"She's unbelievable," said Melinda Persons, a nurse at Love County Mercy Hospital. "She has no injuries, she's just kind of beat up and she had a hair full of mud."

Help finally arrived late Saturday night when passers-by saw the car and notified authorities.

Meanwhile her husband, whose plane did arrive, took a taxi home and notified authorities when he was unable to find his wife.

WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON — Republicans say they may try to block a Democratic takeover of Senate committees unless the Democrats promise they will not reject outright or indefinitely delay President Bush's judicial nominees.

Democrats take power this week following Vermont Sen. James Jeffords' decision to leave the GOP and become an independent. In the 50-50 Senate, Republican control relied on Vice President Dick Cheney's tie-breaking vote.

Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., did not rule out a GOP filibuster to stop Democrats from adjusting committees to reflect their 50-49 edge. Jeffords is siding with Democrats for purposes of organizing in the Senate.

A filibuster would bring all Senate business to a halt.

Santorum, a member of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, said Democrats should guarantee that Bush's nominees for the federal bench get a floor vote, rather than face rejection by the Judiciary Committee on ideological grounds.

WASHINGTON — President Bush is renewing his pledge to help restore the Florida Everglades, touring the celebrated but scarred wetlands as he seeks to build a conservationist image.

Bush today was making his third trip to Florida since becoming president, hiking the Anhinga Trail, named for a fishing bird that inhabits the Everglades. He also was expected to announce he has signed a bill that will enhance cooperation between federal agencies as they work to reduce wildfire risks.

Everglades National Park is undergoing a 40-year, \$7.8 billion restoration project aimed at improving water quality, storage and flow into the region. Bush's proposed 2002 budget includes \$219 million spread over five federal agencies for Everglades restoration. That is \$58 million more than this year, aides said.

Price fixing in Hoisington being investigated

PROBE, from Page 1

that a county worker operated his bulldozer — work that was later allegedly billed to the county.

At the same time the work was being performed at the burn pit, Krier was also handling one of the biggest commercial contracts in the wake of the tornado, the demolition and removal of Hoisington's supermarket. The owner of the supermarket has said Roger Krier was working there from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the first three weeks after the tornado.

And Duane Alapai, a Wichita city worker sent to Hoisington to help at the

burn pit, said Krier "was hardly ever out there."

"He left his machine there, but he wasn't running it. The county guy was using it," Alapai said.

County Commissioner Patty Linsner-Hansen, who represents the Hoisington area, said the county public works department confirmed to her that a county employee operated Krier's bulldozer.

Roger Krier's bill did not differentiate between the hours when he operated his equipment and the time when county employees allegedly ran it.

County records indicate that Krier Dozer has twice changed its bill to the

county, dropping it from \$19,675 down to \$11,465 after deleting charges including one for Roger Krier's services as "coordinator."

Roger Krier was stripped of his job as an unpaid reserve sheriff's deputy after allegations that he ordered volunteer contractors to shut down their equipment and leave Hoisington.

The newspaper said Kirby Krier did not return phone messages seeking comment on his actions in the tornado cleanup. And it said Roger Krier declined to comment.

Linsner-Hansen said she has also asked the county to investigate the \$85 per hour charged by all five companies

that had bulldozers at the burn pit. The owner of one of the companies said it was not a coincidence.

Bobcat Backhoe of Hoisington filed a bill on April 29 for \$68.50 an hour, its regular rate. On May 8, the bill was refilled for the \$85 rate.

The company's owner, Rob Goreham, said he was told to change his price during an informal meeting at a tavern.

Goreham said the operators were told that they should all charge the same rates so their bills wouldn't raise questions from the federal agency, which is reimbursing the county for expenses resulting from the disaster.

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