

# Peacekeepers set up hospital for quake victims

By the Associated Press INTERNATIONAL

NAHRIN, Afghanistan — International peacekeepers set up a mobile hospital today in northern Afghanistan to provide medical aid for the thousands of people injured during a powerful earthquake.

Five doctors, including two surgeons, immediately began providing basic care for the victims, setting broken bones and dressing wounds, but staying away from major operations.

"The worst cases have been cared for already — or have died," said Maj. Frank Hoermann, a doctor from the German contingent.

The death toll Monday's magnitude-6.1 quake stood at about 600 Wednesday, according to the United Nations, but was expected to rise to between 800 and 1,200 as more bodies were pulled from beneath collapsed mud-brick houses. An estimated 100,000 people have been left homeless or cut off from food and other supplies.

## ap news capsules

The convoy of 36 trucks carrying 120 German, Danish and Dutch troops, including the doctors and 20 medics, brought metal-floored tents and generators to Nahrin, one of about 80 villages leveled by the temblor. A steady stream of food, medicine and tents is now flowing to the region.

MOUNT PULONGBATO, Philippines — Thousands of penitents scaled a hilltop where three members of a Christian cult were nailed to crosses in a Good Friday rite of sacrifice for peace in the Philippines' war-weary south.

Crucifixions and acts of self-flagellation are regular Easter Lenten rites in the Philippines, and similar scenes played out around the country Friday.

"We are setting an example for sinful people to change so there can be peace," said Jose Felipe, a 24-year-old carpenter and member of the Kristo Rey cult, before four-inch nails were

driven through his palms.

The three men grimaced in pain as they were nailed down, with a piece of wood on each cross serving as a footrest. Other cult members raised the crosses using nylon ropes. The men are taken down from the crosses after an hour and many repeat the ritual each year.

### NATIONAL

LOS ANGELES — Oscar-winning filmmaker Billy Wilder, the Austrian-born cynic whose gifts for writing and directing led to such classics as "Sunset Boulevard," "Some Like It Hot" and "Double Indemnity," has died. He was 95.

Wilder died Wednesday night at his home, said George Schlatter, a producer and longtime friend. As co-writer, director and producer of the 1960 film "The Apartment," Wilder collected three Oscars.

Among Wilder's other classics:

"Sunset Boulevard," "Double Indemnity," "Stalag 17," "The Lost Weekend," "The Seven Year Itch," "Some Like It Hot" and "Witness for the Prosecution."

After short stints at the University of Vienna and working as a journalist, he broke into the movies.

Wilder's screenwriting career flourished until 1933, when Hitler captured power in Germany. Wilder, a Jew, fled to Paris; his mother, grandmother and stepfather died at Auschwitz. He co-directed a film with Danielle Darrieux, and then left for America.

A first marriage to California socialite Judith Iribé ended in 1947 after nine years; they had a daughter, Victoria. In 1949, Wilder married a former starlet and band singer, Audrey Young. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

SANDIEGO — Caps on oil production and the traditional spring rise in gasoline demand have pushed up prices at the pump 23 cents per gallon over the last month — the most dra-

matic change in more than a decade.

The jump also is attributed to the bargain gas prices that prevailed in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks, which hampered travel and slowed the economy. In some areas, gas was selling for less than \$1 a gallon after the attacks.

"Now that the economy has started to recover, and we're starting to head into the summer driving season, the industry is really having to come from behind a little bit," AAA spokesman Geoff Sundstrom said in Orlando, Fla.

The average price for unleaded gas on Thursday was \$1.35, according to a AAA national survey.

Californians, who shoulder the added costs of reformulated gasoline mandated by pollution restrictions, are facing the highest prices in the continental United States. Bay Area motorists have seen average prices rise to \$1.68 from \$1.42 a month ago.

CRAWFORD, Texas — The grass is green, the blue bonnets are making their seasonal appearance and President Bush and his wife, Laura, are settled in for the Easter weekend at the ranch they call home.

The president and first lady were being joined today by his father and mother, former President George Bush and former first lady Barbara Bush. The elder Bushes plan to stay through Easter morning services on Sunday.

The president began his brief respite away Washington by raising nearly \$4 million for three Republican Senate candidates in three states, including Texas. Then he settled in at the ranch for serious rest and relaxation.

"Welcome to Texas. Your day is better for it," a smiling Bush said yesterday in Dallas as he walked past reporters. That was just before he helped raise a reported \$1.8 million for the campaign of Texas Attorney General John Cornyn, who is seeking election to the Senate seat being vacated by Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas.

The Bushes were expected to return to Washington on Sunday afternoon.

### WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON — Caribou and other wildlife are vulnerable and may face substantial risk if oil is developed in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, according to a study by government scientists.

The findings by Interior Department biologists paint a more threatening picture to wildlife should Congress lift its long-standing ban on development of the refuge than drilling advocates have portrayed.

The report, being released today by the U.S. Geological Survey, acknowledges that in many cases the risks to a variety of wildlife, including musk-oxen, polar bears and migrating birds, could be reduced by restrictions and close management of oil exploration and production.

Still the report, a copy of which was obtained late yesterday by The Associated Press, is likely to provide new ammunition to those vowing to block efforts in Congress next month to allow oil companies into the refuge.

"Once again the administration has released a report undermining its own case," said Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., claiming the findings confirm "the environmental destruction that would occur" if the refuge were opened to oil development.

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said the effort to restore stability to Afghanistan must succeed, but he suggested the United States should not get permanently cast in the role of peacekeeper.

He drew parallels to the U.S. mission in Bosnia. "I think it's helpful to remember that those who developed the concept for peacekeepers in Bosnia assured everyone those forces would complete their mission by the end of that year and be home by Christmas," Rumsfeld said Thursday at a Pentagon briefing.

# House resurrects, passes budget bill it had rejected

TOPEKA (AP) — A proposed state budget that the House spent two days creating — and then rejected — is back in play and on its way to the Senate.

House members approved the bill today, 63-60. Representative Jim Morrison, Colby, was among the Republicans voting in favor of the resurrected budget.

The House had voted Thursday to reconsider its rejection of the plan, then voted 66-55 to tentatively approve a bill containing the state's spending plans for the budget year beginning July 1.

On Thursday, all 44 of the minority Democrats who were present voted against advancing the measure, which contains no requirement for tax increases.

The Senate has yet to debate a proposed budget. The final version of the state budget is expected to be drafted by House and Senate negotiators. The two houses expect there to be differences in the two budget bills.

The bill would increase aid to public schools by \$10 per pupil, to \$3,880, and protect some social services from cuts.

But it would leave a shortfall estimated by legislative staff Thursday at \$128 million.

Legislators are trying to cover a \$700 million gap between expected revenues and required spending over the next 15 months.

Speaker Kent Glasscock said Thursday's vote was designed to keep work on a budget bill progressing as the 90-day session hit Day 74.

"I don't like this budget bill any better than yesterday," said Glasscock, R-Manhattan.

On Wednesday, the chamber voted 76-46 against the same plan. Glasscock voted against it.

Glasscock said he would not vote for

a budget that comes back to the House that looked like the current bill.

Democrats said they were caught off-guard by the vote, only learning of plans to reconsider after the House concluded a lengthy day of debate on other issues.

"It's very clear that there's no one in charge of this House," said Minority Leader Jim Garner.

Garner said Democrats, outnumbered 79-46 by Republicans, received assurances Wednesday they would have other opportunities to offer amendments later this session — and didn't offer some ideas.

Looking toward the Republican side of the House, Rep. Bill Reardon, D-Kansas City, said: "Don't tell us to go along and we'll get our chance later if there isn't one."

Glasscock said a bill had to keep moving, or legislators might be in session for an extra month.

He denied that Republicans broke any agreements with Democrats, then noted any House-Senate budget conference committee will have four Republicans and two Democrats.

House Appropriations Committee Chairman Kenny Wilk, R-Lansing, said: "It is not our intent to box anyone out."

Gov. Bill Graves has proposed raising taxes by \$364 million, but many House members oppose any increase.

The House's budget bill was a heavily amended version of a no-new-taxes plan drafted by the Appropriations Committee.

"It's not a perfect budget, but it's the only budget," said Rep. Doug Mays, R-

Topeka.

In other action:

- Three weeks after Gov. Bill Graves vetoed a proposed new map of the state Senate, a slightly revised version won a committee's endorsement.

- The Senate approved a bill increasing court fees to raise \$200,000 for the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center in Hutchinson and \$280,000 for the Judicial Council.

- The House tentatively approved a bill granting local school boards more authority and providing more state aid to districts with declining enrollments.

- The House gave tentative approval to a bill to protect consumers against profiteering during time of disaster.

- A bill requiring the registration of all beer kegs sold by retail liquor stores won first-round approval in the House.

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