

# Cyprus Tension High

## Thousands Mourn Slain Greek Protester

*Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches*

PARALIMNI, Cyprus — Thousands of Greek Cypriots gathered Friday for the funeral of a protester killed two days ago by Turkish troops inside the buffer zone running across this divided island.

Hundreds of policemen formed a human chain along part of the buffer zone in eastern Cyprus to prevent further

violence. The Cypriot government appealed to the Greek Cypriot community to show restraint amid continuing protests.

Solomous Solomou, 26, was shot and killed Wednesday as he climbed a flagpole to pull down a Turkish flag inside the zone, administered by the United Nations, that divides the island into Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot sectors.

Amid thousands of mourners, his body arrived at Paralimni's cathedral covered in a Greek flag. A military band led the way.

Mr. Solomou died three days after his cousin, Tassos Isaac, was beaten to death by Turks during a protest against Turkey's 22-year-old occupation of the northern third of the island.

Seeking to ease tensions, Turkey's foreign minister, Tansu Ciller, said Friday that the Cyprus question could only be brought to a lasting solution by simultaneous admission of the island and Turkey to the European Union.

The EU has started discussing Cyprus's membership with the Greek Cypriot government in Nicosia.

Turkish Cypriots oppose the deal, arguing that the Greek Cypriot government cannot decide the matter on their behalf.

Also on Friday, a representative of the UN secretary-general, Boutros Boutros Ghali, met separately with President Glavkos Klerides, the Greek Cypriot leader, and the Turkish Cypriot leader, Rauf Denktash.

"We are discussing what we can do to defuse the situation," the mediator, Gustave Feissel, said. He has called the Turkish reaction to the protests excessive.

Mrs. Ciller held talks late Thursday with Mr. Denktash in Nicosia.

She said that Turkey was in favor of peace but that it would "not tolerate border violations" by Greek Cypriots.

Mrs. Ciller suggested at a news conference Friday that the presence of Turkish troops on Cyprus had prevented a massacre after Greek Cypriots crossed into the buffer zone. (AP, Reuters, AFP)

## Delay in Merger Of Troops Snags Peace in Angola

*The Associated Press*

LUANDA, Angola — Prospects for a quick implementation of the final steps of the peace process here were dimmer Friday, one day after the former rebel movement UNITA failed to meet the Thursday deadline to have all its 62,500 fighters demobilized.

The United Nations said nearly 59,000 rebel soldiers had entered its camps by Aug. 15, but another 8,600 deserted since the demobilization process began in November.

Despite signs of an impasse in the peace accord to end two decades of civil war, the government approved a \$65 million financial aid package Thursday to return 100,000 army and rebel soldiers to civilian life.

The government's program to relocate, educate and employ the demobilized soldiers in postwar Angola will require an additional \$66 million from foreign donors. They have pledged \$18 million so far.

The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) has blamed insufficient funding and resources for the delay in demobilization and selection of 26,000 of its soldiers for a merger with 60,000 army troops.

## ***France Chides African States***

PARIS — France blamed African states Tuesday for not helping stem the flow of people chasing a mirage of wealth only to end up as poor illegal residents.

Foreign Minister Herve de Charette, in a clear gibe at France's former African colonies, said they were not doing enough to tackle the problem.

"There are countries which get considerable French aid and do not always give the impression of doing all they could to prevent these unfortunate individuals from ending up adrift in France, and once they are here, to take them back," he told RTL radio.

The French police last week stormed a Paris church to evict 220 African immigrant protesters demanding residence permits, 10 of whom were on a hunger strike. By Tuesday morning, the Paris administrative tribunal had upheld expulsion orders against 30 of 89 Africans involved in the church protest while throwing out 15 such orders. *(Reuters)*

## ***Food Poisoning Aboard Ship***

the eastern Mediterranean island of Crete on Tuesday were treating about 400 cruise ship passengers suffering from food poisoning, port authorities said.

The authorities said that initially, 60 of the 1,300 passengers aboard the Costa Riviera had high fever but only 10 were taken to a hospital for treatment.

The passengers aboard the Liberian-flagged cruise ship came down with food poisoning shortly after the vessel left the island of Corfu late Monday on a cruise from Bari, Italy. *(AP)*

## ***2 More Bombs in Corsica***

AJACCIO, Corsica — Two bombs exploded overnight on this French Mediterranean island, bringing the number of attacks in recent weeks to 20.

No one was injured when the first bomb damaged prefabricated structures and cars at an Avis auto rental office in Figari just after 10 P.M. Monday night, or when the second started a fire at a building in Bonifacio four hours earlier, the police said. No one has claimed responsibility for those bombings. *(AP)*

## ***Shuffle in Slovakia's Cabinet***

## Poisoning hits Greek cruise

**F**OUR people, including two children, were taken to hospital in Crete yesterday after food poisoning hit 800 passengers on a cruise around the Greek islands.

The illness broke out on the 28,137-tonne Costa Riviera, owned by Costa Grociere in Genoa, and operated by a Greek company.

The junior health minister, Fraglinos Papadelis, told reporters: "Of the the 800 people affected, around 300 had stronger symptoms but the situation is less serious than reported."

He said the ship had not taken on food or water in any Greek port. — Reuter.

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## Greece Bars Cruise Ship Departure

ATHENS (Reuters) — Greek authorities have barred an Italian-owned cruise ship from sailing from Crete until medical tests determine what caused gastroenteritis in hundreds of passengers, officials said Wednesday.

“We are pretty sure it’s food poisoning but we have to exclude the possibility of an epidemic,” a coast guard official said.

## East German Is Spared Trial

BERLIN — A court removed a former East German Communist leader Monday from a group of defendants on trial for the shooting deaths of people trying to flee over the border, including the Berlin Wall, to the West.

Erich Mueckenberger, 86, was removed at the request of prosecutors because his poor health was delaying the trial of the other four defendants, the Berlin state court said.

Mr. Mueckenberger faced the most serious charges, including 47 counts of manslaughter where Communist guards shot and killed East Germans trying to flee to the West. A former party controller, he was the only remaining defendant who was a Politburo member when construction of the Berlin Wall began in August 1961.

Mr. Mueckenberger's poor health had limited testimony to two hours a day over 39 sessions since the trial began last November. The court said he would be tried separately in the future if his condition improved. (AP)

## Russian Held in Prostitution Case

FLENSBURG, Germany — A 33-year-old Russian sought in the Netherlands for operating a prostitution racket was arrested on board a night train traveling from Denmark, border police in this northern German city said Monday.

Dutch authorities had been seeking the man for two years. He is suspected of being the leader of a gang that smuggles Russian women into the Netherlands and forces them into prostitution, according to German police. (AFP)

## U.K. Bars Sale of Surgery Video

LONDON — The British government has secured a last-minute injunction to stop a controversial film of surgical operations from going on sale Monday.

After urgent talks at his ministry, Health Minister Gerry Malone sought and obtained an injunction suspending the sale of the video until judges meet Wednesday to decide whether the video should be banned.

The 50-minute video filmed at public hospitals, shows surgeons carrying out open-heart surgery, gynecological operations and breast implants. The makers say the video is informative and educational.

Although the patients are not identified, Mr. Malone said the video contravened the principle of patient confidentiality. (AFP)

## Greek Calls for Low-Key Campaign

ATHENS — Prime Minister Costas Simitis called Monday for a low-key campaign before snap elections on Sept. 22 with no big rallies, no personal attacks but with

televised arguments on the country's problems.

"We say no to chicken fights, false promises, meaningless rallies and plastic flags," Mr. Simitis, a Socialist, said of his party's campaign plans. (Reuters)

## Austria Surveys Children's Bags

VIENNA — Vienna's education authority is planning to weigh schoolchildren and their bookbags in an effort to correct bad posture, the Austrian news agency APA reported Monday.

Inspectors will target five schools when term starts at the beginning of September and weigh a sample of children in an effort to discourage bags that are too heavy. (Reuters)

## Iran Warns Germany on Trial

A trial in Berlin related to the 1992 assassination of Iranian political opponents is straining Iran's close ties with Germany, an Iranian government newspaper said Monday.

The Iran News accused the German judiciary of creating "a poisonous atmosphere" against Iran, and said the trial "will serve as a principal barrier" in ties.

A former Iranian president, Abol-Hassan Banisadr, told a German court that Iranian leaders ordered the assassination of Kurdish opposition leader, Sadiq Sharafkindi, and three aides at a Berlin restaurant on Sept. 17, 1992. (AP)