

JIMI HENDRIX would have turned 60 last week, but his music's still alive and kicking. — PAGE 11



WORLD



FORMER PRESIDENT Boris Yeltsin says he was Russia's good luck charm for its Davis Cup win. — PAGE 16

Briefs

4 Palestinians killed

JERUSALEM — Four Palestinians died in violence Monday in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including a teenager shot dead when rock-throwing Palestinians clashed with Israeli troops in the West Bank town of Jenin.

Also, an aid group charged that Israeli forces destroyed a food warehouse in Gaza over the weekend, and Israel's military chief denied reports that he said Israel would eventually dismantle most Jewish settlements.

Israeli forces were involved in three of the fatal incidents, but the fourth Palestinian, a sanitation worker at the Erez crossing between Gaza and Israel, was killed when a mortar fired by Palestinians at an Israeli position fell short of its target, Palestinian security officials said. Twelve Palestinians returning from their jobs in Israel were wounded in the blast.

IRA trial to begin

BOGOTA, Colombia — Testimony was set to begin Monday in the trial of three suspected Irish Republican Army members accused of training Colombian rebels in terrorist tactics, with prosecutors expected to present evidence the men had repeatedly visited rebels before their arrests.

A dozen protesters greeted an Irish delegation chanting, in English, "IRA, take your bombs away." The delegates came to observe the trial because of their concerns that the three men would not receive a fair hearing in Colombia.

James Monaghan, Niall Connolly and Martin McCauley were arrested at Bogota's airport 15 months ago after visiting a rebel safe haven in southern Colombia, where prosecutors say they trained insurgents in explosives and other terrorist techniques.

Blast rocks Bombay

BOMBAY — A bomb exploded in a bus parked near a crowded railway station Monday in a northeastern Bombay suburb, killing at least two people and injuring 26 others, officials said.

The bus was empty when the explosion occurred, but shrapnel from the bomb hit bystanders, killing two people instantly, a senior official said.

"Police suspect it was a crude bomb. They are investigating what caused the explosion," said Kripa Shanker, junior minister for home affairs of Maharashtra state. Bombay is the state capital.

Police said the bomb was apparently placed under a seat in the rear of the bus.

— AP

Britain slams Saddam's abuses

Report documents Iraq's terror on own citizens

By **Dominic Evans**
Reuters

LONDON — Britain accused President Saddam Hussein Monday of gross human rights violations, from acid baths and eye-gouging to rape and mass execution, as it sought to harden public opinion ahead of possible war with Iraq.

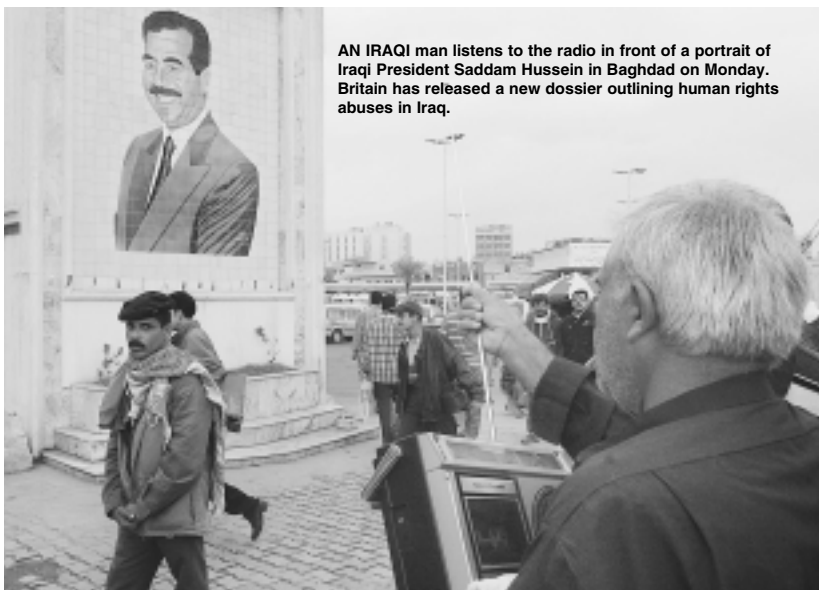
Six days before a deadline for Saddam to hand over details of his alleged weapons of mass destruction, Foreign Office officials unveiled a 23-page human rights dossier outlining "the barbarity of his regime."

Three or 4 million Iraqis — about 15 percent of the population — had fled their homeland rather than live under his rule. Those who remained faced his "cruel and callous disregard for human life and suffering," the report said.

In Iraq's northern Kurdish region, 100,000 Kurds were killed or disappeared in 1987-88 alone, the report quoted human rights organizations as saying.

Iraq's Shi'ite Muslims, who make up more than half the population, had endured a "systematic attack" on their religious and tribal leaders. Hundreds of Shi'ite civilians died when security forces fired on a peaceful demonstration in early 1999, it said.

Political prisoners faced "inhumane and degrading" conditions, the report said. Some prisoners were "cleansed" of prisoners, including the Abu Ghraib prison where 4,000



AN IRAQI man listens to the radio in front of a portrait of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in Baghdad on Monday. Britain has released a new dossier outlining human rights abuses in Iraq.

prisoners were executed in 1984. "These grave violations of human rights are not the work of a number of overzealous individuals but the deliberate policy of the regime," the report said. "Fear is Saddam's chosen method for staying in power."

At the Mahjar prison in central Baghdad 600-700 prisoners are split between underground cells and former dog kennels, the report said. Two large oil tanks have been built nearby to flood the prison with petrol and burn it down in an emergency.

At the "Casket Prison," prisoners are kept in rows of rectangular steel boxes until they confess or die. The boxes are opened once a day for half an hour and prisoners get no solid foods, the report said. Some prisoners survive for up to a year.

At the "Can Prison," detainees are locked in metal boxes the size of tea chests. Each box has a tap for water and a meshed floor to allow them to defecate, it said.

There was no immediate comment from the Iraqi government on the British report. Iraq has in the past rejected as lies rights alle-

gations against it by international organizations and U.N. rights investigators. Human rights organizations accuse Britain of showing a belated interest in human rights abuses in Iraq, saying it steadfastly ignored them during the 1980s when Saddam was waging an eight-year war on Iran, largely supported by the West.

Washington and London now maintain that Saddam has been building and stockpiling weapons of mass destruction and have threatened war unless he surrenders them. ■

Denmark prepares EU for expansion

Leader is touring capitals to present proposals

The Associated Press

LISBON, Portugal — Denmark's latest proposals to 10 nations negotiating entry to the European Union are "a balanced compromise and a fair offer to the candidate countries," the country's prime minister said Monday.

However, Anders Fogh Rasmussen admitted the proposals presented last week had met with resistance.

"Some candidate countries say the proposals are not enough, some member states criticize them for being too generous," he told a news conference.

The Danish prime minister, whose country holds the EU's rotating presidency, visited Lisbon at the start of a tour of EU capitals to prepare for the 15-nation bloc's summit next week in Copenhagen.

Denmark hopes the summit will seal a historic reunification of the continent.

Portuguese Prime Minister Jose Durao Barroso said his country supported the proposals, but acknowledged the Danish govern-

ment faced "a huge task" in completing an agreement.

Denmark has offered the 10 candidates an extra 1.3 billion euro (\$1.29 billion) in aid to persuade them to accept entry terms ahead of the Dec. 12 summit in the Danish capital, which is scheduled to wrap up four years of membership talks.

However, the candidates are demanding more while some of the 15 current EU members balked at the package, saying the bloc couldn't afford to hand out the extra money.

The 10 likely new EU members are Cyprus, Malta, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia.

They could join next year if they get an invitation in Copenhagen.

Fogh Rasmussen said he hoped the summit would give Romania and Bulgaria a "clear signal of support" for their efforts to join the EU in 2007.

He was noncommittal, though, about Turkey's hopes of joining.

The new Turkish government has tabled a draft package of reforms aimed at increasing its chances of joining the bloc.

"Turkey has made very encour-



TURKEY'S new leader, Recep Tayyip Erdogan (left) meets with Danish Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen last week. Rasmussen said Monday that it is too early to assess Turkey's chances of joining the EU.

aging progress toward meeting the political criteria over the past month but it is still too early to say

what the conclusion will be in Copenhagen," Fogh Rasmussen said. ■