World and Nation

Easter worshippers gather in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM — Under police and army guard, pilgrims from around the world gathered at dawn for Easter Sunday services in the church marking the site where most Christians believe Jesus rose from the dead.

About 1,000 worshipers — half as many as last year — attended services in the 12th-century Church of the Holy Sepulcher, church officials said.

Many pilgrims were scared away by four months of almost daily violence in the Israeli-occupied territories that have left more than 130 Palestinians and one Jewish soldier dead. The Greek Orthodox Church canceled three pre-Easter processions scheduled for the

Security was low-key Sunday at the Crusader-built church, where about

half a dozen uniformed police stood guard in the courtyard and at the

But dozens of soldiers were stationed throughout the walled Old City, some on rooftops and others patrolling the narrow cobblestone streets. An Arab attacker stabbed an Israeli police officer in the Old City

on Friday. "Before we came, our friends were worried and said they would pray for us." said 71-year-old Arnold Rosenbrock, a Lutheran from Kankakee,

"We've been fine, but someone was killed in Bethlehem yesterday (Sat-

urday) a few hours before we visited." he added. "There were boulders in the street and it was tense."

"We were frightened before we came, but now that we are here, we feel it is safe," said Philip Jiamachello, 31, of Houston, who attended the services with his wife and young son. "For me, this was a very moving experience."

Tourism ministry officials said they had no figures for the month of March but acknowledged a 13 percent drop in tourism for the first week of the month as compared with a year ago. Officials also expressed concern about possible cancellations in April and May.

Organ music and clouds of incense filled the church during the Latin service held in front of the marbleenclosed tomb marking the site where Jesus is believed to have been resurrected.

The Roman Catholic patriarch of Jerusalem, Monsignor Michel Sabbah, the first Palestinian to hold the post, presided over the service. Last week, he called on worshipers to make special Easter prayers for those caught up in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

While the Roman Catholics were celebrating Easter, Orthodox denominations were marking their Palm Sunday, walking along the Via Dolorosa or Way of Sorrow, where Jesus, wearing a crown of thorns, was forced to carry the cross on which he died. Orthodox Christians celebrate Easter this coming Sunday.

India's population may pass China's, experts say ranked third in population, is expected to drop to No. 5 by the year

WASHINGTON — India could surpass China as the world's most populous nation in the not too distant future, the Census Bureau said.

From Associated Press reports

China has long been the world's most heavily-populated nation, currently containing one in five of the Earth's people.

But "the time is now forseeable reach old age," the bureau said in its

when India will take over the number new "World Population Profile: one spot, reflecting a population growth rate that is nearly twice as high as China's," the bureau reported

"The latest projections suggest that India's population may surpass China's in less than 60 years, or before today's youngsters in both countries 1987."

The bureau estimates that China currently contains 1,088,169,000 people, compared with India's 816,828,000.

But India has a birth rate of 32 per 1,000 people, compared with just 20 per 1,000 in China, which has conducted an intensive campaign to reduce births in recent years. Subtracting deaths, India's population is growing at 2.1 percent annually, China's by only 1.5 percent, the bureau reported.

Thus, population projections for the year 2050 show India as the world's most populated country, with an anticipated 1,591,204,000 people. At the same time, China would have a population of 1,554,875,000.

Sharp changes are expected in other nations too, the report says. The Soviet Union, currently

2050. Fourth place United States would slip to eighth, while Indonesia, currently fifth, would drop to seventh.

Expected to replace the Soviet Union in third is Nigeria, currently ranked 13th. Pakistan, now No. 14, is expected to rise to fourth by 2050. Other findings contained in the

new report include: World population, which

recently passed the 5 billion mark, is expected to reach 10 billion by

■ The death rate in developing countries is falling and is expected to dip below that of more developed nations, which have generally older populations and thus higher overall death rates.

■ More than half of the world's population lives in Asia.

Filipino troops go on alert after coup leader's escape

From Associated Press reports

MANILA, Philippines Troops went on nationwide alert Sunday for the fugitive leader of an August 1987 coup attempt, and the military warned that extremists may try to exploit the confusion generated by his daring escape.

Former Lt. Col. Gregorio Honasan, 39, escaped from a prison ship before dawn Saturday with 14 elite navy personnel who were supposed to be guarding him. He had been confined there since his arrest Dec. 9 for the Aug. 28 attemped coup, which left at least 53 people dead and hundreds wounded.

His escape was a blow to the prestige of the armed forces, already facing threats from Communist and Moslem rebels.

Lebanon drug trade increases

WASHINGTON — Lebanon, long known as a supplier of hashish, has become one of the world's big heroin centers in the past few years as its economy and central government have collapsed, U.S. officials said.

Lebanon's role in the world's drug trade is discussed in the State Department's March report on narcotics.

Officials said the situation is worrisome because the United States has little influence in the country, much of which is controlled by Christian, Druze and Moslem factions.

Arab death toll rises

JERUSALEM — An Arab was electrocuted in the West Bank **News in Brief**

after Israeli soldiers forced him to climb a utility pole to remove a Palestinian flag in one of three deaths in the occupied territories Sunday, the army said.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin announced a new army policy to go on the offensive and teach rioting Arabs a lesson.

Sunday's deaths brought to 136 the number of Arabs who have died in four months of protests against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to U.N. figures. One Israeli soldier has been killed.

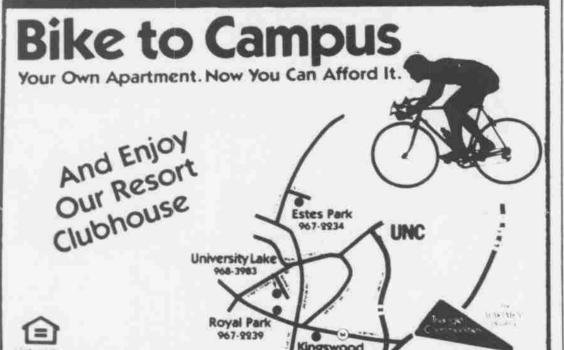
Nicaraguan peace talks delayed

MANAGUA, Nicaragua -Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo prayed Sunday during the Easter Mass for a definitive truce in the six-year-old civil war and a "passage from war to life."

The Roman Catholic prelate also announced, after speaking with representatives of the government and rebels, that peace talks scheduled to open Wednesday in Managua had been postponed until April 12.

A 60-day cease-fire signed March 23 went into effect Friday and the Defense Ministry said Sunday there were no reports of violations.

The rebels' Nicaraguan Resistance Alliance on Saturday insisted the meeting set for Wednesday be postponed for a week, saying talks to work out the cease-fire mechanics had not been resolved.



Candidates take their campaigns to church

The presidential candidates took their politicking to Easter church for victory in this week's campaign double feature — the Colorado caucuses and Wisconsin primary.

Republican Pat Robertson, whose candidacy has been all but derailed by Vice President George Bush's

services on Sunday as they battled march to the nomination, said he has a mandate from God and will not stop until he is president of the United

> Saying he would run again in 1992, Robertson told about 3,000 people at Denver's Happy Church that "I am

not going to quit . . . That is his plan for me and for this nation."

But with Bush's nomination virtually assured, the 1988 focus is now on the Democrats.

Sen. Albert Gore Jr. of Tennessee, who has staked hopes of reviving his trailing campaign with a good showing in Wisconsin on Tuesday, picked up the Milwaukee Journal's endorsement this weekend.

The newspaper cited Gore's "impressive record" in arms control, military reform and environmental protection and called him "one of Congress' best informed members on the future of science and technology."

Mass. Gov. Michael Dukakis, who shares front-runner status with Rev. Jesse Jackson, was asked by reporters outside a Milwaukee church if he shared the view of some Democrats that Jackson is not electable because he is black and too liberal.

"I don't think there is any way of knowing," Dukakis said.

Democratic Party Chairman Paul Kirk also sidestepped that question Sunday when interviewed on ABC-TV's "This Week With David Brinkley."

"We haven't nominated anyone yet," Kirk said. "The Democratic Party will do its best to nominate, I hope, the most electable candidate in order to win in November."

Jackson on Sunday showed no concern about reports of consternation among Democrats over his recent momentum.

Speaking to overflow crowds at two Denver churches, he continued to hammer home the themes that have brought a burgeoning response to his campaign.

Jackson's success in the primaries and caucuses - including a victory over Dukakis in the Virgin Islands on Saturday - has created a sticky issue for Democrats bent on picking a nominee who can secure the White House.

His campaign chairman, Calif. Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, said Sunday that the margin of Jackson's successes has surprised him. But he said that even if Jackson gets the most delegates by the end of the primary season, that doesn't mean he should get the nomination.

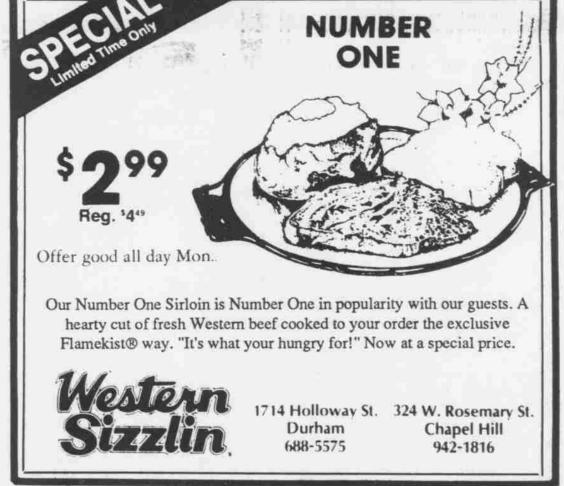
"You can have a plurality of the delegates and still not be able to reach the 2,082 required to secure the nomination," Brown said on "This Week With David Brinkley."

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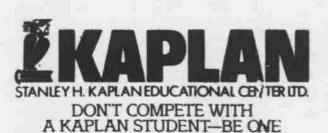
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