

# INTERNATIONAL

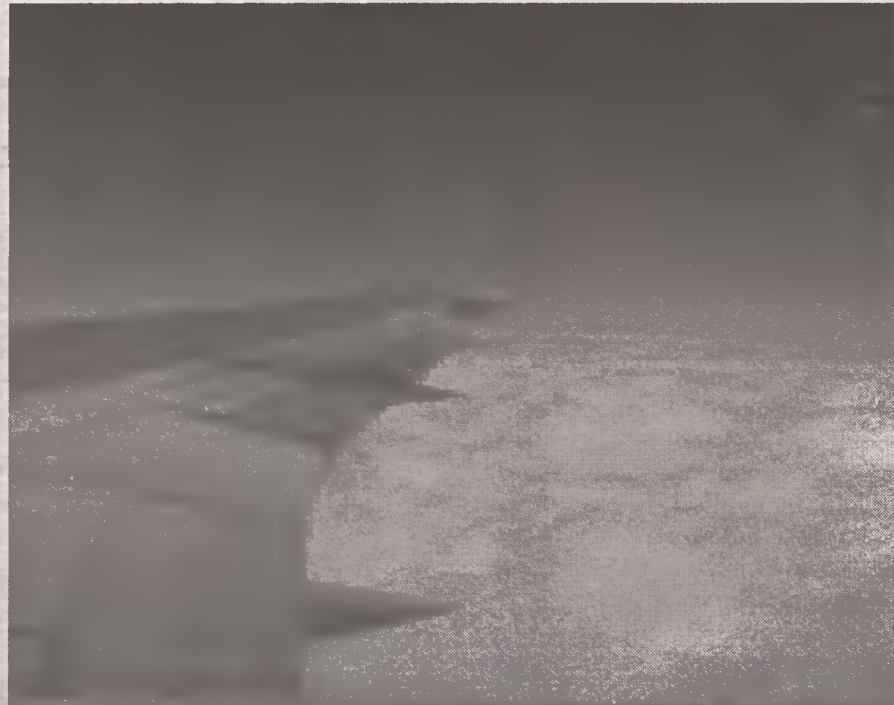
## Tragic Ethiopian Airlines Crash

Anna Turner, Staff Writer

January 25, 2010, a plane carrying 90 passengers crashed off of the coast of Beirut, Lebanon after departing from Rafik Hariri International Airport in Beirut early Monday morning bound for the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa. This is Ethiopian Airline's third crash since 1980. The first was in 1996 when a plane headed to the Ivory Coast was hijacked. The second involved the plane crashing very shortly after landing, much like Flight 409.

According to CNN, the plane went down approximately 2.1 miles west of the town of Na'ameh, which is only 9 miles south of Beirut. CNN also reported that the Boeing 737-800 was carrying eight crew members and 82 passengers. Of these passengers, 51 were Lebanese nationals and 23 were Ethiopian citizens. The airline also reported that there were citizens from Great Britain, Iraq, Turkey, Syria, Canada, Russia, and France aboard. All of the passengers are presumed to be dead, as the plane's black box has not yet been recovered.

Search and rescue efforts have been ongoing, and according to ABC News, only fourteen bodies have been recovered thus far. These bodies are currently un-



View from a Plane Window, Anna Turner

dergoing DNA testing in hopes of identification. The US has aided in the rescue mission by sending the destroyer, the USS Ramage, and a P-3 aircraft. The USS Ramage was able to pick up signals from the plane's black box, which was determined to be 4,265 feet underwater. As ABC News reports, the Lebanese government has offi-

cially asked for aid from the United State's Odyssey Marine Explorations to send submarines in hopes of finding more victims and the plane's black box.

Officials are unsure right now what caused the plane to go down, but it is speculated that stormy weather may have ultimately been the cause of the tragic crash.

## News at a Glance

gathered by Mengjie Zhang

- Leaders from Britain, Ireland, and Northern Ireland reached an agreement that saved Northern Ireland's power-sharing government on Feb. 4th 2010.
- G7 group, Canada, the US, UK, France, Germany, Italy and Japan, planned to cancel Haiti's bilateral debits on summit in Iqaluit, northern Canada.
- Until Saturday (Feb.6th 2010), 33 deaths and more than 160 injuries were reported after twin bombings in Pakistan.
- According to South Korea media, Chinese envoy Wang Jiarui visited Pyongyang to persuade North Korea to rejoin nuclear disarmament talk.
- Toyota recalled Prius hybrid models with braking system problem in addition to the other models recently recalled for accelerator issues.
- On Feb 6th 2010, around 350 foreign travel agencies arrived in Reykjavik, capital of Iceland, to attend Iceland's largest travel fair held there.

## What is President Obama's Budget for 2011?

Mengjie Zhang, Staff Writer

After the latest State of the Union address, President Barack Obama submitted his budget for the fiscal year of 2011 to Congress on Monday, February 1, 2010. Obama's budget for 2011 will lead a record high deficit of \$1.56 trillion for the next fiscal year, which begins on October 1st. President Obama reminded Congress that the deficit was over \$1 trillion before he became President, and that he is trying to fix the deficit over the next decade because it is not an overnight process.

President Obama's \$3.8 trillion budget includes an unexpected increase on military spending in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Pakistan,

which ends up at \$159 billion for next year, and an eight percent raise in veterans' medical care leading to a cost of \$48 billion. President Obama also proposed to keep tax cuts for families with annual incomes lower than \$250,000 but to abandon previous tax cuts on people whose incomes are higher than \$250,000. In addition, President Obama also added \$100 billion in tax cuts and credits for small business and spending on infrastructure, an effort which he hopes will create jobs and improve wages. To encourage and help people to go to college, Obama also suggested four-year \$10,000 tax credits for families with a student

going to college.

In President Obama's words, it will take time to fill this big budget hole. He proposes to begin to freeze spending on programs outside Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and national security for three years following 2011. President Obama promised to eliminate unaffordable and unsuccessful programs, and he projected a fee to charge on big banks. He ended by hopefully suggesting that if Congress were to follow these suggestions for next year, then it would bring the deficit down to \$706 billion by 2014.

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