

Violence flares at anti-NF protest



Anti-Nazi League supporters, looking anything but meek and mild, march along Heathfield Road, Handsworth on their way to West Bromwich (right) where police with riot shields formed a three-deep cordon round Crenehills Junior School.



By TERRY KERRY and ALASTAIR TAYLOR.

A meeting which cost the National Front £8 for the hire of a school hall ended this weekend with a £40,000 bill for the public and the cost of one of the biggest police operations in the West Midlands.

Violence flared between hecklers and National Front stewards in Crenehills Junior School at West Bromwich and more than 100 police stormed into the meeting to restore order.

Outside more than 2,000 police formed a three-deep ring around the school as they faced crowds of angry demonstrators.

The protest march was organised by the Anti-Nazi League and included members of the Spartacist League, the National Workers Party, the Socialist Unity Party and the Indian Workers Association.

The march began in Loxells, Birmingham with only about 200 present. The ranks were swelled as it passed along Soho Road and Holyhead Road.

In the middle of Handsworth, National Parliamentary candidate for the area, Mr. John Sever, paused from greeting shoppers to shake hands with members of the Indian Workers Association who were leading the march.

More than 150 people queued for up to eight hours to enter the National Front election meeting in the school

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Foreign edition of The Times halted

Fears of violence and sabotage at a Frankfurt printing plant have caused the postponement of the overseas edition of The Times.

Newspaper executives first decided to postpone yesterday's issue, and later to call off the Frankfurt operation altogether.

Demonstrators had surrounded the printing plant and police warned that any attempt to print would lead to a serious situation, said a Times spokesman.

Up to 60,000 copies were to have been printed for distribution — but not in Britain or Ireland. The Times and Sunday Times have not been produced in London since November.

A spokesman for Times Newspapers in London said yesterday the decision was taken after police said they would not be able to guarantee that there would be no violence.

Mr. John Willis, national officer of the National Graphical Association, which has been opposing the proposed publication in Frankfurt, said "News of the postponement has come as a complete surprise to me."

Mr. William Rees, a Times spokesman, said in an interview on the radio: "I feel very stunned. I feel this is a central issue of the press."

On learning of the news, the German union called off its pickets.

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Plastic harrier gets the bird

A plastic bird could be Britain's latest weapon in the war against pollution, which costs the country hundreds of millions of pounds a year.

It is proving so successful that it has even replaced the real thing.

The bird could also prove to be the answer to the problem of control of air traffic where large flocks of birds are attracted to aircraft landing and taking off.

The latest device to scare them from a brain runway is a life size plastic cut-out of a harrier, one of the most powerful birds of prey. It hovers at the end of the runway, its wings flapping, its beak open as if it were about to swoop.

Farmers who have been using the harrier also say that it has been successful in scaring off four-toeded snails such as deer, hares and rabbits.

British Petroleum and Shell have been ordered to pay £100,000 in damages relating to the traffic of the harrier.

Legal actions, drawn up by the Director of Public Prosecutions, are being taken against the harrier's manufacturer, the Harrier Bird Organisation, U.P.I.

Enemy signal

Britain's major warships are to be fitted with a new electronic communications system.

Defence, Mr. John Gilbert, said on Saturday.

The system, known as the British-designed system, will cost £70 million to develop and £100 million to install.

It will provide better information on the whereabouts of enemy aircraft and submarines.

Flight for life

A boy, aged five, suffering from a brain tumour, was flown to New York yesterday, where it is hoped American specialists can save his life.

Matthew Young, of Margate, has been in Guy's Hospital, London, for treatment. His doctors there were unable to help him. An appeal launched by a layer of Margate raised £15,000.

Teasy-Weasy's daughter dies in horror crash

The pregnant daughter of Mr. Teasy-Weasy Raymond, a top hairdresser, was one of six people killed in a horrific crash on the M4 on Saturday night.

Mrs. Amber Chase Gardner, aged 26, her husband and two young sons, died when their blue Mercedes was in a head-on crash with a silver Porsche.

Teasy-Weasy, aged 66, who has fought cancer for years, is due to go into hospital shortly for a stomach operation.

A man and woman in the front seats of the car were instantly in the crash near Maidenhead.

Wreckage

They were named yesterday as Mr. Brian Cardfield, a publishing manager, and Mrs. Louise Carlton, a top representative, aged 26, both of Flat 2, New Green, London.

The motorway was closed as teams of firemen and ambulance men tried to free the victims from the wreckage.

But a fire brigade spokesman said: "There was very little we could do by the time we got there."

A spokesman for Hounslow West Motors, which reported the crash, said: "The car was travelling at 100 mph when it was involved in the crash."

He made a fortune out of his hairdressing operation. But Teasy-Weasy's life has been dogged by the disease of the West End in the 1960s.

He married his present wife, Rosalind, a former model and television comedienne, in 1965.

He has a passion for polo and has won the Grand National twice — in 1963 and 1964.

He was a member of the Royal Household in 1976.

Strikers lay pay fight on the line

Telephone installations, bills, the National Giro Bank and foreign news reports will be hit through selective strikes by Post Office workers from today.

The action by the Posts and Telecommunications Group of the Civil and Public Services Association follows a walkout by all 37,000 members on Friday, and includes a total ban on overtime.

The telecommunications group is seeking comparability with the union's 160,000 Civil Service members who expect to receive pay increases ranging from 5 per cent to 20 per cent under the terms of the Government offer. The union also wants a new grading structure.

The strikes will involve clerical workers and computer typing. Giro and telephone sections of the Post Office and the association says, has failed to make an offer on a pay rise of 10 per cent.

Installation of all telephone equipment will be affected in Blackburn, Manchester, Peterborough

Villagers in silent protest for vicar

Villagers backing the low-wage vicar, the Rev. Kenneth Flenley, stood in silent protest yesterday outside his parish church as a bishop presided at a service.

About 60 placard-carrying villagers staged their protest outside the parish church of St. Swithuna, at Balford, near Bath, as a bishop presided at a service.

But, Mr. Flenley, aged 62, and married, who was dismissed last year for his ten-year love for a widow, was at home in the village.

It was the first time he had missed a Sunday service in 26 years as parish priest.

The widow, Mrs. Betty Akin, aged 62, of Dovers Park, Balford, who has been married to her husband for 40 years, was not present either, but three other children were at the service.

People at Uganda's Entebbe international airport on Saturday mistook the vicar for a man who stepped off an aircraft, apparently under escort, for Maj. Astles.

He is still in police custody in Kenya and will be flown to Uganda as soon as an aircraft arrives for him. He did not know the exact circumstances of the delay, but he said Ugandan communications with the outside world were still disrupted, causing constant difficulties in transport.

Sanction order

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Up the wall

A group of protesters climbed Peking's Democracy Wall yesterday and quickly added a collection of the most critical posters published in recent months.

Hundreds of anxious readers pressed forward to see the booklet and were amazed when the protesters were told to get off the Wall by officials in the municipal bus company, which owns most of it. — U.P.I.

Stolen boat alert

Interpol yesterday alerted Continental Europe to a luxury yacht thought to have been stolen by two brothers wanted for questioning in connection with the murder of a water board official.

The yacht disappeared from a mooring at St. Peter Port, Guernsey, on Saturday night. Close by the murder scene at Dunford, Surrey, last week.

Det. Chief Supt. Ron Underwood, head of Surrey CID, said: "We no want to interview the brothers about the theft of the yacht as well as in connection with the murder of the water board official."

The yacht, named Mamel, had a crew of two or three days at sea and was last seen on the morning of Saturday night.

The two men being sought by Surrey police are Nicholas J. Richards, aged 32 and his brother, Jason, 20. Both are believed to be in the area of the yacht's disappearance.

Mrs. Flenley, who still lives in the village, was at the service, with her daughter Sylvia, and son Christopher.

In his sermon, the bishop made direct reference to the vicar, but in prayer, asked the congregation to pray for the Flenley and Akin families.

Kenya will return Amin's aide soon

Kenya has agreed to hand back to Uganda Maj. Bob Astles, the British officer who was held in Uganda in 1977, has said his return has been delayed by transport and communications problems.

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The family of Mrs. Dora Bloch, the elderly Israeli-British hostage murdered in Uganda in 1977, has sent a cable to the new Ugandan President Yussuf Lule asking the Government to find her grave and permit reburial in Israel.

The Pope yesterday offered prayers for Uganda, whose people he said, had been gravely tried by recent events.

In his Sunday address to the crowd in St. Peter's Square, Rome, the Pope said his prayer was for reconciliation, a return to peace, and that no further blood may be shed. — Reuter.

Brittany escapes oil damage threat

French marine experts are now convinced there will be no major coastal pollution after Saturday's sinking of the Libertan registered tanker Gino, off Brittany.

The Gino went down in deep water 25 nautical miles off the coast of Ushant, at the western tip of Brittany, after a collision with another Norwegian tanker, Team Castor.

The Liberator ship was initially said to be carrying 32,000 tons of crude oil, but it was later found to be carrying 10,000 tons of fuel oil.

But experts later established that the Gino's cargo was a dense, refined petroleum product known as carbon black, which they described as heavier than water and in low temperatures having the consistency of thick tar.

The dismounted chances of it floating to the surface, let alone being swept up by the coast.

A small amount of fuel oil — estimated at less than 1,000 tonnes — leaked from the Gino and from the 10,000 tonnes of carbon black, and at one stage two mile-long slicks were reported near the wreck.

Naval vessels sprayed them with dispersants and British naval headquarters said yesterday that the situation was improving.

The French coast near there bore the brunt of the world's worst coastal pollution disaster: the wreck of the super-tanker Amoco Cadiz off Fortville in March 1978, when her entire cargo, 250,000 tons of crude, spilled into the sea.

"There is only a very small amount of fuel left on the water," a maritime official said yesterday. "It is virtually no chance of reaching the beaches, because of its small size and the distance to shore." — Reuter, U.P.I.

Guerillas may face execution

The Israeli Government yesterday vowed to bring to trial the thousands of people who are being held in "inhuman terrorist crimes" in an official spokesman said.

The Cabinet decision was carried by six votes to five with one abstention.

Prime Minister Menachem Begin urged that military courts should be empowered to impose death sentences on guerrillas by Palestinian guerrillas.

The move followed the Israeli report of Nahariya a week ago in which four Israelis and two Palestinians were killed.

Four Palestinians are awaiting trial for crimes they are described as inhuman.

It was not immediately known whether they will be liable to the death penalty. — Reuter.

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NEW FLIGHTS FROM BIRMINGHAM TO
BRITAIN (BRIS) & EUROPE (LAX)
HOBANBY (CHICAGO) & THE ISLES OF SCYLLA
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THE BIRMINGHAM TO PLYMOUTH DIRECT LINE
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FRIDAY - TWICE DAILY
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