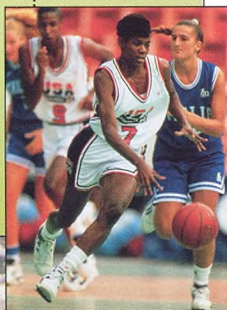
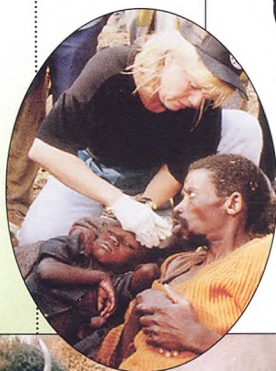




1994 / 1995

# world beat





Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein orders his troops to the border of oil-rich Kuwait. The U.S. sends 350 warplanes to the area to support the Kuwaiti forces. By October 11, Hussein orders the withdrawal of most of his forces.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin calls out his poorly trained military to subdue a rebellion in Chechnya, a southern republic the size of Connecticut. Critics accuse Yeltsin of resorting to totalitarian methods of the old communist Soviet regime to keep the shaky Russian Federation unified.

Europe's worst flood in this century kills at least 30 people across Europe. Inland floods caused by melting Alpine snow and relentless rains hit Belgium, France, Germany, and the Netherlands, whose famous dike system begins to crumble late in January 1995 in the face of rampaging rivers. Dutch authorities evacuate 250,000 people from the lowlands.

Camilla Parker Bowles, allegedly Prince Charles' mistress, announces her divorce from her husband, Andrew Parker Bowles. Princess Diana is said to be negotiating a divorce from Charles, who will be free to remarry without giving up the throne—unless unhappy subjects force a referendum on the monarchy.

More than 900 passengers die, 140 are rescued when the Estonia, a 15,500-ton Baltic ferry sinks off the coast of Finland in a violent nighttime storm. The storm's 30-foot waves swamp the ship which lists and sinks in a matter of minutes.

World News

Reuters/Bettmann



After a peasant uprising in Chiapas and two major political murders, Mexico gets a new president. Ernesto Zedillo, an economist, assumes office only to face a stockmarket crash, a ruined economy, and a loss of international confidence in the wake of the North American Free Trade Agreement.



Buquelet Sordito from Gamma Liaison

On July 25, U.S. President Bill Clinton welcomes King Hussein of Jordan, right, and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to the White House, where the two sign a historic nonaggression pact that ends a 46-year state of belligerency between Israel and Jordan.



Conservative religious groups and those who believe in individual rights clash over issues of education for women and family planning at the U.N. International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, Egypt, September 5.



Joyful residents of Belfast celebrate after the Irish Republican Army (IRA) announces an end to its military operations in Northern Ireland as of August 31. After 25 years of British military presence and over 3,000 killings, the IRA says it will now seek Irish union only through political channels.



AP/Wide World

When their Army helicopter accidentally strays into North Korea in December, Chief Warrant Officers Bobby Wayne Hall and David Hilemon are shot down by the communists. Washington does not admit to espionage as the North Koreans want, but negotiates for survivor Bobby Hall's release by expressing its sincere regret over the intrusion.



Reuters/Bettmann

Tipper Gore, wife of U.S. Vice President Al Gore, visits Rwandan refugee camps in Zaire in July. Thousands of refugees, fleeing ethnic conflict in Rwanda, die of cholera, dysentery, and other infectious diseases. Fresh water supplied by the United States military greatly reduces the number of cholera deaths.

Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasir Arafat returns to Palestine in July 1994 after 27 years of exile in Tunisia. Arafat kisses the ground in the Gaza Strip, now a Palestinian autonomous zone under the terms of a 1993 peace accord with Israel.



Maher Altar - Sygma

AP/Wide World