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But the president had earlier transferred from his official car to a smaller vehicle, and was driving himself at the rear of the official convoy. — Sapa-Reuter.



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Police fear kidnap heiress is dead

Own Correspondent
LONDON. — Police hunting Britain's most wanted criminal, the killer-turned-kidnapper of teenage heiress Lesley Whittle, feel there is little chance of finding her alive.

Senior detectives speak officially of their hope that Lesley, 17, who was taken from her home in her dressing gown a month ago, is still a prisoner.

But they now concede privately that hope has run out,

even though the hunt for the criminal, known as the "Black Panther", continues.

The man has been hunted for four years for crimes which have the same stamp. Police suspect that the list extends far beyond the series of attacks on remote country post offices and the gun murder of three postmasters.

The latest hopeful line of inquiry is that the man is a diabetic.

Police believe that a bottle

of tonic lemonade often given to such people and a packet of barley sugar sweets, found in an abandoned car at Dudley, Shropshire could mean the man is in need of diabetic treatment.

The car was found near a Dudley freight depot where a security guard was shot several times but survived.

Dudley is a few kilometres from the village of Highly, where Lesley lived with her elder brother Ronald.

Demo in Addis to support crushing of rebels

ADDIS ABABA. — Thousands of people marched through Addis Ababa yesterday in support of the military government's 17-day-old campaign to crush Moslem secessionists in Eritrea.

The demonstration came shortly after Ethiopia's government announced a state of emergency in Eritrea, replaced the top military and police commanders in the embattled province, and stressed it would never agree to Eritrean independence.

Although the Government appeared to be hardening its attitude towards Eritrea, it did agree yesterday to send a delegation to the Sudan to continue talks aimed at a possible peace settlement.

CHANTED

A Sudanese team attempting to mediate between the Government and Eritrean Liberation Front guerrillas returned to Khartoum on Saturday.

Sudan, which is predominantly Moslem, has always had a special relationship with Eritrea, whose people are also Moslems and have always resented the 1962 absorption of the coastal province into Christian Ethiopia.

In Addis Ababa, an estimated 10 000 people from veteran soldier student organisations chanted, danced and ran through the streets yesterday in a lighthearted demonstration of support for the government's attempts to crush the rebels.

It was the first substantial show of support for the government since heavy fighting broke out in Eritrea on January 31. About 3 000 people are reported to have been killed. — UPI.

The way we were



The new Tory leader's love of hats is nothing new — she wore one on her parliamentary debut 16 years ago. But Mrs Margaret Thatcher's neckline is higher now.

Stonehouse in new cash row

LONDON. — A total of £50 000 (about R80 000) is missing from the assets of a company controlled by runaway British MP John Stonehouse, the Press Association news agency reported at the weekend.

The agency said the sum includes a R8 000 cheque paid to Mr Stonehouse by the Garrett Corporation of Los Angeles, intended for the MP's company Export Promotion and Consultancy Services.

The money never arrived in Britain, it claimed.

Mr Stonehouse is still in Australia, waiting to hear if the government will allow

him to settle in the country despite his entry on a false passport in December.

His English secretary, Mrs Sheila Buckley, 28, is now with him in Australia.

She is a shareholder in the bankrupt firm with the missing assets. The company has gone into liquidation with debts of about R380 000.

Other Stonehouse firms also face money problems, and Scotland Yard detectives are making a thorough check of his affairs.

The news that the funds were missing was given to creditors of the Stonehouse firm at a weekend meeting in London.

Rich man joins race

WASHINGTON. — Texan millionaire Senator Lloyd Bentsen has become the fifth Democrat contender for the presidency, bringing with him enough money and style to win him the nomination.

The little-known senator, a moderate on most issues with the manner of a suave East coast aristocrat, has already been campaigning heavily, raising funds of more than a million dollars (R660 000) and putting together an efficient organisation.

Senator Bentsen, 54, is regarded as a better speaker than Senator Henry Jackson, who announced its candidature last month.

Sen Jackson is in a somewhat shaky position as front-runner among the active candidates, and Sen Bentsen is believed to have one of the best chances of catching up.

Like the other dark horses — Congressman Morris Udall of Arizona, former Governor Jimmy Carter of

Georgia, and former Senator Fred Harris of Oklahoma — Sen Bentsen is relatively little known outside Texas.

Sen Bentsen was formerly a member of the House of Representatives for six years.

But in 1955 he went into the insurance business, became a millionaire, and is now president of a financial holding institution.

He was elected to the senate in 1970. — Sapa-Reuter.

Rockets hit airport

PHNOM PENH. — Communist gunners hit Cambodia's main international airport with eight rockets yesterday, killing three people and wounding eight.

And in South Vietnam, military spokesmen said communist forces blew up one of the main checkpoints on National Highway 1 leading from the Cambodian border to Saigon.

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His more than 90 novels and 500 short stories made him one of the world's most prolific writers. He continued writing up to his death. Wodehouse's knighthood

was an act of reconciliation with the British people, many of whom condemned him for his controversial broadcasts from Berlin while in Nazi detention in the second World War.

And in London, Sir Julian Huxley died the same day at the age of 87.

Sir Julian, a member of one of Britain's most distinguished families, was a biologist and author who in 1965 became one of the first scientists to warn of the world population explosion. — UPI.

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Cool it — or get out, Uganda warns Britons

KAMPALA. — Despite President Amin's threat to visit Queen Elizabeth in London this year, Britons in Uganda have been told to watch their step, or face expulsion like the Asians in 1972.

A Ugandan military spokesman yesterday accused some British nationals in the country of carrying on "bad activities" against Uganda, and said that one day they could be thrown out.

Gen Amin would "teach them yet another lesson" if they did not stop malicious allegations against the country, he added.

He also warned the British Government to stop baseless and unfounded propaganda against "high-ranking officials and the people of Uganda."

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Kissinger flies to see Gromyko

BONN. — Dr Henry Kissinger flew to Geneva last night for what was expected to be a tense meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko on their rival policies in the Middle East and Cyprus.

The Secretary of State spent most of yesterday in Bonn, where he conferred with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and the West German Foreign Minister, Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Dr Kissinger spent last week in Jerusalem and Arab capitals, trying to bring about a new disengagement agreement between Israel and Egypt.

Mr Gromyko preceded Dr Kissinger around the area this month, lining up support for an immediate reconvening of the Geneva

peace conference on the Middle East.

After meeting Mr Gromyko last night and again today, Dr Kissinger takes off for London to see the Prime Minister, Mr Harold Wilson, and the Foreign Secretary, Mr James Callaghan.

Both are due to leave Moscow today after four days of talks with Soviet leaders including Mr Leonid Brezhnev.

After London, the Secretary flies to Zurich to meet the Shah of Iran, and then to Paris before returning to Washington on Wednesday afternoon.

In all these talks, one major topic will be oil and Dr Kissinger's long-term strategy for the West to meet the challenge of the oil producers who quadrupled prices last year. — UPI.

Girl's guide to booze

LONDON. — A troop of 26 London Girl Guides aged between 10 and 13, asked to name their favourite tastes, listed Whisky, brandy and vodka.

"It's rather disturbing," said a guide leader. "I'm sure parents would be horrified if they knew." — Capa-Reuter.



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