

President Jiang Zemin of China meets for summit talks with President Bill Clinton in October, the first visit in 12 years of a Chinese leader to the U.S. During his stay, demonstrators protest China's treatment of Tibet.



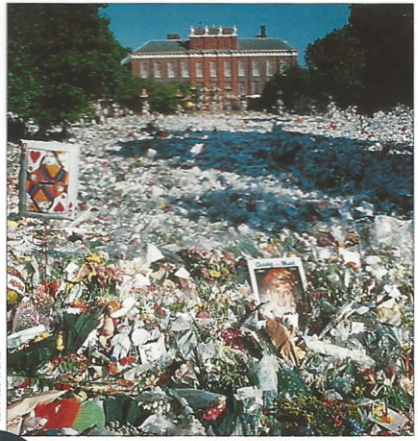
Reuters/Archive Photos



Tim Graham, Sigma

Diana, Princess of Wales, one of the world's most famous and admired women, dies at 36 in a violent car crash in Paris on August 31.

The death of "the people's princess" generates an emotional outpouring of love and grief, evidenced by floral tributes heaped at Diana's Kensington Palace home.



AP/Wide World



Reuters/Archive Photos



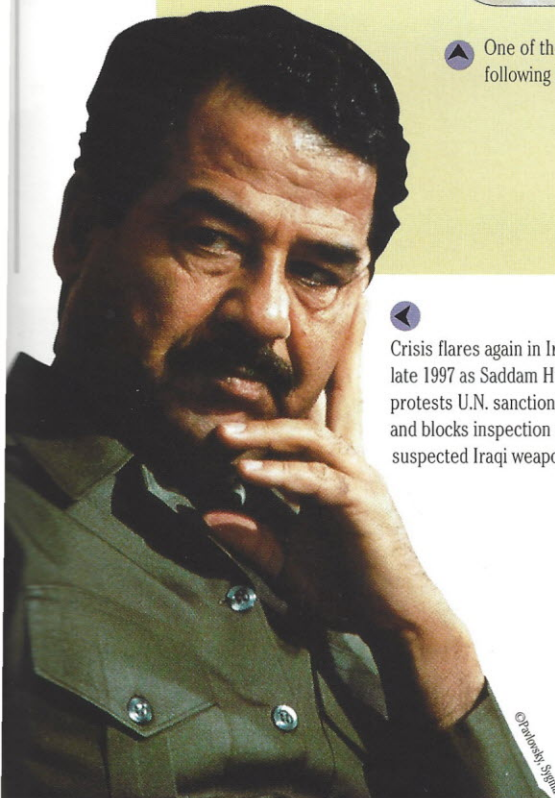
Reuters/Archive Photos

One of the most poignant images of Diana's funeral: her young sons following her coffin into Westminster Abbey.

At the funeral, Elton John performs "Candle in the Wind 1997," rewritten in tribute to Diana. The recording quickly sells more than 35 million copies, becoming the best-selling single of all time. Sales proceeds benefit the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund.



Reuters/Archive Photos



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Crisis flares again in Iraq in late 1997 as Saddam Hussein protests U.N. sanctions and blocks inspection of suspected Iraqi weapon sites.

flash

Floods, drought and mismanagement in North Korea create a severe famine. As many as a million North Koreans die of starvation.

Pope John Paul II visits Communist Cuba in January 1998, the first time a pope has done so. During his five-day visit the pope celebrates public masses and meets privately with President Fidel Castro.



AP/Wide World

In June, shortly before Diana's death, an auction of 79 of her evening gowns raises \$3.26 million for AIDS and cancer charities. Top price paid for a single gown: \$222,500.