

AND ALSO

Finally Getting the Lead Out

REUTERS

BERLIN - A 59-year-old German woman has had most of a pencil removed from inside her head after suffering nearly her whole life with the headaches and nosebleeds it caused, Bild newspaper reported Monday.

Margret Wegner fell over carrying the pencil in her hand when she was four.

"The pencil went right through

my skin—and disappeared into my head," Wegner told the newspaper.

It narrowly missed vital parts of her brain. At the time no one dared operate, but now technology has improved sufficiently for doctors to be able to remove it.

Most of the pencil, some 7.5 centimeters long, was taken out in an operation at a private Berlin clinic, but the tip had grown in so firmly that it was impossible to remove.

NEWSMAKERS

■ Two German pilots flying around the world in 80 days will touch down at Phnom Penh International Airport today around 2:15 pm, said their press contact Nicolaus Mesterharm. **UWE THOMAS CARSTENSEN**, 60, and **HANS CHRISTIAN ALBERTSEN**, 59, are flying a single-engine Cessna and aiming for 50 landings in 30 countries on their journey, according to press materials. During their three-day stopover in Cambodia, they will meet German Ambassador Frank Mann and have been invited by NGO German Foundation for World Population to visit schools in Kandal and Siem Reap provinces. The pair next visit Japan and Russia's Kamchatka peninsula before returning to Germany on Sept 14. (*Emily Lodish*) ■ LONDON - Manchester United manager **SIR ALEX FERGUSON** was ruled out of attending a pre-season friendly Wednesday by his wife Cathy, as he has a house move to organize, UK media said. "I told her I had a match that day, but she wasn't having any of that," Ferguson was quoted as saying. (*Reuters*)