

## Missile destruction begins, says Iraq: US unmoved

**AP, Baghdad**

An Iraqi official said Iraq destroyed four Al Samoud 2 missiles yesterday, as ordered by UN weapons inspectors. A spokesman for UN weapons inspectors said he could not confirm the destruction, but that it was "a matter of minutes." The Iraqi official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the destruction occurred in the Al-Taji area, 20 miles north of Baghdad, which has several factories involved in missile production.

A spokesman for the UN weapons inspectors, Hiro Ueki, said a team of inspectors was headed to the site.

The Iraqi official said the destruction had begun at 1 p.m. local time (5 a.m. EST).

Chief UN weapons inspector Hans Blix ordered the destruction of the finned, white rockets and all their components, fuel and design systems because tests indicated

some fly farther than allowed.

On Friday he praised the Iraqi decision to comply with his order, saying: "It is a very significant piece of real disarmament."

Blix's chief deputy, Demetrius Perricos, met yesterday morning with Saddam Hussein's scientific adviser, Lt. Gen. Amer al-Saadi, to finalise details of the destruction. Iraq is believed to have more than 100 Al Samoud 2 missiles.

Odai al-Taie, head of the Iraqi

information department, said the two sides discussed technical points and "agreed on a schedule and a work plan for the coming days." He said they also agreed on "the sites of destruction, the manner of destruction and the priorities."

Ueki also announced that the inspectors had resumed interviews with Iraqi scientists, interviewing a biological weapons expert and a

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## Cop killed, 10 hurt as bombs explode outside Khulna fair

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna**

A traffic sergeant was killed and at least 10 people were injured when four powerful bombs went off outside the International Trade Fair at the Circuit House Maidan in the city yesterday evening.

The injured included two constables and two women.

Traffic Sergeant Ariful Islam, 32, of Khulna Metropolitan Police died while being taken to hospital.

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## SC lawyers shun court over judge selection

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The Supreme Court lawyers boycotted the court yesterday in protest at the government's non-confirmation of the services of six additional judges despite recommendations by the Chief Justice.

The boycott by the Supreme Court Bar association led to disruption of the functioning of the court. The Bar Association has decided to hold a lawyers' rally at the Supreme Court premises on March 14 to

intensify its movement. The lawyers on March 26 asked the government to confirm the jobs by March 1.

As scheduled, lawyers began a sit-in demonstration and a token hunger strike from 8.30 a.m. in front of the Supreme Court gate.

Earlier on Friday night, police dismantled a canopy erected by the agitating lawyers in front of the Supreme Court gate. Police also took away a number of equipment to be used for the demonstration.

The lawyers also protested the police action. They held Law Minister Moudud Ahmed responsible for the police intervention and warned that if the equipment were not returned within 24 hours, the Bar Association would take necessary steps to cancel Moudud's membership of the Bar.

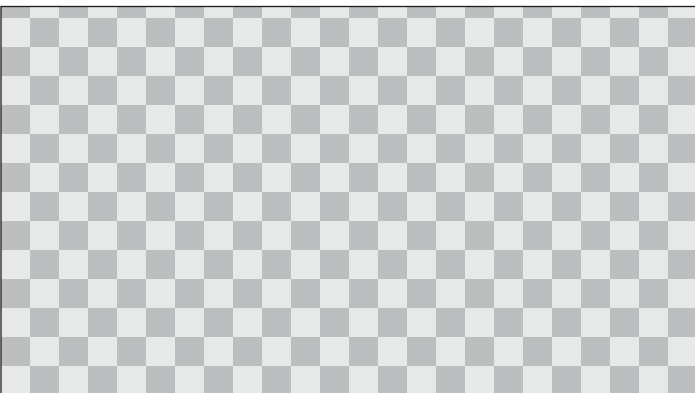
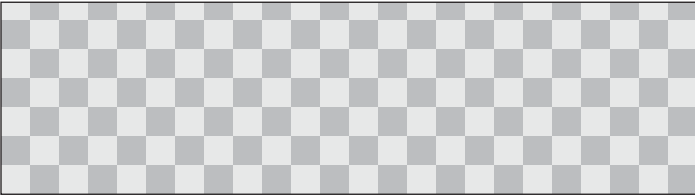
While the demonstration was being held, Chief Justice Mainur

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PHOTO: AFP

**TWELVE THOUSAND-DULKAR:** India's master-bat Sachin Tendulkar executes a flowing cover drive for four on his way to a blazing 98 runs off 75 balls against Pakistan at Super Sport Park yesterday.



## Tendulkar dashes Pakistan's hopes

**AFP, Centurion**

Sachin Tendulkar hit 98 off 75 balls on his way to the magic 12,000-run mark as India defeated arch-rivals Pakistan by six wickets in a rousing World Cup match here on Saturday.

The 29-year-old maestro, who suffered severe cramps in the leg while batting, overcame the pain barrier to help India surpass Pakistan's challenging 273-7 with 26 balls to spare.

India ended the league with 20 points to become the second team in Pool A behind reigning champions Australia to qualify for the Super Sixes.

Pakistan, denied a World Cup win over India for the fourth time in a row, were lagging behind on eight points with a game in hand against Zimbabwe at Bulawayo on Tuesday.

Waqar Younis' men must not only win that match but hope England do not upset Australia at Port Elizabeth on Sunday to force a three-way tie with England and Zimbabwe.

In that situation, the team with the highest net run-rate will book the third Super Sixes spot from the group.

Tendulkar, who has scored more runs and centuries than any other batsman in the history of one-day cricket, now has 12,015 runs, but narrowly missed a 35th ton.

He was removed fending a snorter from the world's fastest bowler Shoaib Akhtar, who extracted revenge after Tendulkar and opening partner Virender Sehwag smashed him out of the attack with 18 runs in his opening over.

Tendulkar and Sehwag scored 53 off the first 34 deliveries and by the time the match was over, they had

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**TODAY'S MATCH**  
**Australia vs England**  
Venue: Port Elizabeth  
Live on BTV at 1:45 pm

## Kenya's finest moment

**AL-AMIN from Johannesburg**

Kenya yesterday made a dream entry into the Super Sixes by out-playing Bangladesh by 32 runs in their World Cup Pool B match at the Wanderers in Johannesburg.

Bangladesh, who were tall on talks ahead of their last game, proved once again that they are nothing more than paper tigers. They stopped dead at 185 in 47.2 overs chasing 218 for a win. It was for the 14th time Bangladesh failed to reach 200-marks.

Former skipper Maurice Odumbe fashioned the Kenyan win with a fighting 50 under pressure and a career-best bowling figure. He ran through the Bangladesh batting taking four wickets for 38 runs.

The result means Kenya clinch 16 points and qualify for the second stage for the first time in their history, following on from Monday's sensational triumph over Sri Lanka and New Zealand's refusal to play in Nairobi.

Their head-to-head results with those two countries mean that the East Africans qualify, while their final opponents -- West Indies -- now need a miracle to stay in the hunt beyond the first round.

Leg-spinner Collins Obuya, the man-of-the-match against Sri Lankans, struck a decisive blow when he removed Tushar Imran when the batsman was on 48. Tushar

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