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Saudi suicide blast kills 11

Over 120 injured in attack blamed on al-Qaeda

AP, Riyadh

Saudi officials blamed al-Qaeda terrorists Sunday for a suicide car bombing that devastated a Riyadh housing complex, killing at least 11 people and wounding more than 120.

Rubble, broken glass, splintered furniture and charred, twisted hunks of metal covered the scene of Saturday's attack, in which militants possibly disguised as police shot their way into the compound in the upscale neighborhood before detonating at least one vehicle packed with explosives.

The attack was similar in style to a deadly suicide bombing of another Riyadh housing complex in May, also blamed on al-Qaeda.

The Saudi Interior Ministry said the 11 dead included Saudis, Lebanese, Sudanese and Egyptians, among them four children, the kingdom's official news agency said. The ministry said 122 were injured, but all but 25 had been discharged from hospitals by Sunday afternoon.

Among the dead were three Lebanese—a woman, a 6-year-old boy and a 4-year-old girl—and four Egyptians—a couple and their two sons—according to their countries' embassies in Riyadh.

The Interior Ministry said 86 people were wounded, mostly women and children. Most of the

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



Part of the al-Muhaya expatriate housing compound destroyed in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, by a suicide attack blamed on al-Qaeda where 11 people were killed and 122 injured according to Saudi news services.

PHOTO: AFP

Dhaka worried over unrest worldwide

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh yesterday expressed deep concern over waves of violence in Myanmar, Saudi Arabia and Iraq and recent political uncertainty in Sri Lanka.

Dhaka is watchful of the situation in Myanmar, which stemmed from clashes between Buddhist monks and Muslims, Foreign Minister M. Morshed Khan told newsmen at a briefing on his recent visit from Germany.

The Myanmar government arrested many monks over the clashes and brought the situation under control, he said.

"We don't see any suspicious

SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

US soldier killed in Baghdad

AFP, Baghdad

A US soldier died and another was wounded in a bomb attack in Baghdad late Saturday, a military spokeswoman told AFP.

"One soldier was killed and another was wounded in an improvised explosive attack at 7:45 pm" in Baghdad's Waziriyah neighborhood, she said.

The death raised to 147 the number of US soldiers killed in combat in Iraq since May 1, when Washington declared major hostilities over.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 6

21 hurt in JCD, Shibir clash at Khulna college

QUAZI AMANULLAH, Khulna

A fierce armed clash between activists of the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) on Khulna MM City College campus left at least 16 ICS and five JCD activists injured yesterday noon.

Five seriously injured Shibir activists were admitted to Boyra Islami Bank Hospital.

Both student groups have

blamed each other for the "unprovoked" attack during a discussion on the occasion of National Revolution and Solidarity Day at the college auditorium yesterday.

The clash resulted from a dispute over the list of speakers at the meeting and seat arrangement for the Chhatra Dal and Shibir leaders. After a heated exchange of words, the two groups came to blows following which a group of JCD activists pelted brick

SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

Outlaws gun down Rajshahi BNP leader

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Underground operatives gunned down a district leader of the ruling BNP in an attack that also left two of his relatives injured at Ghospara in Rajshahi city yesterday evening, police and witnesses said.

Abdul Hamid, 52, vice-president of the district BNP, took five bullets in his chest, abdomen and head and fell down before an operative slit his throat at about 6:00pm in a desper-

ate bid to confirm his death.

Police arrested the Jhikra Union Parishad (UP) chairman, MA Majid, after the incident that sparked outrage among locals.

An unidentified outlaw of the Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP), blamed for a series of killings in south and southwestern districts, called a Rajshahi journalist and claimed the responsibility for the killing.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 1

Opposition beefs up oust-govt campaign

REAZ AHMAD

This winter is warming up with the renewed permutation and combination among the political parties wanting to see an early exit of the government.

The Awami League's recent call for an early quitting of the BNP-led alliance government by April next year, much ahead of the five-year tenure, triggered immediate polarisation in the opposition political camp.

In an apparent run-up to a greater unified movement against the government, three left-leaning political parties joined hands with the main opposition for a show-down in January.

A coordination committee of AL, Hasanul Haq Inu-led Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD), Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) and the Workers Party (WP) met at the latter's office yesterday to chalk out the combined programme.

As a starter, these four parties

have planned to hold a national convention in early January to vent public wrath against, what the organisers dubbed, marginalisation of the Union Parishad by pitting it against the Gram Sarkar.

AL and its newly found friends in the left-block yesterday finalised a schedule for holding greater preparatory meeting next month so that the convention could be convened in early January.

On December 19 representatives of the Union Parishads from across the country would join leaders of AL, JSD (Inu), CPB and WP in the city to finalise the convention schedule and the oust-government programme.

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina, JSD leader Hasanul Haq Inu, CPB leaders Monjurul Ahsan Khan and Mujahidul Islam Selim and WP leader Rashed Khan Menon would join the January convention, which many consider would be a turning point in the current spate of dis-

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

FRIGATE GRAFT CASE Another HC bench may hear case today

SC CORRESPONDENT

Chief Justice KM Hasan yesterday sent the petition of former prime minister Sheikh Hasina on the frigate purchase graft case to another bench after a judge of a Division Bench of the High Court on Saturday felt embarrassed to hear it.

The bench, which is likely to hear the case today, comprises Justice Md Hassan Ameen and Justice ATM Fazle Kabir.

Hasina filed the petition under Section 561-A of the Code of Criminal Procedure with the High Court for quashing the proceedings against her.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Notice

The Culture & TV Guide appear on Page 19 of our today's issue.

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2nd ODI today

SPORTS REPORTER

The second one-day international between Bangladesh and England will be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.

The day-night match commences at 1:30pm with Bangladesh Television and STAR Sports provid

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