

# Big Five ask Iraq to disclose nuclear materials by July 2

UNITED NATIONS, July 13: The five permanent members of the Security Council on Friday told Iraq they wanted a full disclosure of nuclear materials in two weeks or Baghdad would face serious consequences, diplomats said.

But the envoys told Reuter the five were non-specific about the consequences although the United States has unilaterally warned that Iraq control centres would be bombed if Baghdad ignored Security Council mandates.

"This is an attempt to elicit from the finally what they should have done in the first place and not related to what is rumbling out of Washington," said a senior envoy close to the talks who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Iraqi Ambassador Abdul Amir al-Anbari was summoned by the five and given a list of technical questions his government should answer by Monday when the Security Council meets behind closed doors to hear reports from disarmament specialists on Iraq's nuclear materials.

He also was told we want a full final and complete disclosure by July 25 or there will be serious consequences. Another envoy said the object was to convince Iraq that this was a serious matter and all five permanent members take it seriously.

US officials and British Ambassador David Hannay denied the Five — The United States, The Soviet Union, Britain, France and China —

had issued an ultimatum. We did not issue ultimatum, but we did have some questions, Hannay said.

In response Anbari told reporters only that he had been asked to convey certain questions to Baghdad on the nuclear issue. He said Iraq was careful not to give foreign forces any excuse to attack it, but said it often seemed that Iraq was 'damned if they say anything and damned if they say nothing.'

We have declared the complete picture and this is the truth and anyone that is arguing otherwise should have evidence, he said.

President Saddam Hussein last week promised to deliver a complete account of Baghdad's nuclear information

and materials on Sunday, the Iraqi Foreign Minister delivered to UN officials 29 pages of lists, charts and explanations and said the programme was mainly for peaceful purposes.

Officials of the UN special commission in charge of scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction said the materials could only have been used for a weapons programme and suspected the list was not complete.

The United States insists Iraq is still hiding materials though both US and UN officials said news accounts that Iraq could make 20 to 30 bombs were highly exaggerated.

# A lifebuoy for Yugoslavia?

MOSCOW, July 13: During their meeting in Washington US Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh discussed, among other things, ways of helping Yugoslavia to return to peaceful life, reports IAN.

There are at least two points of contact in Moscow's and Washington's reaction to the developments in Yugoslavia after June 25.

Firstly, both the Soviet Union and the United States want Yugoslavia to be an integral state.

In the opinion of some analysts, Yugoslavia is a scary miniature of what may — God forbid — happen in the Soviet Union, albeit on a larger scale.

It is not an accident that Mikhail Gorbachev described

the situation in Yugoslavia as a "lesson and warning" for the people of the USSR. It is, perhaps, also a lesson for those in the West who support in their abstract liberalism any "give us sovereignty" call, no matter from what part of Eastern Europe it comes.

Meanwhile, the ethnic form of statehood seems to be receding in the past (along with the homogeneity of the population). The Soviet Union these days is by no means the only melting pot in which nations and nationalities, their culture and economic life have become blended together. The disintegration of any one country is unnatural and dangerous for all who are committed to the Helsinki process and the ideals of the Paris Charter.

Any effort to change the boundaries of states, even if motivated by self-determination, can seriously slow down this process. This is the second point of contact of the Soviet and American policies with respect to the crisis in Yugoslavia.

It should be noted that today this principle has notably more Allies in the West than yesterday. Efforts of the federal authorities of Yugoslavia to preserve the integrity of the country met with understanding of the European Communities and the US (the actions of the Soviet centre in the Baltic republics have not deserved such a reaction so far). Of course, the answer will be in the well known circumstances of the Baltic region's history. The matter may be that Yugoslavia is, in addition to everything else, a very sensitive underbelly of Europe. The eruption of nationalism in Slovenia and Croatia may become no less fateful than the shots fired at Archduke Ferdinand.

At any rate, the US administration hastened to announce that it would not establish diplomatic relations with the two breakaway republics of Yugoslavia. It set forth three demands: the demand that a national integrity be preserved, the demand that dialogue be opened and the demand that the character of relations between the republics of Yugoslavia be changed. Moscow viewed with satisfaction such US actions as the ban on arms supplies to Yugoslavia and the termination of the training of officers for the Yugoslavian Army.

Soviet diplomatic quarters are perfectly aware that Washington maintains such a clear position in spite of the pressure put up by conservative forces who argue that it was the US administration's support that has provoked the Federal authorities of Yugoslavia to take repressive measures, right down to the use of tanks.

As for the Soviet Union Bessmertnykh was ready to discuss any ideas during his trip to Washington. Within certain limits, to be sure. As Foreign Ministry officials said, the Soviet Union will never agree to the use of its Armed forces in Yugoslavia (even as part of an international peace-keeping corps).

# Off the Record

## Saddam's message of friendship to Bush?

WASHINGTON: A cable sent to Washington by former US ambassador to Iraq April Glaspie after a fateful meeting with Saddam Hussein last year is at odds with her statement to Congress that she delivered a tough warning against invading Kuwait, Sen. Claiborne Pell said Friday, reports AP.

Pell, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said the classified cable, received by the committee on Wednesday, contains no indication of anything other than a conciliatory meeting with the Iraqi President.

"The American people are entitled to know that the statements made by the ambassador to the Foreign Relations Committee are not supported by her own cable," the Rhode Island Democrat said in a letter to Secretary of State James A. Baker III.

Appearing before the panel on March 20, Glaspie said she had unmistakably told Saddam that the United States would not allow violence in the Gulf and that any dispute with Kuwait would have to be settled peacefully.

But Pell said the title of Glaspie's cable reporting on her July 25 meeting with Saddam, "Saddam's Message of Friendship to President Bush," reflected the overall tone of the secret document.

"No place does she report clearly delivering the kind of warning she described in her testimony to the committee," Pell wrote in his letter to Baker.

Pell asked Baker to explain the inconsistencies between Glaspie's Senate testimony and the contents of the cable.

Glaspie's meeting was the last contact between the United States and Iraq before the invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2 last year, and administration critics have charged that a two-month exchange might have been seen by Saddam as an indication that the United States would not come to the Emirates' defence — in short, an invitation to attack.

## Wrong Kennedy

NEW YORK: Edward Kennedy, 38, staff photographer for the Palm Beach Post, has been getting calls from all over the country. But there is a hitch. This Kennedy is black, has never been a senator and "just wants these nuts to leave me alone." Kennedy the photographer, whose wife screens his calls, said their home is modest. "We just have a two-bedroom apartment in West Palm Beach and it overlooks a little lagoon, not the Atlantic," reports AP.

## Inventor sues Michael Jackson for 'bad' royalties

LOS ANGELES: Singer Michael Jackson was sued for breach of contract by an inventor who claims the superstar owes him up to 22 million dollars for use of a patented sound system on the block-buster album, "BAD", reports AP.

Hugo Zuccarelli alleged that Jackson used his recording system, called Holophonics, on the first 2 million copies of the album and refused to pay royalties.

Zuccarelli also alleged that Jackson abandoned the recording system in subsequent copies of the album, which sold 20 million copies, but did not indicate the change on the album cover. Zuccarelli's business was hurt because potential clients who heard the later copies recorded with "inferior" or "outdated" systems believed they were listening to Holophonics, the lawsuit alleged.

The suit names Jackson, MJJ Productions Inc., Quincy Jones Productions Inc., CBS and Epic Records, synthesizer player Christopher Currell and sound engineer Bruce Swedien. Jackson's spokesman Lee Solters said he had not seen the lawsuit and could not comment. No one at MJJ Productions was available for comment, a receptionist said.

There was no Los Angeles or Bel-Air listing for Quincy Jones Productions Inc. A spokesman at Epic Records said the company had not been served with documents and could not comment. An after-hours message left at CBS Records in New York was not returned. There were no Los Angeles business or home telephone listings for Currell or Swedien.

Attorney Theodore H. Cox who represents Zuccarelli, said the Los Angeles inventor patented the three-dimensional sound system in 1987, the year "BAD" was released.

"It's an incredible system," said Cox who described it as differentiating not just between sounds coming from right and left but also up, down, back and front.

# BRIEFLY

**Soviets still oppose Star Wars:** A Pentagon report released Friday undercut the Bush administration's repeated claims that the Soviet Union was beginning to soften its opposition to space-based defences against ballistic missiles. AP reports from Washington.

Repeatedly in recent years, administration officials have asserted that signals in the Soviet news media indicated the Kremlin might be willing to renegotiate the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty to allow missile defences in space.

Friday's report said there were no such indications of a Soviet shift.

Without a renegotiation, the United States would have to violate the ABM treaty to deploy the space-based missile defence, commonly called Star Wars, on which it has spent more than \$10 billion during the last eight years. Congress and many US allies are opposed to renegotiating the treaty.

The ABM treaty limits both sides to 100 missile interceptors based at a single site. The Pentagon says this is inadequate for its planned Star Wars system, which envisions placing small, computer-controlled interceptors in space.

The House has voted to slash Star Wars spending for the budget year beginning Oct. 1, but the Senate is expected to approve the administration's request for \$4.7 billion. The two Houses will work out the difference in the fall. On Friday, the Senate Armed Services Committee put off a decision.

**Kaifu in London:** Japan's Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu arrived in London on Friday after consultations with US President George Bush on next week's economic summit of the world's leading industrial nations. Reuter from London says.

Kaifu flew from the United States, where he agreed with Bush on a cautious approach to western financial assistance to Moscow. The issue is expected to dominate the Group of Seven (G-7) talks in London.

The Japanese leader made no statement to reporters as he arrived at London's Heathrow Airport.

**1 killed, 13 injured in Romania:** One person was killed and 13 people were injured in a strong earthquake lasting more than 10 seconds near the western Romanian city of Timisoara Friday, relief teams announced, reports AP from Bucharest.

The quake spread panic across Romania's entire western region and even shook the Yugoslav capital of Belgrade.

The Bucharest Seismological Institute said the quake, which struck at 1:43 pm (1043 GMT), measured 5.5 on the Richter scale.

In Timisoara six houses were destroyed and 125 others damaged. Fifty houses were damaged in two villages south of Timisoara.

**New Baluch governor:** President Ghulam Ishaq Khan Friday appointed Sardar Gul Muhammad Khan Jozegai as governor of the southwestern province of Baluchistan, the official Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) reported, says AFP, from Quetta.

Jozegai, 51, had held several official posts under the military regime of President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and served as Pakistan's Ambassador to Tunisia from 1988 to 1989, it said.

The previous governor of Baluchistan, Mohammad Musa, died on March 12, and the Chief Justice of the provincial High Court, Hazar Khan Khosa, has served as acting governor.

**Silayev named Russian PM:** The Parliament of the Russian Federation on Friday reconfirmed Ivan Silayev as the Republic's Prime Minister after his nomination by President Boris Yeltsin, reports Reuter from Moscow.

The official Tass news agency said Silayev, who backed Yeltsin's radical economic reform programme and supported his candidacy at the polls last month, won the post handsily.

Silayev resigned on Thursday to give Yeltsin, inaugurated the day before at a Kremlin ceremony, a free hand in forming a new administration.

Silayev is one of the co-founders, along with Yeltsin's Vice President Alexander Butskoi, of a new centrist movement intended to challenge the Soviet Communist Party for power.

**Nepal death toll now 302:** Gastroenteritis has killed 59 people in western Nepal pushing the death toll from the waterborne disease to at least 302 in the past three weeks, state radio reported Friday, AFP says from Kathmandu.

A public health department official told the radio that the seasonal disease had reached epidemic proportions affecting more than 60,000 people in 160 villages.

Government medical teams have failed to reach many affected areas in the far west due to heavy floods triggered by monsoon rains, the official added.

**3 Japanese killed in Peru:** Maoist guerrillas on Friday killed three Japanese engineers and destroyed Japanese financed Agricultural Cooperation Centre, Reuter from Lima reports.

Police in Huaral, a city with a high number of Peruvian residents of Japanese descent, confirmed the centre had been attacked and said three engineers had been killed. They did not know who was responsible.

The Japanese embassy said it had sent staff to investigate the attack in Huaral, 100 km (60 miles) north of Lima.

**Singapore to form youth corps:** Singapore is to form an all-volunteer youth corps next month to offer technical and humanitarian assistance to developing countries, says AFP from Singapore.

The Director of the Singapore Heng Chee, said the Singapore Youth Corps, which will be similar to the US Peace Corps, would comprise mid-career professionals and early retirees as well as young people.

She said the time was right for such a movement because young Singaporeans have developed a sense of idealism and adventure.

Mrs Chan was at a presentation ceremony Thursday of a team of 26 students and staff members from the Ngee Ann polytechnic who returned to Singapore recently after a 52-day expedition to Nepal where they did studies on the feasibility of building a power plant for a rescue hospital at the foothills of Mount Everest.

It was the first time that a team from the polytechnic had undertaken such a mission.



RAWALPINDI: Farhat Rathore (3rd L, sunglasses) heads a demonstration Friday demanding release of her husband, pro-Bhutto leader Mumtaz Rathore. The former premier of Pakistan-administered Kashmir was arrested after rejecting results of local elections held June 29. — AFP/UNB photo

## Special court set up in Tamil Nadu

# 12 policemen suspended for fleeing site of Rajiv's killing

NEW DELHI, July 13: Twelve policemen have been suspended for fleeing the site where former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated on May 21. The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said today, reports Reuter.

A Deputy Inspector General of Police was among those suspended for dereliction of duty when Gandhi was killed by a woman suicide bomber in Sriperumpudur, near Madras in India's Tamil Nadu state, the Nadu Agency said.

Quoting the Tamil Nadu State Chief Minister Jayalalitha, PTI said: "The government had received information that many police officials had fled the scene immediately after the blast that killed Gandhi."

Indian authorities have arrested 13 people in connection with the assassination. All are Tamils and more than half are from Sri Lanka, where the Liberation Tigers of Tamil

Eelam (LTTE) guerrilla group is fighting for an independent Tamil state.

Police have yet to trace the alleged mastermind in the case, a one-eyed Sri Lankan Tamil rebel called Stivasaran. They said on Tuesday they had found Stivasaran's hideout, but he had already fled.

AFP reports adds: The Tamil Nadu state government has set up a special court to hear the case of the assassination of former Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi, the Press Trust of India said Friday, reports AFP.

Central Bureau of Investigations lawyer Jacob Daniel told Chief Judicial Magistrate Vadivel Rathinam, which has been initially handling the case, that further proceedings would be held before a special court headed by judge SM Siddiqui.

Siddiqui is presently an Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge in Madras, the

Capital of Tamil Nadu, PTI said.

PTI did not report any date for beginning the trial but said the special court was set up as the charges were made under anti-terrorist laws.

Gandhi was killed when he arrived to address rally of his Congress (I) Party at Sriperumpudur, some 50 kilometres (30 miles) from Madras on May 21.

Indian investigative officials say that Gandhi was killed in a suicide attack by a woman from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), who exploded a powerful bomb strapped to her waist.

The LTTE has, however, denied any involvement.

A dozen suspects, including an alleged hardcore LTTE activist, Murugan, have been arrested so far in connection with the murder.

The extension was sought by the investigators on the ground that their inquiries are still continuing.

# Abedi now a broken man

KARACHI, July 13: Pakistani financier Agha Hasan Abedi, who founded the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) and built it into a sprawling banking empire, is today a broken man, reports AFP.

Crippled by a stroke three years ago, Abedi, 66, resigned as BCCI President in 1991, selling majority shares of the bank to the ruler of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahayan. Today Abedi lives the life of a recluse, jealously protected from the press and outside world by his wife and daughter in one of his luxurious seaside villas here.

Sources close to the family said the news of the BCCI's near collapse was kept from Abedi because of his poor health. But the Indian-born former banker, who suffers from slurred speech and occasional memory lapses, watched reports on television from his wheelchair. It is not known how Abedi reacted to the sudden fall of the empire that he built over two decades, although a family friend said he was a "very sad and broken man."

Born into old Muslim family of Lucknow in British-ruled India, he migrated as a young man to Pakistan after the partition of the sub-continent in 1947.

Abedi joined the Habib Bank a leading Pakistani institution, and rose near the top before launching his own United Bank in the late 1950s. Within a decade the United Bank Ltd was

competing closely with the Habib Bank.

After Bangladesh broke away from Pakistan and then Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto nationalised major industries and banks, Abedi left the country to seek new opportunities in international bankings and finance.

With the help of Sheikh Zayed, who was also President of the United Arab Emirates, and other oil-rich sheikhs, Abedi launched the BCCI in 1972 with initial capital of 2.5 million pounds sterling (four million dollars).

He based his new banking operations in Luxembourg, London and Abu Dhabi before long the BCCI became a leading international bank with operations in nearly 70 countries and assets valued at around 22

billion dollars.

Former banking colleagues in Pakistan describe Abedi as a "poet and visionary" who visualised the BCCI as a global bank for the third world, particularly Muslim nations.

He persuaded Gulf Sheikhs to bank with the BCCI instead of US and European banks, which allegedly exploited the Arab world's oil wealth to finance Israel's military and economic development. During the early days of the Iranian revolution, the BCCI was the only international bank to handle Iran's Letters of Credit at a time when most western institutions refused, under US pressure, to touch them. Arab bankers here said US and European financial circles resented what they considered the BCCI's intrusion onto their turf and its championing of the third world.

According to Humayun Gausar, who managed the London-based news magazine South, the bank drew criticism for practices that were quite normal in the financial world.

"The bank's only crime was that it was an outsider encroaching on territory that the west believes to be its sole preserve," Gausar said.

According to BCCI officials, the so-called vendetta against the BCCI "continued unabated until it reached its logical conclusion" with its recent closure in most western countries.

# Isolation of Burma will be counterproductive: Thai PM

BANGKOK, July 13: Thai Prime Minister Anand Panyarachun, defending his country's continued ties with Rangoon's ruling Junta, said a complete isolation of Burma would be "counterproductive".

Anand's remarks here Thursday in an interview with Agence France-Presse came as Washington announced that US Secretary of State James Baker would raise the issue of human rights in Burma later this month at meetings with his counterparts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

They also closely followed the decision by the European parliament in Strasbourg to give 1990 Human Rights Award to Aung San Suu Kyi, the detained leader of the opposition, reflecting western revulsion over the Junta's repression of its pro-democracy movement.

"The continuation of our dealings with Burma on a practical basis should not be viewed by westerners as a negative approach. We believe that a complete isolation of that country or that regime would be rather counterproductive," Anand said.

Anand became Bangkok's Prime Minister in the wake of a military coup here in February. But the highly respected businessman turned diplomat has repeatedly said that he wanted to see a swift return to democracy in Thailand.

"Dealing with another country does not imply an acceptance of their norms, of their

policies. These are two different matters," he said when discussing relations with Burma during the interview.

Reuter adds: More than a year after failing to hand over power to Burma's democratically-elected opposition, the ruling military junta has ordered that opposition members be stripped of their parliamentary seats and banned from elections.

The decree, broadcast on official Rangoon Radio on Wednesday night, applied to all those elected to the country's National Assembly who had

been convicted of any of a wide range of offences or violated the election law.

It was signed by General Saw Maung, Head of the Junta that seized power in 1988 by brutally crushing nationwide pro-democracy protests.

The junta has been widely criticised by western countries for failing to hand power to the opposition National League for Democracy (NLD) after it swept the May 1990 general election, taking 392 of 485 contested seats.

Western diplomats estimated that more than 60 NLD National Assembly members have been jailed or forced to flee the threat of arrest since the election. The junta has delayed calling the assembly saying that many parliamentary candidates had failed to file election expenses as required under the election law.

Saw Maung's decree said the changes it stipulated to the election law were retroactive to May 31, 1989, when the law was first enacted.

It said any person who had been convicted of an offence, such as high treason, which carries a sentence of death or transportation for life, was barred from all future elections.

Those convicted of lesser offences or who had breached the election law were barred from elections from five to 10 years, it said.

A transcript of the Rangoon Radio report was seen in Bangkok on Friday.

## Son of US Embassy official shot dead in Manila

MANILA, July 13: Unidentified gunmen shot dead a son of a US embassy officer in the Philippines early today, a source close to the embassy said, reports Reuter.

The killing occurred two days before the resumption of talks in Manila between US and Philippine negotiators on the future of American military bases in the country.

Two companions of the slain American were wounded when the gunmen, riding in a vehicle, opened fire at the three after they had stepped from a car in a plush area of the Makati financial centre.

The gunmen escaped. There was no immediate indication that rebel groups were involved in the shooting, a security man in the area said in a telephone interview.