

## Superpowers to spy less on each other : KGB

MOSCOW, Sept 14: The new chief of the KGB said on Friday that he expected the United States and the Soviet Union to spy less on each other now superpower relations were warmer, reports Reuter.

"I think that on a mutual basis we will do that," reformist KGB head Vadim Bakatin said at the start of talks with US Secretary of State James Baker.

"In the KGB there is a principal question: Who is our adversary?" Bakatin told reporters. "Now the KGB has lost that adversary."

Washington and Moscow have spied on each other zealously for decades, breeding a level of intense mistrust that helped fuel the Cold War and inspired tales of outlandish undercover operations.

The stand-off between the KGB and the US Central Intelligence Agency with its vast legacy of spy films and double agent memoirs — seemed like distant history on Friday, when Baker noted the unusual nature of the meeting.

"I don't think anything could symbolise things going on in the Soviet Union any better than the fact that the US Secretary of State is meeting here in KGB headquarters," said Baker, the highest ranking official to visit Moscow since last month's failed Kremlin coup.

Bakatin said that now superpower ties were strengthening, the KGB wanted to clean up its act.

"We have to work a lot to acquire a new image where we don't have any enemies at all," he said.

The KGB operating under a variety of names, has been a bastion of power in the Soviet Union for decades, breathing fear into the people with strong arm tactics and repression.

It played a major role in the botched attempt by communist hardliners to topple Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Former KGB chief Vladimir Kryuchkov, a key figure in the takeover, has been arrested with at least three other top KGB officials. Two others have been sacked.

Seeking to reassert his shaken authority and bring the security agency on to his side, Gorbachev replaced Kryuchkov with Bakatin, a moderate former interior minister.

## Saddam fires Hammadi

BAGHDAD, Sept 14: The Iraqi Prime Minister, Saadoun Hammadi, has been dismissed and President Saddam Hussein re-elected leader of the Baath Party, the Iraqi News Agency INA reported Friday, says AFP.

INA said that Hammadi had been sacked by presidential decree "in the light of results of the elections" of the Baath Party Congress which began meeting on Thursday.

The official news agency gave no further explanation for the abrupt dismissal of Hammadi, a Shiite who was elevated to the post of Prime Minister after Iraq's defeat in the Gulf war and after the start of a Shiite rebellion in the south of the country.

## Baghdad accuses UN inspection team of bias

# Security Council warns Iraq to comply with directives

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 14: The President of the Security Council warned Iraq on Friday to comply with UN directives and allow weapons inspection teams to fly their own helicopters over Iraqi territory, reports Reuter.

Ambassador Jean-Bernard Merimee of France, this month's Council President, declined to say what the consequences might be if Iraq persisted in its refusal, in violation of a recent Security Council resolution.

"It is not a threat, it is not an ultimatum. It is a warning," he told reporters.

The Council decided that the President of the Council should summon the Iraqi Ambassador and impress upon him the very serious feelings of the council on the matter, he said.

Abdul Amir Al-Anbari, Iraq's chief UN representative said he had been asked to convey to Baghdad that Iraq reconsider its position.

US Ambassador Thomas

Pickering was reported by Council members to have spoken of serious consequences if Iraq did not comply.

Questioned about these comments, Anbari said, these diplomatic phrases could mean everything and could mean nothing.

Merimee briefed reporters after closed-door consultations among all 15 Council members on Baghdad's denial of permission earlier this week for UN teams charged with finding

and destroying Iraq's weapons of mass destruction to use two helicopters lent by Germany. Iraq said this would pose a threat to its national security and offered to provide air transport of its own, which the United Nations rejected.

An August 15 Security Council resolution demands that Iraq allow UN inspectors to conduct both fixed wing and helicopters flights in the course of their work.

A 17-member UN team that arrived in Baghdad a week ago to investigate its Ballistic Missile systems left on Friday without carrying out its mission because of the helicopter dispute.

AFP from Baghdad says: The Iraqi government on Friday accused a United Nations military inspection mission of bias, shortly after the team flew out of the country saying it had not been able to complete its task of inspecting missile-launching sites.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted the head of the Iraqi team responsible for showing the UN experts around as saying that the mission had "drawn up an incomplete and non-definitive report on the Iraqi nuclear programme, in spite of the large amount of information supplied" to it.

## Militants declare civil curfew in Kashmir

SRINAGAR (India), Sept 14: Muslim separatism Friday announced an indefinite "civil curfew" all over India's Kashmir valley to demand the removal of security pickets from major towns, reports AFP.

Four rebel groups made the joint announcement after the weekly afternoon prayers at Dargah Hazratbal, 12 kilometers (7.5 miles) from this summer capital of Kashmir state.

The four groups are the Hez-ul-Mujahideen, considered as one of the strongest of scores of groups fighting for Kashmir's secession, Al Umar, Ikhwan-ul-Muslimeen and Hizbullah.

Spokesmen for the militants said the "curfew" would continue until the pickets and bunkers were lifted, and that all business and transport came under its purview barring such essential services as hospitals and electricity.

There was no immediate reaction to the announcement from the Kashmir administration, and people could still be seen moving around in large numbers here on the streets.

However, an official said the real test of the announcement would not be until today.

Muslim guerrillas are waging a bloody campaign for Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, to secede.

Pakistan, which disputes the state's sovereignty, has waged two wars with India over it.

## Moscow to lease secret satellite control centre

WASHINGTON, Sept 14: The Soviet Union has decided to lease its secret military satellite control center to non-Soviet commercial and scientific users in a bid to generate badly needed hard currency, a US magazine said Friday, reports AFP.

Aviation Weekly and Space Technology, in a report to be published in its issue due out Monday, quoted an unnamed Soviet air force colonel as saying: "The concept is the same as if the US air force were to offer to rent out its secret satellite control facility at Sunnyvale, California."

The Soviet facility offered for lease controls strategic reconnaissance, electronic intelligence and other military satellites, the magazine said.



ROSH HANIKRA (Israel): UN soldiers wait by the Israel-Lebanon border crossing here September 13, as it was closed after a PLO unit took Swedish and French UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) soldiers as hostages near the UNIFIL headquarters in Naqoura. One Swedish soldier was killed and several others were wounded.

—AFP/UNB photo

## Mujahideen rocket Kabul for third day US-Soviet accord will help solve Afghan issue: Pindi

TEHRAN, Sept 14: Pakistan welcomed Friday's US-Soviet agreement to stop supplying arms to combatants in Afghanistan as a move in the right direction but said it would have been better as part of an overall peace package, reports Reuter.

Foreign Secretary Shaharyar Khan, visiting Iran with President Ohulam Ishaq Khan, said Pakistan had always wanted such an accord to be linked with a cease-fire between Muslim rebels and the Soviet-backed government in Kabul.

"The fact that it emerged without the package does make it a little bit difficult," he told reporters.

But it is a move in the right direction. We feel that anything that moves in the direction of a political settlement is good and would be a help and an impulse political process.

Khan said Pakistan now hoped that a settlement would emerge by the beginning of January, when the arms cut-off is due to take effect.

"We feel the next three months are very important," he said. "We hope we can put things together in this time."

Pakistan, host to three million Afghan refugees and seven prominent guerrilla groups, will play a key role in any Afghan settlement.

It has declared support for a five-point peace plan launched in May by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, which provides for a cease-fire interim government and free elections.

Khan said it was too early to say if Pakistan would itself cut off arms supplies to the rebels. He denied that Perez de Cuellar, who met the Pakistani President in Tehran on Thursday, had asked Islamabad to do so.

And he dismissed claims in Tehran this week by Sighatullah Mojaddi, a moderate leader of the Mujahideen guerrillas, that elements in the Pakistani government had backed an alleged plot by hard-line guerrillas to attack Kabul and spark a coup there.

"I would discount that altogether," Khan said. "I can tell you this is not so at all."

Another report says: Guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed government in Afghanistan fired rockets into the capital Kabul for the third

day running on Friday, wounding three people, Kabul radio said.

The broadcast, monitored in the Pakistan capital Islamabad, said the three surface-to-surface missiles were fired by the western-backed rebels from west of Kabul.

The attack coincided with an agreement announced in Moscow by the Soviet Union and the United States to halt all weapons supplies to the warring sides in the Afghan civil war by January next year to allow free elections to be held.

## Serbs take control of a key bridge

BELGRADE, Sept 14: Serbs backed by federal army troops on Friday took control of a key bridge near the Croatian port of Dadar in a further setback for embattled Croatia defense forces.

A local police spokesman told AFP that Serbian militants seized the Amalenica Bridge, just 200 kilometers (12 miles) from Zadar.



MOSCOW: Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin (L) and US Secretary of State Stare James Baker gesture during their joint statement on Afghanistan after talks at the Foreign Ministry here September 13. The USA and the Soviet Union announced they will cut off military aid to the warring parties in Afghanistan.

—AFP/UNB photo

## BRIEFLY

**Perez hails US, Soviet accord:** Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar hailed an agreement by the United States and the Soviet Union on Friday to halt arms supplies to both sides in the Afghan conflict from January 1, reports Reuter from United States.

He notes with appreciation that such decision represents a major contribution towards implementing one of the key provisions of his May 21 statement, the UN chief said through a spokesman here.

Perez de Cuellar, now on a visit to Saudi Arabia, was referring to proposals he made earlier this year for a political settlement of the conflict in Afghanistan, where guerrilla groups have been fighting since 1979 to overthrow the Moscow-backed Kabul government.

**Azerbaijanis hijack a train:** Unidentified Azerbaijanis hijacked a train and took hostages in the Soviet autonomous region of Nakhichevan, Soviet television reported on Friday night, says Reuter from London.

The television, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said the hijackers had freed women and children on board the train at Ordubad station near the Iranian border but were holding 84 male passengers hostage.

"Negotiations are being conducted, but so far the movement of trains into Armenia has been completely suspended," the television report said.

**Eight murdered in Medellin:** Six men and two women were dragged from their homes in Medellin early Friday and shot dead by unidentified gunmen, the army said, AP from Bogota reports.

The army said it suspects that so-called clean-up squads or people's militias — who kill drug addicts, prostitutes, the homeless or anyone else considered undesirable — were responsible for the killings Friday.

Around 20 heavily armed assailants murdered the eight, bringing to 16 the number of people believed slain by the vigilantes in Medellin this week.

Many of the squads worked in the past year to fight criminal street gangs often made up of former hired killers of the Medellin cocaine cartel.

**Typhoon Kinna kills 9 in Japan:** Typhoon Kinna pounded Japan's main Honshu with winds up to 108 kph (68 mph) and killed at least 9 people Saturday on the southern island of Kyushu as 23 Zulus unleashed mudslides and washed out bridges in some areas, reports AP from Tokyo.

Kinna, the 17th typhoon of the year, dumped as much as 268 millimeters (11 inches) of rain per hour in some areas of southwestern Japan early Saturday.

Local news reports said two people died in Nagasaki on Kyushu when heavy winds toppled a barn. In Kumamoto, southern Kyushu, a motorcyclist died of head injuries when wind knocked him off his bike.

**Y'slav army Gen held in Croatia:** Croatia arrested a senior Yugoslav army general and five other officers on Friday night after forcing down their helicopter during a battle south of the Republic's capital Zagreb, Croatian radio said, reports Reuter from Belgrade.

It said that Major-General Milan Aksentijevic, Deputy Commander of the Fifth Army District which includes Slovenia and most of mainland Croatia, was among those captured when Croatian forces downed his helicopter in an area south of Zagreb.

In fighting Saturday in the Banija and Kordun areas, Croatian forces forced a military helicopter to land and in the process took prisoner Major-General Milan Aksentijevic and a further five officers, the radio said. It gave no further details.

**China reopens water dispute with ROK:** China reopened a territorial waters dispute with South Korea Saturday, demanding it halt drilling for oil in the Yellow Sea that divides the two countries, reports AFP from Beijing.

The Foreign Ministry here said it was deeply concerned that South Korean drilling platforms had recently been operating in the "waters of China," the China Daily newspaper reported.

"The drilling was another act of encroachment on China's rights and interest committed by South Korea following its oil drilling in the same area last May," the ministry said.

**Four killed in S. African violence:** Four people died Friday night as a lull in violence which has swept with African black townships in Johannesburg since Sunday was shattered by gunshots and firebombs, police said, AFP reports.

Three men were shot dead in Soweto, Johannesburg's largest township, while a fourth man was burnt to death in the Powderkirk township of Alexandra, bordering plush white suburbs to the north of the city.

The latest killings bring to at least 125 the number of people who have died since a massacre of 23 Zulus loyal to chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party in Tokoza township east of here last Sunday sparked a killing spree in adjoining townships.

## Off the Record

### Bush receives a clean bill of health

WASHINGTON: Four months after suffering heart trouble, President George Bush Friday received a clean bill of health that removed the last obstacle to a bid for reelection in November 1992, reports AFP.

"I feel good... yeah, 100 per cent", the 67-year-old Bush told reporters after returning to the White House from an afternoon of tests with his doctors at Bethesda Naval Hospital outside Washington.

"It is safe to say that for a gentleman in his mid-60's, his overall fitness level is incredible," cardiologist Bruce Lloyd told a press conference.

Bush's doctors said that results of the tests were "completely normal," that his cardiac performance was perfect and that the chances of his suffering a relapse were "quite small".

Last May, Bush was hospitalized with an irregular heartbeat after suffering shortness of breath while jogging at the Camp David presidential retreat.

Doctors said he was suffering from graves disease, a condition caused by an overactive thyroid gland. Bush's wife, Barbara, suffers from the same illness.

The president's thyroid gland was destroyed medication composed of radioactive iodine. He will have to take another drug to compensate for the lost thyroid and aspirin to reduce the risk of heart attack.

### LTTE text book for primary students

COLOMBO: Dominant Tamil guerrillas have published a text book titled the "new history" on social studies for primary school students in Sri Lanka's embattled northeast, local press reports said Saturday, reports AFP.

The book was launched at a school for girls last week by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in their stronghold of the Jaffna peninsula, which is virtually under their control, the state-run Daily News said.

The book contained material related to the guerrillas' militant campaign to establish a separate state for Sri Lanka's two million ethnic Tamil minority concentrated in the island's northeast, the paper said.

There is virtually no civil administration on the peninsula. The Daily News said the LTTE often held meetings and seminars at colleges in Jaffna for propaganda purposes and to recruit students to join their war effort.

Thousands of people have died in a bitter campaign against Sri Lankan Armed Forces in a 19-year-old struggle for Eelam — a Tamil homeland.

### Live museum of woman

BRUSSELS: In the fine Belgian tradition of surrealist or Dadaist art, a Belgian man this week chalked up a probable first in the history of humanity — a museum of woman, reports AFP.

The exhibits are live. There is the housewife, who could be the woman next door. The femme fatale — a little more seductive. The child-woman. An old lady, knitting away busily.

There is also a woman of the streets, a blonde in mini-skirt and garters. Also the naked lady, her legs crossed chastely. And finally the invisible woman — to the unimaginative eye simply an empty chair.

Just as in all museums, there are signs saying: "Do not touch the exhibits."

The museum's founder is a 45-year-old Flemish man Jan Buequoy, who maintains that it is a contribution to "the world of science, of politics and of culture."

Buequoy it was who created Brussels' Museum of Underwear, which can be rented out for private parties.

The invitation to his latest creation show the photograph of a barefoot seated woman in slacks, who could be any Belgian's sister, under the caption: "White Belgian woman."

## Karen rebels retake border outpost

MAE SOT THAILAND, Sept 14: Burma's Karen guerrillas attacked and retook a border outpost in revenge after finding six fellow Karens beheaded by Burmese troops a Thai army officer said on Friday, reports Reuter.

About 100 Karen rebels drove government troops from Thay Baw Bo Camp near the Thai border earlier this week killing at least two of them the officer said, requesting anonymity.

He said the guerrillas launched their assault after finding six headless bodies floating down the Moei river that divides Burma from Thailand.

The six had been among 10 timer workers captured earlier this month when Burmese troops raided Karen saw mills, the officer said.

The four others were presumed dead, he said.

On Thursday, a guerrilla official said a tribunal at the Karen headquarters of Maneply had executed two people accused of spying for the Burmese military government.

Mai Pan Sein, a former insurgent and Thei Myint, who was accused of being a military intelligence officer, were shot by firing squad on August 30, the official said.

It was not clear if the executions and beheadings were connected.

The Karen, seeking greater

autonomy from Rangoon, have been locked in an often brutal jungle war with the government for more than four decades.

### 2 killed in Pak sectarian clash

ISLAMABAD, Sept 14: Two people were killed and seven injured in a gunfight between rival Muslim sects in Pakistan's Punjab Province, a government statement said today, reports Reuter.

The clash in the small town of Jund, west of Islamabad, occurred on Friday during a protest rally by militant Sunni Muslims against the murder of five religious scholars in another Punjab town last week.

The Sunni Anjuman Sipah-i-Sahaba organisation blames Shia Muslim militants for the killings. The Shias deny the charge.

Demonstrators burned several shops in Jund, the official statement said.

It was the latest in a series of clashes between militants of the majority Sunni Sect and the minority Shias.

The Anjuman Sipah-i-Sahaba organised protest rallies in several Punjab towns on Friday at which they blamed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's government for failing to stop the sectarian violence.

# 'North Korea to have N-weapons within 3 years'

SEOUL, Sept 14: North Korea will have nuclear weapons within one to three years and the hardline communist government would use them as a last resort to stay in power, a North Korean defector said here Friday, reports AFP.

Ko Yong-Hwan, who was a First Secretary with the North Korean Embassy in Congo, said that Pyongyang planned to buy time to develop the deadly arsenal by delaying signing of an international nuclear safeguard agreement.

"It will take one to three years before North Korea produces nuclear weapons. All North Korean diplomats have

the same opinion, Ko said at his first press conference since defecting to the South in May.

Pyongyang demanded Thursday the removal from South Korea of the "US nuclear threat" to the North before it signs an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) accord which would allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities.

What Pyongyang intends to do is to earn time, Ko said, adding that even if Pyongyang signed the IAEA accord, it would delay ratification of the accord.

He said the North was desperate to develop nuclear

weapons as a last resort to maintain its system as it faced mounting pressure for political reform.

U.S. intelligence officials have reportedly told South Korean and Japanese officials that North Korea is capable of producing nuclear weapons, revising their views that it would not be able to do so until 1995.

Ko, however, said the hardline North Korean government would have to adopt Chinese-style economic reform policies within five years because of its dire economic situation.

He said that he had heard in the North Korean embassy in Moscow in June last year

that Pyongyang had ordered North Korean officials to check the possibility of communist conservatives taking power in Moscow and to support them in case of a coup.

The order was sent by Kim Jong-Il, son of North Korean President Kim Il-Sung and heir-apparent, he said.

Asked about the destruction of a South Korean passenger jet in 1987 by North Korean agents, Ko said he had sent a message to the father of one of the two bombers to call him back home from his diplomatic posting in Angola.

"I wrote the message, Ko said, adding that two North Korean security agents visited

the Foreign Ministry and told him to recall Kim Won-Chul, the father of spy Kim Hyun-Hee. He did not elaborate.

All 115 people aboard the Korean air flight died when a bomb exploded in the plane off the coast of Burma in November 1987.

North Korean agent Kim Hyun-Hee was arrested and confessed that she and her companion, who killed himself with cyanide on being arrested, had planted a time bomb on the plane.

She said their orders had come from North Korean President Kim Jong-Il, who wanted to scare away foreign-

ers from taking part in the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Ko said he had decided to defect after finding out that he had been branded as a deserter and was being summoned back to Pyongyang.

The 38-year-old Ko said he had a child and a wife in the Congo and another child in Pyongyang. He defected to the South in May but the case was not publicized out of concern for the safety of his family, officials said.

He is the first North Korean diplomat known to have defected to the South since the Korean peninsula was divided at the end of World War II.