

BRIEFLY

Delhi, Jakarta discuss NAM issue:

India and Indonesia yesterday agreed on the imperative need for the Non-Alignment Movement (NAM) to adhere to time tested principles on issues such as nuclear disarmament and total global elimination of nuclear weapons, reports Xinhua from New Delhi.

The agreement was reached here in the talks between Minister of State for External Affairs Eduardo Faleiro and visiting Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, during which they discussed the revised Jakarta declaration to be adopted at the forthcoming Jakarta Non-Alignment Movement (NAM) summit, according to Press Trust of India (PTI).

India also expressed its support for the membership applications of Brunei, Uzbekistan, Croatia, Slovenia and some other countries at the NAM summit to be held in Jakarta in September, an External Affairs Ministry spokesman said.

Kurds kill six in Turkey : Kurdish separatists killed six people, including a 3-year-old boy, and wounded eight others in attacks in Turkey, the state-owned Anatolia news agency reported on Tuesday, says AP from Turkey.

The rebels killed a soldier and wounded seven others when they attacked a military post Monday night in Catak, a town in eastern Van province, the agency said.

The rebels were reportedly members of the Kurdish Labour Party, which has been fighting for self-rule since 1984. Kurdish insurgents killed four civilians in the village of Kocabahec in eastern Kars province, Anatolia said. In a third Monday night attack, rebels killed a 3-year-old child and wounded a teenage girl in the village of Tepebasi, which is in the same province, Anatolia said.

Earthquake jolts Mojave Desert : Two moderate earthquakes jolted the Mojave Desert on Tuesday as repairs continued from the damage of last week's devastating temblors, reports AP from Calif.

No new damage or injuries were reported. Thousands of aftershocks have rattled through Southern California since two quakes on June 28 in Landers and Big Bear lake killed one child and caused \$190 million damage.

An aftershock to the Landers quake struck at 3:09 pm (22:09 EDT) Tuesday and measured 4.3 on the Richter scale, according to the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena. It was centred 15 miles (24 kilometres) north of Yucca Valley.

LTTE executes 10 Tamils : Tamil Tiger guerrillas executed 10 Tamil men after accusing them of collaborating with security forces and rival political groups in northern Sri Lanka, Tamil sources here said Tuesday, reports AFP from Colombo.

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) set up a kangaroo court to try the civilians on charges of spying in northern Omanthi village and executed them Monday by firing squad in the presence of villagers, the sources said.

Police deployed to quell violence in Manhattan

NEW YORK, July 8 : More than 1,000 police patrolled the tense streets of northern Manhattan on Tuesday and Mayor David Dinkins pleaded for peace after a night of violence touched off by the police killing of a Dominican man, reports AP.

Scattered violence broke out again Tuesday in the Washington Heights section, but it didn't appear to be as serious as Monday night's unrest, in which one person died and 28 were arrested.

There were bursts of rock-and-bottle-throwing and some cars were set on fire after a wake for the man police killed. But crowds quickly broke up when hundreds of police arrived in vans and busses.

Nineteen people were arrested Tuesday night for disorderly conduct, attempted arson and assault, said police spokesman Sgt. Ed Burns. Twenty people, including 10 police officers, suffered minor injuries, he said.

Earlier Tuesday, vandals at

a commuter bus terminal were smashed and officers wielding batons and wearing riot helmets chased a group of demonstrators.

The streets were littered with glass from vandalized stores, overturned cars and smoldering trash from Monday night's violence.

The mayor visited the neighbourhood for the second straight day, this time accompanied by Cardinal John O'Connor.

"Violence is the answer to nothing, absolutely nothing. Justice we will have; peace I beg you for," Dinkins told 300 people in a schoolyard speech.

During Monday night's violence, which spread over more than 70 blocks, shots were fired at police officers and a police helicopter hovering over a precinct station. A police van was set on fire.

Twenty-eight people were arrested on disorderly conduct, arson and assault charges, said First Deputy Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly.

Accord to suspend Y'slavia from CSCE summit

MUNICH, Germany, July 8 : A senior US official said Wednesday an agreement has been reached to suspend Yugoslavia from a 51-nation European security summit because of its actions in ethnic conflicts, reports AP.

The suspension will be indefinite, but the federation of Serbia and Montenegro can reapply after Oct. 14, the official said, as President Bush prepared to go to Helsinki later in the day to attend the security summit.

The ethnic conflict is expected to dominate the session Thursday and Friday. The 20-year-old Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) will adopt a NATO proposal to "establish

the machinery" for dealing with such threats to Europe's post-Cold War stability.

The official briefed reporters under rules that barred identifying him.

"What they will be looking at is an opportunity to make the CSCE more capable of dealing with the types of problems that already are apparent in the post-Cold War Europe," he said.

The leaders also pledged to work for policies aimed at creating jobs and economic growth. They promised to follow sound monetary policies that would boost economic growth without spurring inflation. They said they would try to bring about lower interest

rates by reducing government budget deficits and encouraging savings.

The United States and the European Community, the 12-nation trading bloc, have been at odds over government payments to farmers. The bitter dispute has blocked negotiations in other areas of the Uruguay Round of trade talks, an ambitious effort by 108 nations to revamp the world trading system.

President Bush, summit host Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the other leaders failed earlier in the week to overcome their differences on the agriculture dispute and bring the round closer to an agreement.

In the draft statement, the

leaders expressed cautious optimism that an accord could be reached quickly.

"We expect an agreement can be reached before the end of 1992," the statement said.

They said they regretted "the slow pace of the negotiations since we met in London last year." At that time, they promised to resolve the dispute and conclude the trade negotiations by the end of last year. They had made a similar pledge at their summit in Houston in 1990.

At issue is a demand by the United States and other farm exporting countries for the EC to make much deeper cuts in its farm subsidies than it has so far been willing to do.



PARIS: French first lady Danielle Mitterrand speaks to the press upon her arrival at the Villacoublay military airport on Tuesday. Mrs Mitterrand escaped a car bomb attack on June 6 as she was touring Iraqi Kurdistan on a humanitarian mission. — AFP/UNB photo

UN call to halt violence in Angola

UNITED NATIONS, July 8 : The UN Security Council on Tuesday appealed to the Angolan government and UNITA rebels to exercise restraint, halt violent incidents and permit open voter registration before the first elections in September, reports AP.

The council, in a non-binding statement, urged the government and the Union for the Total Independence of Angola, or UNITA, to swiftly implement peace accords, including the confinement and demobilization of forces, surrender of weapons and formation of new armed forces and police.

The 15-nation council also appealed to member states to provide electoral assistance and equipment, including vehicles, so that election preparations can go forward. Polling will be Sept. 29 and 30.

The statement was read aloud by Council President Jose Luis Jesus, the ambassador of Cape Verde, who heads the council in July.

The council expressed concern "at the political and security situation in Angola, which requires the greatest restraint."

"Violent incidents, mutual accusations and hostile propaganda should be terminated and give way to tolerance, co-operation and reconciliation," it said.

Y'slav diplomat shot dead in Moscow

MOSCOW, July 8 : A diplomat from the Yugoslavian Embassy in Moscow was shot and killed Monday night while travelling by train from Belgrade to Moscow, the Itar-Tass news agency reported, reports AP.

Quoting sources from the military prosecutor's office, the agency said that the diplomat was shot by a drunken soldier who fired five shots, at point blank range from his automatic rifle.

Itar-Tass said the soldier, named only as Peshonov, was serving in a dispatching company in the Ukrainian city of Chop and was returning from the city of Kazan in Russia.

Measles claims 143 in Laos

BANGKOK, July 8 : Measles has killed 143 children in a remote part of southern Laos, the official Laotian news agency has reported, reports Reuters.

The epidemic was continuing in the district of Dakchung in Sekong province, which borders central Vietnam, the KPL agency quoted a local official as saying.

The disease has hit several villages and killed 143 children in Dakchung since March, said the report, seen in Bangkok today.

An earlier KPL report said most of the victims were below 14 years old.

The district is remote and its people, mostly from ethnic minorities, have no knowledge of health care or sanitation, KPL said.

Communist lawmaker tells court in Moscow August coup was plotted without party support

MOSCOW, July 8 : Communist leaders acted without party support when they plotted the August 1991 coup, a pro-Communist lawmaker told a court Wednesday during arguments on whether to lift the ban on the outlawed organization, reports AP.

President Boris Yeltsin's lawyers were scheduled to speak after opening statements by lawyers for the 37 parliament members who are trying to overturn his decrees banning the party and seizing its property.

Pro-Communist lawmaker Vladimir Bokov argued that contrary to Yeltsin's decree, the party rank-and-file did not support the coup, although he conceded that some of its leaders were involved.

"The party as a whole had no relation to the events of Aug. 19-21," Bokov said. "The

Communist Party did not participate in a coup d'etat."

Wednesday's session in Constitutional Court opened with Chief Judge Valery Zorkin cautioning the two sides against turning the trial into a political show.

On Tuesday, the 13 black-robed judges banned from the courtroom Dmitri Stepanov, a Siberian lawmaker, who threatened to overthrow the Russian government unless the ban is repealed.

The court, created just seven months ago, is simultaneously considering the challenge to Yeltsin's decrees and a countersuit claiming the party was an illegal organization.

If Yeltsin's decrees are overturned, his authority will suffer and hard-line groups that want to revive the party and the Soviet Union will gain

a key moral as well as legal victory.

Yeltsin issued the decrees last year, after the failed coup against former Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev by hard-liners in the party, military and KGB.

Yeltsin's lawyers have submitted thousands of newly declassified documents to show that party leaders placed themselves above the law and committed crimes against the people.

Legislator Viktor Zorkaltsev, representing the Communists, contended that Yeltsin usurped legislative and judicial powers by banning the party.

Zorkaltsev said the 19 million-member party "lifted the nation to victory over the fascists" in World War II.



GERMANY: Over 12000 tanks of the former East German National Peoples Army wait for the scrap-heap in Grossenhain, Eastern Germany on Tuesday. The demolition costs of one tank is estimated to come to approximately 30,000 Deutsch marks (around 18,000 US dollar). — AFP/UNB photo

Demonstration against Serbian President on

BELGRADE, July 8 : Thousands of students surged against riot police preventing them from delivering protest notes to the home of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, reports AP.

The demonstration, which began on Tuesday as a peaceful 5-kilometer march from the university through the city to the wooded residential area where Milosevic lives, was the latest in a wave of protests against him and his Socialist Party of former Communists.

Students at Belgrade University have been on strike since June 15 to press for Milosevic's resignation and the holding of new elections.

Chanting "Fascists" and "Red Bandits," the students pushed against police in full

riot gear who formed three lines across the narrow Tolstojeva Street where Milosevic lives.

The police pushed back, but did not use violence. Scores of other officers could be seen in the bushes and on nearby streets. Several police vehicles were parked in the vicinity, including a water cannon and an armored vehicle.

"They don't understand a democratic protest," one protester, Zvorad Jovanovic, said of the police.

Thousands of area residents lined the sidewalks to lend support. It was not known if Milosevic was at home.

The students at first sat peacefully on the street while leaders repeatedly sought to negotiate passage.

Ex-US envoy indicted for promoting action in Gulf

DENVER, July 8 : A federal grand jury has indicted a former US Ambassador to Bahrain and two others for allegedly accepting \$7.7 million from Kuwait to promote US intervention in the Gulf prior to the Gulf War, reports AP.

Former Ambassador Sam Zakhem, who unsuccessfully sought the Colorado Republican nomination for the US Senate this year; William R Kennedy Jr and Scott Stanley Jr are named in the indictment, which was unsealed Tuesday.

Kennedy is a former owner of the magazine Conservative Digest and Stanley is a former

Conservative Digest editor. They are accused of failing to inform the US government they were acting as agents of Kuwait when they launched a publicity campaign to promote military action against Iraq.

According to the indictment, the three operated two businesses between Aug. 1, 1990, and June 30, 1991, in an effort to generate public support for military action against Iraq.

US Attorney Michael Norton said the indictment alleged the three used a number of bank accounts and the two businesses to conceal the fact

Canada gives Quebec a distinct society status

OTTAWA, July 8 : Government officials and premiers from Canada's nine English-speaking provinces were jubilant after working out constitutional reforms they felt would end Quebec's secessionist drive, reports AP.

"This has been an historic day," Constitutional Affairs Minister Jec Clark said Tuesday as he announced the agreement to recognize Quebec as a distinct society. "I can't recall another time literally since Confederation where there has been so much agreement on such a wide range of issues."

Quebec also won a long-sought veto over future

changes to federal institutions with a requirement that any changes need the unanimous consent of all provinces.

The accord also permits native self-government, reforms the Senate and allows goods and services to move more quickly across Canada by dismantling provincial trade barriers.

It transfers some federal powers to the provinces — each could now promote culture as it sees fit — and contains a statement to ensure that all Canadians will have equal access to social programmes such as universal health care.

The deal appears to include

life need protection from Canada's dominant English-speaking culture.

The premiers said they believe Quebec will find much in the package to like.

"I think it's the basis of permitting Quebec to join in a formal way the Constitution of Canada," said Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow.

Native leaders were also pleased, saying the accord represents a new deal between Canada and its aboriginal people.

It's two thumbs up — one for aboriginal people and one for the rest of Canada," said Ovide Mercredi, chief of the Assembly of First Nations.

Senate reform was the crucial constitutional issue for less populated provinces like Alberta, Manitoba and Newfoundland.

Alberta's Premier Don Getty led the drive to change the Senate from an appointed body with little real power to an elected body with equal provincial representation.

"I think it should appeal dramatically to the people of Quebec but it also should appeal dramatically to people all across the country," said Getty, who pumped his fists in the air in triumph at the news conference.

Each of the ten provinces would get eight seats in the new Senate while the two ter-

G-7 asks Libya, Iraq to comply with UN resolutions

MUNICH, July 8 : The Group of Seven most industrialized nations served notice Tuesday to Libya and Iraq to comply with UN Security Council resolutions that led to the introduction of sanctions against both countries, reports

AFP. In a statement issued by German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on behalf of his G-7 partners, the summiteers noted that "Iran still refused to comply with all resolutions of the Security Council without reservation."

"We shall continue to demand the elimination of all Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and the release of all prisoners. We warn the Iraqi regime against repressive actions against all the peoples of Iraq in violation of UN Security Council Resolution 688."

"Iraq must accept the responsibility for the well-being of its citizens and for the equal treatment of its minorities."

"It is essential for Baghdad to comply with Security Council Resolutions 706 and 712 so that food and medical supplies can be distributed on an equitable basis."

"We condemn any use of force against those who provide help to the population."

UN chemical weapons inspectors have been barred for the last three days from visiting the Iraqi agriculture, ministry building.

Turning to Tripoli, the G-7 called on Libya to comply with Security Council Resolutions 731 and 748 promptly and fully. "We call upon all countries to enforce rigorously the sanctions against Libya so that those responsible for the bombings of (passenger airliner flights) PA 103 and UTA 772 may be brought to justice

and Libya's support for terrorism is ended."

The G-7 also reaffirmed "unqualified support" for the Middle East peace process, and welcomed progress so far since the Madrid peace conference last October-November.

The seven leaders called on all countries to renounce support for terrorism and denounced hostage-taking.

"We call again for the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages who may still be held and for an accounting for all persons taken hostage who may have died" in captivity.

The Group of Seven comprises Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States.

IAEA team in Pyongyang

TOKYO, July 8 : The second nuclear inspection group from the International Atomic Energy Agency arrived in Pyongyang on Tuesday, North Korea's official media said, reports AP.

The Korean Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo, said only that the group was led by Wily Theis, a section chief of the IAEA's Safeguard Department. It gave no further details.

Theis also headed a seven-member IAEA inspection team that visited North Korea from May 25 through June 6 to conduct the first outside inspection of the Communist state's nuclear facilities.

North Korea joined the 1969 nuclear non-proliferation treaty in 1985, but until this year had refused to accept the required IAEA inspections.

Off the Record

Judges take back her beauty crown

BEIJING : One of the few beauty pageants ever held in China ended in chaos when judges accused the winner of cheating and took back her crown, the official People's Daily said Tuesday, reports AP.

Beauty contests are always controversial in China, where political purity is still considered more important than superficial beauty.

But last month's China Advertising Modeling Contest caused a major furor because of charges that a rich sponsor forced selection of his favourite contestant.

The People's Daily said the sponsor, identified only as Mr L, threatened to withdraw his 300,000 yuan (dls 55,000) contribution after his favourite, Miss M, was eliminated in the semifinals in a theatre in Beijing.

The judges caved in. For the next round, Mr L packed the panel with more judges and Miss M won the "Miss China" title and 10,000 yuan (dls 1,800) prize.

The original judges immediately cried fraud. "They really are despicable," the paper quoted one as saying of Miss M and her patron. "They'll do absolutely anything (to win)."

The staid Communist Party newspaper, which usually fills its pages with political lectures rather than beauty news, did not say what would happen next.

But it agreed with the first group of judges on Miss M's charms, saying she had nothing to "set her apart from the crowd."

Communist China held its first beauty pageant in the southern city of Canton in 1985, and there have been a few low-key, local pageants since.

In 1988, Beijing authorities refused permission for a pageant, saying it was not suited to a poor country.

Tiny worm to prevent mice plagues

SYDNEY : Scientists hope a tiny roundworm will prevent mice plagues which have regularly decimated Australian grain harvests for generations, reports AP.

Grant Singleton of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization said the parasitic worms attacked the liver of mice hampering breeding and often killing them outright.

The worms are common among city mice populations but not in their country cousins. Because of this, a trial release of the worms will be made in rural areas over the next two years.

Mice were introduced to Australia more than two centuries ago on the ships of European explorers and settlers. With no native competitors or predators, they flourished.

Numbers sometimes explode to plague levels. Once grain farms are eaten-out, thousands of hungry mice invade country homes and buildings consuming anything digestible — including groceries, paper and even electrical insulation.

Several plagues in recent years had numbers of up to 4,000 per hectare (1620 per acre), Singleton said.

territories each get two seats. Representation for Eskimo-run territory would be decided later.

The changes were made in an attempt to balance the House of Commons, now dominated by heavily populated Ontario and Quebec.

To win Ontario's agreement, the Commons was expanded by 17 seats to a total of 312 seats. Ontario will get 10 extra seats, Quebec and British Columbia three, and Alberta one.

The agreement also ensures that future provincial representation in the Commons will more closely follow population.