About 500 killed in Bombay riots

BOMBAY, Jan 13: Four people were stabbed to death Wednesday in fresh Hindu-Muslim violence that has left nearly 500 people dead in eight days of rioting, news reports said, according to AP.

Press Trust of India news agency said the stabbings were reported from Andheri and Deonar areas, but did not give details. Other riot-torn neighbourhoods were tense, but calm, the news agency said.

Police opened fire in three areas overnight, injuring five people, the police control room said.

Riots are diminishing in and around Bombay, but arson is still heavy," said the spokesman, who cannot be identified under briefing rules. Twenty-nine fires were reported during the night, he

According to Bombay police chief Shreekant Bapt, the toll

as of Tuesday evening was 147. But Indian news reports, quoting hospital officials, say at least 470 people have been

Hindus and Muslims armed with knives, clubs and firebombs have clashed in several parts of Bombay, India's largest city and home to 12 million

News reports say the victims have been predominantly Muslims.

"Bombay has not seen such barbaric behaviour during its 300-year-old history," said The Times of India, the country's leading daily newspaper.

At least 18 neighbourhoods are under curfew, but shopping districts, schools, cinemas, banks and offices in almost every part of the city have remained shut. Traffic is off the streets. The Bombay Stock Exchange, the country's largest, has not done any business for the last three days.

The violence resulted from the December 6 demolition of a Muslim mosque by Hindu zealots in the northern town of Ayodhya. In the ensuring weeklong violence, that also gripped many parts of the country, at least 202 people were killed in Bombay. At least 1,000 more were killed in other towns and cities of India.

The deep-rooted Ilindu-Muslim hatred resurfaced on January 6 when people of the two communities attacked each other in the slums of Bombay. Soon, the violence spread to fashionable districts.

The Times of India newspaper, published from Bombay, said the predominantly Hindu residents of high-rise apartments are strengthening security in their buildings to protect Muslim neighbours from Hindu marauders.



LITTLE ROCK: US President-elect Bill Clinton (L) and wife Hillary stand behind a painting, which is packed and ready for their move to Washington, prior to an interview at the Arkansas governor's mansion on Tuesday. The interview is schedule to be aired today on ABC's 'Prime Time Live'. - AFP/UNB photo

Honecker freed

BERLIN, Jan 13: A Berlin court released former East German leader Erich Honecker from jail on Wednesday by lifting a last arrest warrant relating to corruption charges, a court spokesman said, reports Reuter.

Meanwhile: Honecker prepared today to depart for Chile, leaving behind the uneasy feeling that only his terminal liver cancer had saved him from paying for his country's crimes.

Honecker's trial for manslaughter along the Berlin Wall, billed as the most spectacular in Germany since the 1945 Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal, Ended on Tuesday when a Berlin court ruled his continued imprisonment violated basic human rights.

Ignoring a last -minute appeal by prosecutors, Berlin officials ordered a passport for the man who denied million of east Germans the right to travel and organised a last police escort to take him to the airport from jail.

Resigned but proud of their country's impartial justice, the

"What if your daughters

and the youth of America

were to clone Madonna?"

Blackwell asked, standing

before a photo of the

Blackwell, whose real

singer-actress in bare-

name is Richard Sylvan

Sclze, said the latest

edition of his list was the

most difficult, declaring

that the state of fashion

had fallen to a new low.

who Blackwell described

ranked fourth.

bosomed gown.

he said.

German press agreed there was no alternative to releasing the dying Honecker, 80, and letting him join his wife and daughter in exile in Chile.

"It may hurt many former citizens of East Germany," the Berliner Zeitung daily commented," But the trial against Erich Honecker could not be

"Nobody should shed a tear for him," it added, echoing the comment which East Berlin's communists made when frustrated East Germans fled their country by their thousands in the dramatic months before Honecker's fall from power in

continued."

The Frankfurter Rundschau wrote that United Germany could not refuse Honecker's right to die in peace even if his communist state denied that to many during its 40-year life.

"Honecker bears political responsibility for East Germany's crimes," It said. "In this sense, he remains guilty before history.

Tamils kill 3 Lankan soldiers: Tamil guerillas yesterday attacked an army patrol in northeastern Shri Lanka, killing at least three soldiers and wounding three others, military sources said, AFP reports from Colombo.

Gunmen from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eclam (LTTE) attacked the army troops when they were engaged in routeclearing operations in the embattled Weli Oya region, the sources said.

The troops retaliated and repulsed the Tiger assault but it was not know if there were any casualties among the militants, military sources said, adding that details of the incident were being awaited from field commanders.

The LTTE is fighting to set up an independent homeland in the northeast for Shri Lanka's Tamils who are the island's largest ethnic minority community. Thousands of combatants and civilians have died in the separatist campaign.

Quayle may run for president: Vice president Dan Quayle says he plans to return to his home state of Indiana later this year but if he ever runs for public office again it would only be to campaign for president, reports AP from Washington.

"I am not interested in running for government or any other office", Quayle said in an interview published in Wednesday editions of The Washington Post. "If I ever run for public office again, it will be for president."

The Quayles plan to move to Indianapolis after their three children finish the school year, the vice president said.

After leaving office next week, Quayle said that he and his family will move into the suburban Potomac, Md, home owned by a relative. The Quayles plan to sell their McLean, Va, home, which has been rented since 1989

97 convicted in Venezuelan coup plot: A Venezuelan military court convicted 97 soldiers and civilians on Tuesday for their role in a bloody November 27 coup attempt, while 99 others were acquitted, the Defence Ministry said, Reuter reports from Caracas.

The sentencing, which began on Monday, ended just a few hours after a group of prisoners took Venezuela's military police chief hostage in an effort to force authorities to slow the pace of the summary trials.

The convictions were the first in this oil-rich nation against disgruntled soldiers and civilians who participated in the November Coup attempt against the government of President Carlos Andres Perez.

The embattled President has become increasingly unpopular for alleged corruption and economic reforms that have increased the cost of living and hit poorest Venezuelans the hardest.

Sympathy strike in Manila: Around 10,000 Chinese-Filipinos closed their business and marched through Manila today to attend the funeral of a kidnapped schoolgirl killed when police bungled a rescue attempt. AFP reports from Manila.

The two-kilometer (1.2 mile) long funeral cortege of 15year-old Charlene caused a massive traffic jam as thousands of students, businessmen and families from the Chinese community joined the march to demand tough action against kidnappers.

. In downtown Manila, the Binondo China town was a virtual ghost town Wednesday morning as businesses, banks, and schools went on a half-day sympathy strike.

Bernie Aug, a member of the city council, said in a radio interview that ethnic Chinese establishments in other parts of metropolitan Manila also took part in the strike, which he said was scheduled to be lifted at noon.

Blast destroys shops in S Africa: A powerful explosion destroyed two shops and shattered nearby windows early Wednesday but caused no casualties, police

said, reports AP from Johannesburg. The blast at 12:45 am (2245 GMT Tuesday) occurred at a supermarket in Randfontein, about 40 kilometres (25 miles)

west of Johannesburg, said police, Maj Hemruthe Bester. A fruit stand next door also was destroyed, she said, and windows in other shops and a train station across the street

were shattered. "There were no deaths or injuries," Bester said. "It looks like explosives were used but we will not be able to say ex-

Cholera claims 46 more in Zimbabwe: The health ministry on Wednesday said 46 people died from cholera in the past week, bringing the death toll since November to 120, AP reports from Harare.

Another 2,403 people have been threatened for the intestinal disease, most of them in eastern Zimbabwe where the outbreak began November 26, the ministry said in a state-

Will Clinton be world's policeman?

the first post-cold war American President, Bill Clinton will be free from the ideological conflict with the former Soviet empire but he will inherit other tough international problems, reports

He must fashion an imaginative global policy in a world complicated by the rise of nationalist struggles in Europe and the disappearance of Moscow's influence over client countries after the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

As the sole remaining superpower, the United States is increasingly being called on to help settle conflicts whether in the Middle East, the Balkans or Africa, and Clinton must decide whether the United States wants to take on the role of the world's police-

He must also restore the

Junta hints at

indefinite

detention of

Suu Kyi

tary junta indicated Tuesday

that opposition leader Aung

San Suu Kyi would be detained

indefinitely, saying it would

leave the question of her re-

lease to the next government,

The junta has said it could

not hold elections for a new

government until a new consti-

tution is drafted. A convention

to endorse guidelines for the

charter began Saturday, but

there has been no word on

how long that would last or

when the charter would be fin-

1991 Nobel Peace Prize for

standing up to the junta, which

has been criticized worldwide

for human rights abuses. She

has been under strict house

Peres' move to

avert UN

sanctions

JERUSALEM, Jan 13: Isr-

aeli Foreign Minister Shimon

Peres will meet UN Secretary-

General Boutros Boutros-Ghali

in Paris today in an attempt to

avert sanctions over the

deportation of 415 Palestinians

aide, said Israel believed the

United Nations was moving

closer to imposing sanctions

on Israel which refuses to

comply with a UN resolution

demanding the return of all

"He (Peres) will try to ex-

plain how important it is no to

impose sanctions, we want to

prevent any attempt like this,"

Barguda said. Peres and

Boutros Chali will both be in

Paris for the signing of UN

treaty banning chemical wea-

sation appeared in the British

needs Charles all the time. The

prince replies: "Oh God, I'll

just live inside your trousers or

something. It would be much

sation deals with how and

where the two can met that

week. Near the end, they state

Much of the alleged conver-

Charles, the heir apparent

the deportees.

Bahira Barguda, a Peres

to Lebanon, reports Reuter.

arrest since July, 1989.

Mrs. Suu Kyi, 47, won the

reports AP.

ished.

YANGON, Jan 13: The mili-

WASHINGTON, Jan 13: As United States' economic nomic aid to Russia, which Serbs by rejecting armed inhealth which he has said is indispensable for maintaining US power and meeting the competition posed by Asia and Europe while resisting protectionist policies.

> The former Governor of Arkansas has been criticized for his lack of international experience and he has compensated by choosing cabinet members steeped in international affairs from the Carter administration.

For Secretary of State, he tapped Warren Christopher, who was Carter's Deputy Secretary of State. For National Security Advisor, he selected Anthony Lake, a former State Department Director of Policy planning under Carter and special assistant to Nixon for national security affairs.

He has met several times with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and advocates eco-

remains the world's second nuclear power and whose flight from communism he does not yet see as irreversible.

Clinton must also uphold agreements such as the Strategic Arms Reduction START 1 and II treaties signed by Washington and Moscow and persuade other countries who inherited Soviet nuclear power to follow suit.

In the former Yugoslavia, Clinton inherits Bush administration promises to ensure the "no-fly" zones are respected, to open prison camps, to put perpetrators of a war crimes on trial, and not to recognize Serbian territorial gains made by force.

During the election campaign, Clinton urged a stronger response to end the tragedy in Bosnia and reproached Bush for abandoning the field to the

tervention in the former Yugoslavia.

Bush sent us troops into Somalia knowing that Clinton would inherit that issue, and the new president must now ensure they accomplish their humanitarian mission and return home without leaving Somalia in chaos.

In Iraq, Saddam Hussein has outlasted Bush despite his Gulf War retreat, leaving to Clinton the task of continuing Baghdad's isolation or-finding a way to bring the country, which is vital to the cohesion of the Arab World, back into the community of nations.

The most ambitious inter national initiative by Bush and his Secretary of State James Baker was to get the Middle East peace talks underway with the seemingly impossible task of striking a durable

and ammunition from gun

Wilhelm quoted the general as

saying he hoped he would

have a safer Mogadishu by Fcb

1, with more arms off the

streets so that relief workers

could move around without

The US military has 22,500

The operation to assist the

A civilian Army employee

was killed December 23 near

the city of Bardera when the

vehicle he was riding in hit a

starving in Somalia has been

men and women in Somalia,

including those aboard the

Navy's ships offshore.

under way since Dec 9.

armed guards.

land mine.

"What looks terrible... has become fashionable," Following Madonna on the list were actresses Geena Davis, "Big Bird in hells," and Glenn Close,

as "Dracula's Daughter." Television star Delta Burke

Of shaven-headed singer Sinead O'Connor, No 5 on the list, he said, "No tresses, no dresses. The high priestess of pretense downright depresses."

Off the Record

Worst-dressed

Worst Dressed list Tuesday and received a scolding form the

sharp-tongued critic for luring America's youth toward what

he called a fashion trend of overexposure, reports AP.

LOS ANGELES: Madonna topped Blackwell's 33rd annual

Others on the list were actresses Shirley Maclaine, Juliette Lewis, Demi Moore, Goldie Hawn, and singer LaToya Jackson.

Left to fate

ZAGREB. Croatia: She has no official name, but nurses at Petrova maternity hospital call her Emina, reports AP.

The baby was born in November to a 17-year-old Muslim girl who said she was raped repeatedly during three months in a Serb-run detention camp near Teslic in central Bosnia.

"She didn't want to see the baby after the birth. She just lcft," said Veaselko Grizeli, the Zagreb hospital's chief obstetrician. Where she went, is not known.

Grizeli said the dark-haired infant has become the favourite of the hospital staff.

Baby Emina was to be transferred this week from the hos-

pital to a home for abandoned children run by the local chapter of Caritas, a Roman Catholic charity. Accounts of widespread rape by forces fighting in Bosnia-

Herzegovina's civil war began surfacing earlier this year. Serb forces have been blamed most often, but there also have been recent reports of rapes of Serb women by Muslims.

The Royal date

TOKYO: Starting off with a rid in a black limousine to nothing less than an imperial palace, it wasn't you run-of-the mill pizza and a movie sort of rendezvous, reports AP.

But in what newspapers and TV announcers hailed as Crown Prince Naruhito's first date with his future bride since their wedding plans were revealed last week, princess-to-be Masako Owada spent an afternoon Wednesday with her royal flance.

"It has been a long time since we last met, so there are many things I would like to talk about with him," Miss Owada said as the limousine arrived to take, her to Akasaka Palace, where Naruhito lives with Michiko.



his parents, Emperor Akihito and Empress

Tight security ensured the two a respite from the swarms of cameramen who have followed their every move since the engagement was made public last Wednesday. Dozens remain camped out outside the Owadas' home.

Their meeting was the first since Christmas, when Naruhito formally introduced Miss Owada, whose father is Japan's top career diplomat, to his parents, media reports

'Japan plans to become N-power

actly what type until daybreak.

Korea claimed Wednesday that a recent shipment of 1.7 tons of plutonium form France to Japan shows that Tokyo plans to become a nuclear power, reports AP.

Rodong Sinmun, the North Korean Workers (Communist) Party newspaper, said Japan's intention to stockpile large amounts of plutonium contradicts its claim of being a peaceful state.

France in the coming decade.

an intimate exchange between Prince Charles of Britain and a longtime female friend in a notorious 1989 phone conver sation, three years before the prince separated from his wife, reports AP. In the transcript published

by New Idea magazine, Charles tells Camilla Parker Bowles, "I'll just live inside your

The magazine said the conversation, which contains ex plicit references to love and desire, was recorded by a radio enthusiast who scanned London's mobile telephone frequencies on December 8,1989.

Some details of the conver-

marine shot dead in Somalia Marines reported carrying Marine was found to be missaway 16 truckloads of weapons ing. When the Marines re-

WASHINGTON, Jan 13: A Marine patrolling near Mogadishu airport was killed Tuesday in a firefight with Somali gunmen in the first death of a US serviceman in Operation restore Hope, Pentagon official said Tuesday, reports AP.

The dead Marine was with the 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, based at Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Centre in California according to base spokesman Capt. John Manley. His name was withheld until relatives could be notified. The Marines were on a se-

curity patrol near the Mogadishu airport when the shooting occurred, the Pentagon official said. He said the unit "took some fire; they returned fire and pulled their people back."

When the unit regrouped, a head count was taken and one

turned to the scene of the infound, the officials said.

US servicemen on the

taking sniper fire off and on for days," the official added. In the past several days, the

aggressive in terms of dealing with Somali gunmen and their ducting arms sweeps in the Prior to the Marine's death.

concentrated on rounding up wcapons in Mogadishu. in the last two days, the

Fire breaks out at Chernobyl N-plant

out at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station, site of the world's worst nuclear accident more than six years ago, but officials said today there had been no increase in radiation, reports Reuter. Ukrinform news agency

quoted an official at the station, 140 km (80 miles) north of Kiev, as saying the fire broke out late on Tuesday in a room housing technical equipment between the station's first and second reactors.

"This has nothing to do with the nuclear process, Viktor Borisenko, technical shift foreman told the agency. There was no change in ra diation levels. There was no violation of safety norms. No one was injured." Chernobyl spokesman Oleg

Goleskodov told Reuters sta-

their love for each other.

I'm so proud of you."

ement is to love me.

than falling off a chair.

calumnies.

of you.

Camilla: "I do love you, and

Charles: "Oh, I'm so proud

Camilla: "Don't be so silly. I

Charles: "Your great achiev-

Camilla: "Oh, darling. Easier

Charles: "You suffer all these

Camilla: 'Oh, darling, don't

indignities and tortures and

be so silly. I'd suffer anything

have never achieved anything.

Charles: 'Yes you have.'

Camilla: "No I haven't."

tion employees wearing gas masks fought the fire for an hour before bringing it under Initial Investigation showed

the blaze could have been started after melted snow dripping from the roof came into contact with a high tension cable housed in a metal Here was no danger to the

building 30 meters (100 feet) Officials have acknowledged

safety incidents remain a serinuclear power station.

ous problem at Ukraine's five The Chernobyl accident, which sent clouds of radiation

A building housing Japanese civilian police serving with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) burned to the ground. A Ghanian police officer was shot in both hands by an AK-47 and an Indian po-lice officer also sustained "minor" injures, according to an initial report from the

Those killed were two women employed by UNTAC to register voters for elections scheduled for May.

who is also proprietor of Britain's mass circulation Sun

the Netherlands and Belgium were planning to use the tran-

love for each other. The paper may publish the full transcript

Higgins, said.

Albert Reynolds re-elected PM

Parliament on Tuesday, reelected Prime Minister Albert Reynolds and he immediately named his popular new coalition partner, Dick Spring, as deputy prime minister and foreign minister, reports AP.

Reynolds re-election scaled

Ireland's parliament, gathered in mid-afternoon and voted

SYDNEY, Jan 13: A maga-

TOKYO, Jan 13: North

A special freighter arrived in Japan last week carrying the plutonium, the first of more than 30 tons that Japan plans to acquire from Britain and

zinc on Wednesday published a transcript of what it said was

to the British throne, and his wife, Diana, separated in December after 11 years of In one part of the transcript, Parker Bowles says she

cident, the Marine's body was markets and caches, including 265 rifles and assault guns and 55 machine guns. There was no word on any other casualties in the fire-A spokesman for Marine commander Maj Gen Charles

ground in the area "had been

Marines have become far more weapons and had been con-

the US military had reported one of their quietest days since they arrived. US military spokesmen reported no gunfights as Marines

KIEV, Jan 13: Fire broke

first reactor, in a separate

over all of Europe, demoralised the industry and fostered flerce public opposition to nuclear power.

for you. That's love, it's the

from London adds: Britain's

Royal family may be plunged

into a fresh scandal following

published details of a sexually

explicit conversation said to be

between Prince Charles and

his long-time friend, Camilla

Parker Bowles, reports Reuter.

Reports of the taped con-

versation were published just a

day after the British heir to the

throne and his estranged wife,

Princess Diana, were accused

of using the media to publicise

personal accounts of their

An earlier Reuter report

strength of love.

2 peacekeepers killed in Cambodia SIEM REAP, Cambodia, Jan

13: Unidentified attackers fired B-40 rockets and automatic weapons at the houses of UN peacekeepers in a night attack near this central Cambodian city, killing two Cambodian UN electoral staff and injuring two UN civilian police, UN officials here said today, reports AFP.

scene. It was not immediately known if any Japanese were injured.

Love tape may cost Charles' throne

marriage break-up.

sections of Wednesday editions of Britain's tabloid newspapers. In a rare move, tabloid editors met on Tuesday and agreed not to publish the full transcript of the recording. dubbed the "Camillagate tape", at a time when the British government is studying a report calling for a crackdown on the

Details of the six-minute

conversation filled the front

The transcript was published in the Australian magazine new idea, owned by media tycoon Repert Murdoch,

tabloid. The Daily Mail newspaper said magazines in Germany,

"Six-minute love tape could cost Charles throne", ran the Sun's front-page headline. The paper described the tape as sexually explicit, with the couple constantly declaring their

would seem ridiculous for publications in other parts of the world to be able to publish the full transcript and for people in this country not to know what it contains," The Sun's deputy editor, Stuart

DUBLIN (Ireland), Jan 13:

the pact between his longdominant Fianna Fail party, which suffered a major setback in the November 25 general election, and Spring's leftleaning Labour Party, which was the big winner. Members of the Dail,

102-60 for Reynolds.