Pindi sends 1000 troops to stop PPP march

ISLAMABAD, Apr 4: Pakistan sent about 1,000 paramilitary troops to the disputed region of Kashmir to prevent a political group from storming the Indian-defended ceasefire line, the official APP news agency reported on Saturday, says Reuter.

Authorities in Pakistanruled Azad (free) Kashmir also closed roads to the line of control for two days.

The Kashmir branch of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) has said it plans to cross the line today to demonstrate support for a three-year-old separatist rebellion in Indianruled Kashmir.

He said 40 platoons of the paramilitary constrabulary had been sent to reinforce the line, the agency added.

US pleads for revision of Bosnia peace plan to gain Serb support

CNN interview.

the parties".

It's a negotiation."

eral Yugoslavia.

some adjustments that can be

made to the satisfaction of all

tion "regrettable" but added:

"We're not ready to give up...

He did not elaborate.

He called the Serbs rejec-

On another front, however,

Christopher admitted the

Clinton administration lacks

the political clout to lift a UN

arms embargo on Bosnia so the

Muslim-led government can

acquire heavy weapons to

match the armaments the

Serbs have received from fed-

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, Apr 4: Secretary of State Warren Christopher on Saturday offered to revise a peace plan for war-torn Bosnia to gain the support of Serb nationalists, reports AP.

"I think the plan was always open to revision," Christopher said. But he said the Clinton administration still would use pressure tacties, including stiffer economic sanctions against federal Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia, now consisting only of Serbia and Montenegro, is under broad economic sanctions, but the allies are trying to cut off its access to pensions and retirement funds Yugoslavs earned abroad, and stop transshipment of goods across the country.

The peace plan would end

the one year war in Bosnia-Herzegovina and set up 10 semi-autonomous provinces and a weak central govern-

The political power of the Muslim, the most populous ethnic group and the target of Bosnian Scrb assaults, would be weakened.

But under the plan, the Bosnian Serbs current military occupation of over 70 per cent of the countryside would be reduced to 43 per cent.

That led the parliament of the Bosnian Serb nationalists to reject 'even conditional acceptance of the plan on Friday, spurning appeals for moderation from their own leader, Radovan Karadzic.

Christopher had threatened Still. Christopher took an to rally the allies to permit

optimistic view Saturday in a weapons shipments to the Muslims if the Serbs did not He said, "there may be

sign the peace accord quickly. But after consultations with allies and UN Security Council members, he reported: "I don't think we have the votes in the United Nations right now.

Christopher indicated he would ask Russia, the main ally of the Slavic, Orthodox Scrbs, to help pressure them into aecepting a revised peace plan.

"The Serbs do have some friends around the world: we'l be asking those friends to try to persuade them" to accept the peace plan, Christopher said, without naming Russia.

Christopher is in Vancouver for the summit between President Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Mahathir criticized interna tional bodies like the United Nations for their weak action concerning Palestine, UN tightens

Rafsanzani said.

Mahathir

criticises UN

countries must rally in support of Muslims in Palestine and in

Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iranian

President Alf Akbar Hashemi

Rafsanjani told Malaysian Pri-

me Minister Mahathir Moha-

mad here Saturday, reports

a Malaysian head of govern-

ment, Rafsanjani said Iran and

Malaysia should cooperate

more in the Organization of

the Islamic Conference and try

to strengthen this body

"We must deploy our efforts to create a bloc of Muslim

countries to counter hostile

stands against Muslims in Pale-

stine and Bosnia-Herzegovina

Tehran Radio reported.

During the first visit here by

TEHRAN, Apr 4: Muslim

Phnom Penh HQs PHNOM PENH, Apr 4: The UN mission in Cambodia is drastically stepping up security at its sprawling Phnom Penh headquarters following an increase in violence that is dogging the country's peace process, a UN official said, reports Reuter.

security at its

"It'll be like Fort Knox," said one construction official.

The world body was budgeting more than 100,000 US dollars for security equipment, including X-ray machines, the UN official said.

The decision to boost security at the headquarters, formerly the home of the French colonial governor, follows the most violent month for political and ethnic killings since the peacekeepers arrived in March 1992.

More than 100 people died last month, including 62 in

Three Bulgarian UN soldiers were killed and six wounded in an attack last Friday and early Saturday south of Phnom Penh, the most serious yet against the peacekeepers since the United Nations began its ambitious Cambodian operation.

As part of security precautions in the capital, the Deputy UN military commander has ordered 100 soldiers from the clite French foreign legion to be based in Phnom Penh.

Five parties suspended for criticizing Meles' rule

NAIROBI, Kenya, Apr 4: Five political parties in Ethiopia's transitional government have been suspended for criticizing President Meles Zenawi's rule, state radio reported Saturday. reports AP.

The broadcast said the partics were suspended Thursday for their role in a recent conference in Paris which passed resolutions saying recent political reforms in Ethiopia were a

The Paris meeting was organized by the Southern Ethiopia l'eople's Democratic Union party which was formed last year, grouping 10 parties from southern Ethiopia.

On Monday, the radio broadcast an interview with Meles, in which he said any group in the coalition claiming the government had no legitimacy should quit.

The parties have one week to appeal, the broadcast said.

Meles heads the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, which together with other rebels forced the resignation of dictator President Mengistu Haile Mariam in 1991

The rebels, who draw their support from the northern Tigre region, are promising free elections and a market economy, though they cling to the tenets of orthodox

Off the Record

Pray for peace

VATICAN CITY: Pope John Paul asked the world's Roman Catholics on Saturday to pray for peace in Bosnia during the Easter season next weekend, reports Reuter.

A Vatican statement said the Pope would show solidarity with people of the war-torn region by using a candle during pre-Easter services which previously had been lit at his January interreligious prayer service in Assisi for peace in former Yugoslavia.

The 72-year-old Polish born pontiff has repeatedly called for an end to fighting in the Balkans.



She is active at 15

NEW YORK: A book co-written by Amy Fisher is due out Monday, full of details about her alleged affair with Jocy Buttafuoco and other personal revelations, reports AP.

But Fisher's lawyer, Eric Naiburg, says the Long Island teen-ager won't endorse "Amy Fisher, My Story" because it contains inaccuracies.

Fisher, 18, told the Daily News in a story published Saturday that the book "is written mostly in my words" but co-writer Sheila Weller tells "parts of the story that are beyond my point of view."

A call to publisher Pocket Books went unanswered Saturday.

The book says Fisher was sexually abused from ages 3 to 6, raped at 13 and sexually active at 15. It also contains steamy descriptions of her alleged love-

making with Buttafuoco. Buttafuoco, 37, dentes having sex with Fisher. The book was supposed to be released later this year but

was bumped up to Monday to coincide with a grand jury investigation of statutory rape allegations that she and Buttafuoco had sex when she was 16.

in last May's shooting of Buttafuoco's wife, Mary Jo.

Fisher is serving a 5-to 15-year prison sentence for assault

I'm not a refugee

JERUSALEM: Sergei Khrushchev, son of the late Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, says he may remain in America rather than return to the political turmoil in his homeland,

reports AP. Khrushchev, 57, has been a visiting fellow at Providence College in Rhode Island for 18 months. "I am not a refugee, but I cannot say if I will return."

Khrushchev said. Khrushchev, in Israel to attend the showing of 'Gray Wolves," a film about his father, made his comments in an in-

terview published in the weekend edition of the Jerusalem Nikita Khrushchev was leader of the Soviet Union from the

mid-1950s until he was forced into retirement in 1964. partly because he backed down in a confrontation with the United States during the Cuban missile crisis. He died in



TRYING IN VAIN: A mother and child in Aswa hospital in South Sudan on Mar 31, 12 miles from the Ugandan border are among around a million southern Sudanese people that - AFP/UNB photo the UN says are facing starvation.

Shri Lanka cancels airbus deal

BRIFFI

US marine found guilty: A US marine

was found guilty by a military court on Saturday of punching a

Somalt vendor and robbing him of two walking sticks, a US

Thomas of Aarizona had grabbed two canes from Somali ven-

dor Haroon Hassan outside the military airport on February

When the vendor chased him, Thomas punched him sev-

Thomas, who pleaded guilty to theft and assault, was

US troops arrived in Somalia last December to stop ban-

stripped of his rank and sentenced to two months solitary

confinement, followed by two months hard labour. His

ditry and end the daily looting of a food convoys intended for

Guzman shifted to naval prison:

Caged and escorted by 30 heavily-armed marines, Shining

Path leader Abimael Guzman was moved from prison on an

island military base to an "impenetrable" land-based naval

Guzman was taken on an hour-long trip by torpedo

The 59-year-old Guzman was sentenced to life in prison

launcher from San Lorezo island prison near Callao, just north

of Lima, to the Punta Naval Base prison, where a navy officer

September 12, 1992 after being convicted by a military tri-

Two Cameroon newsmen jailed:

Two journalists in the West African country of Cameroon have

been sentenced to six months imprisonment, the first to be

jailed since the introduction of sweeping press restrictions in

ground Nouvelle expression political weekly, and David

Nouwou, a reporter on the paper, were jailed on Friday for

defamation, journalists present at the trial told on Saturday.

Severing Tchonkeu, Managing Director of the under-

The paper published an article last February accusing a lo-

The 1990 law imposes censorship on Cameroon newspa-

2 Hezbollahmen die in clash: Two

militians of the iranian-backed Shi'ite Muslim Hezbollah

(party of god) were killed on Saturday in a clash with Israeli

troops in South Lebanon, a report from Betrut said, according

flared in the area of Jezzing, the largest Christian town in

South Lebanon that sits on the tip of a corridor leading to

attacked an Israeli army patrol in the Jezzine area with ma-

Hezbollah, on its part, said in a communique that its men

Security sources were quoted as saying that the fighting

prison, an official said Saturday, AFP reports from Lima.

monthly salary was slashed by 100 US dollars.

said, Guzman will spend the rest of his days.

December 1990, reports Reuter from Yaounde.

cal fishery company of cyading import duties.

pers and has been used to seize offending issues.

bunal for terrorist acts and sedition.

Colonel Fred Peek told reporters first class private Larry T

military spokesman said, reports Reuter from Mogadishu.

COLOMBO, Apr 4: Shri Lanka's national carrier Airlanka has cancelled a deal with the European airbus consortium and decided to buy only two of the seven planes it originally ordered, a privately owned newspaper said today, reports AFP.

Airlanka decided to settle for two A-320s and cancel the order for five A-340-300 planes following recommendations by the international finance corporation of the World Bank, the Sunday Times said. It said that Airlanka would

have to pay airbus industries 47 million dollars in compen-

The International Finance Corporation had advised Airlanka to purchase reconditioned aircraft instead as there was a glut in the market with so many airlines folding up in

eral times in the face.

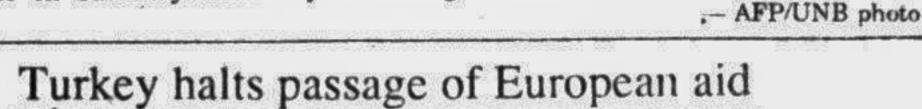
the starving.

recent years," the newspaper

A spokesman for Airlanka declined comment on the matter and the newspaper said that Airlanka Chairman Duns tan Jayawardena had also refused to speak to the press.

Airlanka has already taken charge of one A-320 aircraft and is awaiting the delivery of the second A-320 this month. The airline had originally placed an order worth 700 million dollars for the seven airbus planes.

The deal itself had triggered protests in parliament. where the government survived an opposition sponsored no-confidence vote on the issuc. Colombo denied opposition allegations that kickbacks were involved in the airbus



VANCOUVER: President Bill Clinton (L), Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney

(C) and President Boris Yeltsin walk together following their arrival at the summit

luncheon site on Saturday. Mulroney is hosting a lunch before Clinton and Yeltsin

Armenians seize Azeri town

MOSCOW, Apr 4: Advancing Armenian forces have seized the western Azeri border town of Kelbadzhar, and Azerbaijan's Defence Ministry says they also control a broad swathe of surrounding territory, reports

privately.

Reuter. The Azeri Defence Ministry said in a statement on Saturday that nearly one-tenth of Azerbatjan was in enemy hands. The advance has united disputed Nagorny-Karabakh, a territory inside Azerbaijan but populated by Armenians, with Armenia itself.

"As a result of the incursion by Armenian force, a swathe of land about as big as Nagorny-Karabakh has been occupied, the statement said. At present nine per cent of Azeri land is occupied by Armenian forces.

Ethnic Armenian forces inside Karabakh have virtually driven Azerbaijan's army from the enclave. The Karabakh forces last

May opened up a narrow land corridor to Armenia through the border town of Lachin, which penetrated seven miles (12 km) of Azeri territory. Azerbaijan declared a state

of emergency on Friday, saying Armenian regular forces and Russian troops in the region had launched a two-pronged attack on Kelbadzhar on March

The Defence Ministry statement indicated that Saturday's advances had expanded the Lachin corridor into a swathe between mountainous Nagor ny-Karabakh and the Armenia

seized Kelbadzhar and continued east. They have occupied the rest of Kelbadzhar district and neighbouring Lachin district, the statement said. Meanwhile another Reuter

Armenian armed forces

report adds: Turkey said on Saturday it had halted the passage of European aid to energy-starved Armenia, locked in an escalating battle with Azerbaijan over the enclave of Nagorny-Karabakh.

As long as blood continues to be shed. Turkey cannot allow Armenta to be aided through its territory even though it is humanitarian aid, government spokesman Akin Gonen said in a statement.

Wheat delivery has been stopped. Any other passage will not be permitted, he said.

DPRK accuses IAEA of bias TOKYO, Apr 4: North

Korea, defending its refusal to accept further nuclear inspections, accused the United Nations' inspection agency Sunday of unfair bias against the Communist state, reports

A statement by an unnamed Foreign Ministry spokesman said the United States was trying to stifle North Korea, and that the International Atomic Energy Agency was acting under US manipulation.

The IAEA must stop acting in a despicable manner, reading the faces of big powers, but carry on its activities independently according to its statute and regulations," said the statement, carried by the North's official Korean Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo.

North Korea announced last month it was withdrawing from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty after the IAEA demanded special inspections of two additional sites to help clear up what it called discrepancies from gar her inspections of sites designated by the North.

The move reinforced suspicions that the hard-line Communist state was developing nuclear arms, despite its

The statement said the IAEA had made 115 inspec-

tions in South Africa without mentioning a word about development of nuclear weapons there. South Africa recently

Over 200 held in Egypt ASSIUT, Egypt, Apr 4: More

than 200 suspected Muslim extremists have been arrested around the country in the lat est crackdown on anti-gov ernment militants, police said Saturday, reports AP.

said it had built nuclear weapons, but later destroyed But, the statement said, the

IAEA "tried to force a 'special inspection on our country on the plea of fictitious 'nuclear suspicion' only after six rounds of inspection.

that Pyongyang had violated the nuclear controls accord and referred the issue to the UN Security Council. North Korea's statement accused the United States of

having transferred nuclear

technology to South Africa in

violation of the nuclear treaty.

The IAEA last week ruled

Nevertheless," it added, the United States does not utter a word about its own criminal act and the illegality of the development of nuclear weapons by South Africa," but raises suspicion about North Korea's nuclear programme.

chine gun fire and rocket-propelled grenades. Egyptian extremists want to defend Islam with sword

take part in maneuvers

Iraqi warplanes

Israel's self-styled security zone.

to Xinhua

BAGHDAD, Apr 4: Iraqi warplanes transporting commandos and firing live rounds at ground targets took part in

mancuvers Saturday that also

involved armoured vehicles and artiflery, reports AFP. The Defence Minister, General Alt Hussan Al-Matid. attended the maneuvers which were condenued assault of the brave and which Haghdad

Radio described as mobilization exercises. Baghdad Radto said the maneuvers occurred in the opcrations sector for Ar-Rashid

forces, but did not specify the location. It added that the warplanes destroyed targets on the ground and carried commandos into action. The United States, Britain,

and France have barred leagt aircraft from flying below the 32nd parallel and above the 36th parallel.

CAIRO, Apr 4: "No, no not" cried the seller of religious cassettes, holding up his arms as if handcuffed, when a customer asked for tapes of cleries damning the government, reports AP. The government campaign against Islamic

militants who would make Egypt a strict Muslim state is driving the extremists from their mosques and other public forums, under threat of still jail sentences.

An underground communication network keeps the message alive through recorded ser mons, faxes and slogans spray-painted on walls.

"Muslims should fight the enemies of Allah inside the country before those outside, until these tongues that attack Allah, his prophet and religion are muted," prayer leader Ahmed el-Mahallawi declared in a speech circulating on

"We always need to defend Islam not only with the sword — and the sword is required not only through jihad (holy war), but also through dialogue to wipe out the lies that the enemies of Islam are propagating about it," he

Tape vendors and experts on islamic fundamentalism say Mahallawi, once jailed by the late President Anwar Sadat, and Abdul Hamid clKishk, banned from public speaking since 1981, are among the most popular underground prayer But for followers of al-Gamna al-Islamtya (The

Islamic Groupl, the words of Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman are the most prized. From his storefront mosque in Jersey City, NJ, the blind 54 year old preacher serves as their spiritual and political guide.

Al-Gamaa's membership is estimated at 200,000 of Egypt's 58 million people, including 10,000 prone to violence. Their gunfights with police, and other violence related to the group, have left more than 150 people dead and 230 intured in 15 months.

Four of five suspects detained in the February 26 bombing of the World Trade Center in New York, which killed six people and wounded more than 1,000, have prayed in Abdel-Rahman's congregation.

His most recent missives to followers in Egypt have been letters distributed outside mosques or faxed to international news agen-"Punish them (Egypt's rulers) as you have

been punished," he exhorted in one distributed last month on the holiday marking the end of the holy month of Ramadan. "If they crack down ugainst you, know that God is on your side."

· Anti terrorism legislation passed last year effectively bans political tapes. Egyptian officials remember that tapes of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini smuggled into Iran helped bring down the monarchy in 1979.

Attacks on the constitution or harming national unity or social peace are punishable by up to five years in prison. The sentence is doubled for material discovered in mosques or in military or police buildings.

Egypt's constitution proclaims Islam as the principal source of legislation, and Islamic law is usually followed in marriage, inheritance and other personal matters. But criminal jurisprudence generally conforms to the French system and paying or receiving interest on money, forbidden as usury by Islam, is allowed.

The new rules have made tapes harder to find. Whether because of government pressure or a lack of recent cassettes from the United States, Abdel-Rahman's recordings are particularly rare on Egyptian streets.

From other clerics, however, there are tapes that attack Christians as the enemy, pour vitriol on President Hosni Mubarak and decry a lack of concern for the poor.

Many attack fellow Muslims for ignoring Islande moral codes.

"Muslims are disobeying their god," Kishk says on one tape. "Alcohol is now allowed, adultery is accepted and interest is used. The gambling tables are open all night all through the

In the same vein, Mahallawi thunders: "If we condemn certain thoughts, they say we are terrorists. But why do they allow immorality and nudity? If Islam were applied, the vetl would not be fought and the swimsuit would not be pro-

Most tapes are simply religious lessons, instructing the faithful on how to improve themselves in prayer and other rituals. Attacks on the government are not detailed.

They do not need to be, said Dr Issam el-Aryan, a former member of Parliament for the Muslim Brotherhood, a more mainstream politi-

cal group that favours Islamic law. 'If your goal is to plant a bomb here or kill a soldier there, you don't need to coordinate and contact," he said. "The cassettes have nothing to do with this. People have been speaking in mosques for 14 centuries without the congregation resorting to violence."

22 miners killed in China blast BEIJING, Apr 4: An explo-

sion in a coal mine shaft killed at least 22 miners and injured four others, the official People's Datly newspaper reported Sunday, says AP. The explosion occurred be-

forc dawn Friday at the Linsheng Coal Mine in Shenyang in northeast China, the paper said in a three-sentence report. It said a preliminary investigation found 22 miners were dead and one was missing.

The cause of the explosion is under investigation, it said.

Nearly 10,000 miners were killed in accidents in 1991, the latest year for which official figures are available. Many Chinese miries lack safety equipment.