

# ROK accepts DPRK proposal to ease N-tension

SEOUL, Sept 2: South Korea on Thursday accepted a North Korean proposal to exchange special envoys to discuss how to ease mounting nuclear tensions on the divided peninsula, reports AP.

The acceptance opened the way for the two Koreas to resume dialogue cut off by Pyongyang early this year to protest joint US-South Korean military exercises.

In a message to his North Korean counterpart, Kang Song San, South Korean Prime Minister Hwang In-sung proposed that working officials of the two sides meet at the border village of Panmunjom next Tuesday to arrange the envoys exchange.

North Korea was expected to accept that proposal, Seoul officials said.

"We don't see any big problems in exchanging special envoys, a senior government official said, speaking on condition

of anonymity.

South Korean officials said the envoys could be exchanged as early as mid-September.

A breakthrough in inter-Korean relations came Wednesday when the Communist North, easing its previous hard-line stand, agreed to discuss nuclear issues with its southern capitalist rival.

North Korea is suspected of trying to develop nuclear weapons, despite its claims that its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes only.

The North Korean move came a day after four officials from the UN International Atomic Energy Agency arrived in its capital of Pyongyang for talks on nuclear inspections.

In the past, the North had insisted on exchanging special envoys who would discuss only an inter-Korea summit, not nuclear issues.

## International

### Imminent Israeli-PLO agreement

# King Hussein for Arab summit to face dangers

AMMAN, Sept 2: Jordan's King Hussein has urged Arabs to convene a summit to face dangers confronting them and he criticised the Palestinians for failing to consult over an imminent accord with Israel, reports Reuter.

"The Arab nation is going through a dangerous phase and the Arab future is threatened ... this requires an Arab meeting ... we confirm our readiness to respond to an Arab move to convene an Arab summit," he was quoted late on Wednesday as saying by the state-run news agency Petra. He was speaking in a television interview to be broadcast in full today.

The monarch's call an Arab summit was prompted by "the need to rise above wounds and misunderstandings amongst Arabs to serve their future generations."

Jordanian officials had declined to comment publicly on the Israeli-PLO agreement but they have been angered by not being consulted on the negotiations. Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, were taken by surprise at the results of secret Israeli-

cord, King Hussein implicitly criticised the Palestinians for not keeping him fully informed of its details.

"We were not in the picture of the details of what was going on between the Palestinians and the Israeli government over the Gaza Jericho project," King Hussein said.

"We in Jordan do not accept the imposition of any agreement imposed on us we are not a party to," the King said in veiled warning that Jordan could reject the proposed accord.

The Jordanian monarch also expressed his displeasure with the level of Arab coordination in the Middle East peace talks.

Jordanian officials had declined to comment publicly on the Israeli-PLO agreement but they have been angered by not being consulted on the negotiations. Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, were taken by surprise at the results of secret Israeli-

Palestinian meetings in Norway, which bypassed US sponsored peace talks in Washington in which they are taking part.

Meanwhile another report from Beirut says, Lebanese President Elias Hrawi lashed out at the PLO on Wednesday saying it had failed to inform and coordinate with Arab partners to Middle East peace talks over its draft agreement with Israel.

"They have overlooked us for no reason," said a visibly angry Hrawi, referring to the PLO which reached agreement with Israel on a plan to give self-rule first to the occupied Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

"Arab morality dictates we stay together... when reaching solution and on the road to solution," he added.

The PLO, he said, "were not generous enough to notify or inform us."

### Dole opposes US role in Bosnia, Somalia

WASHINGTON, Sept 2: US Senate Republican leader Bob Dole, saying US foreign policy was at a crossroads, urged President Bill Clinton on Wednesday to pull American troops out of Somalia and oppose the proposed partition of Bosnia, reports Reuter.

"Mr President, I urge you to reconsider the current policies toward Somalia and Bosnia-Herzegovina," Dole said in a letter to Clinton that the Kansas Republican made public.

"The pursuit of Somali warlords does not require the resources of the world's only superpower. It is time for America to disengage and turn over the reins to the United Nations and to African countries who have a clear stake in the stability of the area," Dole said.

"The proposed partition of Bosnia would create a dangerous precedent and invite aggression in other areas of the world. I would strongly urge the administration to publicly oppose the plan," Dole added.

"Marcos' body in preparation for journey home

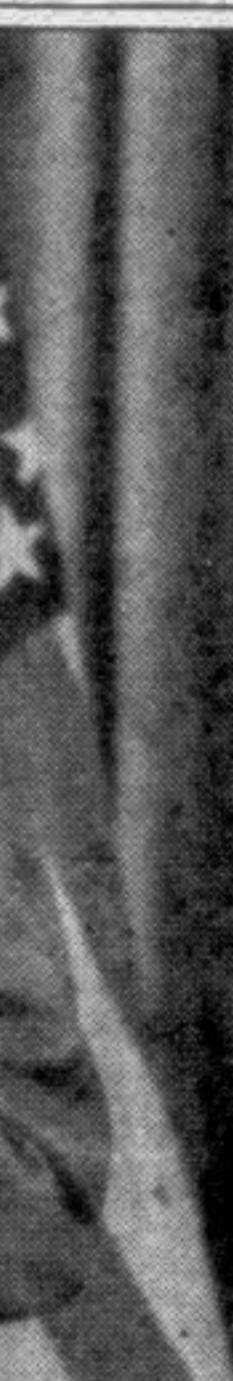
HONOLULU, Sept 2: Nearly four years after his death, the body of former Philippine President Ferdinand E Marcos was removed from a temporary crypt Wednesday in preparation for a final journey home, reports AP.

Members of Marcos' staff, who accompanied him here in exile in February 1986, carried the gold-trimmed black casket to the makeshift hillside crypt to a waiting hearse. Marcos died here on September 28, 1989, and his casket was placed in the quickly-built, air conditioned structure on October 15, after then-Philippine President Corazon Aquino refused to allow the body to be returned to the homeland for burial.

President Fidel Ramos, who succeeded Aquino, allowed the remains to be returned directly to Marcos' home province of Ilocos Norte. He denied a Manila burial requested by the Marcos family.

Clinton urged to take tougher action against Bosnian Serbs

WASHINGTON: US Secretary of Defence Les Aspin (R) and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Colin Powell (L) speak during a Pentagon press conference September 1 during which they unveiled a five-year plan that calls for shrinking the size of the US military. "We'll have a force based on tomorrow's requirements," Aspin said.



— AFP photo

# Off the Record

### Diana buys French vacation villa

PARIS: Princess Diana, the Princess of Wales, has bought a simple farmhouse in the village of Saint-Remy-de Provence, where one of her neighbours will be Princess Caroline of Monaco, the weekly Paris Match reports in its edition out yesterday, says AFP.



The Princess, who is separated from her husband and heir to the throne, Prince Charles, purchased the property from the celebrated Dutch baritone Jose Van Dam for 10 million francs (1.7 million dollars) last Easter, according to sources in Marseilles.

The six-bedroomed house in a traditional provencal style is sheltered by a wood and has its own swimming pool. It stands in eight hectares (20 acres) of land, some of it used to grow lavender.

Paris Match noted that France had often been the chosen country of British royals, particularly to lick their wounds, as in the case of Edward VIII and the American divorce Wallis Simpson after his abdication.

In province, the magazine predicted, the Princess will be able to achieve the terrible ambition of a woman who has just celebrated her 32nd birthday, to be free and live in peace, as if she were unknown.

### Jealous Chinese blows up himself, girlfriend

BEIJING: A jealous Chinese man blew up himself and his girlfriend next to a government compound in China's western Gansu province, the Legal Daily reported yesterday, says AFP.

The 21-year-old man was convinced that his girlfriend, who was one year older, was having an affair after he found a photograph of her with another man, the newspaper said.

The woman denied any infidelity, but her boyfriend refused to believe her and barged into her private tailor shop on July 21 with explosives and blasting caps, the report said.

After a 90-minute shouting match, the enraged man set off the explosives, which killed the couple and injured two passers-by. Neighbouring homes were also damaged by the blast.

The incident occurred in a district of Yumen city, next to the district's government compound.

### 5-yr-old boy survives killing of family members

MONTGOMERY: A 5-year-old boy with a gunshot wound in the neck was found watching television Wednesday, three days after his father apparently went on a rampage that left the rest of the family dead, authorities said, reports AP.

Bodies of a woman, man and two children were found Wednesday in a bedroom of a one-story house several blocks south of the state Capital, said police spokesman Capt. Wyatt Gant. They were identified as Ecuador Moore, 23; Vanessa Taylor Moore, 21; Avondria Deandres Taylor, 2; and 7-month-old Quintin E Moore.

Moore shot the mother and infant in the head while they were in bed together, then shot the 2-year-old in the head, he said. She was in a separate bed in the same bedroom.

Authorities believe Moore then went into a second bedroom and shot the older boy. Then, believing the 5-year-old was dead, he returned to the first bedroom, sat on the end of the bed where his dead wife and baby lay, and shot himself in the head, Gant said.

The 5-year-old, whose name wasn't released, told police he woke up Monday morning and realized he was shot. He suffered wounds to his neck, shoulder and arm and was taken to Baptist Hospital, where his condition wasn't immediately known.

Police recovered a .38-caliber revolver in the house.

Neighbours told police they had seen the couple arguing Sunday afternoon and heard gunshots that evening. They found the boy watching television late Wednesday afternoon, and police later found the bodies.



PARIS: US rock star Prince and one of his dancers perform during the first of two concerts at the Paris-Bercy Palace August 31.

— AFP photo

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

HYDERABAD, India, Sept 2: Police killed three Maoist rebels who attacked a patrol in the South Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, police said on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

They said three rebels were shot dead when they opened fire at a police party taking part in a sweep and search operation in the northern part of the state on Tuesday.

Another Maoist rebel was killed in a separate clash with police near a railway station that came under attack on Saturday, police said.

The rebels of the People's War group, commonly known as Naxalites, have staged many such ambushes in their long fight against the authorities.

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

# Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY

### Three Maoists shot dead in India

### Extreme secrecy led PLO, Israel to draft agreement

### 2 Afghan factions sign truce

### Cambodian MP locks in six UN peacekeepers

### Hospital fire leaves three dead in NY</h3