

# S Korea rejects North's call for 'package deal'

SEOUL, Nov 12: South Korea rejected today North Korea's call for a so-called 'package deal' to settle the crisis over Pyongyang's alleged nuclear weapons programme urging the North to accept outside inspections first, reports AFP.  
Even before we discuss or consider the so-called package deal, there are obstacles we have to deal with in order to get to the point. Foreign Minister Han Seung-Joo told journalists.  
He said the North should first allow nuclear inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and agree to resume dialogue with South Korea to clear fears that it was developing weapons.

He was reacting to Pyongyang's call for making simultaneous compromises over the nuclear issue — the so-called package deal.  
In a statement carried by the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-Ju said the crisis would be solved smoothly if an agreement was reached on the formula for a package solution.  
The package solution calls on Washington to renounce its nuclear threat and hostile policy against Pyongyang and Pyongyang to 'fully comply' with the IAEA safeguards agreement and accept inspections.

## Russian sailor hurt in Georgia

TBILISI, Georgia, Nov 12: A Russian soldier was wounded when gunmen opened fire on a Russian warship at the strategic Georgian port of Poti, the Interfax news agency said Friday, reports AP.  
Citing an 'informed military source,' the agency said a Russian landing ship, part of a convoy from the Black Sea fleet, came under automatic weapons fire Thursday.  
The dispatch gave no details and did not say who was thought to be responsible for the attack.  
A spokesman for Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze, Zaza Kandelaki, said he had no information on the incident.  
Georgian government forces battled with rebels loyal to ousted President Zviad Gamsakhurdia for control of the port and the railroad throughout October. Last week, a nine-vessel Russian convoy arrived last week in Poti at Shevardnadze's request to help guard the port.

Kang, who represented Pyongyang at a high-level talks with Washington on the issue, accused the United States of 'demanding us to move first' and stressed the nuclear issue could be solved only through dialogue and negotiation.  
Han also said there was no deadline set by Seoul or Washington for Pyongyang to accept IAEA inspections and avert international sanctions.  
"I think the dialogue should be given every chance to resolve the issue," he said, warning against "misunderstanding or overreactions" that might lead negotiating parties back into crisis situations.

AP adds: A secret dissident movement has been active in North Korea, reflecting growing discontent among its people who have been plagued by economic difficulties and decades of war preparations, a South Korean intelligence report said Friday.  
A small-scale underground dissident organization was confirmed to have appeared in North Korea, Kim Deok, head of South Korea's main intelligence agency, said in a report to a parliamentary committee.

# 'UN action dictated by imperialist powers' Fresh sanctions unfair: Libya

TRIPOLI, Nov 12: Libya reacted angrily Thursday to a UN decision to tighten sanctions against it over its failure to hand over two Lockerbie bombing suspects, calling the move "unfair" and dictated by "imperialist powers."  
The official Libyan news agency Jana, quoted by Libyan television, said the Security Council — which approved the resolution Thursday — had become "an instrument to threaten and subjugate nations that fell foul of the imperialist powers."  
Jana said Libya had "suffered many wrongs and was

expecting the unjust measures to be lifted, whereas by bowing to western countries hostile to Libya, the Security Council has adopted a position contrary to international conventions and norms."  
The statement denounced the 'Appropriation of the Security Council by the major powers, turning it into an instrument to declare war on people, to subject them to blockades, to starve them and halt their development.'  
It cited the backing Libya has received for lifting the embargo from non-aligned countries, the Organisation of African

Unity and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.  
The Security Council announced tougher sanctions on Libya on Thursday, including a freeze on financial assets abroad.  
The sanctions, to take effect on December 1, are aimed at getting Tripoli to turn over two suspects in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am flight over Lockerbie, Scotland that killed 270 people.  
The United Nations also wants Libyan cooperation in an investigation into the destruction of a French UTA airliner over Niger the following year.

leaving 170 dead.  
The Resolution 833, proposed by the United States, Britain and France, was approved 11-0. China, Pakistan, Morocco and Djibouti abstained.  
The new measures come on top of an air and military embargo imposed on Libya on April 15, 1992, in an effort to pressure Tripoli to cooperate in the investigations of the airline bombings.  
**US welcomes sanctions**  
WASHINGTON, Nov 12: President Clinton on Thursday welcomed new UN sanctions imposed on Libya for refusing to turn over suspects in the bombing of a Pan Am airliner five years ago, reports Reuters.  
"Our government is determined to see the mass murderers responsible brought to justice," White House spokesman Dee Myers said in a written statement.  
The Security Council on Thursday imposed new sanctions on Libya, freezing assets and banning some oil equipment to the North African nation for refusing to surrender suspects in the bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Scotland five years ago.  
The vote on the resolution, sponsored by the United States, Britain and France, was 11 in favour and none oppose with four abstentions.  
Myers said Clinton "strongly welcomes" the action, which she said "reaffirms our common commitment to stand firm in the face of international terrorism. It keeps faith with the families of the victims from 30 nations of these heinous attacks."



Sri Lankan troops search a vehicle Friday as part of stepped up security measures in the wake of a massive Tamil rebel attack on a military base in the island's north. — AFP photo

## 40 Lankan sailors rescued from besieged camp

COLOMBO, Nov 12: Sri Lankan security forces rescued some of its sailors early today from a besieged northern base which lost up to 250 men in an attack by Tamil rebels, the fiercest in 10 years of ethnic conflict, reports Reuters.  
"We did a small combine navy and air force operation and rescued about 40 sailors from the Pooneryn base. We are doing other operations to reinforce the camp," a senior military official said.  
Defence Ministry Secretary General Hamilton Wanasinghe earlier told Reuters that Tamil rebels had opened fire at aircraft and prevented reinforcements from reaching the base which came under surprise attack on Thursday.

Tamil insurrection for a separate homeland began 10 years ago.  
The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam guerrillas captured some of the army's 120 MM heavy mortars and were using them to fire at the base, military sources said.  
The rebels infiltrated the camp under cover of darkness early on Thursday, taking the camp's defenders by surprise.  
Between 500 to 1,000 rebels — including fighters from the LTTE's elite 'Charles Anthony Brigade' name after a dead guerrilla leader-attacked with mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and small arms.

happening at the base.  
A military spokesman said casualties could be as high as 100. Other military sources said as many as 250 were feared dead. Northern residents gave a figure of anything between 250 and 500.  
Rebel casualties were not known. But intercepted rebel radio said 60 of their fighters had been killed, military sources said.  
The little information coming out of the base — a sprawling, thinly-defended outpost on the edge of the lagoon — was by radio contact with the Gajaba regiment, one of the battalions holed up inside and fighting to save it from falling.  
The Sri Lanka light infantry regiment, the second battalion there, has suffered many casualties and lost radio contact. Many men were reported missing.

"We are determined to hold the camp at any cost. Our immediate priority is to get in there," a senior army officer said.  
The actual death toll was not known. Different sources had varying figures and there was confusion as to what was

## BRIEFLY

### Storm kills 5 in Black Sea Port:

A storm packing hurricane-force winds in Russia's Black Sea port of Novorossiysk killed at least five people, smashed eight ships and left the city of 280,000 without power for six hours, reports AP from Moscow.  
The storm began Wednesday night and has been gathering strength, said Sergei Gorev, a spokesman for Russia's Emergency Situations Committee.  
Winds reached more than 180 kilometers (112 mph) per hour Thursday afternoon and temperatures dropped to minus 10 degrees Celsius (14 F) with heavy snow and mist.

### Kohl-Yeltsin talks Nov 22

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl will hold talks with President Boris Yeltsin in the Russian capital on Nov. 22, the presidential press service announced Thursday, reports AP from Moscow.  
Yeltsin and Kohl, who have forged a personal friendship over the past two years, last met in July in the Siberian city of Irkutsk.

Kohl will make a brief stop in Moscow on his way back from a tour of Asian countries.  
The two leaders are expected to discuss Western financial assistance for Yeltsin's economic reforms as well as political developments in Russia.

### Palestinian stabs Israeli:

A Muslim guerrilla stabbed and wounded an Israeli today at the main entrance to the occupied Gaza Strip, security sources said, Reuters says from Gaza.  
They said the attacker was a member of the militant Islamic Jihad Movement, one of several Palestinian groups in the occupied lands who have vowed to step up violent attacks on Jews to foil an Israeli-PLO self-rule accord.

### Hekmatyar group frees newsmen:

Two journalists from AFP and AP, captured Monday by the Hezb-i-Islami Mujahideen faction of Afghan Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, have been freed according to their captors, but have still not returned to their Kabul offices Thursday, AFP reports from Kabul.  
An AFP correspondent who visited Chahar Asiab, Hekmatyar's temporary headquarters 25 kilometers (15 miles) south of Kabul, was told that New Zealander Terence White, of Agence France-Presse, and John Henning, an American of Associated Press, had been freed.

Mangal Hussein, Hezb-i-Islami representative in Islamabad, told AFP Wednesday that the two men were in excellent health at Sarobi, a Hezb stronghold to the east of the capital, but other reports said the two had been transferred to Chahar Asiab.

### 17 killed in Thai road mishap:

Seventeen people were killed and 10 others injured when the pick up truck in which they were travelling collided with a ten-wheel truck, police said yesterday, AFP reports from Bangkok.  
The victims, ten of them women, were returning home from their jobs at a shoe factory in Ayutthaya Province, 76 kilometres (48 miles) north of Bangkok, when the accident happened late Thursday, police said.

Police said they were still investigating the cause of the accident, adding that the drivers of both vehicles fled the scene.

## Army threatens to imprison Haitian Defense Minister

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, Nov 12: The army has threatened to imprison the defense minister of the civilian transition government for criticizing military chief Raoul Cedras, reports AP.  
The threat to retired Brig Gen Jean Belotte was made in a letter from army chief of staff Brig Gen Philippe Blamby that was broadcast Thursday by private radio Tropic FN.  
The threat emphasizes the tensions over authority between 2-month-old transition government and the army, which overthrew elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in September 1991 and killed hundreds of Aristide supporters in following weeks.

# Russia against hasty expansion of NATO toward East

MOSCOW, Nov 12: The Russian army warned Thursday that membership of NATO for East European countries could undermine East-West disarmament accords and would run against Russia's national interests at present, reports AFP.  
"Russia sees no possible benefit from a hasty expansion of NATO towards the East," the armed forces daily Krasnaya Zvezda said in a commentary.  
"For the moment NATO respects Moscow's views," the daily said.  
The paper, which reflects thinking within the Defence Ministry, questioned whether a 'selective extension' of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) would lead to a violation or, more exactly, the collapse of current conventional disarmament accords.  
The party that exists in these accords would no longer exist" if the alliance were enlarged to include countries in eastern Europe which formerly belonged to the Soviet-dominated Warsaw Pact security bloc.  
The commentary stressed that in addition to security concerns expansion of the alliance would affect Russia's political and psychological interests.  
For this reason, and contrary to perceptions in western security circles, the Russian military did not have a 'particular role' in forming Moscow's policy vis-a-vis NATO.  
"Russia agrees that this union, like other regional organisations, could be transformed in the new conditions, but why

should the decisions be hasty?" it stated.  
The commentary said Russia was not demanding a right to veto new applications for membership in NATO but had the "full right" to make "decisive assessments and statements" in this regard.  
Separately, Russia's ambassador to Belgium and representative at NATO, Nikolai Afanasyevsky, admitted that Moscow had a 'double' approach on policy towards expansion of the alliance.  
"We recognise the sovereign right of each state to resolve itself how to guarantee its own security, to join or not to join (defence) unions," Afanasyevsky said in an interview with the liberal newspaper Sevodnia.  
On the other hand, the creation or retention of new local zones of security, the launching of new coalitions, contradicts the goal of building a stable European state," he added.  
Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev said earlier this week that Moscow would oppose enlargement of NATO if it did not also include granting full membership to Russia.  
Russia however has voiced backing for a US plan for the gradual expansion of the alliance to former east bloc countries including Russia through limited initial joint training and exercises.  
AP from London adds: As 70 nations prepared to vote on a total ban on nuclear dumping, Russia said Wednesday it could not stop discharging low-level

waste into the sea until the end of 1994 at the earliest, reports AP.  
The issue of nuclear dumping made headlines last month when the Greenpeace environmental group caught a Russian military ship discharging 237,000 gallons (897,000 litres) of low-level liquid nuclear waste into the Sea of Japan.  
Russia's Environment Minister Viktor Danilov-Danilyan told a news conference Wednesday that Russia can stop dumping low-level waste into the sea by 1996 — but if it gets enough international help to build storage facilities it could halt the practice by the end of 1994.  
"It is not clear to me now whether we will have to perform one or two dumpings until the appropriate facilities are completed," he said.  
The 70 nations are expected to vote Thursday on whether to replace a voluntary moratorium on low-level dumping, which has been in effect since 1983, with a permanent worldwide ban.  
Remi Parmentier, Greenpeace International's expert on nuclear dumping, said the environmental group is "very optimistic" that delegates will approve a legally binding total prohibition. A two-thirds majority of member states that cast votes is needed to approve the amendment.  
"We would vote in favour," Danilov-Danilyan said, "provided that [there is] some period of time for Russia in order to give her a chance to create the (storage) facilities."

waste into the sea until the end of 1994 at the earliest, reports AP.  
The issue of nuclear dumping made headlines last month when the Greenpeace environmental group caught a Russian military ship discharging 237,000 gallons (897,000 litres) of low-level liquid nuclear waste into the Sea of Japan.  
Russia's Environment Minister Viktor Danilov-Danilyan told a news conference Wednesday that Russia can stop dumping low-level waste into the sea by 1996 — but if it gets enough international help to build storage facilities it could halt the practice by the end of 1994.  
"It is not clear to me now whether we will have to perform one or two dumpings until the appropriate facilities are completed," he said.  
The 70 nations are expected to vote Thursday on whether to replace a voluntary moratorium on low-level dumping, which has been in effect since 1983, with a permanent worldwide ban.  
Remi Parmentier, Greenpeace International's expert on nuclear dumping, said the environmental group is "very optimistic" that delegates will approve a legally binding total prohibition. A two-thirds majority of member states that cast votes is needed to approve the amendment.  
"We would vote in favour," Danilov-Danilyan said, "provided that [there is] some period of time for Russia in order to give her a chance to create the (storage) facilities."



Miss Israel, Tamara Porat (L) and Miss Lebanon, Ghada Turk pose for a photograph upon their arrival Wednesday in Johannesburg where they are contestants in the Miss World Pageant taking place in late November. — AFP photo

## Thai gov't survives no-confidence

BANGKOK, Nov 12: Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai's government won a no-confidence vote Friday after a debate in which opposition parties accused two ministers of abuse of authority, nepotism, lying — and having a meddle some wife, reports AP.  
Legislators voted 191 to 164 against the censure motion directed at Interior Minister Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, and 191 to 167 against the motion directed at Commerce Minister Uthai Pinchaichon. A simple majority of the 360-member House of Representatives determines the outcome.  
Chuan's five-party coalition holds only 193 seats in the Parliament but was widely expected to win the vote that followed two days of debate.  
Chuan's year-old government is riding a crest of strong economic growth, and the stock market's main index on Friday reached another in its recent series of record highs.

## Jakarta needs 30 tonnes uranium per year

JAKARTA, Nov 12: Indonesia needs some 20 to 30 tonnes of uranium per year for its first nuclear plant and some countries have offered to supply the materials, a news report said Thursday, reports AFP.  
"For the operation of a nuclear power plant of Muria which has the capacity of 600 megawatts, some 20 to 30 tonnes of uranium are needed per year," the director of the National Atomic Agency (Batran) Jaal Ahimsa said.  
"While for natural uranium which would be used for support, some 120 tonnes of uranium needed per year, he said.  
Ahimsa, as quoted by the economic daily Bisnis Indonesia, said some countries including Australia, Canada, the United States, Russia and some in southern Africa have expressed an interest in supplying the uranium.  
He said although Indonesia mined uranium in Kalimantan

the country preferred to import rather than to explore as exploration costs were expensive.  
Indonesian authorities are planning to build a 600-megawatt nuclear power plant near the Muria mountain at the northern coast of densely populated central Java.  
Ahimsa said the tender for the construction of the nuclear plant would be opened by mid-next year while a feasibility and site study will be completed last year.  
The 15 million dollar feasibility and site studies was jointly conducted by Batran, the national development planning board, the Science and Technology Agency and Newjetc, a Japanese consultant, industry sources have said.  
Ahimsa said there are three reactor systems offered by three foreign consortium which would join the tender, including pressurized water reactor.

## Zimbabwe sets up ties with Israel

HARARE, Zimbabwe, Nov 12: After years of harsh criticism of Israel, Zimbabwe on Friday established full diplomatic relations with the Jewish state, reports AP.

Zimbabwe's Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira said the move was in recognition of the September accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization.  
Shamuyarira said his nation was 'satisfied that the rights of the Palestinians are being respected and that Israel seems determined to live in peace with her Arab neighbours.'  
The announcement made Zimbabwe the 22nd African nation to recognize Israel.