

# North's troops capture main airbase near Aden

DUBAI (UAE), May 8: Troops loyal to President Ali Abdallah Saleh today captured the South's main military airport, 50 kilometres from the port city of Aden, Western diplomatic sources said, report AFP.

The sources in the region said Al-Anad was the only military airport around the southern stronghold of Aden, although the South has a second base in the Hadramaut, 700 kilometres to the east.

The northern forces have the port city trapped in a "pincer movement", one diplomat said.

A northern military spokesman earlier said the South, desperate to save Aden, fired more than five Scud missiles at "vital and strategic targets" in Sanaa on Saturday night, but without causing damage apart from panic among civilians.

According to the North, the South has fired almost 20 Scuds at the capital since the civil war broke out on Thursday.

Southern Yemen was mobilised today to defend its stronghold from the northern assault, as the President warned only the South's surrender could halt the war. The north said the President's troops also broke down southern resistance in the Abyan region.

## Star Quiz draw

From Page 1 Col 5  
Road, Mohammadpur; Munira Sharmin of 58/27 North Mughdarpa and P Murad of 10, Wyre Street, Wari, Dhaka.

The first prize winner, Shahid Latif, when informed of the result over telephone last night, said he did not at all expect to win the prize. "To me it seems an incredible news," a delighted Latif said.

Latif sent as many as 47 entries. He regular reads The Daily Star with special interest in sports news. He is a fan of tennis, cricket and football.

Son of a banker, Latif participated in both the Quiz-1 and 2 and was preparing to send 65 entries for the current Quiz No-4, he informed.

Speaking on the occasion, poet Shamsul Rahman lauded The Daily Star's Quiz initiative which, he said, would help foster the people's interest in the coming World Cup beginning in the United States June 17.

He also recalled his attachment with The Daily Star's founding editor late S M Ali and mentioned his contribution to journalism.

A S Mahmud, Chairman, Transcom Electronics, the sponsors of The Daily Star Quiz, speaking at the function said, "We hope to arrange more such programmes under the auspices of The Daily Star."

"The Daily Star believes in its social responsibilities in various fields. The current Quiz competition aims at promoting sports and encouraging the youths," he said.

The Editor of the newspaper, Mahfuz Anam, welcomed the guests and all participants in the competition.

As many as 19,616 entries were received for the third of the six-part Quiz competition out of which 2,143 were found correct, he informed the audience.

Stating that the number of participants in the third round of the competition had increased significantly, the Editor said, "We are overwhelmed with the participation." He hoped there would be more participants in the coming Quizzes.

The News Editor of The Daily Star, Afzal H. Khan, conducted the function.

## ALWC

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seen eating decomposed bodies on the shores as no arrangements were made for their burial, the resolution said and pointing out that the environment was being violated by decomposed bodies.

It said cyclone victims were suffering from different diseases for lack of pure water as people were not adequately provided with medicine, relief materials and drinking water.

There is no conformity between the reality and the government publicity of relief and rehabilitation works, the resolution said.

Referring to the rehabilitation work of the post-'91 cyclone, Awami League said the government had been able to complete only 40 per cent relief and rehabilitation works in the coastal districts since that great disaster.

## Editor : Mahfuz Anam

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ing the country" said one spokesman. So far, 15 southern planes had been shot down.

To counter the threat on Aden, a city of more than 500,000 residents at the tip of the Arabian Peninsula, the southern leadership ordered a general mobilisation.

Defence Minister Hailam Qassem Taher, a southerner, called the mobilisation in all the South's provinces and said soldiers were to report to their units within 24 hours.

The two sides each have 30,000-strong armies, which have not been merged despite unification. The South is counting on its larger air force, as well as Scud missiles, to hold off the North.

With the conflict escalating each day, Germany and the United States on Saturday flew out almost 500 foreigners from Sanaa, two French warships arrived in Djibouti on Saturday carrying 577 people.

The neighbouring six-member Gulf Cooperation Council, meanwhile, issued a call from Riyadh for ceasefire and called for both sides to show restraint.

But at an emergency session in Cairo, the 22-member Arab League decided not to intervene, after the northern-led government rejected an Egyptian proposal to send Arab peacekeepers.

An armoured division had joined up in Abyan with northern troops posted in the South to form a "military bridge". Four northern brigades were locked in a fierce battle with southern forces.

The fighting has come after four years of a union between the tribal, heavily Islamic former North Yemen and the Marxist South that was blighted by political assassinations, feuds and economic collapse.

On the political battle-front, Saleh accused his southern rivals of stealing 375 million dollars in oil revenues, the official news agency Saba reported.

Saleh told Parliament that southern leaders, and mainly Oil Minister Saleh Abubakr Ibn Hussein, had stolen 375 million dollars in revenues from the southern Massila oil field.

Yemens' told oil output is nearly 320,000 barrels per day, more than half of the amount from Massila.

In the skies, the North's air force carried out 20 raid on Saturday, destroying Aden airport and another southern airport as well as a missile base in Abyan, a northern spokesman said.

The aim was not only to cripple the southern air force but also to "prevent the southern secessionists... from flee-

ing."

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Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia formally opened the Institute of Technology for Women in Dhaka yesterday. —PID photo

## PM: Women's role in dev

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said addressing the inaugural function.

"Our woman community is neglected. They are confined to domestic life. This is why we have given emphasis on women's education and are implementing various programmes for productive use of their skill and potentiality."

She said technology is the main element of development. "We have natural resources and manpower. But we cannot properly use the resources and manpower due to lack of technology," Begum Zia observed and said this is why the government has given emphasis on acquisition of technology for the country's uplift.

The Prime Minister said the government has adopted technology as one of the main strategy to alleviate poverty and increase the facilities of science and vocational-oriented education in the country.

Begum Zia underlined the need for overall development of atmosphere for ensuring the birth right of every man. She further stressed the need for creating overall awareness, responsibility and the attitude of accountability among all in society.

They further said the students of the institute were getting good jobs in different government, semi-government and non-government organisations, and hoped that the institute would get international recognition in future.

## Azam's citizenship prayer unduly delayed: AG

The hearing of the appeal against the verdict of the High Court Division restoring the citizenship of Golam Azam continued yesterday for the second day before the Appellate Division, of the Supreme Court, reported BSS.

Attorney General Aminul Huq, submitting his arguments, said Golam Azam's prayer to the court and the government, seeking restoration of his citizenship had been unduly delayed. He said Azam was disqualified from becoming a citizen of Bangladesh in 1973 and since then, the issue has been "hanging on his shoulder", and he was, therefore, not cautious, careful and prompt enough to come to the court or proper authority, praying for the restoration of his citizenship.

Though there is no specific period or limitation for filing prayer, the court can refuse where the person is guilty of laches and undue delay, Attorney General argued.

He further argued that Golam Azam's past conduct, including press reports, prove that he was a Pakistani citizen. After independence of Bangladesh, Golam Azam was staying in Pakistan, obtained a Pakistani passport as a citizen of Pakistan, he added.

Huq said Golam Azam is thus disqualified from becoming a citizen of Bangladesh by his own conduct as well as the country's citizenship law with

influence on the life of the people of this land is quite pervasive. He said the great poet is our unlimited source of strength.

The Speaker said people of this land have accepted Tagore for various reasons. He urged all to derive benefits from Tagore's philosophy, especially at the beginning of the fifteenth Bangla century.

He praised the government initiative to celebrate Rabindra Jayanti to honour death poet and philosopher. He said the 12 crore people of Bangladesh had accepted Tagore in various perspectives.

Describing Tagore as the greatest poet of his time, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof. Jahanara Begum observed that Tagore devoted his whole life to the cause of humanity and had left an indelible influence on the lives of the people of this country.

The State Minister called upon all quarters to be imbued with the philosophy of this great man who was also a great social reformer of his time.

The inaugural ceremony was followed by a cultural function which was participated by noted singers of Tagore songs. Later, the Speaker inaugurated the Rabindra Mela and an exhibition at the Shilpkala Academy premises.

A tense situation prevailed on the campus today as Shibir activists enforced a strike and staged demonstrations protesting the incident.

On the other hand, the scheduled conference of Chhatra Dal, CU Unit was postponed because of the tense situation on the campus.

## European Day today

By Staff Correspondent

The member-countries of the European Union will celebrate the 9th of May today as the European Day instead of the Schuman Day.

The Schuman Day was being observed in honour of the former French Foreign Minister whose solemn declaration on this day in 1950 inspired the creation of the European Community(EC).

The name change marks an important advance in European integration. Having grown from its original six to twelve member states (population 345 million) and having