

# Action will be a mistake: Bush US seeks UN support for invasion of Haiti

WASHINGTON, July 21: Rejecting any notion of negotiating with Haiti's military rulers, the United States is seeking UN blessing for the option of a military invasion to oust them. "They must go," President Clinton said Wednesday, reports AP.

US diplomats are beginning preliminary talks with members of the United Nations Security Council, looking for support for a resolution that would bolster the United States if Clinton decides to invade Haiti, administration officials said.

The president has made no decision on invading, but retains the prospect as an option to oust the coup leaders who seized power nearly three years ago.

Clinton and his aides were adamant that there will be no new negotiations with Haiti's de facto rulers despite an assessment by Rep. Bill Richardson, D-N.M., that Haitian military leader L Gen Raoul Cedras is flexible and "not as intransigent as he appears to be."

Richardson, who opposes military invasion but supports Clinton's overall policy on Haiti, suggested, based on a five-hour meeting with Cedras, that the top Haitian general might be ready to "make a move."

Meanwhile, former President Bush said Wednesday it would be a mistake to invade Haiti because the country is of no great importance to the United States. "We should not send one American troop to Haiti," Bush said. "It is not in our vital interest, it would reawaken animosity in our own hemisphere. We would have no problem getting into Haiti; the problem would be getting out."

Bush spoke at a conference at the Samoset Resort held by MBNA America, a Maryland-based bank with operations in Maine.

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger offered a similar opinion during a talk Wednesday.

## Two murdered

Hospital (DMCH) yesterday morning. A young boy who identified himself as Ripon and claimed to be a son of the woman, carried the body to the emergency department of the DMCH but fled soon after the doctors declared her dead.

Tejgaon police went on a manhunt but failed to trace Ripon and his father till mid night last night.

The body of Suraya was sent to the DMCH morgue for autopsy. None came to claim the body yesterday.

Police suspected Ripon's involvement in the murder. In another incident, a teenaged wife, Latifa Khatun, 18, was murdered reportedly by her husband at Meradia under Sabujbagh Police station early yesterday. Police recovered her body hanging in a slum hut.

Her husband Habibur Rahman, a rickshawpuller, was arrested from the area in the afternoon and detained for questioning.

A police constable, Sayedur Rahman, was murdered at Uttara Tuesday while Feroza Khatun was shot dead at Begunbari and a school student Abdus Salam was stabbed to death at Mohakhali Wednesday.

## Summit with King Hussein to help resolve conflict, says Rabin

NEW YORK, July 21: Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin believes his meeting next week with King Hussein of Jordan will be an important step toward overcoming decades of hatred, even if there are no immediate results, the New York Times reported in its Thursday edition, reports Reuter.

At the top of the agenda was Palestinian frustration with delays in promised economic aid. Christopher said he had a "sober and serious" discussion with Arafat about the delays and offered him help in getting through the necessary paper work.

"Clearly, the Palestinians face a very difficult time here," Christopher told reporters. "It will not be easy for them, but I urge them to work through it with determination."

Donors who have promised 2.4 billion dollar in reconstruction aid have demanded a strict accounting from Arafat because of the PLO's long history of uncontrolled spending and allegations of corruption and favouritism.

Arafat told reporters after the 90-minute meeting in his seafront offices that Palestinians faced economic problems because the donors were not making good on their pledges.

"I'm sure that with your help we'll be able to touch the fruits of the peace," Arafat told Christopher.

Christopher said he was leaving behind John Spiro, the undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs, to help Palestinians come up with the documentation needed to meet the demands of the World Bank and others for loans. And he urged the Palestinians to adopt better bookkeeping methods.

The Prime Minister said the development programmes of her government were aimed at reducing dependency on foreign assistance and attaining self-sufficiency in all sectors.

She sought cooperation from the freedom fighters in carrying forward the development programmes designed to ensure national uplift and welfare of commonman.

"Take part in development works and help the nation achieve self-reliance so that it can hold its head high in the comity of nations."

Convenor of the Mukti-joddha Sangsad Brig (Rtd) A J M Aminul Huq, BU, also spoke on the occasion.

## Gias Kamal under intensive care

The condition of Gias Kamal Chowdhury, chief reporter of BSS and president, BFUJ was reviewed yesterday by a board of specialists at Combined Military Hospital (CMH), according to a medical bulletin issued by hospital authorities to Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), reports BSS.

The board found Gias Kamal conscious but confused. Limbs movement and eye opening were spontaneous, the bulletin said. The cardio-respiratory system of Gias Kamal was stable.

Gias Kamal was admitted to CMH Sunday afternoon following cerebral haemorrhage and was operated upon. He is now at the intensive care unit of CMH.

## Farhad murder

Police yesterday arrested Sukenda Sutradhar, an accused in the Sub-Inspector Hasanul Farhad murder case, from the Siddiqbazar area, reports UNB.

Farhad was killed at the Jagannath University College during a gunfight between two factions of the pro-government student organisation.

With the arrest of Sukenda Sutradhar, the number of arrested accused in the case rose to 30.

## NU incident

From Page 1 Col 2 Teachers' Association (DUTA), in a statement, said, "We were stunned and astonished to learn that the national anthem was not played at the beginning of the NU's Senate meeting."

The DUTA statement was signed by its president Professor Md Shahadat Ali and General Secretary Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique.

President of the Bangladesh Mukti-joddha Sangsad Principal Abdul Ahad Chowdhury, in a statement, demanded resignation of the Vice Chancellor of NU Dr M A Bari.

Principal Ahad called upon all pro-liberation forces to be vocal against the incident and criticised the government for appointing a controversial person like Dr Bari as the Vice-Chancellor of the National University.

The Awami League backed BCL (DU) unit president KHM Liza and General Secretary Pankaj Debnath alleged that the anti-liberation forces were involved in the incident.

They demanded immediate expulsion of such forces from the Senate.

The JSD backed BCL (B-K) also protested the incident.

## SAARC summit

From Page 1 Col 7 mmittee consisting of foreign secretaries of the member countries and the Programming Committee.

Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman, who is the chairman of the Council of Ministers, will preside over all plenary sessions of the meeting.

Foreign secretary MR Osmany, the Chairman of the Standing Committee, will chair its two-day meeting. Director General (SAARC) at the Foreign Ministry Ashfaqur Rahman will preside over the programming committee meetings.



US Secretary of State Warren Christopher shakes hands with PLO chief Yasser Arafat yesterday during their first meeting in the Gaza Strip since the introduction of Palestinian self-rule. — AFP photo

# Christopher meets Arafat in Gaza

GAZA CITY, July 21: Secretary of State Warren Christopher met with Yasser Arafat in Gaza City Thursday, the first American Cabinet member to visit autonomous Palestinian land since Israel withdrew in May, reports AP.

At the top of the agenda was Palestinian frustration with delays in promised economic aid. Christopher said he had a "sober and serious" discussion with Arafat about the delays and offered him help in getting through the necessary paper work.

"Clearly, the Palestinians face a very difficult time here," Christopher told reporters. "It will not be easy for them, but I urge them to work through it with determination."

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## Nagas massacre

NEW DELHI, July 21: Suspected Naga militants massacred at least 22 members of a rival tribe in the north-eastern Indian state of Manipur today, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported, reports AFP.

The Nagas stopped two trucks, carrying Kuki villagers at a remote village called Thanglion and shot dead 18 of them, the news agency said.

## Telecom service with 16 dists restored thru trunk exchange

Telecommunication with the 16 South-Western districts have been restored through trunk exchange since Wednesday night, reports UNB.

Local Khalishpur Telephone Exchange of Khulna and telex exchange of Khulna and Jessore have started functioning normally.

A high level technical team of T&T Board at Khulna has been working hard to restore the NWD (TAX) exchange which were disrupted due to electric short circuit.

## Investigation

From Page 1 Col 5 verts and schools. Such pro-people programmes undertaken by the present government had been providing benefits to the commonman, Begum Zia said and added that the people had already begun to enjoy those benefits.

The Prime Minister underscored the need for initiating more such pro-people welfare oriented programmes and development works all over the country.

The meeting also decided to build Habigonj district Court building.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman, Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Majid ul Huq, LGRD Minister Abdus Salam Talukdar, Communications Minister Oli Ahmed, Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, Shipping Minister M K Anwar, Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Works Minister Rafiqul Islam Mia, State Minister for Establishment Aminul Huq and State Minister for Planning Dr. Abdul Moyeen Khan were present. Secretaries of the ministries and divisions concerned were also present.

## Traffic jam

From Page 1 Col 7 pay the price as demanded. In the busy Motijheel commercial area, movement of vehicular traffic becomes difficult particularly during the office hours as all the pavements are occupied by the vendors.

One can walk and do his daily shopping on the Motijheel pavements where every daily necessities ranging from fish and spices to television antenna, and even oddities like fox oil for gout' are sold.

"Our money goes to the high ups," says Akbar, a vendor who sells T-shirts, trousers and shirts near the GPO.

Explaining the 'secret form of extortion', the young man said he has to pay Taka 25 which is collected by a local 'mastan' every morning before the business starts.

The accumulated money is allegedly shared by the mastans, a section of policemen and different people involved in setting up the 'pavement markets' and protecting it. "Eviction," Akbar said, when asked what happens if anyone refuses to pay.

Similar allegations are often made by the rickshaw pullers and autorickshaw drivers.

When contacted, police officials involved in traffic maintenance said that eviction of the street vendors was a political matter which they now generally avoided.

Deputy Commissioner of Traffic Mushtaq Hossain Khan, however, said that a special mobile unit of police was engaged in freeing the pavements from the vendors.

The Mayor of Dhaka is learnt to have been planning alternative economic programmes for the Dhaka vendors as well as considering restricting their business within a fixed time of the day.

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## Killings of 3 by BSF condemned

The Sylhet Bibhag Andolan in a statement Thursday condemned the killings of three Bangladesh citizens by the BSF at the Gowainghat border area of Sylhet district.

The statement issued by its Central Coordinator, Advocate Abed Raja called upon the Government of Bangladesh to take up the matter with India and also rehabilitate the affected families.

Our Sylhet Correspondent adds: The bodies of the three Bangladesh nationals were handed over to their families yesterday after post-mortem examinations at the Sylhet MAG Osmany medical college hospital.

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## Final impact

From Page 1 Col 7 A mark left by fragment G is larger than the Earth and some experts said it could persist in the Jupiter cloud tops for months.

Roger Yelle of the University of Arizona, an astronomer working at the Space Telescope Science Institute, said chemical reactions in the triple-hit areas are likely to be different than in single-hit areas; but as to what the difference will be, he said, "I can't make predictions."

Yelle said researchers already have identified three molecules created by the superheated churning of the comet impacts. Ammonia was found earlier and now the scientists have identified sulfur and hydrogen sulfide.

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