

BRIEFLY

US citizens in Karachi warned:

The United States said on Wednesday it had received unconfirmed reports of threats to US citizens in Karachi and advised them to take safety precautions...

Colin Powell in London:

Former Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Colin Powell had an hour-long meeting with Prime Minister John Major at his 10 Downing Street office Thursday...

Armenia joins NATO's peace plan:

Armenia became the 23rd country to join NATO's partnership for peace programme Wednesday but said it did not want the alliance interfering in its conflict with Azerbaijan...

Israelis shell Palestinian camp:

Israeli gunboats shelled a Palestinian refugee camp near north Lebanon city on Wednesday killing one resident...

Ethiopia cancels Bombay flight:

Ethiopian airlines suspended its flight Wednesday from the Ethiopian capital to Bombay because of outbreak of plague in India...

Czech PM meets Kim in Seoul:

Visiting Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus and South Korean President Kim Young-Sam held talks yesterday to discuss ways to expand economic cooperation...

US marine commits suicide:

A Marine deployed on a mission to Haiti apparently committed suicide, the Pentagon said on Wednesday...

Bosnian Serbs, Muslims begin exchange of POWs

SARAJEVO, Oct 6: Bosnia's Serbs and government forces began one of the largest prisoner swap of the war Thursday...

The swap then teetered on failure at least twice more during last-minute negotiations on the final numbers of prisoners involved...



Haitian Army Chief General Raoul Cedras (L), Maj Gen Jean Claude Duperval (C) and Maj Philippe Biambry stand at attention on Wednesday during the mass funeral service for 10 Haitians killed by US troops on September 24 in Cap Haitien...

Haitian parliament to debate amnesty law

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Oct 6: Haiti's parliament was to meet today to debate a draft amnesty law that could shield Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras and other military leaders from arrest...

Israeli pullout from Golan a must for peace: Mubarak

CAIRO, Oct 6: Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Wednesday urged Israel to withdraw completely from the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon...

India, Nepal end border security talks

KATHMANDU, Oct 6: Nepal-India border security talks for ensuring a peaceful mid-term election to the Nepal lower house concluded Wednesday at Biratnagar in Eastern Nepal...

Soyuz TM-20 arrives at Mir

KALININGRAD, Russia, Oct 6: Three astronauts, two Russians and a German, arrived safe and sound early Thursday at the Russian space station Mir...

Aftershocks continue to rock N Japan

TOKYO, Oct 6: A strong earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.4 rocked northern Japan Thursday morning...



Photographers jointly hold up an extremely rare white boa constrictor during the 1994 Rare Animals and Pets Show in Taipei on Wednesday. The snake, which weighs 60 kilograms, is harmless. Boas are usually dark in colour.

Blair faces big test of his reform programme

BLACKPOOL, England, Oct 6: British opposition leader Tony Blair was today facing the first big test of his programme of make the Labour Party electable by severing its Socialist roots...

Off the Record

Woman cancels her own funeral

LONDON: Dorothy Cushing had to cancel her own funeral when doctors admitted there had been an X-ray mix-up and she was not dying of lung cancer after all...

Di faces fresh scandal soon?

LONDON: The Princess of Wales faces fresh claims about her private life in another book due out soon, according to the Daily Express Wednesday...

New 'castration' vaccine for tom cats

LONDON: Tom cats might cringe, but a British drug company says pet owners will welcome a new vaccine that "castrates" their animals chemically...



American scientist Edward Teller, a member of the World War II Manhattan Project which developed the US atomic bomb, holds in his hand on September 27 the start key, with which the first Soviet H-bomb was exploded...

German actor Ruehmann dies:

Heinz Ruehmann, one of Germany's most popular actors who starred in more than 100 films over the last 70 years, has died at the age of 92...

DPRK denies outbreak of cholera:

North Korea on Thursday denied that cholera has broken out in the communist state and instead claimed that rival South Korea is turning into a "kingdom of all diseases"...

Akihito meets D'estaing in Paris:

Japanese Emperor Akihito met former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and Senate Speaker Rene Monory on Wednesday...

UAE ready to let ICJ settle its dispute with Iran

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 6: The United Arab Emirates said on Wednesday it was ready to let the International Court of Justice settle its dispute with Iran over three Iranian-occupied islands in the Gulf...

Rats treated like gods at Hindu temple despite plague epidemic

DESHNOK, India, Oct 6: Thousands of well-fed rats are treated like gods at a 600-year-old Hindu temple here, and their exalted status has remained untouched despite the country's plague epidemic...

CHINESE DISSIDENTS Wei, Ren to get Kennedy Award WASHINGTON, Oct 6: Chinese dissidents Wei Jingsheng and Ren Wandong on Wednesday were named to receive the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award...