BRIFFIY

Iraq, Turkey sign accord: Iraq and Turkey signed a cooperation accord in Baghdad Friday

centered in trade, agriculture and petroleum, the officials

Hatem Samarria and by Turkish commerce minister Mo-

hammad Mehdi Saleh, the head of a 90-member delegation

UNSC extends operation in Angola:

The Security Council on Thursday extended the UN

peacekeeping operation in Angola for three months but said

progress in implementing the two-year-old peace accords was still behind schedule. Reuter reports from United

peace process for a country that has not known peace for 30

years." Angolangen Higini Carneiro, head of his government's

Kuchma signs new constitution:

Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma on Friday signed a new

constitution for his country and called for reconciliation

between political forces that clashed during parliamentary

debate over the charter. Interfax news agency reported, AFP

"ready for dialogue with all those for whom Ukraine's destiny

is a priority." He called on all Ukrainian political forces to

show "mutual understanding and peace for the sake of the

Egyptian beheaded in KSA: An Egyptian national convicted of murder was decapitated by sword

on Friday in Riyadh, official Saudi television said, AFP reports

Badri Ahmed Mohammad al-Hadi killed fellow Egyptian

Abdel Mobdi Abdallah Chi Adi with a knife after an argument

which spiralled out of control, the television said, quoting an

Interior Ministry statement. It was the 15th execution an-

nounced by the Saudi authorities since the beginning of the

Ex-police chief executed in China: A

former police chief in eastern China was executed Friday in

what news reports called a major corruption case: and his

city's Communist Party chief and two officials received

charged with crimes, much less put to death. But China is in

the midst of an intense crackdown on spreading crime and

corruption that threaten to undermine the authority of the

ruling Communist Party. The case in Tai'an, in coastal Shan-

dong province, was reported prominently by the evening TV

news and the officials Xinhua News Agency in a bid to show

Suharto arrives in Jakarta: Indone-

sia's President Suharto arrived at Jakarta's Halim

Perdanakusuma airport yesterday after a medical check up

trip to Germany an airport official said. AFP reports from

The trip sent the Indonesian currency falling against the dol-

lar. The rupiah later rallied on news he had been declared to

be in good health. The airport official said the veteran leader

NBC anchorman Chancellor dies:

Veteran NBC anchorman John Chancellor died at his home on

Friday, the television network said. He was 68, Reuter reports

porter, television anchorman and commentator on NBC's

nightly news during his 43-year career, had been suffering

from stomach cancer. He had been a patient in Princeton

Medical Centre for more than two weeks. "He was unique",

former CBS news anchorman Walter Cronkite told CNN Friday

night. "He was a major contributor to making the conversion

from print to television (journalism), making television as

26 Vietnamese held in HK: Police

arrested a group of 26 Vietnamese illegal immigrants and

seized a cache of firearms from them yesterday, a police

landed in a motorised boat in western Tuen Mun on the

Kowloon peninsula, he said. Police seized 54 Chinese-type

The Vietnamese were arrested following a tip-off as they

important as it's been as a medium for our time.

spokesman said, AFP reports from Hong Kong.

Chancellor, a foreign correspondent, White House re-

left for his residence immediately after arriving in Jakarta.

Suharto, 75, left last Sunday amid concern over his health.

the party was ready to punish its own officials if necessary.

It is extremely unusual for such high-ranking officials to be

suspended death sentences, AP reports from Beijing.

At the signing ceremony in Kiev, Kuchma said he was

"We are now reaching the most decisive junction in the

The accord was signed by Iraqi deputy commerce minister

INA news agency reported. AFP says from Baghdad.

VIENNA, July 13: Negotiators from over thirty countries struck a landmark deal on Friday to curb global arms exports after two days of closed-door talks succeeded in overcoming Russian objections, reports Reuter.

"Today we have established and agreed to implement the Wassenaar arrangement ... Russia agreed to the original text as it existed in April," the US government official said as he left the meeting.

"The organisation is now up and running. It is an important addition to the various supplier regimes," a West European diplomat told Reuters.

Twenty-eight nations sketched the outlines of the first post-Cold War export control forum for conventional weapons and military technology in the Dutch town of

Wassenaar in December 1995. But Russian resistance to key clauses threatened to scupper the deal in April and what should have been the

on an official visit to Iraq.

negotiating team, told the council.

Nations.

says from Moscow.

country's future.'

from Riyadh.

Jakarta.

from Princeton.

founding session of the organi-sation -- successor to the secretive Cocom body - ended in disarray.

We are very pleased the Russians have come round to join the consensus. It is very important to have them as equal partners," the US official

Russian diplomats also expressed satisfaction with the outcome. We are happy with the agreement," a Russian del egate said.

Moscow's opposition to the pact had centred on a provision requiring each nation to notify other members after granting an export licence for sensitive technology with potential military applications such as supercomputers or night-vision goggles.

"The Russians originally disagreed on notifying under cuts - authorising an export other states had denied. But they finally accepted this kind of transparency is essential for the organisation," a western diplomat said

Troops barricade parts of Srinagar

Kashmiri leaders confined to homes to prevent rallies

Security troops also slapped

similar restrictions on the

powerful All-Party Hurriyat

Conference preventing its

Muslims separatist and politi-

cal leaders from organising

street marches, the witnesses

SRINAGAR, India, July 13: Indian troops barricaded parts of Srinagar and confined Kashmiri leaders to their homes today in a bid to prevent street rallies by Muslim militants and local politicians. witnesses said, reports AFP.

Paramilitary Border Security Force (BSF) soldiers were out in strength to enforce an "unofficial curfew" in parts of this state summer capital to prevent public gather-

Baton-wielding policemen and fully-armed federal troops ringed the city's main Jama Masjid mosque as part of the security operation, residents said by telephone. State police chief A K Suri

said the soldiers have been deployed as a precaution against possible violence. Muslim militants could start trouble in the guise of

holding Martyr's Day rallies in the city," the official added.

Kashmiris organise marches "House arrest of the entire, on July 13 every year in the Hurriyat leadership speaks memory of 13 Muslim leaders volumes of the hollowness of who were killed during a rally the Indian government's to protest the rule of a Hindu claims that the situation in king in Kashmir in 1931 when Kashmir has improved," an academic told AFP from his it was an unpartitioned barricaded Srinagar home.

princely state. The Himalayan territory was The police, however, allowed National Conference divided between India and Pakistan after the indepenleader Farooq Abdullah to visit dence of the subcontinent in a revered martyr's grave in the

city centre. BSF troops today placed More than 12,000 people have died in Kashmir, the only leaders of the National Conference Party under virtual Muslim-majority state in overwhelmingly-Hindu India, since house arrest and ordered resi-1989 when Muslim separatist dents not to venture out in downtown Srinagar, urban hub groups stepped up an anti-India campaign in the of an anti-Indian rebellion in Himalayan territory, bordering

> Pakistan. Indian accuses Pakistan o fomenting trouble in Kashmir. Islamabad denies the charge but extends moral and diplomatic support to what it calls the Kashmiris legitimate struggle for self-determination

7 protesters killed in Balochistan

QUETTA, Pakistan, July 13: least seven people, including a woman, were killed and 20 wounded when Pakistani rural police opened fire on marchers protesting against the relocation of a district hospital, officials said, reports

The incident occurred in Awaran town in Balochistan province, some 350 km southeast of Quetta, officials sources

said today. The official said police retaliated after some protesters, angry about the shifting of a district hospital venue, opened fire on them during a procession on Friday.

"Seven people died on the spot and 20 were wounded when levies (the rural police) returned the fire," the official

He said the protesters had blocked the main road of the

town since Thursday and refused to end their protest. Witnesses claimed at least nine people were killed in the shooting, but no official confirmation was available

US to adapt defence tech to help Kazakhstan WASHINGTON, July 13

Under an agreement signed on Friday, the United States will adapt defence technology to help Kazakhstan evaluates and clean up nuclear and biological weapons sites, the US Energy Department said.

Airborne remote sensing systems developed to support arms control will be used to clean up weapons sites left by the former Soviet Union, as well as to map ecological zones and explore for minerals, the department said in a state-

The technology is to be used late this summer in the former Soviet Republic for the first time outside the United States, the department said.

Sophisticated instruments in two large pods carried beneath the wings of US navy P-3 aircraft will produce highresolution images and topographic maps of stunning accuracy and details, the department said.

The technology will help Kazakhstan evaluate and clean up weapons sites so they can be converted to non-weapons uses and search for mineral deposits particularly at former nuclear weapons test centres.

7 killed in fighting in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, July 13: At least five rebels were killed as hun dreds of government forces continued their four-day-old advance into Tamil guerilla territory in northeastern Sri Lanka, officials said Saturday,

reports AP. The military fired artillery and mortar shells on rebels trying to block its progress in eastern Batticaloa district on Friday, said Maj. Tilak Dunuwille, the army spokesman.

Two soldiers were killed in northern Jaffna Peninsula when rebels infiltrated military defence lines and ambushed their jeep the same day, said Dunuwille.

One soldier was wounded in the fighting in Kirimachchai and Sampalkulam villages. about 210 kilometres (130 miles) east of Colombo.

The military said at least 22 rebels have been killed in the offensive launched on Wednesday. The soldiers have overrun five rebel bases in northeastern Sri Lanka.

Anti-Jackson campaign launched in ROK

SEOUL, July 13: A civic group launched a campaign Saturday to ban Michael Jackson from performing here because of his past embroilment in child molestation charges, reports AP.,

The group, which claims 150,000 members nationwide, wants the Sports and Culture Ministry to ban the American pop star from coming and publicly apologise for even considering the possibility of the

Because all foreigners must have government permission in order to perform here, past attempts to bring Jackson fizzled when the ministry re-

Off the Record



The Princes of Wales leaves Dukes Hotel in London on Friday, after the announcement that she had agreed terms for her divorce from the Prince of Wales, which will be concluded on August 28 this year. - AFP/UNB photo

Hairy-chested men are brainier than bare-chested

LONDON: Hairy-chested men are brainier than their smoother rivals, a US scientist claimed Friday as he laid bare 22 years of research at a conference of European psychiatrists, reports AFP.

Aikarakudy Alias, who practises in Illinois, said his studies showed 10 per cent of American males were very hairy, but that the percentage rose to 45 per cent for those studying medicine or engineering

Hairy chests were often associated with masculinity because people who went bare-chested were often farmers and building workers rather than academics.

Alias, whose shirt remained firmly buttoned during his speech, pointed to Charles Darwin, chess player Gary Kasparov and actors Robin Williams and Peter Sellers to back up his theory.

Scientists urge govts to focus on global warming

GENEVA, July 13: Scientists on Friday urged governments to turn their attention from short-term political gain to focus on the world's longterm future as it faces the perils of global warming, reports

"As far as we can tell, it's during our life time that for the first time ever, the scale of human economic activity has reached the point where this .. natural system upon which

we depend is starting to falter." Professor Anthony McMichael, of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, said. He was presenting a 300-page report, to coincide with a

two-week UN conference on climatic change which opened here on Monday and is attended by delegates from some 150 countries.

"Many scientists feel the conventional | tools of economists are simply inadequate to this type of task. The' magnitude, scale, temporal duration of this type of problems confront us with challenges that we had not have to do with before, "McMichael said. Governments are proving

inadequate as well, he said. "In the world we have a system of government which is attune to making decisions in a very short time frame".

"In democratic systems governments are elected in a four-year time basis and of course this is almost irrelevant when one is thinking about a process that is going to unfold over 50-100 or several hundred years," he continued, adding we hope to "accelerate debate on an alternative way of humans doing their business."

One of the report's other co-authors, Professor Andrew Haines, of the London Medical School added: "We are the first generation which has the capacity to knowingly inflict damage on the health of future generations."

Protestant march sparks violence in N Ireland

BELFAST, July 13: Britain was facing attack from its Irish partner in the Northern Ireland peace process on Saturday for its handling of Protestant parades which sparked the worst unrest in the province for years, reports Reuter.

Irish Prime Minister John Bruton accused Britain of giving in the Protestant anger by allowing Orange Order marches through Catholic areas and causing a wave of riots in which three policemen were injured in the first shooting for two years.

Scattered violence continued throughout the province early on Saturday as Catholics erected barricades and burned cars in protest at provincewide marches by the Orange Order on the twelfth of July. the most cherished date in their calendar.

creased as night fell with incidents reported in Catholic pro-Irish area of Belfast angered by a police decision to reverse a ban on an Orange Order parade through a Catholic areas of Portadown on Thursday. Three policemen were re-

Police said violence in-

covering from gunshot wounds suffered on Friday when they became victims of the first sniper attack by suspected Irish Republican gunman in Northern Ireland for 23 months.

Bruton's language suggested that Anglo-Irish cooperation. towards a lasting Northern Ireland settlement had also become a casualty of the unrest. Asked if he blamed Britain for the rioting, he replied "yes !

Clinton widens

NAM chairman barred from entering US

BOGOTA, Colombia, June 13: The non aligned movement NAM voiced its support for Colombia on Friday after President Ernesto Samper, its chairman was barred from entering the United States, reports Reuter.

The US State Department revoked Samper's US travel visa on Thursday, citing his alleged ties to drug traffickers as the reason he was no longer welcome in the United States.

The unusual move drew angry charges of US intervention in Colombia's internal affairs from government officials in Bogota, charges echoed in a communique from the nonaligned movement NAM issued at UN headquarters.

LONDON, July 13: Prince Charles is about to clear the divorce hurdle, but some big questions lie waiting to trip

He and Princess Diana have agreed to a settlement reportedly in the multi-millions and to terms that keep her offi-

But what people now want to know is, will. Charles and Camilla Parker Bowles go public? Will they marry? Can she be queen? Will he be king, and can he remain head of the Church of England? What if he

has more children? bated everywhere from the national newspapers and corri-

parish church.

1991.

perts say.

voters want it.

approval of his future subjects.

damaged the monarchy and

Charles. In April, an opinion

poll found 47 per cent thought

he would make a good king.

compared with 82 per cent in

to Charles becoming King

when Queen Elizabeth II dies,

his queen, constitutional ex-

head of state, and the monar-

chy survives only because the

Act of 1772, Charles needs the

monarch's approval to marry.

The queen gibes that "on the

advice" of her ministers - a

polite way of saying the gov-

even with a divorced woman as

But the monarch is Britain's

Under the Royal Marriages

There are no legal obstacles

The marriage breakup has

residence to greet the crowd of several hundred supporters. Prince Charles' troubles far from finished

ernment will tell her what to

The wife of the king becomes the queen, so "in the choice of queen the voice of the people should be heard through its elected leaders," constitutional expert Vernon Bogdanor, an Oxford University professor of government.

wrote in December. He pointed to the abdication of King Edward VIII in 1936. The government said twice-divorced American Wallis Simpson was unsuitable to be queen. He wouldn't give her up, and rejected the throne

Camilla Parker Bowles, 48, may never win the hearts of the British public. She may not even want to be queen - she has never uttered a public

word about her on-and-off love affair with 47-year-old Charles. But she was divorced last year and, having sold the family home, bought another nearby - only 17 miles (27 kms) from the prince's highgrove estate in southwest Eng-

Royal watchers wonder if she may be starting to look for public acceptability. They detect some updating of the Parker Bowles wardrobe and smartening of her appearance.

The newspapers rarely miss a chance to point out the disparity between Diana's slender chic and the rather stolid horse-country style of her rival. Charles would not be the first divorced king. Henry VIII got a divorce while on the throne, and George I was di-

vorced and his wife was locked up in a German castle when he became king in 1714. Diana can't be locked up.

She is sure to remain a significant figure in British public life, doing charity work and attracting adoring crowds. For every photo of Charles talking earnestly to a foreign diplomat there will be two or

more of Diana, dazzling the daylights out or everyone in The prince's efforts to help unemployed young people acquire skills and jobs are ad-

mired - but seldom as photo-

genic as Diana's hospital visits. When his divorce terms were made public Friday afternoon, Charles was photographed with South African President Nelson Mandela in that much press attention for his visits to youth groups. If Diana goes out to lunch she gets on Page One. The monarch's symbolic

south London. He never gets

role as Supreme Governor of the Church of England goes automatically to the sovereign. There is bound to be disapproval within the church hierarchy, but there is no technical bar to Charles retaining the ti-

The Church of England does not permit remarriage of divorcees in church, but Charles could marry in a civil ceremony. The archbishop of Canterbury said last year that he would give the church's blessing to such a union.

If Charles were to have any more children, they would take their place in line to the throne behind Prince William, now 14, and Prince Harry, 11.

lead over Dole WASHINGTON, July 13:

President Bill Clinton widened his lead over presumptive Republican presidential nominee Bob Dole this month in a CNN; Time public opinion poll released on Friday, reports

It showed Clinton ahead by 15 percentage points with 53 per cent, compared with Dole's 38 per cent CNN said.

Clinton's lead was greater than it was in June when he led by only six percentage points at 49 per cent compared with Dole's 43 per cent, CNN said.

When Texas billionaire Ross Perot was added to the mix. Clinton widened his edge further over Dole to a 16 percentage point lead.

pistols, each loaded with seven rounds of ammunition. Drugs worth \$ 6.5m seized in Britain: British customs officers on Friday seized two separate hauls of heroin and ecstasy totalling 6.5 million dollars, officials said in London, AFP reports from London. In the first, a routine search by officials at the Dover exit of the channel tunnel in southeast England uncovered 120 kilograms (264 pounds) of ecstasy tablets in a car.

him up, reports AP.

cially within the royal family.

Charles' future will be dedors of Parliament to the

But the most important voices will be heard in neighbourhood markets and over the garden fence, because what Charles needs most is the

Czech President Vaclav Havel (L) meets British actress Julia Ormond (C) and Czech writer Arnost Lustig, members of the international jury at the Karlovy Vary International Film Festival late on Friday. Havel arrived to Karlovy Vary for a private visit to see some of the festival films. - AFP/UNB photo More evidence of civilian massacre found in Srebrenica CERSKA, Bosnia-Herzegov-About 7,000 men disap-Showing reporters one of

ina, July 13: All wore civilian clothes. Some had their hands bound with wire. Spent cartridges lying nearby indicated they were shot at close range,

reports AP. As experts dug deeper into a mass grave Friday, the evidence pointed to a civilian massacre — just the fate many people believe befell thousands of Muslims as they fled Bosnian Serbs after the fall of the Sre-

brenica enclave a year ago. Five days of digging here at Cerska, 17 miles (27 kilometres) northwest of Srebrenica, has uncovered the remains of some 60 people. Investigators from the international war crimes tribunal for Bosnia are looking for buried evidence to use in prosecuting war crimes

suspects. Serb leaders claim that any Muslims who died after the fall of Srebrenica died fighting. William D Haglund, the team's chief scientist, said Friday that

was obviously not the case.

the bodies. Haglund pointed to bones on the excavated surface of the grave site. "Look at those hands. Do

you see how they're crossed? And there is wire wrapped around them," he said. Thin silver wire could be seen wrapped around the brown wrist bones of a pair of skeletonized hands.

All of the bodies uncovered have been in civilian clothing. Cartridges found on the scene indicated they were shot at close range, and the shell casings were marked as recently as 1994, proving that the find couldn't be from the beginning of the war.

The position of the bodies suggested that the victims were lined up on an embankment and shot from across a narrow road, Haglund said. Soil was probably dumped on top of the bodies.

Clothing indicated that all of the uncovered bodies were

peared after the Serbs captured Srebrenica last July. Most are thought to have been killed by the Serbs - either ambushed as they fled through woods, or captured and mowed down by firing squads.

The war crimes tribunal has charged Bosnian Serb Gen. Ratko Mladic with organising the massacres around Srebrenica. On Thursday, it issued international arrest warrants for him and the Bosnian Serbs political leader, Radovan Karadzic.

On Friday, thousands of people who fled Srebrenica gathered in the northern town of Tuzla and vowed to return. "We will come back," said

Naser Oric, the former military commander of Srebrenica who was polled out weeks before the enclave fell. "We ask for the punishment of all war criminals. We want the truth about the missing, and a dignified burial for the dead of Srebrenica."



Former prime minister PV Narasimha Rao (C) emerges briefly from his residence to greet. supporters from his Congress (I) political party during a rally on Friday in New Delhi. Rao, whose political future is on the line, stepped out only a few moments from his highly secured - AFP/UNB photo