

International

India to buy advanced Russian jet fighters

MOSCOW, Dec 1: In a deal worth more than 1 billion dollars, India signed an agreement with Russia to purchase advanced Su-30MK jet fighters...

Protesters throng Belgrade streets to force Milosevic out

BELGRADE, Dec 1: More than 100,000 protesters thronged the streets of Belgrade Saturday in continuing efforts to drive out President Slobodan Milosevic...



A protester kisses the hand of opposition leader Vuk Draskovic as tens of thousands take to the streets in Belgrade in the biggest anti-communist protest in years, Saturday.

Govt-rebels sign peace accord in Sierra Leone

ABIDJAN, Dec 1: Sierra Leonean President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah and rebel leader Foday Sankoh signed a long-awaited peace accord in Abidjan Saturday...



Sierra Leone President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah (L) and rebel leader Foday Sankoh hug each other Saturday in the Ivorian capital after signing a long-awaited peace accord...

Colombian small commuter plane crash claims 13

MEDELLIN, Colombia, Dec 1: A small commuter plane plunged into a mountain on the outskirts of this city in north-west Colombia on Saturday, killing 13 of the 15 people on board...

Perry concludes ME tour US prepared to counter threat from Iran, Iraq

ABU DHABI, Dec 1: US Defense Secretary William Perry wound up his Middle East tour on Saturday with a warning that the United States would not hesitate to sink any Iranian attack on its warships in the Gulf...

Zairian rebel leader says Relief effort for Rwandan refugees unnecessary

GOMA, Zaire, Dec 1: The Zairian rebel leader says an international relief effort for Rwandan refugees is now unnecessary and that the people roaming eastern Zaire are mostly Zairians displaced by fighting...

Bid to avert Iran-like incident CIA beefs up intelligence service in Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON, Dec 1: The US Central Intelligence Agency is beefing up intelligence gathering on Saudi Arabia to avoid being caught unaware of any threat to the regime...

Al-Masari affair Saudi envoy to UK to be withdrawn soon

LONDON, Dec 1: Saudi Arabia will soon withdraw its ambassador to London as a goodwill gesture following controversial efforts to get a Saudi dissident deported from Britain...

Bob Dylan's plea for gun control

LONDON: There's a new version in an old Bob Dylan song, adding a tribute to slain Scottish schoolchildren and a plea for gun control...

Dickens' desk on charity show

HARTFORD: The desk where Charles Dickens wrote 'Great Expectations' and 'A Tale of Two Cities' is doing charity work...

8 Palestinians held in Hebron: Road mishap claims 18 in Gabon: WW II bomb found in Malaysia:

Eight Palestinians were arrested by Israeli soldiers on Saturday after clashes with Jewish settlers in Hebron. A bus carrying voters to polling stations in Gabon crashed with a lorry, killing 18 people and injuring nearly 70. A World War II bomb was found in the Malaysian capital.



French President Jacques Chirac (L) looks at the French translation of the cook book 'Culinary Journey Through Germany' by Hannelore Kohl (3rd R), wife of German Chancellor Helmut Kohl (2nd L) as Chirac's wife Bernadette (R) looks on at the international cookery book fair in Perigueux Saturday.

Qatar pledges funding UNSCOM

MANAMA, Dec 1: Qatar has promised funding for the cash-strapped UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) charged with dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Arab films make US debut at month-long film festival

NEW YORK, Dec 1: One of the most comprehensive Arab film festivals ever held in the United States — including dozens of movies never before shown here — is underway in celebration of the centennial of Arab cinema...

The first Arab film was made in Alexandria, Egypt, in 1896 with the help of French film-making pioneers the Lumiere Brothers. The festival will open the door to a rich tradition of film-making in the Arab world...

Irish minister resigns: Small US jet crash claims 3:

A minister in Prime Minister John Bruton's government resigned Saturday over allegations that a supermarket chain paid for major improvements on his home. A small jet crashed into a two-story warehouse, killing three passengers in a fiery crash that set the building ablaze.