

Sharon's comments 'unacceptable': W House

AFP, Washington

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's warning to the United States not to act like 1938 appeasers of German leader Adolf Hitler is "unacceptable," White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said yesterday.

"The comments made by the Prime Minister are unacceptable in the president's opinion," said Fleischer, a day after Sharon warned the United States late Thursday not to try to conciliate the Arab world at the expense of Israel.

In his toughest criticism yet of a US bid to rally a coalition behind reprisals for September 11 terror strikes, Sharon warned the

United States Thursday: "Don't try to conciliate the Arabs at our expense. We won't accept it."

"I call upon the western democracies, and first of all the United States as the head of the free world, not to commit again the terrible mistake made in 1938 when European democracies sacrificed Czechoslovakia for a temporary solution," he said.

"Israel will not be Czechoslovakia," he warned.

He was alluding to the 1938 Munich conference, when European powers yielded to Hitler and allowed him to take over parts of Czechoslovakia to appease the Nazi regime. World War II started a year later.



A model displays a diamond necklace at the 'Diamond Vivaha Jewellery - 2001' show at Kolkata organised by P.C.Chandra Jewellers yesterday.

Afghan students learn English, Urdu & Osama at school

AP, Islamabad

Down a forbidding hill of mud, in a courtyard fashioned of clay and reeds, a group of Afghan children spend their days studying four subjects — English, Urdu, their native Pashto, and Osama bin Laden.

The teacher, Sayed Waqab Hussain, has been running the school for a year. He says he uses bin Laden and the Taliban as a way to teach his students about Afghanistan, especially in recent days.

"We will work for Osama. We will not tolerate handing over Osama to anybody. The children are with the Taliban," Hussain said Thursday. Behind him, one student held up a Mickey Mouse backpack and grinned.

Most refugee camps are in the border areas of Peshawar and Quetta. But this city of mud — which residents call a "kachabadi," meaning unfinished village — sits near Islamabad, about 150 miles (240 kilometers) from Afghanistan.

The population is uncertain, but it appears to top 10,000. Residents say the settlement dates to when the Soviets invaded Afghanistan in 1979.

Hussain, an elegant man with a thin mustache, has an almost inaudible voice and very little visible teaching methodology besides repetition and recitation. He says his school — which is public, not outwardly religious — is one of a few in the settlement.

10 Palestinian children hurt in Israeli attack

AFP, Gaza City

Ten stone-throwing Palestinian children were hit by live bullets yesterday during clashes with Israeli soldiers at the Karni border crossing into Israel, Palestinian hospital sources said.

One of the boys was seriously injured.

The army opened fire after the children started pelting them with rocks, the source said.

Ukraine defence minister denies missile shot down Russian plane

AFP, Kiev

Ukraine's defence minister insisted yesterday that it was technically impossible that the Russian airliner which exploded and crashed into the Black Sea this week was accidentally shot down by Ukrainian missiles fired during a military exercise.

Alexander Kuzmuk acknowledged that Ukraine had been carrying out military exercises, which US intelligence sources have linked to Thursday's explosion.

But he said, "All the missiles used in the exercises ... are equipped with self-destruct mechanisms" that would have prevented such an accident.

He added that the Sibir airlines Tu-154 was out of range of the missiles when the explosion sent it crashing into the sea.

But defence analysts argued that the self-destruct mechanisms may have failed to activate due to the lack of maintenance widespread in the Ukrainian military since the end of the Soviet Union a decade ago.

"The problem is that the Ukraine army uses outdated equipment which it does not have the means to modernise," said Leonid Polykov of Kiev's Razumkov Research Centre.

Ukraine's defence budget for 2002 is 800 million dollars when "at least 1.2 billion dollars is needed" to keep its military hardware fully operational, analyst Valentin Badarov told AFP.

Earlier, a spokesman for Russia's Black Sea Fleet at Sevastopol in southern Ukraine told AFP that



the explosion was the result of a Ukrainian missile hitting the aircraft. But Russian fleet officials later denied the report.

In Washington, a US official who spoke on condition of anonymity said it was "possible that this was a tragic accident and not

terrorism" and that "at the moment we believe it was shot down by the Ukrainian government."

US spy satellite imagery showed that a Ukrainian missile downed the plane, the Washington Post reported Friday quoting US defence officials.

Musical on Diana's life to premiere in Germany

AFP, Frankfurt

southwestern city of Saarbruecken with a cast of British actors singing and speaking in German.

Aside from the "Queen of Hearts" played by singer Karen Gillingham, actors representing her ex-husband Prince Charles and his long-time love Camilla Parker-Bowles will walk the boards.

Author Volker Fuehrer said he was attracted to the story for its mythic quality.

"Our world is no longer reflected in ancient myths, but rather in the stories created by pop culture every day in glossy magazines," he said.

Diana's life was one of these fairy tales that transformed into a modern myth through her early death."

Fuehrer gave few details about the musical's story line but said it would begin with the fatal August 1997 car crash in Paris that killed Diana and her companion Dodi Fayed.

The show's tour will take it to cities including Munich, Frankfurt.

Violence erupts around funeral in Pakistan

AFP, Karachi

the prayers ended, resulting in more volleys of tear gas and police baton charges that injured some protesters.

At least 200 people were arrested, police officer Majid Dasti said.

The six dead, including two children, were gunned down Thursday by unidentified assailants outside a Shiite mosque after evening prayers.

The gunmen fled on a motorcycle after the attack that also left eight people injured. The victims' burial was scheduled for late Friday.

Hundreds of people have died in sectarian violence in Pakistan involving militants from the majority Sunni and minority Shiite communities in recent years.

STOCK

TRADED ISSUES IN THE WEEK

Company	DSE			CSE			Financial Performance			
	FV/ML (Tk./Nos.)	Price Closing (Tk.)	Chg. (%)	Turnover Share	Price Closing (Tk.)	Chg. (%)	Turnover Share	Last EPS	DPS AGM (Tk.)	Chg. (%)
BANK										
AB Bank Ltd.	100/5	218.50	1.63	215.00	941/5	218.00	2.83	212.00	20	26/10/00
IFC Bank Ltd.	100/5	369.00	-1.14	373.25	644/5	390.00	6.85	365.00	50	05/07/99
Islami Bank BD Ltd.	1000/1	1755.00	3.86	2654.25	1508/	2750.00	2.61	2680.00	188	02/08/01
National Bank Ltd.	100/20	262.00	1.25	258.00	1490/8	259.50	1.27	252.00	624/00	10/01/00
Pearl Bank Ltd.	100/10	200.00	1.17	242.00	110/00	200.00	1.00	197.00	12/00/00	12/00/00
Rupali Bank Ltd.	100/10	90.00	1.69	84.25	100/00	94.75	2.99	92.00	300	12/05/01
UCBL	100/5	153.50	0.50	153.50	1232/0	158.00	1.94	155.00	520	15/09/99
Utara Bank Ltd.	100/5	332.20	-0.51	340.00	5100/	—	Not Listed	—	19/12/00	19.0
IDLC Ltd.	100/20	497.00	5.74	470.00	540/	492.00	Not Traded	—	22/05/01	46.7
EASTERN BANK	100/20	100.00	0.00	351.00	200/00	—	Not Listed	—	05/08/01	28.6
United Leasing & Inv.	100/20	252.50	-1.68	63.00	200/00	—	Not Listed	—	05/08/01	30.0
Al Asia Finance & Inv.	100/20	252.50	1.51	251.75	2575/00	242.75	Net	Traded	29/05/01	20.75
Al Arada Islamic Bank	100/5	1378.00	2.23	1341.00	1085/	1405.00	6.44	1320.00	80	21/11/00
Prime Bank Ltd.	100/5	378.50	0.07	378.25	604/00	380.00	2.98	369.00	17/04/01	72.0
Southeast Bank Ltd.	100/5	150.00	-0.28	265.00	67950/	274.75	2.77	267.50	43550/	08/08/01
N C Corp.	100/50	355.70	3.12	345.00	24600/	32660/	32.50	325.00	20/05/01	57.0
Social Security Fund	100/5	200.00	0.00	125.00	215.50	215.50	3.22	200.00	10/07/99	20.0
Dutch Bangla Bank Ltd.	100/50	200.00	3.86	201.25	400/00	—	Not Listed	—	14/12/00	14.2
2nd ICB Mutual Fund	100/5	378.00	-5.50	400.00	25	378.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	113.35
3rd ICB Mutual Fund	100/5	415.00	2.12	410.00	25	415.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	41.00
4th ICB Mutual Fund	100/5	415.00	0.00	410.00	25	415.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	41.00
5th ICB Mutual Fund	100/10	220.00	0.00	320.00	25	220.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	12.00
6th ICB Mutual Fund	100/10	161.00	-3.42	165.00	250/00	160.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	22.4
7th ICB Mutual Fund	100/50	153.00	1.33	150.00	50/00	145.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	16.35
8th ICB Mutual Fund	100/50	142.00	2.19	137.25	600/00	135.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	15.9
1st BRSS Mutual Fund	100/50	93.70	1.35	92.50	4040/00	91.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	5.29
2nd BRSS Mutual Fund	100/50	100.00	1.87	100.00	100/00	100.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	14.8
3rd BRSS Mutual Fund	100/50	100.00	0.00	100.00	100/00	100.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	14.8
4th BRSS Mutual Fund	100/50	100.00	0.00	100.00	100/00	100.00	Not Traded	—	02/11/00	14.8
5th BRSS Mutual Fund	100/50	100.00	0.00	100.00	100/00	100.00</td				