

US jets pound artillery site in Iraq

Coalition aircraft enforcing a no-fly zone struck an anti-aircraft artillery site in southern Iraq on Monday in an action unrelated to the US-led war on terror, the US Central Command said.

Jiang's plane bugging affair won't affect ties: China

China said Tuesday it does "not see any impact" on Sino-US ties from the reported discovery of a series of bugging devices on President Jiang Zemin's US-built personal jet.

Shoot on sight ordered for Goma looters

At least 13 looters have been shot dead in this town ravaged by volcanic lava and those tempted to steal in houses and stores have been warned by radio there would be no mercy.

Philippines VP heads for showdown with Arroyo

President Gloria Arroyo is headed for a showdown with her vice president, Teofisto Guingona, over his opposition to deploying US troops in the fight against local allies of Osama bin Laden, officials said Tuesday.

TV-6 goes off the air

Russia was left without a national independent television broadcaster for the first time in the post-Soviet era Tuesday after TV-6 went off the air without warning at midnight, only to be replaced by a sports channel.

Israel kills 4 Hamas men in Nablus

Troops quit Tulkarem after 24-hour occupation

Four members of the radical Islamic group Hamas were shot dead by Israeli troops in Nablus Tuesday during the second major incursion into an autonomous Palestinian city in 24 hours.

The Israeli forces also arrested nine suspects, adding to the 20 they had detained in Tulkarem, described by the army as a jumping off point for attacks across the adjacent border into Israel.



A member of the paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force stands guard outside of the US Embassy on Photo: AFP

India must agree to 3-way talks on Kashmir: Hizbul

The chief of a leading Kashmiri militant group said in remarks published Tuesday that the key to peace in South Asia lies with India, which must agree to holding tripartite talks on Kashmir.

'Indo-Pak tension affects all states in the region'

An envoy of Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf met Russian leaders on Monday and said the high state of tension with India affected all countries in the region, including Russia.

Bodo rebels kill 16 in Assam

At least 16 people, including nine women and three children, were killed when tribal separatists attacked a village in India's north-eastern state of Assam, lining up and shooting residents and burning down their huts, witnesses said Tuesday.

Lanka to lift ban on Tigers in 'last chance' for peace

Sri Lanka's prime minister strongly hinted Tuesday that his government would lift a ban on Tamil Tiger rebels to launch a "final bid" for peace, in a move backed by the influential Buddhist clergy.

Buddhism, Uduyama Buddharakkita, asked the new government to lift the ban on the LTTE and jump-start the peace process.



Canadian Deputy Prime Minister John Manley (L) gestures as he speaks to Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee (R) during a meeting in New Delhi on Monday.

KSA denies asking US troops to leave country

Saudi Arabia's army chief of staff denied in remarks published Tuesday that the kingdom has changed its policy on military cooperation with the United States and asked the US troops to leave.

Norwegian PM meets Jiang

Norwegian Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik held talks with China's President Jiang Zemin on Tuesday, on the fourth day of a five-day visit to the country.

AKDN pledges \$75 m for Afghans

The Aga Khan, Imam (spiritual leader) of the Shia Ismaili Muslims on Monday announced, at the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan in Tokyo, a multiyear commitment of US\$75 million by the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) to help re-build Afghanistan, says a press release.

Afghans ready for rebuilding nation amid huge aid pledge

Hamid Karzai's administration will lead efforts to provide basic needs and services in the face of factional disunity and poor security.

