

Israel to step up offensive
Palestinians call for int'l intervention

AP, Jerusalem
Israel's Security Cabinet endorsed a plan to gradually reoccupy Palestinian land until attacks on Israelis stop...



Arrested Palestinian policemen sit in an armoured personnel carrier (APC) after being taken from their police station in the southern West Bank town of Hebron on Friday.

Putin calls up army as floods wreak havoc

AFP, Moscow
President Vladimir Putin called on Russian troops fighting in Chechnya to help the emergency effort Saturday after swirling floods wreaked havoc in the war-torn republic...

China braces for more floods, calls for int'l aid

AFP, Beijing
China is bracing for more flooding next month while calling for international aid to help some 100 million people already affected by the floods...

Only talks at high level can settle issues: Musharraf

US seeks permanent solution to Kashmir infiltration
PTI, Islamabad
President General Pervez Musharraf has emphasised that only serious dialogue at a high level can settle issues between India and Pakistan...

EU takes action plan to turn tide of illegal immigrants

AFP, Seville
European leaders were poised to agree Saturday measures to turn back a tide of illegal immigrants, without going so far as to slap sanctions on the poor countries from which they come...

Al-Qaida leaving thru Iran, Iraq

AP, Washington
Iran and Iraq have served as corridors for al-Qaida fighters going home to Arab countries from Afghanistan, and Iran has sheltered some members of the terrorist organisation, U.S. officials said Friday...



Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad (3rd.L) breaks down after announcing his resignation as party president of United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday.

Mahathir resigns as party leader, then retracts

AFP, Kuala Lumpur
Veteran Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad sparked pandemonium at ruling party conference Saturday by resigning as party leader but then agreeing to stay on...

Space is colour of latte

AP, Baltimore
Good news for coffee lovers: Space, the final frontier, is the colour of a latte. So say astronomers Karl Glazebrook and Ivan Baldry at Johns Hopkins University...

EU urges Pakistan to beef up anti-terror action

EU to make anti-terrorism part of its foreign policy
AFP, Seville
European leaders called on Pakistan to boost its campaign against terrorist groups, while urging India to demonstrate its willingness to ease tension in the region...

VHP demands land near razed Babri Mosque

AFP, New Delhi
A radical Hindu group demanded Saturday the government hand over land near a razed mosque to build a controversial temple and issued a stern warning to the minority Muslim community not to interfere...

Indo-Pak tensions ease somewhat: Rumsfeld

AFP, Washington
Pakistan has significantly reduced infiltrations of Muslim militants into Indian-controlled Kashmir and tensions between the two nuclear-armed South Asian countries have eased somewhat, US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said Friday...

Nepal mourns late king

AFP, Kathmandu
Nepal's royal leadership held prayers Saturday to mourn late crown prince Dipendra, who reigned as king for two days last year from his hospital bed after shooting his father, himself and eight other members of the family...

FBI warns of tanker attacks on Jewish targets

US scouring Internet for al-Qaida terrors
AFP, Washington
US authorities warned Friday that terrorists could launch a fuel tanker attack on US interests at home and abroad, notably Jewish targets, and may also be planning an Independence Day attack on Las Vegas...



West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadev Bhattacharya (L) speaks with the former chief minister Jyoti Basu at a silver jubilee celebration for the Left Front government in Kolkata on Friday.