Youthshotat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Tejgaon yesterday.

at about 1pm.

Criminals shot a youth at Razia

Sultana Road in Mohammadpur and muggers stabbed a garment

employee at Satrasta crossing in

Mohammad Masum, 21, hit by

five bullets in the back and left

hand and garment employee

Anwar Hossain, 35, were admitted

to Dhaka Medical College Hospital

listed criminals Tarkata Babu and

Saddam, shot Masum on the road

mother, said two friends, Moazzem

and Khokon, called Masum out of

their 45, Noor Jahan road residence

Police could not say the reason

behind the attack. No case was filed

with Mohammadpur Police

In the other incident, three to

four muggers waylaid Anwar

Hossain at about 5:30am at

Satrasta crossing and stabbed him as they snatched two gold rings and some cash from their victim. Anwar was stabbed in the abdo-

Station till 8:00pm yesterday.

a few minutes before the incident.

Nasima Akhter, the victim's

Five to six gangsters, led by

(DMCH) in critical conditions.

US soldier, interpreter killed in Iraq ambush

REUTERS, Baghdad

A US soldier and an Iraqi interpreter have been killed in an attack in Baghdad, adding to a mounting toll of casualties that is putting pressure on Washington to scale back its role in Irag.

They died as Iraq's week-old self-rule body wrestled again with the thorny issue of who will lead the US-appointed Governing Council. With many Iraqis also keen to be rid of the occupying forces and rule themselves now that Saddam Hussein is gone, the Council seems to many to be making slow prog-

A US military spokesman said the soldier, from the 1st Airborne Division, and the interpreter were killed when an improvised bomb went off and they were shot at on a

A local journalist watched as a US military vehicle blew up in broad daylight in the capital. A Reuters photographer later saw

two burnt out Humvee vehicles there, 100 metres (yards) apart, apparently the aftermath of the

Five US soldiers, as well as the interpreter and an Iraqi driver for the UN, have been killed since Friday, bringing to 38 the number of US deaths at enemy hands since May 1, when President George W Bush declared an end to major

Local residents in the restive town of Ramadi, west of Baghdad, said US troops had come under fire there, too, on Monday and said at least one soldier may have been hit.

Bush's man in Iraq, Paul Bremer, said in Washington on Sunday that the attacks were the work of "professional killers" loyal to Saddam and that US forces would arm Iraqis to help fight them. Recruiting for a new Iraqi army began this weekend.

Bremer is in the United States to brief the president, Bush's domestic critics are calling for more rapid

signs of an exit strategy that will let the troops come home and leave behind the stable, democratic Iraq that the invaders promised.

"We have 60 to 90 days to get things straightened out," Joseph Biden, the senior Democrat on the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said on Sunday.

A Time/CNN poll found 51 per cent of US respondents had doubts about Bush as a leader, up from 41 percent in March.

US commanders have warned that it may be several months before they can lower their troop strength from 148,000.

There has been little sign that the Governing Council is close to taking on major responsibilities from the Americans.

The 25 members, many of them returned exiles with limited support from the local population and SEE PAGE 11 COL 3

No headway in wedding party killing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Although detectives are interrogating the two youths arrested after Saturday's mayhem at a wedding reception in Kazipara, so far they could gather no new information.

"We've started interrogation from Sunday night but they have provided nothing new,' Investigation officer (IO) Nazrul

We believe they are concealing information, the IO said adding the arrestees Amir Hossain Babu and Shahed Ali are professional crimi-

Meanwhile, Detective Branch (DB) police visited the Shamarita Hospital to talk to Jubo League Tejgaon Thana unit General Secretary Sabbir Alam Litu.

However, Litu is still in critical condition and unable to speak.

The IO believes several important facts regarding the attack would be revealed once Litu is questioned.

Despite intensive search in various parts of the city, police have so far failed to arrest the others linked to the mayhem.



US soldiers watch as the charred shell of an army vehicle is removed from the scene where one of their colleagues and an Iraqi translator were killed yesterday.

Cross-exam of 23rd PW ends

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Cross-examination of additional superintendent of police, CID, Mojibur Rahman, the 23rd prosecution witness and investigation officer (IO) of the Shazneen case, by the lawyer of Shahidul Islam alias Shahid, ended yesterday.

Later, he was cross-examined by the lawyers of the five other

Replying to a question by the lawyer of Shahid, the principal accused in the case, Mojibur Rahman said Shahid was taken on remand for 12 days in three phases in the Shazneen murder case and for three days in the rape case.

"Accused Minu, Parvin, Humayun (now dead) and Shahid gave confessional statements before magistrates on different dates in the Shazneen murder case but only Shahid gave a confessional state

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Girl found dead in Khulna **NGO office**

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Police yesterday recovered the body of a young girl from the office of Dip Shikha, a voluntary nongovernment organisation (NGO) at Sher-e-Bangla road under Sonadanga thana.

Police said the body of Saraswati Howladar, daughter of Nagendra Nath Howladar of Gopalganj, was found hanging from the ceiling of the room where she lived with some of her col-

Sonadanga police is unsure whether it is a case of homicide or suicide but neighbours suspect the girl was raped and killed.

Saraswati started working for the NGO last month as a field worker. Police is investigating the incident, said officer-in-charge of Sonadanga police.

7 Sonali Bank staff sacked for fund fraud

UNB, Nilphamari

Seven field supervisors of Sonali Bank here have been dismissed from service on charge of misappropriating Tk 50 lakh from the bank's loan fund by showing disbursement under fake names.

Seniority of two other bank officers has also been cancelled upon an instruction from the higher authorities on Saturday.

The suspended field supervisors are Ashraf Chowdhury, Mojibur Rahman, Helal Uddin, Moshiur Rahman, Safiqul Islam, Anarul Islam and Golam Mostafa. They were employees of Jaldhaka, Dimla and Meerganj Upazila

branches of the bank Mahbubar Rahman of Jaldhaka branch and Mostafizar Rahman of Domar branch are the officials who had their seniority revoked.

EC seeks legal opinion on CHT voters' list

Draft on election rules sent to commission

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The long overdue polls to the Hill District Councils are trapped in a quagmire with the Election Commission (EC) planning to solicit legal opinion from the attorney general in preparing separate voters' list for the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT).

"We will send the file to the attorney general within a couple of days seeking his opinion," EC Secretary S M Zakaria told The Daily Star Sunday. "Only after getting his opinion, we could know if a separate voters' list for the three hill districts is at all possible.

Elections in the Hill District Councils at Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban could not be held because of the unresolved issue of uniform voter list. The last elections were held in 1989, and the tenure of the councils expired in 1992 after several exten-

The CHT affairs ministry meanwhile put forward a draft on election rules to the EC, which is about

The EC secretariat is hopeful this time to be able to go for separate voters' list as the law ministry already gave its consent to the concept proposed by CHT affairs

The EC decided to seek the attorney general's opinion after its law expert Justice Quddus Chowdhury disagreed with the

According to the Electoral Roll Ordinance, 1989, it is not possible to prepare separate voters' list for any specific region, sources said quoting Justice Quddus.

As per the peace treaty signed in1 997, a non-tribal permanent resident of a hill district having lands and specific address will be eligible to be enlisted as a voter for Parbatya Zila Parishad elec-

over new intern doc body **STAFF CORRESPONDENT** Tension brewed over formation of

Tension brews

a new body of intern doctors of Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) before expiry of the incumbent one continued yester-

Office supporters and bearers of both the bodies brought out separate processions on the hospital premises and submitted their memorandums to the DMCH Director yesterday.

In its memorandum, the running committee of Intern Doctors Parishad (IDP) demanded investigation into 'illegal formation' of a new committee and suspension of internship of new President, Doctor Lutfor Rahman Bipu and his patroniser, former general

The IDP also demanded punishment of Dr Bipu and Dr Noman for allegedly leading an attack on six doctors including acting IDP General Secretary, Dr Rahmat-e-Khuda Moni, on Sunday.

The DMCH director told both the committees that the new committee can begin their activities after expiry of tenure of the running committee on July 31. The discontent between the

intern doctors of two batches -- K-54 batch and K-53 batch of the DMCH started after the members the incumbent committee up posters of the new one on Sunday.

Sixty killed in Liberia shelling

AP. Monrovia

Heavy fighting engulfed the Liberian capital yesterday, killing at least 60 people as mortars pounded the city in an all-out battle between rebels and forces of President Charles Taylor. Enraged Liberians lined up at

least 18 bloodied, mangled bodies in the street outside the US embassy compound, after a shell hit an American diplomatic compound across the street, where at least 10,000 refugees have taken refuge. Some 4,500 more American

sailors and Marines have been ordered to position themselves closer to Liberia to be ready for possible duty in the embattled West African nation, US officials in The mortar barrage came as helicopters swooped in bringing

US Marines to secure the American Embassy. The aircraft dropped off Marines wearing green camou-flage, body armor and helmets and took off carrying between 25 and 30 foreign aid workers and some foreign journalists.

In another neighborhood, a shell hit a house, killing 18 people inside, emergency workers at the scene said. Another 27 Liberians were killed in other attacks Monday, hospital officials said.

One shell hit the commissary building inside the main US Embassy compound, but no one was injured. An American journalist was wounded in Monrovia's port area, the scene of fierce fightg for several days.

Two Liberian guards working for the American embassy were wounded when the shell hit the residence complex across the street. The complexes last here hit on June 12, during the rebels' last push to take the capital and oust Taylor. In that attack, many were killed in the residence complex, which is packed with the tents of Liberians fleeing violence.

Liberians have been pleaded with the United States to send peacekeepers to enforce an oftviolated June 17th cease-fire, and Monday's limited deployment to protect the embassy frustrated

outside the compound asking when troops would come to protect them, the aid workers and journalists were evacuated. Clutching bags and backpacks they ran up the hill of the embassy compound through the pouring rain, as Marines and embassy officials yelled, "Go, Go.'

They were to fly to neighboring Freetown, Sierra Leone.

One of those being evacuated, aid worker Eleanor Monbiot of World Vision, said that since Friday her organization had to stop food distribution because workers were hunkered in a compound. Tens SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Factory fire kills one, injures 20 in N'ganj

UNB, Narayanganj

A worker was burnt alive and 20 others were injured when a fire broke out at a dyeing and printing factory at Ramarbagh in Fatullah Police Station in the early hours of vesterday

Saju,15. His body was sent to the Narayanganj General Hospital for Locals said the fire originated

The dead was identified as

from an electric short circuit at the Brothers Dyeing and Printing Industries about 3:45am.

Fire fighting units from four stations rushed to the spot and extinguished the blaze after three

Sun Rises Sun Sets

July 22			6-47 pm
July 23	5-22 am		
Prover Timings			
Prayer Timings			
July 22			
		Azan	Jamaat
Fajr		4-15	4-50
Zohr		12-45	1-15
Asr		5-00	5-15
Maghrib		5-52	5-57
Esha		8-15	8-45
Source: Islamic Foundation			

Democrats launch anti-Bush ad war

AP, Crawford

Democrats are launching a television ad that accuses President Bush of misleading Americans on the nuclear threat from Iraq.

Republicans urged broadcasters not to carry the ad, set to be aired initially Monday in Madison then elsewhere; they called it "deliberately false and mislead-

The Democratic National Committee has been raising money through an e-mail campaign that began July 10 to help finance the ad, which sharply questions Bush's veracity on Iraq's The ad says: "In his State of the Union address, George W. Bush

told us of an imminent threat. ... America took him at his word." The video shows Bush saying, 'Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa."

The ad continues: "But now we find out it wasn't true. "A year earlier, that claim was

proven false. The CIA knew it. The State Department knew it. The White House knew it. "But he told us anyway."

Republicans claim the ad

improperly quotes Bush because his entire statement was: "The British government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently uranium from Africa.

DNC spokesman Tony Welch said: "With the British in there, the president's information is still false and misleading. It is exactly what the president said.

Bush's statement was technically accurate because it attributed the findings about uranium to the "You can say whatever you want in a fund-raiser," Republican spokesman Jim Dyke said, "but it

steps over the line when you knowingly mislead people in your adver-

Some Republicans have argued

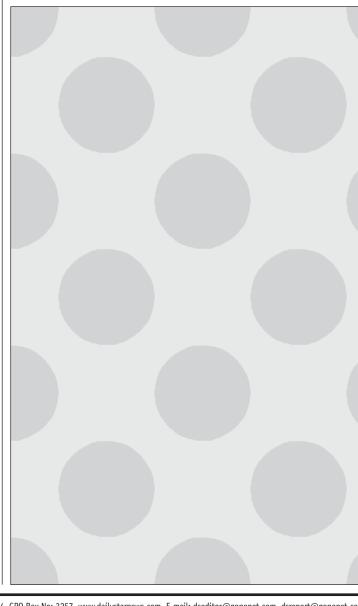
Welch said the ad would be aired in Madison for about a week at a cost of nearly \$20,000.

Efforts to get comment from Madison TV stations were not successful Sunday. The ad squabble comes at a time

when public trust in the president has been eroding, according to results released Sunday from a CNN-Time poll. The poll found that 47 percent

view Bush as a leader they can trust, while 51 percent said they have doubts and reservations. That's down from 56 percent who saw him as a leader they could trust in late March, with 41 percent having doubts. The poll of 1,004 people taken

Wednesday and Thursday had an error margin of plus or minus 3 percentage points



DEAD MAN WALKING: A child carries water in polythene shopping bag, a banned item but in widespread use in Bangladesh.

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