



Tests confirm them as Saddam's sons

2 US soldiers killed as guerilla warfare continues; Tikrities in disbelief

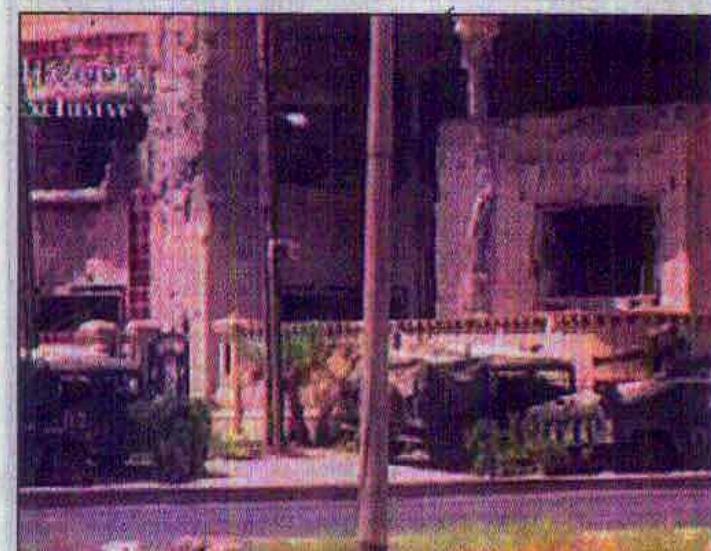


PHOTO: AFP
A TV frame grab from Al-Jazeera satellite news channel shows the house that was raided by US military forces in the northern city of Mosul Tuesday, killing Uday and Qusay.

REUTERS/AFP, Baghdad

Former aides to Saddam Hussein as well as medical and dental records confirmed the ousted Iraqi leader's sons, Uday and Qusay, were killed in a gunbattle with American troops, a US military spokesman said yesterday.

But the deaths of two US soldiers in fresh ambushes in Iraq dented any hopes that the elimination of Saddam's feared sons would also snuff out a guerrilla insurgency against occupying forces.

Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, the US commander in Iraq, said visual identification by four former aides, as well as medical and dental records, confirmed that two of four people killed in the battle at the villa were Uday and Qusay.

"We have no doubt that we have the bodies of Uday and Qusay," Sanchez said. But many Iraqis say they want proof.

A US official in Washington told Reuters there are plans to release photographs of the brothers' bodies. The official, who asked not to be identified, saw facial photos of the pair and said they "are pretty bad" but recognizable.

Sanchez said US troops had also detained Barzan Abd Ghafur Sulayman al-Tikriti, the Special Republican Guard commander who was No. 11 on a list of 55 most-wanted Iraqis. Of the 55, 37 have been captured or killed.

"It confirms that we will succeed in our hunt for former regime members, and in particular Saddam Hussein, wherever they are and however long it takes," Sanchez said.

Sanchez detailed the array of devastating firepower used against Uday and Qusay, who were barricaded in a fortified section of the villa with two others. Firing AK-47 assault rifles, they wounded four

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SHAMSUNNAHAR HALL ATTACK
Probe reports
gather dust

DU CORRESPONDENT

The recommendations made by the three probe committees on police atrocities on the students of Shamsunnahar Hall of Dhaka University (DU) on July 23 last year have been shelved for months.

Necessary actions against the persons responsible are yet to be taken despite the submission of the reports by the government, DU authorities and police officials.

Police had stormed into the hall on the night of July 23, dragged students from the beds, verbally abused and assaulted them, leaving more than 50 injured.

The one-member judicial commission, formed on July 27 at the

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Man arrested
for 'killing'
Mishel
remanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Momtaj alias Jamai Momtaj, arrested on Tuesday in connection with the abduction and killing of schoolboy Tarjumur Islam Mishel, has been remanded for three days.

Police produced Momtaj before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court yesterday with a seven-day remand period. The court granted three days.

Meanwhile, police arrested one Alam from Dania last night suspecting his involvement in the case.

Badly decomposed body of Mishel, a student of class four of Dania Sunrise Kindergarten, was

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7,174 schools, colleges asked to explain exam result debacle

MUSTAK HOSSAIN and AKTAR PARUK SHAHIN

The Ministry of Education has served notice on 7,174 schools, colleges and madrassahs to explain why they performed poorly in the public exams of 2002.

The ministry said a lot of money is being spent on the education sector by way of salary, benefits and development grants.

As such, an 80 per cent failure rate in public examinations is unacceptable and unexpected, said the notice.

The ministry directed the listed institutions to show cause within 15

days. It cautioned that failing to respond to or to improve condition within a year would cause the ministry to cancel the monthly pay order (MPO) and take other stringent measures.

The government is also considering delisting about 290 non-government educational institutions that have failed to produce even a single successful student in the SSC and HSC examinations of

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NCBs mull public agitation for bad loan recovery

STAR REPORT

in loan recovery and write-off.

The Bangladesh Bank also set targets for six banks -- four NCBs and two specialised banks -- to write off Tk 4,084 crore by December.

These six institutions have already cleaned up Tk 1,208 crore till June since January.

Sonali Bank has already written off Tk 736 crore till June and will have to write off another Tk 764 crore by December. Janata Bank was the worst performer with only Tk 60 crore written off till June and another Tk 940 to be done by December. Agrani wrote off Tk 350 crore till June and will have to do another Tk 650 crore. Rupali could

write off Tk 48 crore and will have to do another Tk 652 crore. Bangladesh Krishi Bank wrote off Tk 14 crore and will have to write off another Tk 44 crore. Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank failed to do anything in this regard and so will have to write off Tk 40 crore by December.

Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Sangsta wrote off Tk 900 crore till June and Bangladesh Shilpa Bank did Tk 433 crore.

The governor asked the chief executives of Janata and some other institutions about their low performance. The managing directors

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Industrial park at Adamjee site to cost Tk 617cr

UNB, Narayanganj

Adamjee Industrial Park, planned at the site of the now defunct Adamjee Jute Mills here, will cost Tk 617 crore to be ready in next two years for accommodating textile and support industries.

Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industries Corporation (BSCIC) came up with the estimate in a project concept paper (PCP) that outlined the proposed industrial park on the strategic site, only 17 km off the capital city and 2 km from the Dhaka-Chittagong Highway.

The price of total 294.88 acres of land for the Park has been estimated at Tk 525.30 crore, which is 85 per cent of the total project cost.

Agriculture Minister MK Anwar, who chaired an inter-ministerial meeting that reviewed the PCP at the Adamjee site yesterday, told reporters that the government would act upon the project as soon as possible.

The informal inter-ministerial

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Saddam tape
urges Iraq
uprising

FOX NEWS, Baghdad

A new audiotape purported to be of toppled dictator Saddam Hussein, broadcast by an Arab satellite station yesterday, called on former soldiers to rise up against the American occupation.

The speaker said US troops had also detained Barzan Abd Ghafur Sulayman al-Tikriti, the Special Republican Guard commander who was No. 11 on a list of 55 most-wanted Iraqis. Of the 55, 37 have been captured or killed.

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Cost recovery over, first gas field under PSC yields real cash

SHARIER KHAN

The country is getting profit out of a Production Sharing Contract (PSC) for the first time, as the cost recovery for Unocal's Jalalabad gas field was complete in June.

This means Petrobangla will get double the amount of free Jalalabad gas it used to get before June 2003.

Petrobangla will also have to pay half the amount it used to pay to Unocal for gas purchase.

"Unocal has recovered all its costs -- about \$300 million -- from Jalalabad gas sales," said a Petrobangla official.

Petrobangla had been getting 37 per cent of gas free from the Jalalabad field. Now its share goes up

to 70 per cent.

The monthly gas bill for daily supply of about 120 million cubic feet of per day (mmcf/d) gas comes at around \$5.5 million.

"We expect the bill to come down to \$2.7 million a month," the official said, adding there is a backlog of three months' bill. "This will reduce

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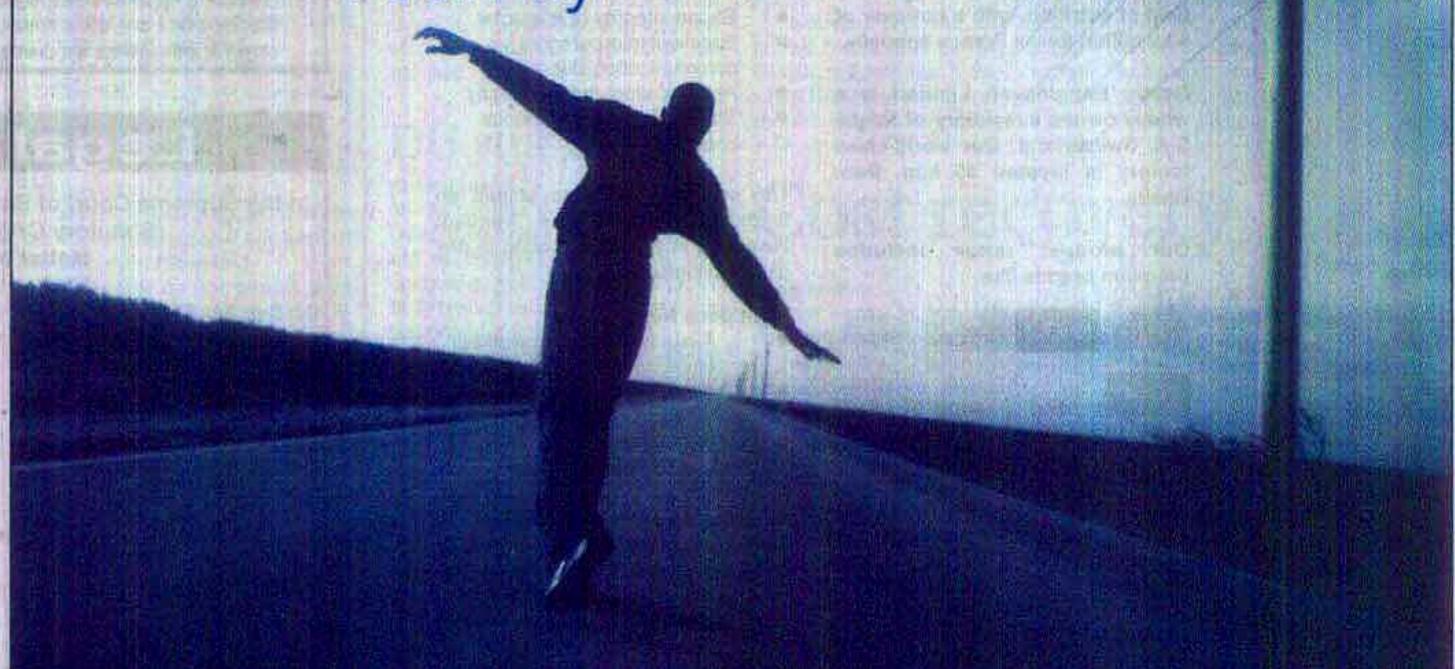


Members of a flood-hit family camped in the open yesterday after their lowland home outside the embankment in Mohammadpur was submerged by waters from monsoon-swollen rivers.

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