



Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee (L) greets former President of Germany Richard Weizsaecker (R) during the inaugural session of the Global Convention on Peace and Non-Violence in New Delhi yesterday. Large number of delegates from India and abroad participated in the convention which ends today.

India for peaceful, friendly relations with neighbours: Vajpayee

PTI, New Delhi
Asserting that India always believed in having peaceful, friendly and cooperative relations with all its neighbours, Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee yesterday said that in the same spirit, government is trying to resolve all the outstanding issues with Pakistan through dialogue.

US congress mission to make historic Iran visit

AFP, Washington
A group of US congressional aides is to go to Iran in February on the first official US visit there since the 1979 Islamic revolution, a senator announced Friday.

'10 civilians killed in US bombing 2 weeks ago'

AFP, Kabul
Ten civilians were killed in a US bombing two weeks ago, President Hamid Karzai said yesterday, contradicting the US military, which said only five armed militants died in the incident.

UN gives nations deadline on al-Qaeda sanctions

AFP, United Nations
The UN Security Council turned up the pressure Friday on nations to clamp down on al-Qaeda and the Taliban, saying they must report on the steps taken by April or risk being named in public.

resources could be keeping nations from fulfilling the requirement. Other diplomats said said one main goal of the resolution was to help implement the existing sanctions -- which include an arms embargo, travel ban and assets freeze -- while leaving open the option of toughening them later on.

The resolution also names an experts panel that could help countries decide what to include in their reports, which are intended to track measures against people and groups linked to al-Qaeda and the Taliban.

A US-led war toppled the Taliban from power in Afghanistan months several months after the September 11 attacks on the United States, which were blamed on al-Qaeda.

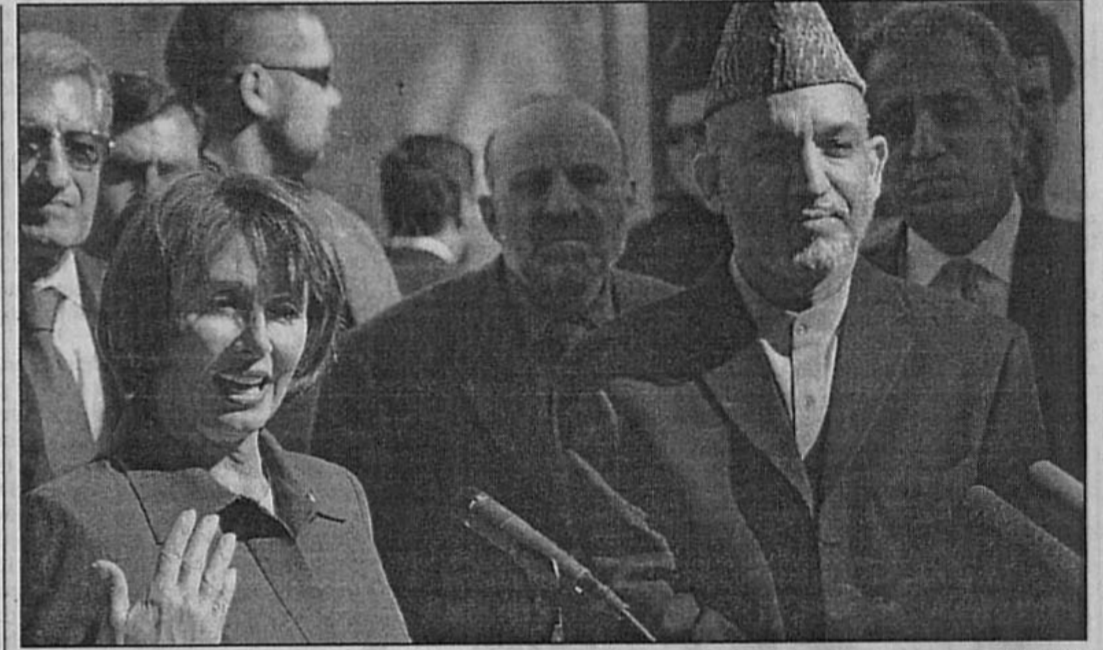


A US soldier from the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division, points his weapon during a raid in Tikrit, some 180 km north of Baghdad early yesterday. Iraq was bracing for more violence on the eve of a major Muslim holiday after the Dutch embassy in Baghdad was left in flames by a late night grenade attack and three Iraqi soldiers were killed in the north.

China urged to act on bird flu

REUTERS, Beijing/Bangkok
China's chances of halting bird flu are dwindling, the United Nations warned yesterday, as the deadly virus extended its reach across Asia and sped toward Thailand's southern tourist hot spots.

But Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra -- a multi-millionaire who once worked in a Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet to pay his way at college in the United States -- remained defiant and urged the country to eat more poultry.



US Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (L) gestures as she speaks alongside Afghan President Hamid Karzai (R) during a press conference at the presidential palace in Kabul yesterday. Pelosi, a Democrat congresswoman is leading a three-member US congress delegation on a one-day trip to the Afghanistan to visit Afghan officials as well as some of the US troops who are operating in the Central Asian country, since the ousting of the Taliban regime in late 2001.

Sept 11 panel details missteps in attacks

AP, Washington
It's long been known that US authorities had opportunities to stop at least some of the Sept. 11 hijackers. Now the extent of the government's failures is coming to light.

ingsigns. "We were asleep. Opportunities were lost," said former New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean, a Republican who chairs the bipartisan National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States.

Bush sidesteps call for outside probe on WMD

REUTERS, Washington
President Bush Friday sidestepped demands for outside review of pre-war intelligence on Iraq, but said it was important to know all the facts surrounding White House assertions that Iraq's illicit weapons justified the US decision to invade.

Dick Cheney called congressional leaders about Iraq on Friday and the White House is exploring a range of options on the subject of an investigation related to the weapons.

Meanwhile, the president gave no public sign yet he planned to yield to the demands for a probe, though he did not completely shut the door on the idea.

British press finds Kelly report hard to swallow

AFP, London
Swallowing hard, the British press struggled yesterday to digest the findings of a judicial inquiry into the death of government weapons scientist David Kelly, which saw the BBC lambasted and Prime Minister Tony Blair vindicated.

corporation copped most of the flak over the Kelly affair for its "defective" editorial management. Andrew Gilligan, the journalist whose report was found to be flawed, became the latest casualty when he resigned Friday, admitting errors but saying the BBC had been the victim of a "grave injustice."

already have reached their judgement on him," the newspaper added. Blair's Labour party showed a one percent increase in the polls to 36, still three points behind the opposition Conservatives, after the publication of the report, according to a YouGov poll published Saturday in The Daily Telegraph.

Palestinians urge World Court to rule on barrier

REUTERS, Ramallah
The Palestinian Authority said yesterday it had submitted its formal affidavit to the World Court supporting its right to rule on the legality of a huge barrier Israel is building in the West Bank.

matic means, not violence, in order to establish an independent state. Washington filed its argument on Friday saying the World Court is not the proper forum to decide the legality of the barrier.

Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishtan
Jirani, Savar, Dhaka
Re-Tender Notice
Memo No: BKSP/Admin-2/473/4057
Dated: 31 January, 2004
01. Sealed offer are hereby invited in Bangladesh Form No. 2908 from 1st class enlisted contractor/supplier of govt/semi-govt/autonomous bodies having up-to-date renewal of the firm for the following works under "Establishment of Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishtan (BKSP) 4th phase (revised)".