



People demonstrate in Cibeles square protesting the train bombings which left 199 dead and over 1400 injured on Thursday in Madrid, two days before the general elections in Spain. Nearly 12 million people took part in the demonstration condemning terrorism across Spain.

Millions in Madrid protest terror attacks

Millions of Spaniards poured into the streets Friday, chanting "Cowards!" and "Assassins!" in a protest of the bombings that killed 199 people. The Basque separatist group ETA denied government allegations that it staged the attacks.

Western Africa. Nationwide, nearly 12 million marched, state TV said. Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar, who was joined by other European leaders as he led one march, pledged to hunt down the terrorists whose bombs sparked new fears about Europe's vulnerability to attack.

US warns DPRK to stop exporting arms or face world action

The United States warned North Korea Friday that it would face action from the international community if it does not stop exporting dangerous weapons and other illegal activities.

He said these steps were ongoing and unrelated to the current six-party negotiations -- which include North and South Korea, Japan, the United States, China and Russia -- to ease the nuclear standoff in North Korea.

9 found dead in California, man charged

Police in Fresno found the bodies of nine people in a home in Fresno, California, following a domestic dispute and a police standoff with a suspect in the murders, the Fresno Bee and CNN reported yesterday.

Turnout only uncertainty as Putin heads for victory

Russian authorities stepped up efforts to ensure a high voter turnout in today's presidential elections, the only factor threatening to tarnish an expected crushing victory for President Vladimir Putin.

US launches new Afghan operation against Laden

US-led forces have launched a new operation across a broad area of the south and east of Afghanistan aimed at capturing top al-Qaeda and Taliban militants, the US military said yesterday.

Kuwait scraps visas for 34 nations

The Gulf Arab state of Kuwait, looking to open its doors after the fall of Saddam Hussein, yesterday scrapped prior visa requirements for citizens of 34 countries.

IAEA adopts resolution criticising Iran

The United Nations nuclear watchdog yesterday approved a resolution that criticises Iran for withholding sensitive atomic information from the agency but stops short of referring Tehran to the UN Security Council.

US to introduce tighter border control for Iraq

The US-led authority in Iraq will introduce a new border policy to try and keep out foreign insurgents, including closing off most of the official crossing points from Iran, a senior US official said yesterday.



An Israeli soldier aims his weapon at Palestinians demonstrating against the construction of Israel's controversial security fence, after they tried to obstruct the Israeli bulldozers working in the place close to the West Bank village of Nilin Friday. Washington and Cairo have stepped up their efforts to promote a Middle East dialogue, which could resume next week at a long-awaited meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and his Palestinian counterpart, Ahmed Qorei.

ME peace process stalled, says Annan

Two Palestinians were killed by Israeli gunfire early yesterday in the Gaza Strip, in continuing violence that UN Secretary General Kofi Annan warned stymied the search for peace in the Middle East.

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