



Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri (L) listens to US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage (C) while US Ambassador to Pakistan Ryan Crocker (2ndR) and US Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia Christina Rocca look on during a meeting in Islamabad yesterday. Armitage arrived in Islamabad late Monday for talks with Pakistani leaders on Iraq, Afghanistan and terrorism, the foreign office said.

## US to work more closely with Pakistan: Armitage

AFP, Islamabad

US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage vowed that Washington would work more closely with Pakistan as he made his first trip to the key anti-terror ally since President George W. Bush won a second term, officials said yesterday.

Armitage, accompanied by US Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia Christina Rocca, held talks with senior Pakistani officials on topics including Afghanistan, Iraq and peace moves between Islamabad and New Delhi.

The US government would not only maintain continuity in its policy towards Pakistan but strive towards enhancing US-Pakistan relations in economic and commercial spheres," Armitage was quoted as saying by a Pakistani foreign ministry statement.

The US is looking at ways to accelerate its interaction with Pakistan," the statement said.

Cooperation in defence, the war on terror, Afghanistan and Iraq figured prominently during the wide-ranging discussions, it added.

Armitage earlier held talks with a delegation led by Foreign Secretary Riaz Khokhar.

Khokhar conveyed Pakistan's desire to promote "a solid, broad-based and long term relationship with the US encompassing cooperation in areas of investment, trade and defence."

The two sides also discussed progress in peace talks between Pakistan and India and peace and reconstruction in Afghanistan after last month's landmark presidential polls.

Armitage said President Pervez Musharraf's proposal to consider various options on resolving the thorny Kashmir dispute with India was "way forward".

"I think he has caused a great deal of thinking both in India and Pakistan about the way forward," Armitage told state-run television. The foreign ministry statement

said Armitage expressed satisfaction at the continuing engagement between Pakistan and India.

"Pakistan and the US as coalition partners, would continue to cooperate in the war against terrorism," it added.

The US envoy later met Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri. They expressed satisfaction at the steady growth of relations between the two countries and voiced "confidence that relations will be further strengthened during the second term of President," it said.

The ministry said he would call on President Pervez Musharraf and Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz later in the day.

Armitage flew to Islamabad late Monday on a two-day visit, his second to Islamabad this year after one in July.

"Pakistan would like to have stable, durable and longer-lasting relations with the United States," foreign ministry spokesman Masood Khan said Monday.

## Pak troops kill 6 al-Qaeda-linked militants near Afghan border

AFP, Wana

Pakistani security forces backed by helicopter gunships killed six suspected al-Qaeda-linked fighters in raids on several militant hideouts near the Afghan border, the military said yesterday.

Two soldiers were also killed in the operation which started late Monday in an area northeast of Wana, the main town in the restive South Waziristan tribal district, Major General Shaukat Sultan told AFP.

Troops faced resistance and both sides traded fire intermittently until Tuesday morning, the military spokesman said.

"We have killed six miscreants in the latest offensive against terrorist elements in the region," Sultan said.

Residents said they saw helicopters firing at targets in Karwan Manza and Gotkai areas, some 40km northeast of Wana.

## US court rules terror tribunals illegal

AFP, Washington

A US court Monday halted the military trial of Osama bin Laden's personal driver, ruling it illegal in a major blow to the government's controversial handling of hundreds of war on terror detainees.

The US District Court in Washington DC suspended the military commission case against Salim Ahmed Hamdan, a 34-year-old Yemeni, being held at the US detention camp at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

While rights groups celebrated, the stunned US government scrambled to prepare an emergency appeal after Judge James Robertson said Hamdan, an alleged al-Qaeda member, should be given prisoner-of-war status until a "competent tribunal" can rule on his case.

A review tribunal at Guantanamo

has already declared that Hamdan was properly declared an "enemy combatant" and so ineligible for most protection under the Geneva Convention. But the judge rejected this.

"Unless and until a competent tribunal determines that Hamdan is not entitled to prisoner-of-war status, he may be tried with the offences for which he is charged only by court-martial," said Robertson.

The judge also said rules that restrict defendants' access to classified evidence against them also had to be rewritten.

The Hamdan decision will also apply to the approximately 550 other inmates at Guantanamo and government lawyers were quick to vow an appeal saying the ruling put terrorism on the same level as a legitimate war.

"We vigorously disagree with the

court's decision, and will seek an emergency stay of the ruling and immediately appeal," said Justice Department spokesman Mark Corallo in a statement.

"By conferring protected legal status under the Geneva Conventions on members of al-Qaeda, the judge has put terrorism on the same legal footing as legitimate methods of waging war," said Corallo.

The ruling came as a preliminary hearing against Hamdan went ahead at Guantanamo and officials said it and other cases had been immediately suspended.

Hamdan was captured in Afghanistan in late 2001, in the military operation launched after the September 11 attacks. He has been held at Guantanamo since early 2002, for much of that time without access to a lawyer.

## Israeli coalition partner set to quit over Gaza pullout

AFP, Jerusalem

More resignations were expected yesterday from Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's government over his Gaza pullout plan as the man overseeing the withdrawal predicted most settlers would leave without a fight.

Welfare Minister Zeev Orlev has scheduled a lunchtime press conference at which he was widely expected to confirm that his National Religious Party was bolting the coalition.

The NRP, one of three parties still in government, had set Sharon a two-week deadline to either call new elections or a referendum on his so-called disengagement plan after it won parliamentary approval for next month.

Sharon's camp has refused to bend to the pressure however, insisting that there is no time for a plebiscite and warning that the calls for a referendum are merely a smokescreen used by opponents to wreck the whole project.

## Palestinians in tug-of-war over Arafat money

AFP, Jerusalem

Any debate among the Palestinians as to who will lead in the absence of the ailing Yasser Arafat is related to Arafat's personal fortune, Israeli Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom said yesterday.

"Arafat has enormous sums of money at his disposal, and any difficulties with respect to a leadership transition in the Palestinian camp are related to that money," Shalom told public radio via telephone from Beijing.

"The question is to see who ends up putting their hands on that money," Shalom added.

"We are not interfering with preparations for the post-Arafat era. We have to wait, and we hope that the new Palestinian leadership will fight against terrorism, proceed with carrying out democratic reforms within the

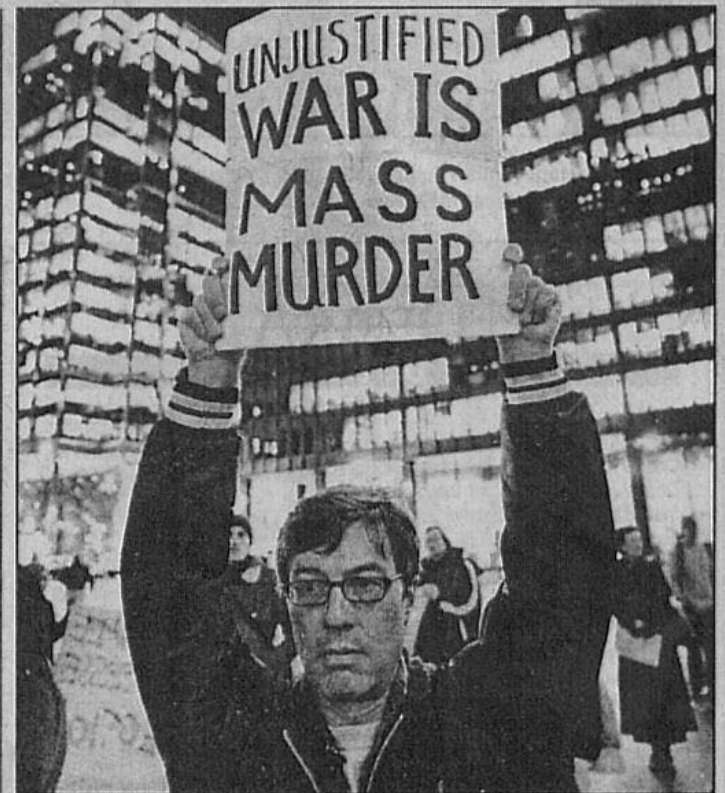
Palestinian Authority and be able to engage in peace talks with Israel," he said.

Four of Arafat's top lieutenants including current prime minister Ahmed Qorei and acting Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) chairman Mahmud Abbas were in Paris on Tuesday to visit Arafat at his hospital bedside.

Their visit came after Arafat's wife Suha accused them of plotting a deathbed coup.

As Arafat fights for his life, reports have swirled in the Israeli media about his alleged secret fortune, with the daily Haaretz estimating the total at one billion dollars.

Israel's top-selling daily Yediot Aharonot quoted a more conservative figure, citing the US magazine Forbes which ranked Arafat as the 10th richest leader in the world, with a personal fortune of some 290 million dollars.



Malachi Ritscher holds a sign during an anti-war protest Monday in Chicago, Illinois. About 150 people gathered at the Federal Building in Chicago before marching to the British Consulate.

## '57 pc Britons think Iraq war was wrong'

AFP, London

Public distaste with the Iraq war in Britain has hit its worst-ever level, with fewer than a third of people thinking it is the right thing, an opinion poll said late Monday.

When asked whether military action in Iraq was the right or wrong thing to do, just 31 percent said it was correct, the survey in Tuesday's edition of The Times newspaper showed.

This was down from 33 percent the previous month, and a record low since the paper began commissioning monthly polls on the subject in April 2003, just after the US-led invasion of Iraq began.

Of those asked, 57 percent actively thought the war was wrong, four percentage points higher than last month, and the lowest recorded.

The poll was taken over the weekend, following news that three members of the British Black Watch regiment had been killed in a suicide attack on a Thursday shortly after beginning a new mission.



India's ruling Congress Party President Sonia Gandhi's daughter Priyanka Gandhi (L) and General Electric (GE) CEO Scott R. Bayman smiles while attending a function to launch a new healthcare programme to provide free health check for women and children in rural India in New Delhi yesterday.

## Powell outlines US foreign policy

But he keeps mum on own future

AFP, Mexico City

Visiting US Secretary of State Colin Powell outlined the goals of American foreign policy during President George W. Bush's second term in office, but excluded Iran, North Korea, Latin America and also kept mum about his own future in the new government.

"The global war on terror will remain the priority of the administration," Powell told reporters Monday on his flight to Mexico, his first foreign trip since Bush's re-election a week ago.

"We will continue to consolidate the success we have seen in Afghanistan as manifested in the presidential elections," he added, a day before meeting with Mexican President Vicente Fox.

Powell also stressed the importance of fighting alongside Pakistan to defeat the Al-Qaeda and Taliban elements that are working in the frontier areas of Pakistan, as well as continuing to fight those elements

that came in Afghanistan and that are trying to stop democracy."

"Iraq, of course, is a major priority," Powell said, adding that he was pleased the Iraqis were going ahead with their planned elections in January, ushering in a democratic government to replace the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein, one of three regimes Bush branded the "axis of evil."

The US official, however, failed to mention the other two axis members -- Iran and North Korea -- despite their nuclear ambitions, so often mentioned by Bush's election rival, Democrat John Kerry, during his campaign.

Powell also omitted Latin America in his comments, despite his planned meetings Tuesday here with Fox and Foreign Minister Luis Ernesto Derbez focusing on immigration and Bush's proposal to extend temporary residence permits to Mexicans living illegally in the United States.

The Middle East, however, was

also brought up by Powell as a major US foreign policy issue over the next four years.

"The United States stands by to work very actively to get the road map moving forward," he said referring to a stalled peace plan for the region.

"We are watching very carefully what's happening in the Middle East," he added in a clear allusion to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who is in a critical condition at a Paris hospital.

"Since he went to hospital in Paris," he added, "I have been impressed by the manner in which the Palestinian leaders back in the territories have been discussing among themselves and how they move forward."

Powell also stressed that Bush wanted to have a strong relationship with European allies during his second term, "notwithstanding any disagreements that we had in the past," referring to France and Germany's firm opposition to the US-led war on Iraq last year.

## Germany marks 15th anniversary of the fall of Berlin Wall

AFP, Berlin

Germany marks the 15th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall yesterday with fond memories of that day's joyous celebrations and somber ceremonies in honor of those killed in a desperate dash for freedom.

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder paid tribute to the peaceful revolution against the communist regime that culminated in the destruction of the despised Wall that cleaved Berlin in two for 28 years.

"November 9 is a day marking the triumph of freedom and democracy," Schroeder said in a statement released late Monday.

"The people of East Germany broke down the Wall 15 years ago and conquered a cynical dictatorship."

Schroeder noted, however, that there were still painful economic and social divisions between East and West undermining German unity.

"To reach this goal, we will need to pursue a truly national effort," he said.

## Indian army seizes key rebel base in Manipur

AFP, Guwahati

India's army said yesterday it had seized an important separatist base in the revolt-hit northeastern state of Manipur during a month-long offensive against insurgent groups.

The base, believed to be the headquarters of the outlawed People's Liberation Army (PLA), was captured Monday inside a densely forested region in the Churachandpur district that borders Myanmar.

"The fall of the PLA headquarters is a major success," army spokesman Major Santanu Dev Goswami told AFP from the state capital Imphal.

There was no comment available from militants in Manipur, one of seven states in India's remote northeast which is a hotbed of ethnic and tribal groups fighting for autonomy or independence.

The rebels say they are trying to protect their ethnic identities and accuse New Delhi of plundering resources from the region which is

rich in minerals, tea, timber and oil.

The PLA is among the most influential of the 19 rebel groups active in Manipur. The army says they are equipped with anti-aircraft guns, rocket launchers and other weapons.

"We seized computers, communication gadgets, weapons and explosives, besides large stocks of food grains from the PLA base," Goswami said. He said the militants fled the camp before the troops arrived.

At least 20 rebels have been killed and 59 captured during the action that began last month by about 7,500 troops, the army official said.

The army said it had the "rebels on the run" and they were unable to sneak into Myanmar because the military regime has sealed the border with India.

Last month New Delhi and Yangon agreed to cooperate in fighting terrorism. Myanmar military leader Senior Gen Than Shwe pledged not to allow his country to be used for anti-India activities.

## Militants ordered to attack Iraqi targets

AFP, Baghdad

An extremist Islamist group ordered its militants to attack key targets in Iraq in revenge for the US-led offensive on the rebel-held city of Fallujah, according to a statement published on its Internet site yesterday.

The targets listed by the Islamic Army in Iraq, which has kidnapped two French journalists and has killed several hostages, identified 20 specific targets including the US headquarters in Iraq, the oil and finance ministries, military bases, embassies and major hotels.

The group gave orders to its forces everywhere in Iraq to "escalate to the full their operations... against the Americans, the enemies of Allah, their agents among the hypocrites and apostates," it said in another statement published on the site on Monday.

"We urge all the mujahedeen to concentrate (their attacks) on the enemy's nerve centres and to capture the largest number (among enemy ranks)."

US troops with crack Iraqi soldiers surged into the heart of

Fallujah on Tuesday on the second day of the largest operation in Iraq since last year's US-led war aimed at retaking the Sunni Muslim city from rebels.

They now claim to have seized one third of the city.

The Islamic Army in Iraq, which is thought to be based mainly in Fallujah, follows the strict Wahabist school of Islam and has claimed responsibility for several abductions and executions in Iraq.

Among the target listed were "the headquarters for the war on terrorism," a likely reference to the so-called Green Zone housing the Iraqi government and the US and other foreign embassies.

It also named the buildings of the interior ministry, oil ministry and finance ministry and listed military sites, embassies and major hotels.

The Islamic Army in Iraq also urged its fighters to "film their operations... to uncover the enemy's lies."

Another statement by the group published Monday on the same site, addressed "the Iraqi people and (Islamic) nation" and denounced "the slaughter by the infidels in Iraq".

**কমন সার্ভিসেস ডিপার্টমেন্ট**  
বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক  
(ডেইকল সেকশন)  
প্রধান কার্যালয়  
ঢাকা  
ওয়েব সাইটঃ [www.bangladesh-bank.org](http://www.bangladesh-bank.org)

**গাড়ি বিক্রয়ের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংকের নিম্নবর্ণিত গাড়িগুলো "মেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে" ভিত্তিতে বিক্রয়ের জন্য প্রকৃত ক্রেতাদের নিকট হইতে নিম্নে বর্ণিত শর্তসাপেক্ষে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করা হইতেছেঃ-

**শর্তাবলীঃ**

- ১। দরপত্র ১২-১২-২০০৪ইং তারিখ সকাল ১১-০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, প্রধান কার্যালয়ের কমন সার্ভিসেস ডিপার্টমেন্টে (২য় উর্ট সংলগ্ন) ভবন, ৭ম তলায়) রক্ষিত ডেভার বাক্সে জমা দিতে হইবে। ঐ দিন বেলা ১১.৩০ মিনিটে দরপত্রদাতাদের সামনে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র ব্যর্থ হইবে। এক বা একাধিক গাড়ির জন্য দরপত্র পেশ করা যেতে পারে।
- ২। প্রতিটি গাড়ির মূল্য দেশী মুদ্রায় অথবা ও কথায় সুস্পষ্টভাবে উল্লেখ করিতে হইবে।
- ৩। সকল দরদাতাগণকে প্রতিটি গাড়ির জন্য ১০,০০০/- (টাকা দশ হাজার মাত্র) জামানতের টাকা (ফেরতযোগ্য) বাংলাদেশে অবস্থিত যে কোন তফসিলী ব্যাংকের নিকট হইতে ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার হিসাবে গ্রহণ করিয়া মহাব্যবস্থাপক, কমন সার্ভিসেস ডিপার্টমেন্ট, বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক, প্রধান কার্যালয়, ঢাকার অনুকূলে দরপত্রের সহসা দাখিল করিতে হইবে।
- ৪। দরপত্র গৃহীত হইলে দরপত্রদাতাকে কার্যাদেশ লাস্টের ০৭ (সাত) দিনের মধ্যে সম্পূর্ণ মূল্য পরিশোধ করতঃ গাড়ি বুঝিয়া নিতে হইবে; অন্যথায় জামানত হিসাবে গৃহীত টাকা বাজেয়াপ্ত হইবে।
- ৫। ব্যাংক কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শালে বাস্তবিকভাবে যে কোন দরপত্র সম্পূর্ণ বা আংশিক বাতিল অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করে।
- ৬। সকল দরদাতাকে সরকারী নিয়মানুযায়ী উক্ত দরের উপর আয়কর, ভ্যাট ইত্যাদি পরিশোধ করিতে হইবে এবং উৎসে আয়কর পরিশোধ সাপেক্ষে গাড়ি ডেলিভারী দেওয়া হইবে।
- অগ্রাহী দরদাতাগণ যে কোন কার্যদিসে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ব্যাংকের প্রধান কার্যালয় (৩০ তলা ভবনের নীচে) রক্ষিত প্রধান কার্যালয়ের (সদরদাট) অফিসের গাড়িগুহ) গাড়িগুলি দেখিতে পারিবেন এবং অন্যান্য গাড়িগুলি সফটওয়্যার অফিস চত্বরে দেখিতে পারিবেন।

**যানবাহনসমূহের বিবরণঃ-**

ক্রমিক নং	গাড়ির রেজিস্ট্রেশন	গাড়ির ধরন	ইঞ্জিন	ক্রয়ের তারিখ	মেখানে আছে
০১।	ঢাকা মেট্রো-ক-০৩-৭৪৯১	হোভা কার	১৩০০ সিসি	১৯৯৩	প্রধান কার্যালয়
০২।	ঢাকা মেট্রো-চ-০২-১৩২৮	টয়োটা লাইটস মাইক	১৫০০ সিসি	০৩/০৩/৯২	-ঐ-
০৩।	ঢাকা মেট্রো-ক-০৩-৯৯৫২	নিশান সানি	১৩০০ সিসি	১১/১০/৮৪	-ঐ-
০৪।	ঢাকা মেট্রো-ক-০৩-৪০৪১	টয়োটা করোলা কার	১৩০০ সিসি	১৯৯২	সদরদা ট
০৫।	ঢাকা মেট্রো-ক-০২-০৬৫৩	টয়োটা করোলা কার	১৩০০ সিসি	১৬/০৪/৮৯	বরিশাল
০৬।	ঢাকা মেট্রো-ক-০২-০৬৫৩	টয়োটা করোলা কার	১৩০০ সিসি	১৬/০৪/৮৯	রংপুর
০৭।	ঢাকা মেট্রো-ক-০৩-৭৪৯২	হোভা সিডিক কার	১৩০০ সিসি	২১/১/৮৪	চট্টগ্রাম

দরপত্র বাবের উপর "গাড়ি ক্রয়ের দরপত্র" অবশ্যই লিখিতে হইবে।  
জসপ্রব্রিঃ৪৮/২০০৪-২০০৪  
তারিখ ৯/১১/০৪  
জিডি-৬৯৯

এ কে এম ফজলুর রহমান  
মহাব্যবস্থাপক (ভারপ্রাপ্ত)