

N Korea rocks nuke deal with reactor demand

Seoul says deal not dead yet

REUTERS, Seoul/Beijing
North Korea jeopardised a six-nation deal on giving up its nuclear arms just one day after it was struck by vowing yesterday to keep the weapons until Washington provides civilian atomic reactors.

in return for aid and recognizing its right to a civilian nuclear programme. The six agreed to discuss providing a light-water reactor "at an appropriate time."
Analysts noted the North had backtracked on seemingly rock-solid positions before, and so the deal was not dead yet.



This handout picture given by London Metropolitan Police shows a grab image taken from a CCTV footage dated June 28, 2005 showing (Centre from L-R) Mohammed Sidique Khan, Germaine Lindsay and Shahzad Tanweer, three of four presumed London suicide bombers arriving at King's Cross Thameslink station during an apparent dummy run of their July 7 attack.

London bombers 'staged dummy run in June'

AFP, London
The four presumed London suicide bombers who killed themselves and 52 other people on July 7 staged a "dummy run" of their devastating attack the month before, a report said yesterday.

EU for action against Iran

Russia opposes move, Tehran threatens to quit NPT

AFP, Vienna
Europe's top three powers were yesterday pushing for Iran to be reported to the UN Security Council with a draft resolution that blasts Tehran for "breaches" of international nuclear safeguards but which faces stiff opposition from Russia.

al-Qaeda takes blame for London blasts

AP, Cairo, Egypt

al-Qaeda deputy leader Ayman al-Zawahiri said in a statement broadcast Monday that his terror network carried out the July 7 London bombings, marking the group's first direct claim of responsibility for the attacks that killed 52 people.

Merkel seeks support

AFP, Berlin

German conservative leader Angela Merkel, wounded by her failure to get a clear majority in stalemated weekend elections, fought yesterday to keep alive party support for her ambition to be Germany's first woman chancellor.

UN rights agency slams Nepal govt

400 anti-king protesters detained

AFP, Kathmandu
Nepalese police arrested more than 400 people yesterday in protests against King Gyanendra's rule, witnesses said, as the UN rights agency in the country criticised police handling of the demonstrators.

India to fight out Maoists

AFP, New Delhi

India plans to combat rising Maoist violence "compassionately" by reducing poverty as well as with force, reports said yesterday.

Money-laundering case

Benazir faces Swiss justice officials

AFP, Geneva
Pakistan's former prime minister Benazir Bhutto on Monday faced Swiss justice officials who are probing allegations that she laundered millions of dollars in bribes.

Donors ask Lanka to keep war rhetoric down

Tigers blamed for political assassinations

AFP, Colombo
Top foreign aid donors yesterday warned Sri Lankan political parties against undermining a fragile peace process and accused Tamil Tiger rebels of carrying out political assassinations to undermine a truce.

Advertisement for Khulna University, featuring the university logo and text in Bengali: 'খুলনা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়... সংশোধিত নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি'.

Attack on Ahmadiyyas in Indonesia

AFP, Jakarta

Indonesian police have detained 35 people for vandalising mosques and houses belonging to a minority Muslim sect in West Java province, a report and police said yesterday.

After Katrina, it's Rita

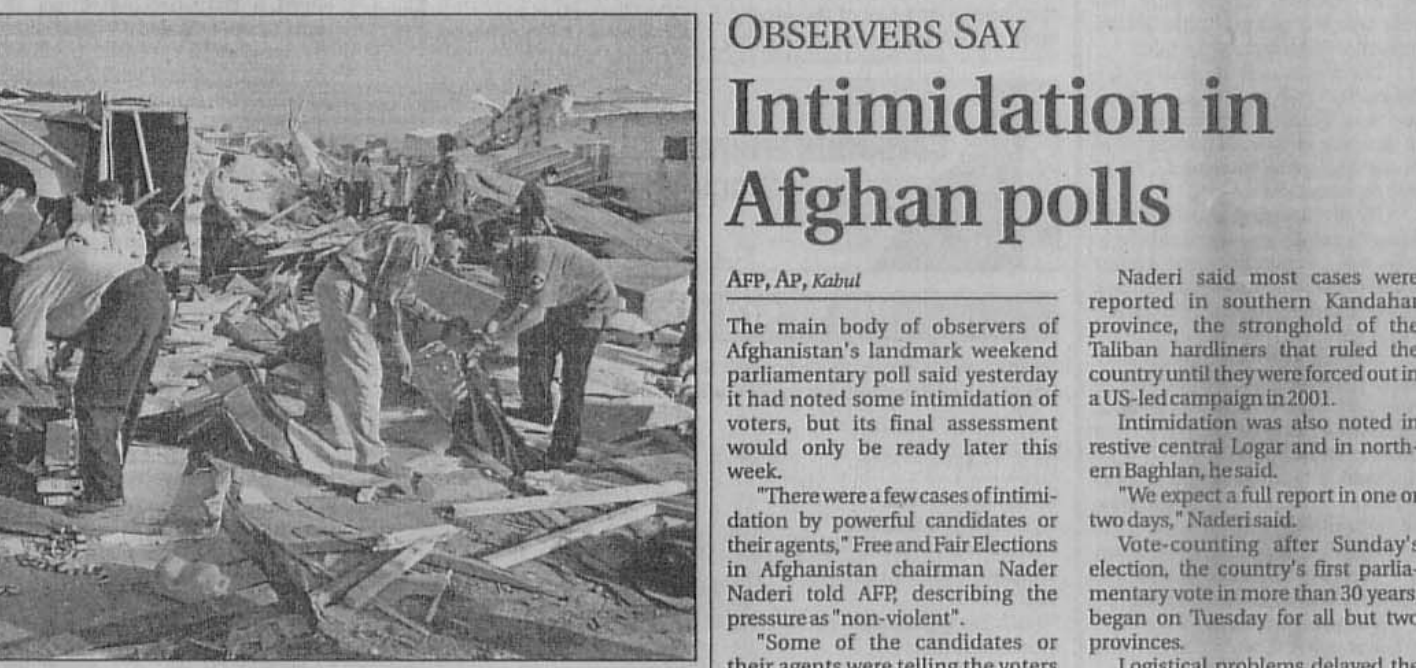
INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Washington

A new hurricane threat prompted New Orleans' mayor to suspend his call for people to return to parts of the flood-hit city and ask returnees to leave the city centre.

US plans new moon landing in 2018

AFP, Washington

The United States will send four astronauts to the moon in 2018 in a major return to its pioneering manned missions into space, NASA administrator Michael Griffin announced Monday.



Iraqi policemen search through the rubble at the criminal police headquarters in the southern Iraqi city of Basra yesterday. Iraqi defence and interior ministry sources said British troops battered down the main doors of the headquarters and freed the two British soldiers, detained earlier during an intelligence mission.

OBSERVERS SAY Intimidation in Afghan polls

AFP, AP, Kabul

The main body of observers of Afghanistan's landmark weekend parliamentary poll said yesterday it had noted some intimidation of voters, but its final assessment would only be ready later this week.