Trial against Croatian general opens

AFP, The Hague

The war crimes trial of Croatian general Ante Gotovina, accused of leading a 1995 military offensive that pushed 200,000 Serbs out of Croatia opened in The Hague vesterday.

"This trial arises from of the forcible elimination of Serbs from Croatia's Krajina region and the destruction of their community in August 1995," prosecutor Alan Tiegersaid.

Gotovina and two other Croatian generals face charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity including persecution, murder and plunder for what had been dubbed Operation Storm.

Endeavour takes Japanese lab into space

AFP, Cape Caraveral

Space shuttle Endeavour soared into space yesterday, carrying Japan's first space lab to the International Space Station to join US, Russian and European facilities there.

Endeavour lifted off at 0628 GMT Tuesday, in a rare night launch from the Kennedy Space Center here, and two minutes after launch successfully jettisoned its twin solid rocket boosters.

Less than nine minutes after launch, Endeavour safely entered Earth's orbit and began its chase of the International Space Station, for a rendezvous expected Wednesday.

Just before reaching orbit, Endeavour separated from its massive external fuel tank, which fell into the atmosphere to disintegrate above the Pacific.

Endeavour's crew of seven is on a 16-day mission to install the first stage of the Japanese laboratory named Kibo, a micro-gravity research facility which aims to open a vital new stage in deeper space exploration.

When all three stages are installed, Kibo, which means "hope" in Japanese, will complete the research nucleus of the ISS along with the American, Russian and European laboratories.

a) POSITION: SECRETARY

the approval of the board.

approval of the board.

be given preference.

(7) Age between 35 to 45 years.

with the approval of the board.

with the approval of the board.

produce high quality analytical report.

(6) Standard computer literacy in Microsoft Office Package.

Responsibilities:

Violence claims 30 lives in Iraq

AFP, Baghdad

At least 30 people were killed in another day of violence across Iraq yesterday as US and Iraqi officials began talks on the future US military presence in Iraq.

At least nine people, including four policemen, were killed in clashes in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul yesterday, medical and police officials said.

A police officer from Mosul said fierce clashes broke out between police and insurgents in the city's southern district of Al-Mithaq. Four policemen, one civilian and four insurgents were killed in the firefight, he said.

Dr Nuri Ahmed from Mosul general hospital said nine bodies including those of the four policemen were brought to his facility.

At least 16 civilians were killed when their passenger bus was hit translator in Diyala province.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE SEARCH

POLWEL

(A Welfare Concern of Bangladesh Police)

(1) Formulating and implementing comprehensive investment plan of POLWEL fund with

(2) Developing central and corporate strategy for expanding POLWEL operational activities

(3) Establishing POLWEL as one of the competitive commercial entity in Dhaka city with the

(4) Supervising day to day administrative and financial functions with the approval of the board.

(5) Preparing and submitting annual report reflecting yearly turnover with the approval of the board

POLWEL CARNATION (A Project of Polwel)

(6) Conducting Annual General Meeting and distribute dividends among the shareholders

by a roadside bomb in southern Iraq yesterday. The bus was travelling from the southern port city of Basra to Nasiriyah when it was hit by the bomb, some 430 kilometers (267 miles) south of Baghdad, Nasiriyah police Lieutenant Colonel Ali Siwan said.

At least 22 people were wounded in the incident.

Elsewhere in Iraq, 14 people were killed in clashes between militants and security forces, nine in the northern city of Mosul and five in the central Shiite city of Kut, security officials said.

The latest violence came a day after insurgents killed eight US soldiers in two separate attacks, making Monday one of the deadliest for American forces in months.

Five US soldiers were killed and three wounded in a suicide attack in Baghdad while insurgents killed three more US troops and their



ANC President Jacob Zuma (L) enters the constitutional court i Johannesburg yesterday to launch a final bid in the country's highest court to block evidence seen as crucial to his pending corruption trial. Zuma, the ruling African National Congress' (ANC) candidate for the state presidency when incumbent Thabo Mbeki steps down next year, goes on trial in August on 16 counts of fraud, corruption, money laundering and racketeering.

'Ehud Barak opposes peace talks'

AFP, Amman, Gaza

Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas has accused a "key member" of the Israeli government of opposing peace negotiations with the Palestinians, in remarks published yesterday.

"This key member refuses to negotiate with the Palestinian side and creates obstacles that hinder peace talks and efforts to find a solution," Abbas said at a meeting with Jordanian newspaper editors in Amman.

According to the Al-Arab Al-Yawm independent daily, Abbas said when pressed that "this member is Defence Minister Ehud

Meanwhile Israel has agreed not to launch new strikes on the Gaza Strip if militants in the Hamas-run territory stop firing rockets, a senior defence official said yester-

The conditional agreement was reached with Egypt, which is seek ing to broker a deal to achieve a truce and lift the blockade of Gaza after a surge in violence last week plunged already faltering peace talks into jeopardy.

The deal is subject to Gaza not becoming "a ticking bomb" where militants transport rockets or make other preparations for attacking the Jewish state.

Iran praises Indonesia for nuke support

AFP, Tehran

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad yesterday held talks with his visiting Indonesian counterpart Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, thanking Jakarta for refusing to support the latest UN sanctions against Iran.

"The position of the Indonesian government is the legal and fair position and I hope it will be a start of a movement to correct international structures," Ahmadinejad told the visiting president.

"I hope that with this visit that relations between the two countries will develop further".

Indonesia, which holds one of the rotating seats on the UN Security Council, was the only Council member not to vote for the latest sanctions resolution on the Iranian nuclear programme on March 3.

Meanwhile the brother of Iran's former reformist president Mohammad Khatami came under fire from hardliners yesterday for meeting the German ambassador on the eve of the latest UN sanc tions against Tehran.

Major storm sparks chaos in Europe

AFP, London

Heavy storms were expected to cause more travel chaos in Britain yesterday, with France also preparing for more bad weather, after three vessels ran into problems in the Channel a day earlier.

Five French fishermen were rescued from a trawler which sank late Monday in gale-force winds off the Channel island of Guernsey, maritime officials said, while a body was separately recovered off the coast of Brittany in northwest France, feared to be that of a man

missing since Sunday. A woman also died in Normandy after she was hit by a

In Britain, more than a hundred flights were cancelled at airports including London's Heathrow and the port of Dover was temporarily closed due to the storms, described by experts as possibly the biggest of the winter that could cause hundreds of millions of pounds (euros/dollars) in damage.

London where underground train services were also hit by flooding, while speed restrictions were imposed on trains because of heavy rain and high winds.

In France an 88-metre (290 foot) long cargo vessel, the Artemis, ran aground on a beach at Sables d'Olonne, on the Atlantic coast, according to the local government

Serbian govt calls for polls

The Serbian government has urged President Boris Tadic to dissolve parliament and hold an early elec-

The call follows the collapse of Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica's governing coalition at the week-

Ministers failed to agree on whether to suspend ties with the European Union, in protest at recognition of Kosovan independ-

The EU's Slovenian presidency said on Monday that it hoped pro-EU parties would win the coming election.

Obama mocks VP talk as Mississippi votes get rolling

Hillary focuses on Pennsylvania, national issues

AFP, Mississippi

INTERNATIONAL

Democratic front-runner Barack Obama headed into Tuesday's primary last night in Mississippi, a state he is tipped to win, mocking talk of a "dream ticket" headed by his White House rival Hillary Clinton.

Obama, who leads by about 100 delegates after 45 Democratic contests, ridiculed verbal gymnastics by the Clinton camp arguing that he is not ready to be commander-in-chief, but could be her number two.

"If I'm not ready, how is it that you think I should be such a great vice president?" he said, drawing laughter from raucous supporters at a rally Monday in Columbus, Mississippi.

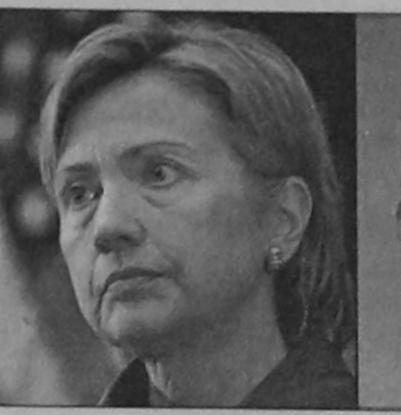
The Illinois senator said the Clinton team was "trying to hoodwink you.'

"With all due respect, I've won twice as many states as Senator Clinton. I've won more of the popular vote than Senator Clinton. I have more delegates than Senator Clinton," he said.

"So I don't know how somebody who is in second place is offering the vice presidency to the person who's in first place." Heaping psychological pressure

on Obama, Clinton surrogates are pushing the "dream ticket" scenario as a way of resolving a nailbiting race that risks going down to the wire at the Democrats' nominating convention in August.

Speaking here Saturday, former president Bill Clinton argued that a



Hillary Clinton

presidential ballot headed by his wife, with Obama in the junior role, would be an "almost unstoppable

But the former first lady has also sought to undermine Obama's bid by casting doubt on his credentials to be supremo of the world's most powerful military.

Clinton backers including General Wesley Clark, an excommander of NATO, went on a conference call Monday to belittle Obama's ability to take on Republican John McCain, a senator and Vietnam war hero, in

November's election. Having sealed the Republican nomination last week, McCain is heading to Israel, Britain and France next week to hone his national-security credentials while the Democrats slugit out.

Obama's campaign, stressing Clinton's vote in 2002 authorising

Obama

military force in Iraq, hit back by parading former secretaries of the navy, army and air force at a Washington press conference in support of his White House bid.

> how she could argue that Obama might be fit for vice president -and just a heartbeat from promotion to the Oval Office -- but incompetent for the top job.

> Senator Clinton will not choose any candidate who has not at the time of choosing passed the national security threshold. Period," spokesman Howard Wolfson said.

"But we have a long way to go between now and Denver, and it is not something that she would rule out at this point," he said, while not spelling out how Obama might pass the commander test in time for the convention.

Clinton breathed new life into her faltering campaign with wins last week in Ohio and Texas, helped by an ominous television advertisement that questioned whether Obama was ready to deal with a hypothetical crisis in the dead of the night.

The former first lady is already looking past the Magnolia State to the far bigger battleground of Pennsylvania, a blue-collar state whose 158 delegates are up for

grabs on April 22. Obama grabbed some momentum back on Saturday with a landslide win in Wyoming, but emerged from the caucuses with a net gain of only two delegates over

Clinton. Neither can reach the winning line of 2,025 delegates, even if Florida and Michigan go ahead Clinton aides were pressed on with emerging plans to repeat their contests after running afoul of the national party for holding their

primaries early. So barring a backroom deal prior to the convention, the nomi-"The answer to that is that nation will rest in the hands of nearly 800 "superdelegates," Democratic luminaries who are under enormous pressure from the two campaigns to sway one way or

> Polls give the African-American Obama anything from a six- to 24point edge in Mississippi, where more than half of Democratic voters are black. Voting to elect the state's 33 delegates was to open at 1200 GMT and end 12 hours later.



Fareast Islami Life Insurance Company Ltd.

T K Bhaban (13th Floor) 13, Kawran Bazar Dhaka-1215

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

SEALED TENDERS containing "Technical Offer" and "Financial Offer" in 2 (two) separate envelopes are hereby invited by the undersigned from reputed Manufacturer of Passenger Lifts or their authorized Agents in Bangladesh for "Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 4 (four) Nos. 1350kg Passenger Lift" for 20-storied shopping-cum-office building for Fareast Islami Life Insurance Co. Ltd. at 35, Topkhana Road, Dhaka.

The intending tenderers shall have to apply in their letter heads to the undersigned along with the following documents in support of their eligibility and obtain prior permission for the issuance of the Tender Documents:

- Documentary evidence to prove that the tenderer has at least 10 (ten) years experience in Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning and after-sales service and maintenance of the offered brand of lifts in Bangladesh.
- Attested Photocopies of valid Agency Certificate/Agreement from the respective manufacturers of Passenger Lifts.
- Attested Photocopies of the valid ABC contractory & supervisory electrical license.
- Attested Photocopies of the valid Trade License, upto date Income Tax clearance certificate and VAT registration certificate.
- Attested photocopies of completion certificates for minimum 5 nos. 2.0m/sec speed 1250 kg capacity lift in multi-storied building (minimum 15-storied building) in Bangladesh of the same brand and origin which the tender intends to offer for this tender.
- Attested photocopies of completion certificate for minimum 20 nos. lift of the same brand and origi which the tender intends to offer for this tender.
- Financial Solvency Certificate from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh indicating OD limit from the applicant's Bankers.

Tenderers without having the required eligibility as stated above need not apply for issuance of Tender Documents.

Tender documents will only be issued to the permitted eligible tenderers. Tender Document will be issued from the office of the Accounts Department of Fareast Life Insurance Co. Ltd. on cash payments of Tk. 5,000.00 (Taka five thousand) only (non-refundable) from 12.03.2008 to 24.03.2008 during office hours.

The Tenderers shall have to submit an earnest money minimum 2.5% (two point five percent) of the total bid amount in favour of Fareast Islami Life Insurance Co. Ltd. in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any schedule bank along with the Technical Offer. Tenders submitted without Earnest Money shall be rejected outright.

For any clarification regarding and submission of Tender, the tenderers may contact the Office of the Consultant, BCL-DECON Consortium Ltd. (Attn: Arch. Masum Kabir/Engr. Mushtaq Ahmed) at (i) House No. 95A, Road No. 4, Block-F, Banani, Dhaka-1213, Phone: 9862713 or (ii) House No. 86, Road No. 9a, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209, Phone: 9118013.

Tenders will be received in the office of the undersigned upto 12.30 hours on 25.03.2008 and only the Technical Offers will be opened at 15.00 hours on the same day in presence of tenderers who wish to be present.

Fareast Islami Life Insurance Co. Ltd. reserves the right to accept any tender or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Managing Director

Sd/-

(7) Acting as a liaison executive between Police Headquarters and POLWEL.

(8) Complete secretarial service in board meeting. (2) At least five years managerial and marketing experience in any reputed organization.

Qualifications and Competencies: (1) Advanced university degree (Masters) in any discipline. Candidates with MBA degree will

(3) Excellent spoken, reading and writing skills in English and Bengali with the ability to (4) Ability to prioritize and manage multiple assignments. (5) Proven leadership and strong people management skill.

The monthly salary for this position is negotiable, but not less then Tk. 30,000/= per month (consolidated)

b) POSITION: MANAGER

Responsibilities: (1) Management, administration, fiance & security of POLWEL Carnation Market.

(2) Acting as a liaison executive between POLWEL and POLWEL Carnation. Qualifications and Competencies:

(1) Advanced university degree (Master) in any discipline. Candidates with commerce background will be given preference.

(2) At least three years managerial and marketing experience in any reputed commercial organization (3) Excellent spoken, reading and writing skills in English and Bengali with the ability to

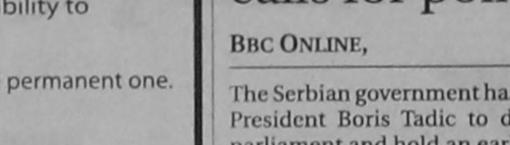
produce high quality analytical report. (4) Ability and willingness to establish a new organization and run it as a profitable and permanent one. (5) Proven leadership and strong people management skill.

(6) Standard computer literacy in Microsoft Office package. (7) Age in between 30 to 40 years.

The monthly salary for this position is negotiable, but not less then Tk. 20,000/= per month (consolidated). Interested candidates are requested to apply in hard copy with a detail and updated CV and cover letter on or before 31 march 2008, Please mention the title of the position on the envelope and address it to: Managing Director, POLWEL, Bangladesh Police Co-operative Society Ltd., Polwel Bhaban, Nayapaltan, Dhaka-1000

or Police Headquarters, Phoenix Road, Fulbaria, Dhaka-1000.

We regret that only short listed candidates will be contacted for an interview, and no other correspondences will be entertained. No TA/DA will be provided for interview purpose.



ence by some EU members.