

US not hunting Laden on its turf, says Pakistan

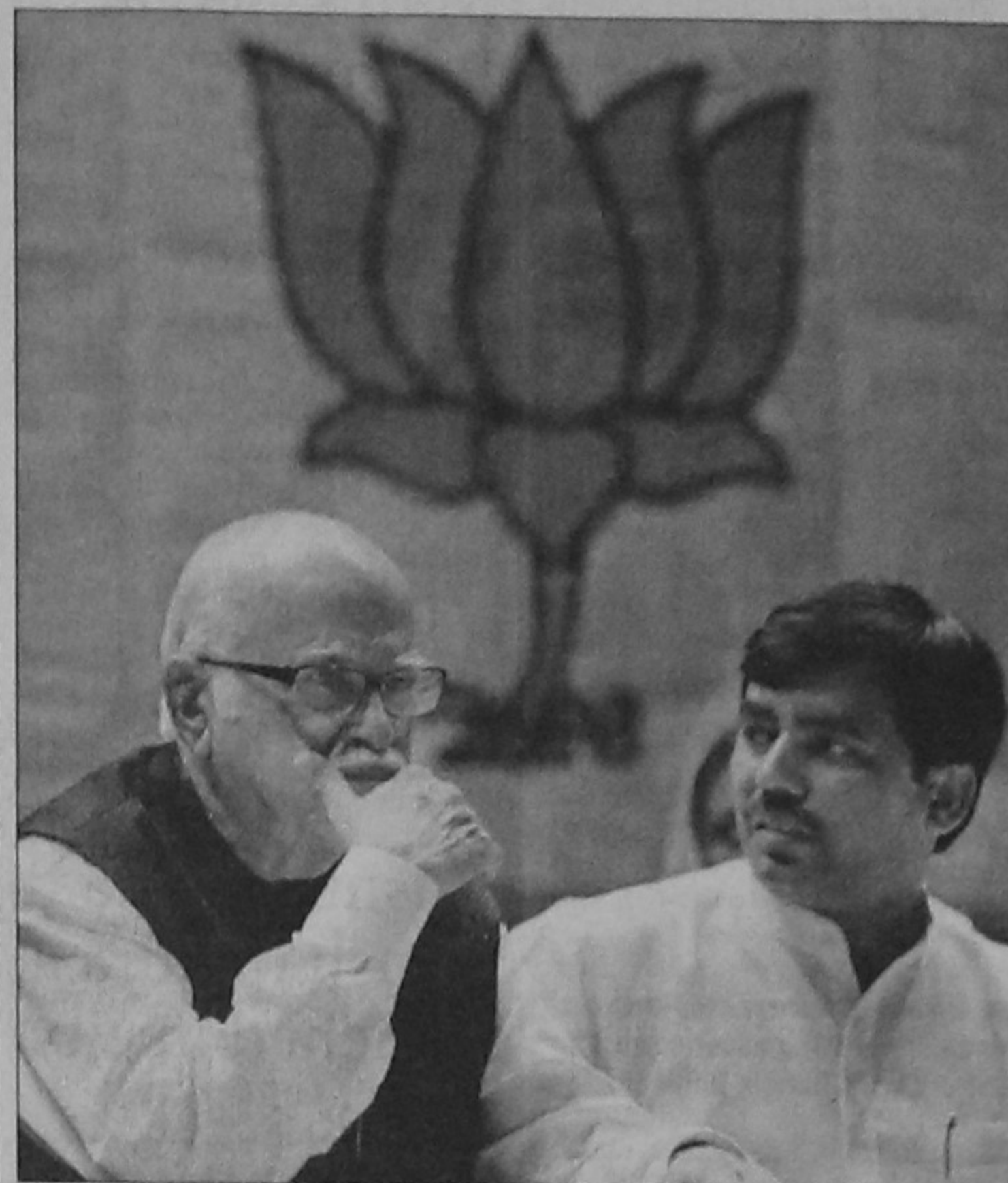
AP, New York

Pakistan's top diplomat said Saturday there are no US or other foreign military personnel on the hunt for Osama bin Laden in his nation, and none will be allowed in to search for the al-Qaeda leader.

and has offered US troops to strike at terror networks. Critics in Washington also have expressed frustration with the new Pakistani government's pursuit of peace deals in the region.

forces on its territory, villagers in the border region that is a haven for al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters have reported seeing US drones fire missiles at suspected militant targets on several occasions in recent years.

Pakistan that I would say would mar the atmosphere of cooperation that exists between us." Qureshi described Pakistan's counterterrorism as a "grassroots" approach.



India's Bharatiya Janata party (BJP) Minority Morcha President Syed Shah Nawaz Husseini (R) gestures, while listening to leader of opposition LK Advani (L) during a convention of Muslim women in New Delhi yesterday.

US, Iraq abandon efforts to reach long-term troop accord

AFP, Washington/Baghdad

The United States and Iraq have abandoned efforts to conclude a deal governing the long-term status of US troops in Iraq before the end of the presidency of George W. Bush, The Washington Post reported yesterday.

about dates," acknowledged one US official close to the negotiations, according to The Post. Iraqi political leaders "are all telling us the same thing... Iraqis want to know that foreign troops are not going to be here forever," the official was quoted as saying.



French President Nicolas Sarkozy (L) welcomes Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas (foreground) and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert at the Elysee palace yesterday in Paris, prior to the founding summit of the Union for the Mediterranean.

ME peace deal closer than ever: Olmert

AP, Paris

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said Sunday that Israel and the Palestinians have never been closer to a peace deal than now.

"We have never been as close to a possible (peace) agreement as today," Olmert told reporters. Repeated rounds of Israeli-Palestinian peace talks since a peace conference in Annapolis, Maryland, last year have produced little movement.

Left launches campaign to vote out UPA

PTI, New Delhi

Determined to see the ruling UPA coalition crumble after pulling the rug, Left parties will launch a "vigorous" nationwide campaign here from today against the government detailing its "unkept promises" and "obsession" with the nuclear deal.

"drawbacks and failures, including rising prices and inflation, surrendering of national interest, and unkept promises with regard to the Common Minimum Programme (CMP)".

other democratic and secular forces "who do not want either Congress or BJP to be the only alternative".

Lebanon, Syria to set up diplomatic ties

AFP, Paris

Lebanon and Syria said on Saturday that they had agreed to establish diplomatic relations, opening embassies in each others' capitals for the first time since their independence from colonial rule.

Relations between Syria and Lebanon have been tense since the forced withdrawal of Syria's troops from the country in April 2005 after the assassination of billionaire former premier Rafiq Hariri.

Nepal riot police revolt over bad food

AP, Katmandu

About 500 riot policemen took senior officers hostage in a revolt in western Nepal over ill treatment and poor food, officials said yesterday.

Sharif's party sounds veiled ultimatum to PPP over judges

PTI, Islamabad

Talking tough, former Pakistani premier Nawaz Sharif's PML-N party has warned that it will have to rethink its support to the ruling PPP if the judges sacked by President Pervez Musharraf last year are not reinstated by the end of next month.

but it is getting difficult to continue to support the government without the reinstatement of the deposed judges. The PML-N is under pressure to take a clear stand on the issue and a meeting of the party's leadership to decide its future course of action is likely to be held after Sharif returns from a visit to London, he said.

India defends safeguards accord with IAEA

AFP, New Delhi

India defended Saturday a safeguards agreement with the UN atomic energy agency for a sensitive deal on its nuclear reactors, saying it guaranteed uninterrupted fuel supplies for its plants.

civilian nuclear power plants. "Discontinuity in the operation of a reactor cannot happen suddenly," Anil Kakodkar, the chief of India's Atomic Energy Commission told reporters.

July 22 following a political crisis sparked by its decision to push ahead with the deal. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh argues the pact is crucial for India's energy security and continued strong economic growth.

MONGLA CEMENT FACTORY (A project of Sena Kalyan Sangstha) MONGLA, BAGERHAT RE-TENDER NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF GRINDING MEDIA

NEWS ANALYSIS Iran missile path uncertain despite tests

AFP, Washington

The United States used Iran's display of missile power this week as a dramatic illustration of the need for a proposed extension of the US missile defence system into Europe.

Shahab-3 can reach parts of southern Europe but poses the greatest threat to points in the Middle East including Israel and US military bases in the region.

away. Basically they are taking the steps that are needed to develop their medium range and intermediate capabilities in order to get to that stage," he said.



Police intervene as supporters of Kashmiri separatists clash with pro-India activists following a ceremony at a graveyard in Srinagar yesterday to honour 23 Muslims slain in 1931 by the forces of the Himalayan states former ruler Hari Singh.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Power Division Invitation to Investors for Developing RAPSS Projects CORRIGENDUM