

MIDEAST TOUR BEGINS

Obama all praise for "miracle" of Israel

AFP, Jerusalem

White House hopeful Barack Obama vowed yesterday to tighten US bonds with Israel as he began an intense day of talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders, a key moment in his international campaign swing.

Obama lauded the "miracle" of Israel as he met top officials and paid homage to Holocaust victims on the latest leg of his international campaign swing.

The Democratic senator, on a sprint through the Middle East and Europe designed to convince American voters of his presidential mettle, also travelled to the West Bank to consult Palestinian leaders on sluggish peace moves.

He angered Palestinians last month by saying an undivided Jerusalem must remain Israel's "capital", while the Palestinians want the occupied eastern sector of the city as the capital of their promised future state.

Obama opened his day with talks with Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak, who was later set to join him on a helicopter tour of Israel's cramped topography, a rite of passage for potential US presidents.

He also toured Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial to the six million Jews who perished under the Nazis.

The memorial reminded him of "the core qualities of humanity that the Holocaust raises," he told reporters. "Man's great capacity for evil, and capacity to stop it. This is a place of hope."

Obama, who leads Republican rival John McCain in most opinion polls, also paid his respects to president Shimon Peres, saying he had been a key player for most of Israel's 60 years.

Obama, who has promised to work for peace from his first day in office, if elected, later travelled in a motorcade to Ramallah for talks with Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas.

Many Palestinians welcome the

change that Obama might represent but they think it's unlikely he will bring about an end to the decades-old conflict.

Unlike Europe, where "Obamamania" is rampant, some Middle Eastern governments and opinion makers are more circumspect.

"Our problem with Obama is not his views... rather, his priorities are our problem. The Israeli issue is simply not urgent for him," said columnist Yair Lapid in Israel's Yedioth Aharonot newspaper.

Obama, who has already visited Kuwait, Afghanistan, Iraq and Jordan, heads on to three stops in Europe, beginning with Berlin on Thursday.

'Afghanistan tougher job than Iraq'

AFP, Jerusalem

Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama said Afghanistan might end up being tougher to subdue than Iraq, days after visiting both war zones.

The White House hopeful told Time magazine in an interview that his two trips had confirmed in his mind many of his earlier thoughts about future US policy towards the two countries.

"I think in Afghanistan, looking at the landscape and the extraordinary poverty involved, makes you realise what a daunting task our efforts there are going to be," Obama told Time.

"It redoubles my belief, or deepens my belief, that if we're going to get that done we're going to have put in more resources," he said in the interview posted on the magazine's website.

"Both issues (Iraq and Afghanistan) are very difficult. Both situations are very difficult, but it is not clear to me that in the long term Afghanistan isn't a tougher job than Iraq."



US Democrat presidential candidate Barack Obama (L) observes some of the 600 photographs of victims of the Holocaust in the Hall of Names with Yad Vashem chairman, Avner Shalev, during a visit to the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum, which commemorates the six million Jewish Holocaust victims killed by the Nazis during World War II, in Jerusalem yesterday. White House hopeful Obama lauded the "miracle" of Israel as he met top officials and somberly honoured Holocaust victims on the latest leg of his international campaign tour.

Karadzic to defend himself

AFP, Belgrade

Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb genocide suspect who was captured earlier this week, will defend himself before the UN war crimes tribunal in The Hague, his lawyer was reported as saying yesterday.

"Karadzic will have a legal team in Serbia that will help him with his defence but he will defend himself" at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), Tanjug news agency quoted Svetozar Vujacic as saying.

Karadzic, who stands indicted for genocide and crimes against humanity, was arrested in Belgrade on Monday after more than a decade on the run. He evaded capture partly thanks to a fake identity as an alternative health guru.

Earlier, Vujacic said that he would file an appeal against being sent to the UN tribunal based in The Hague on Friday, in a bid to postpone the transfer for as long as possible.

Under Serbia's law on cooperation with the ICTY, suspects can appeal their transfer to the UN war crimes court before a special committee approves the transfer.

The process could take up to nine days, but Serbia's war crimes prosecutor has said it expects Karadzic -- nicknamed the Butcher of Bosnia for his actions -- to be sent to the UN court by Monday or Tuesday at the latest.

Meanwhile arrested genocide suspect Radovan Karadzic fought his transfer to the UN war crimes tribunal yesterday, as his Bosnian-based family sought the return of seized travel papers in order to visit him.

Karadzic, the nationalist wartime Bosnian Serb leader who remained at large for more than 10 years despite an international manhunt, was captured on Monday night.

To avoid detection, Karadzic had practised alternative medicine under a false name, Dragan Dabic, and made himself virtually unrecognisable.

He disguised himself under flowing white hair, a thick beard, glasses and a white Panama hat, even appearing on television and drinking at cafes in downtown Belgrade with naturists to convince them of his new identity.

One Serbian daily described the look as that of a "Loveable Guru".

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That has prompted Karadzic's wife, Ljiljana Zelen-Karadzic, and daughter, Sonja, to step up their efforts to get back travel documents seized from them in January.

How the Butcher of Bosnia feigned a new life for himself

AFP, Belgrade

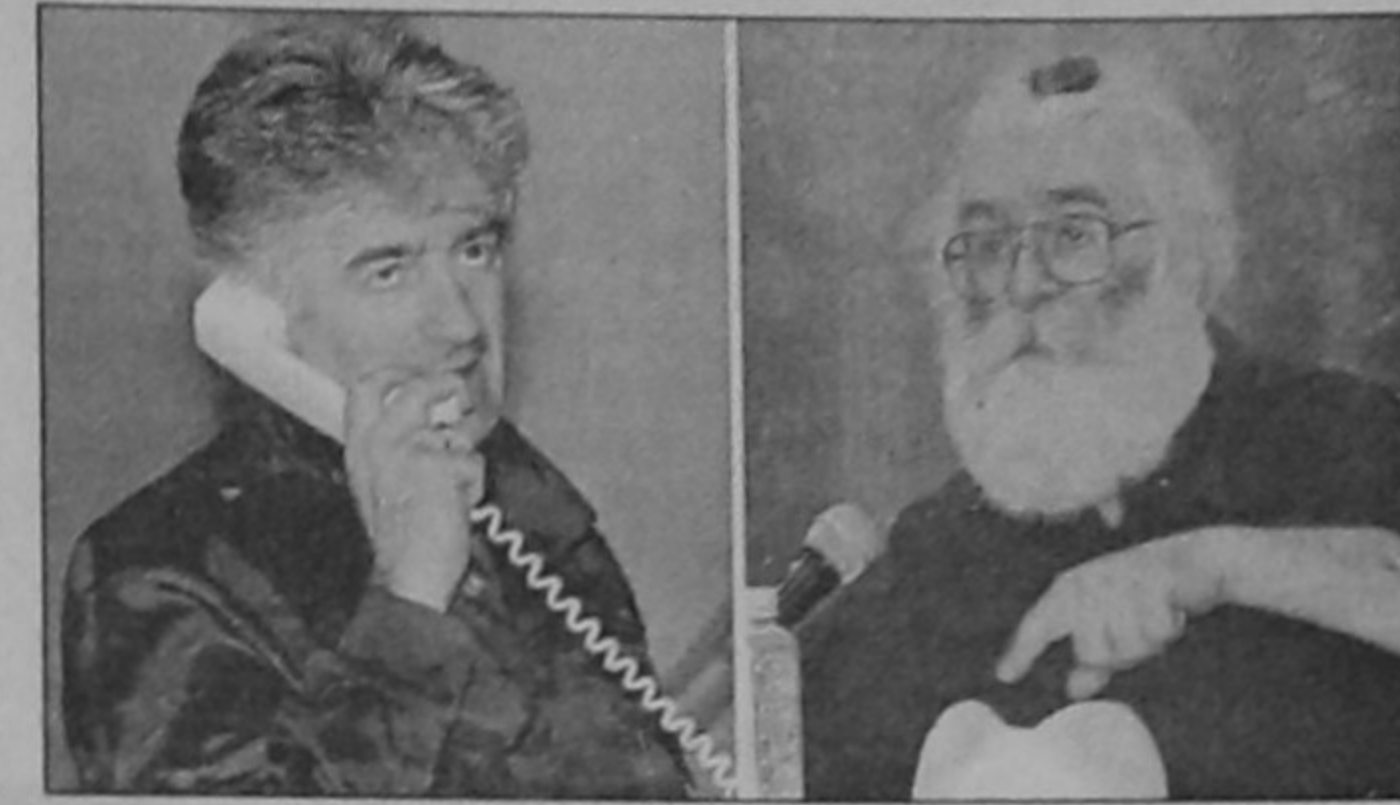
Radovan Karadzic, the genocide suspect who avoided arrest for more than 10 years, created a personal website as part of his alter ego as an alternative health guru.

On the online biography, Karadzic portrayed himself as Dr. Dragan Dabic to support his new identity that tricked naturists and health writers into welcoming him into their domain.

undertook studies in the Russian capital Moscow, where he later obtained a diploma in psychiatry.

"The doctor then travelled to India and Japan, before spending time in China where he specialised in various methods of alternative medicine," added the invented biography.

"The doctor returned to Serbia in the middle of the 1990s to become... one of the most eminent experts in the field of



A combination of two pictures shows (L) war crime suspect Radovan Karadzic on the phone in Banja Luka in 1995, and (R) a recent picture of Radovan Karadzic in Belgrade.

The site at the Internet address, dragandabic.com, specifies that he was born "around six decades ago in the village of Kovacic close to Kraljevo," a town in southern Serbia.

Dabic "liked to explore neighbouring forests accompanied by his grandfather and spent much time on Kopaonik" mountain, the Balkan country's best-known ski resort also in the south, says the biography.

He left his native village for Belgrade, the site said, before he

alternative medicine," it continued.

Internet surfers interested in contacting the doctor were provided with a postal address at number five Yuri Gagarin Street, in the inner suburb of New Belgrade. His email address was given as: zavcevljanjanerana@dragandabic.com

The text on the webpage is interspersed with photographs of the new-look Karadzic -- featuring large spectacles, long white hair and a thick beard.

Iraq set for assault on al-Qaeda bastion

AFP, Baquba

Some 30,000 Iraqi soldiers and police are to launch a military assault against Al-Qaeda fighters and insurgents in Diyala province from August 1, army and police officers said yesterday.

"The operation is aimed at cleansing the region of insurgents, Al-Qaeda and militias who are still there," a senior Iraqi military officer told AFP on condition of anonymity.

He said some 30,000 soldiers and policemen from across Iraq would take part in the crackdown in the central province starting August 1.

Senior Iraqi police officials in Baquba, the capital of Diyala,

confirmed the assault would start on August 1.

"It will be an operation led by the Iraqi army. The US army will probably only watch... If it needs help, we'll help them. If not, we will not do anything," a US military officer said.

Iraq's interior ministry spokesman Major General Abdul Karim Khalaf announced on July 13 that the Iraqi military would launch an assault in Diyala but did not specify the date.

He said troops expected tough fighting during the assault. Diyala and its capital Baquba are Iraq's most dangerous regions with insurgents regularly carrying out attacks, including by female suicide bombers.

Iran will not yield to world powers

AFP, Tehran

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad yesterday vowed that Iran would not yield in the crisis over its nuclear drive as world powers awaited a response from Tehran to a proposal aiming to end the standoff.

"The Iranian people are steadfast and will not step back an inch against the oppressive powers," Ahmadinejad told a rally in the southwestern province of Kohgiluyeh-Boyer-Ahmad.

"The Iranian nation does not value your threats. You are mistaken if you think you can force this nation to back down with sanctions, threats and pressure," the president said.

His defiant comments come after world powers warned Iran has only a fortnight to respond to their

latest offer seeking to end a five-year crisis that has raised fears of regional conflict and sent oil prices spiralling.

World powers have offered to start pre-negotiations during which Tehran would add no more uranium-enriching centrifuges and in return face no further sanctions -- the so-called "freeze-for-freeze" approach.

Iran is under three sets of UN Security Council sanctions over its refusal to halt sensitive uranium enrichment work, which the West fears could be aimed at making nuclear weapons.

The United States took the unprecedented step of sending a top diplomat to meet Iran's chief negotiator Saeed Jalili at last week's international talks in Geneva which ended in a stalemate.

Notice

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
MATTER NO. 122 OF 2008
IN THE MATTER OF:

An application under 159 read with Section 171 of the Companies Act 1994.

-AND-
IN THE MATTER OF:
S. Alam Hatchery Limited

-VERSUS-
The Registrar, the Joint Stock Companies and Firms

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that S. Alam Hatchery Limited, has filed an application under section 159 and 171 of the Companies Act 1994 for condoning delay in presenting deed of mortgage executed in favour of Rupali Bank, Anderkilla Corporate Branch, Chittagong, before the Registrar, Joint Stock Companies and Firm. On 7th July 2008, upon preliminary hearing, the Hon'ble Company Judge, High Court Division was pleased to admit the application and fixed 18th August 2008 for hearing of the matter.

Any person interested in taking part in the hearing may do so either personally or by appointing a legal representative. A copy of the relevant petition may be obtained from the undersigned upon payment of the copying cost.

Habibur Rahman
Advocate
Supreme Court of Bangladesh
713, Shahid Bagh, Dhaka-1217

D-646

Gas Transmission Company Limited

(A Company of Petrobangla)

Red Crescent Borak Tower (Level 4-6)

71-72 Old Elephant Road

Eskaton, Dhaka-1000

Bangladesh.

গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ এর অপচয় রোধ করে জাতীয় দায়িত্ব পালন করুন

"শিল্পে প্রাকৃতিক গ্যাস গৃহস্থালীতে বিকল্প জ্বালানী"

IFB No: GTCL (Project)/M-J/MP/002(R)

Date: 18 July 2008

Invitation for Bid (IFB)

The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received loan from the Asian Development Bank (herein after called "the ADB") towards the cost of the Gas Transmission and Development Project and it is intended that a part of the funds will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for which this re-bidding document is issued.

The Gas Transmission Company Limited (herein after called "the Purchaser") now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders from member countries of ADB for procurement of 762mm (30") OD Pipeline Induction Bends to Construct 762mm (30") OD 51.00 km high pressure natural gas transmission pipeline from Monohordi to Dhanua and Elenga to East Bank of Jamuna Bridge (details and specifications are provided in the bidding document).

Delivery and services under the contract shall be completed within 150 (one hundred fifty) days counting from 30 days after issuance of Commitment Letter by ADB.

International competitive bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Single-Stage: Two-envelope bidding procedure and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries. Details procedures are provided in the bidding document. The IFB no., goods, delivery period, cost of bidding document, closing & opening of bids and bid security are as follows:

IFB No.	Description of goods & related services	Delivery period (days)	Cost of bidding document	Bid closing date and time	Bid opening date and time	Bid security
GTCL (Project)/M-J/MP/002(R)	Pipeline Induction Bends	150	Tk 5,000.00 or US\$ 70.00	1 Sep. 2008 11:00hrs (BST)	1 Sep. 2008 11:15hrs (BST)	Tk 12,25,000.00 or US\$ 17,500.00

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the following address:

Project Director

Monohordi-Dhanua-Elenga-East Bank of Jamuna Bridge Gas Transmission Pipeline* and Installation of Compressor Station at Ashuganj and Elenga Project

Gas Transmission Company Limited

Red Crescent Borak Tower (Level-5), 71-72 Old Elephant Road
Eskaton, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.

Tel: 880-2-9355391, Fax: 880-2-9358100

The bidding document may be purchased by interested bidders upon payment of non-refundable above mentioned fee in the form of Pay Order/Demand Draft in favour of "Gas Transmission Company Limited" from 18 July 2008 during working hours on all working days. No bid document will be sold on the closing date.

Bid must be delivered to the above address, on or before the date & time in accordance with the instructions to bidders.

Bid must be accompanied by a bid security mentioned above and must be delivered to Project Director, Monohordi-Dhanua-Elenga-East Bank of Jamuna Bridge Gas Transmission Pipeline and Installation of Compressor Station at Ashuganj and Elenga Project, GTCL. Late bid shall be rejected. Bid will be opened at as per above date and time. If the bid cannot be received and opened due to any unavoidable circumstances or holiday on scheduled date and time, bid shall be received and opened at the same venue and time on the subsequent working day.

The purchaser will not be responsible for any cost or expense incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of bid.

GT/PR-03/08-09
GD-3340



Bangladesh Army Re-Tender Notice

(Shipment of Logistic Supply by Sea and Road)

1. Sealed quotations are invited from bonafide Shipping Agencies/Freight Forwarding Agencies authorized by IATA/FIATA/ACAB for transportation of 100 (40'/20'/20' open) ISO container goods (logistic items) of Bangladesh Army by sea and road for logistic supply to Bangladesh Military contingents deployed in United Nations Mission in different countries of Africa with details mentioned as below:

Ser	Name of UN mission and country	Size and no of ISO container				Destination port/country	Tentative route	Remarks
		40'	20'	Open	Total			
1.	UNMIS (Juba, Sudan)	06	12	04	22	Juba, Sudan	By sea up to Mombassa, Kenya and then by road through Uganda	General and dangerous goods
2.	UNOCI (Ivory Coast)	12	10	04	26	Abidjan, Ivory Coast	By sea	
3.	MONUC (DR Congo)	-	14	04	18	Bunia, DR Congo	By sea up to Mombassa, Kenya and then by road through Uganda	
4.	UNMIL (Liberia)	10	06	02	18	Monrovia, Liberia	By sea	
5.	UNAMID (Darfur, Sudan)	-	12	04	16	Darfur, Sudan	By sea up to Mombassa, Kenya and then by road through Uganda	
Total		28	54	18	1000			

2. Aforementioned quantity and size of containers (40', 20' and 20' open) in para 1 may vary basing on the stock position of goods and requirements of the concerned mission.

3. Tender schedules (separately for each abovementioned destination) are available in Movement & Quartering Directorate, Army Headquarters, Dhaka Cantonment, which can be collected during working hours (0800 to 1400 hours) from 29 July 2008 to 11 August 2008 on cash payment of Taka: 500/- (five hundred) only which is non-refundable for each schedule from following addressee:

DADMQ (Move External)
AHQ, QMG's Branch
M&Q Directorate
Dhaka Cantonment
Tel: 8750011 -- 48 extension-2650

4. Offers to be submitted latest by 1200 hours on 12 August 2008 (Tuesday) in the tender box available at AHQ, Administrative Wing. The same tender box will be opened in presence of representatives of tenderer (if any) by a Board of Officers at 1205 hours on the same day.

5. Firms/Agencies will be short-listed basing on the offers received for similar works in future. Empirical knowledge will be considered as an added quality.

6. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any quotation without showing any reason whatsoever.

Director
M & Q Directorate
QMG's Branch
AHQ, Dhaka Cantonment

ISPR/Army/08/1538
GD-3343