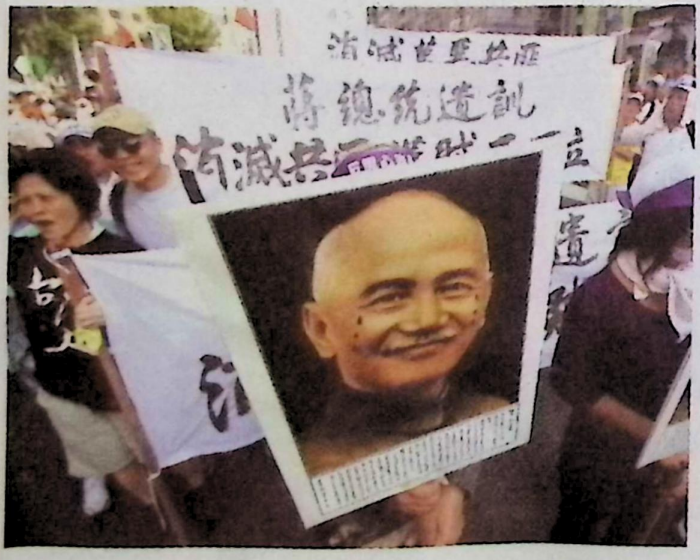


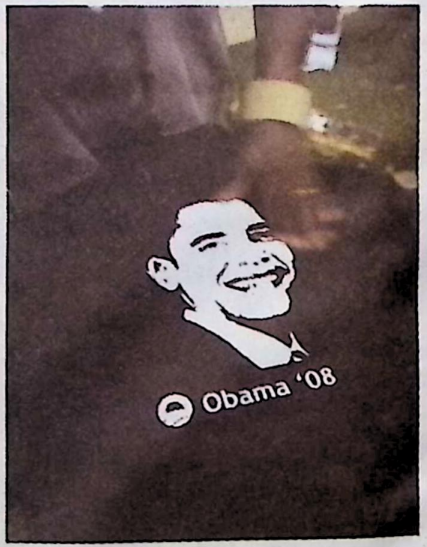
Pakistani Rural Devolvement Society activists march during a protest against inflation and food crisis, in Karachi. The largely impoverished population of 168 million is suffering from inflation that hit a 30-year-high in June, the last available figure, of 25.33 percent, making staple foods and fuel unaffordable. Pakistan immediately needs up to 4.5 billion dollars to deal with a balance of payments crisis, which had raised the prospect of the violence-hit country defaulting on its foreign debts.



Pro-Taiwan independent activists display portraits of the late president Chiang Kai-shek during an anti-China demonstration in Taipei. Tens of thousands of protesters joined a major anti-China rally to denounce Taiwan's warming ties with Beijing, which they say threaten the self-ruled island's sovereignty. The demonstrators, many dressed in the opposition Democratic Progressive Party's (DPP) green, marched through Taipei's streets waving flags and chanting. They hit out at the visit of Beijing's top negotiator in little over a week, and voiced anger at a series of Chinese export scandals including milk products tainted by industrial chemical melamine.



French writer and 2008 Nobel Literature Prize laureate Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clezio walks along the river bank in Alvkarleby. Clezio, who will receive the Nobel Prize in Stockholm on 10 December, 2008, is in Alvkarleby to receive the Swedish literary award, the Stig Dagerman Prize.



A Kenyan printer Cleophas Onyango prints out a tee-shirt showing Democrat presidential candidate Barack Obama in Nairobi. A week ahead of the US election that will pit Barack Obama against John McCain, the African continent is torn between an irrational hope that a mixed race US president will be good for this continent and the sober realisation that it will likely not change much.

AFP Photos