



Israeli Foreign Minister Tsipi Livni (L) and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas (R) attend a meeting of Middle East peace sponsors in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh yesterday.

Quartet pushes Israel-PA to stick with peace talks

The Middle East Quartet called on Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) yesterday to press on with peace negotiations despite domestic political turmoil...

The Quartet called for the continuing of the peace process in the framework of Annapolis... UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said after a meeting of the Quartet...

Jerusalem, the borders of a future Palestinian state and refugees. Israeli Foreign Minister Tsipi Livni she would not sign 'any agreement that does not serve Israel's interest...

she hands over the dossier to the administration of president-elect Barack Obama. The Quartet has long backed a peace deal that would see the establishment of an independent Palestinian state...

Collapsed Haiti school owner arrested

Haitian police on Sunday were holding the owner of a school that collapsed, killing at least 88 people and setting off a desperate search for survivors trapped in tons of rubble.

Rebels and army in fresh clashes in DR Congo: UN

Fresh fighting broke out between rebels and government troops in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo Sunday, United Nations sources said, as Angola denied reports it had deployed troops to Congo.

to take shelter from the fighting, he said. Bertrand Bisima, spokesman for the National Congress for the Defence of the People (CNDP), said he did not know of the clashes.

But the source with the Angolan delegation told AFP Sunday: 'There are no Angolan troops in the DRC.' UN spokesman Dietrich had earlier denied there were foreign troops in the country...

al-Qaeda planning terror attacks in UK Says Intelligence report

al-Qaeda-linked extremists are planning attacks intended to cause mass casualties in the UK, a top British intelligence report has warned. The report, which has been prepared by the intelligence branch of the British Ministry of Defence, MI5 and Special Branch...

UK will continue to be a high-priority target for international terrorists aligned with al-Qaeda. It will face a threat from British nationals, including Muslim converts, and UK-based foreign terrorists, as well as terrorists planning attacks from abroad...



Picture shows people gathered at the site of the collapsed College Promesse Evangelique at Petion-ville in Haiti yesterday.



Balinese relatives of Bali bombings victims pray in Kuta on resort island of Bali yesterday. Three Islamists sentenced to death for the Bali bombings...

NZ enters new era of conservative rule

New Zealand entered a new era of conservative rule Sunday, with incoming Prime Minister John Key promising to be a moderate amid fears some of the country's policies on global warming and indigenous people could be rolled back.

helped build New Zealand's reputation as one of the world's greenest and most socially progressive societies, based around the South Pacific nation's rugged 'Lord of the Rings' landscape...

Like Lincoln and Roosevelt, Obama faces nation in crisis

All presidents are tested. Few walk into the Oval Office when the nation is in the throes of multiple crises. Like Franklin Delano Roosevelt, President-elect Obama is facing a banking emergency.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. 'The question is which direction is the nation going to go?' While the challenges Obama faces are daunting, they also give him the opportunity to shape history in a big way.

threat of a terrorist attack, a resurgent Russia and nuclear proliferation in hot spots across the globe. 'We are in an almost unprecedented situation, at least in modern times...' White House chief of staff Joshua Bolten said...

Sub accident exposes Russian posturing

The loss of 20 people in the Russian military's latest submarine accident is a humiliating blow as the country tries to flex its military muscle on the world stage, analysts said yesterday.

President Dmitry Medvedev is to preside this month with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez at naval exercises off Venezuela's coast seen as sending a defiant message to the United States.

While the Akula-class submarine is a sophisticated piece of kit, 'such submarines have to be maintained extremely well and even then you still have accidents,' said Ayers.

'World losing war against terror financing'

The international system for tracking and cutting off terrorist financing has achieved major successes but is fraying seven years after the Sept 11 attacks, two former Treasury Department officials report.

Donors from Saudi Arabia are the chief sources of support for al-Qaeda groups, according to the report. The research is intended as a road map for the incoming Obama administration to tighten the system and crack down on evolving terrorist financing schemes.

Female suicide bomber kills 3 at Iraqi hospital

A female suicide bomber blew herself up at a hospital west of Baghdad yesterday, killing three people and injuring five others, police and hospital officials said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release the information to the media. The attack follows a suicide bombing on Saturday that killed eight people and wounded 17 at a police checkpoint near Ramadi.

The violence comes two months after the US handed control of the province over to the Iraqis and shows that militants have not given up the fight despite setbacks at the hands of US and Iraqi forces.

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