

World powers cautious on Ahmadinejad victory

AFP, Paris

World powers including Britain and the United States reacted cautiously Saturday to the disputed Iranian presidential election in which incumbent Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has been declared winner.

As thousands of supporters of the main challenger, moderate ex-premier Mir Hossein Mousavi, swept through Tehran in protest, US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton expressed hope the result would reflect the will of voters.

"The United States has refrained from commenting on the election in Iran. We obviously hope that the outcome reflects the genuine will and desire of the Iranian people," Clinton said.

The United States is "monitoring the situation as it unfolds in Iran," she added, following allegations of voting irregularities.

The European Union expressed "concerned about alleged irregularities during the election process and post-election violence."

Canadian Foreign Minister Lawrence Cannon said Canada was "deeply con-

cerned" by reports that the election was not free and fair.

"We're troubled by reports of intimidation, of opposition candidates' offices, by security forces," he said.

France's foreign ministry said it "took note" of the re-election as well as the "contested result."

US president Jimmy Carter said there would be no change in American policy "because the same person will be there" in brief remarks after he met Palestinian officials in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

William Hague, foreign affairs spokesman for Britain's main opposition Conservative Party, said the result was a "blow to all those Iranians who had hoped for a change in leadership, reform in their country and better relations with the outside world."

He said he was "particularly concerned by reports that the result was rigged... If this is indeed the case, it bodes ill for hopes that Iran is ready to pursue a path of engagement rather than defiance in respect of its nuclear programme."

In Moscow, the chairman of the Duma

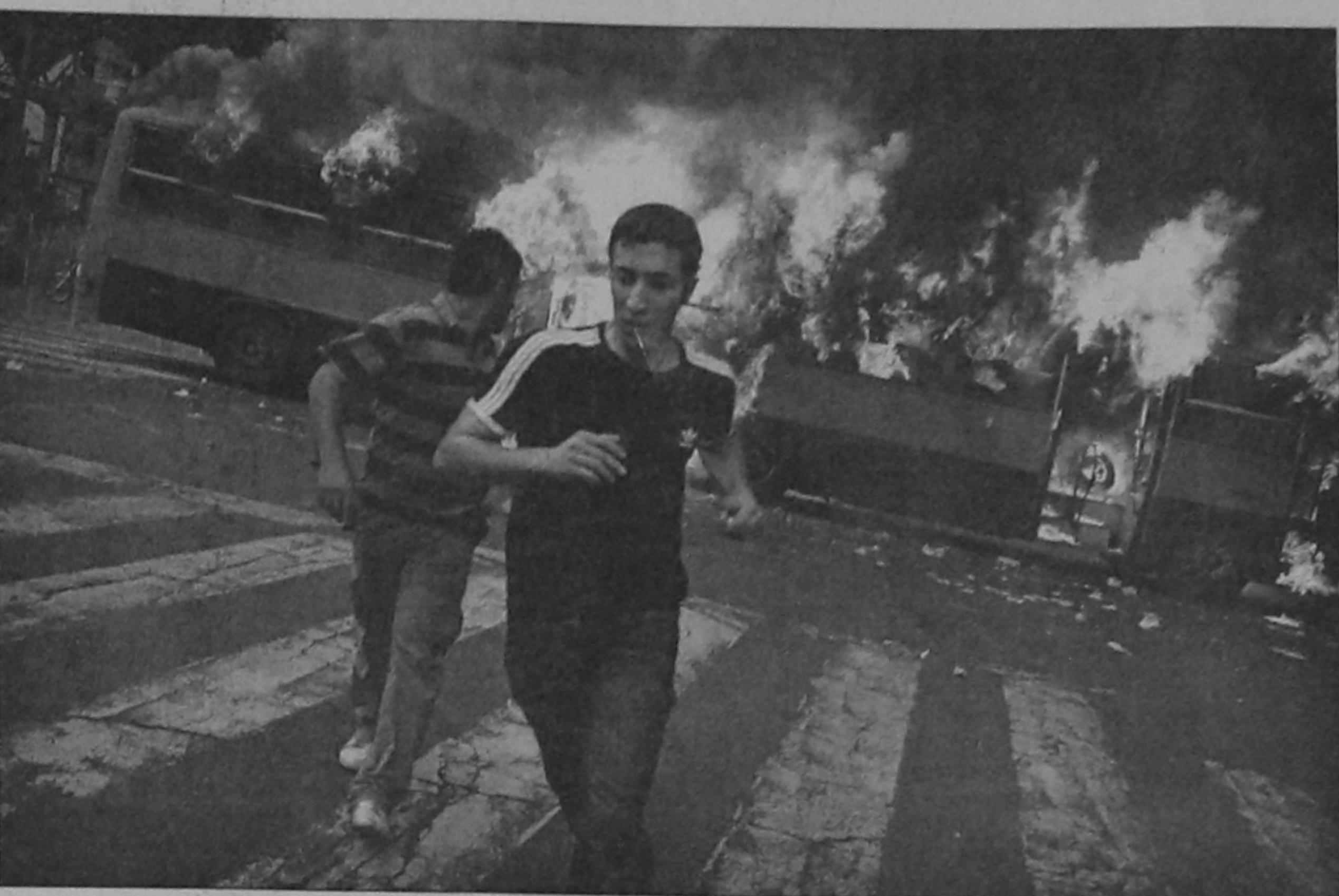
(parliament) Committee on International Affairs Konstantin Kosachev said he hoped Ahmadinejad would "show more understanding and wisdom towards the international community during his second term."

The European Union, which has led efforts to engage Iran on its contested nuclear programme, said in a statement it "hopes that outcome of the presidential elections will bring the opportunity to resume the dialogue on nuclear issue and clear up Iranian position in this regard."

Danny Ayalon, deputy foreign minister of Israel, whose hawkish Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu regards Iran as the greatest threat faced by his country since its creation in 1948, expressed disappointment.

"The results of the election show, now more than ever, how much stronger the Iranian threat has become," Ayalon said.

"The international community must stop the nuclear programme and the terrorism coming from Iran," Ayalon added in a statement, referring to Iran's nuclear energy drive which major powers fear could hide efforts to build atomic weapons.



Supporters of defeated Iranian presidential candidate Mir Hosseini Mousavi run past a burning bus in Tehran on Saturday. Hardline incumbent President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was declared winner by a landslide in Iran's hotly-disputed presidential vote, triggering riots by opposition supporters and furious complaints of cheating from his defeated rivals.



Cuban dissident Hilda Molina (C) smiles as she meets her son Roberto Quinones (L), grandsons Juan Pablo (front) and Roberto (top 2nd L), and daughter-in-law Veronica Scarpati (R) at Ezeiza airport in Buenos Aires yesterday. Molina arrived in Argentina after winning a 15-year battle over her right to leave the communist-ruled Caribbean island of Cuba. The internationally recognised neurosurgeon, former member of Cuba's Communist Party and an ex-lawmaker – has been fighting Cuban authorities since 1994 for the right to visit her family in Buenos Aires.

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Nine foreigners kidnapped in Yemen

AFP, Sanaa

Nine foreigners, including women and children, have been kidnapped in a volatile mountainous area of northern Yemen, an official said on Sunday amid conflicting reports over their fate.

Seven Germans, a British engineer and a South Korean woman teacher were seized by Shia rebels in the Saada region, a local official cited on the defence ministry website said, but a rebel spokesman denied any involvement.

Brown's closest ally plotting to throw him out of PM Office

ANI, London

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown may have to face more difficulties in the days to come, as one of his closest allies Ed Balls, has said that he could ask Brown to step down.

It has been revealed that Balls, who is currently the country's Schools Secretary, stunned Labour MPs by saying he is prepared to get rid of Brown at Labour's annual conference scheduled to be held in September.

Balls, who is apparently Brown's most trusted man, said that unless the party showed signs of recovery in the coming polls, he would ask

the PM to consider quitting.

Senior party leaders believe Balls' statement is primarily in response to the fears within the party that it could be heading for a void if Brown leads in the general elections, The News of the World reports.

"The people around Brown like Balls are incredibly loyal to him. But their first loyalty is to the Labour Party," said a senior party leader.

"We know we are going to lose the next election and there is a hell of a difference between losing and ending up with just 100 MPs. That is the way we are heading. And it is dawning on even those around Gordon," he added.

India encroached Nepal's land

Says Constituent Assembly delegations

ANI, Kathmandu

Separate delegations of Nepal's Constituent Assembly and Parliament have concluded that Nepal was encroached by India in Dang district.

According to a Nepal News report, Amik Sherchan chairman of the Committee for Protection of National Interest, was one of those making the claim.

Padma Lal Biswakarma, the chairman of the International Relations and Human Rights Committee, heading the parliamentary delegation, also made a similar charge at a press conference in Dang Saturday.

Both urged authorities in Kathmandu to start rehabilitation of those displaced by the unruly acts of Indian border security officials.

N Korea warns of nuclear war amid rising tensions

AP, Seoul

nuclear bombs in South Korea. US tactical nuclear weapons were removed from South Korea in 1991 as part of arms reductions following the Cold War.

South Korea's Unification Ministry issued a statement Sunday demanding the North stop stoking tension, abandon its nuclear weapons and return to dialogue with the South.

On Saturday, North Korea's Foreign Ministry threatened war on any country that dared to stop its ships on the high seas under the new sanctions approved by the UN Security Council on Friday as punishment for the North's latest nuclear test.

It is not clear if the statements are simply rhetorical. Still, they are a huge setback for international attempts to rein in North Korea's nuclear ambitions following its second nuclear test on May 25. It first tested a nuclear device in 2006.

In Saturday's statement, North Korea said it has been enriching uranium to provide fuel for its light-water reactor. It was the first public acknowledgment the North is running a uranium enrichment programme in addition to its known plutonium-based programme. The two radioactive materials are key ingredients in making atomic bombs.

North Korea "is completely within the range of US nuclear attack and the Korean peninsula is becoming an area where the chances of a nuclear war are the highest in the world," the Tongil Sinbo commentary said.

Kim Jong-kyu, a spokesman at the US military command in Seoul, called the latest accusation "baseless," saying Washington has no

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Memo No. APSC/Pro-29/2009/758

Date : 13/06/2009

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Tender Name, Enquiry No. & Date	Subject to be Amended	Existing as	Shall be Amended as
Supply of 132 KV single phase hermetically sealed outdoor current transformer for APSC	- Last Selling date of Tender Document	- 17/06/2009 during Office hour	- 08/07/2009 during Office hour
Tender Invitation No. : APSC/Pro-1/2009/542	- Tender closing date & time	- 18/06/2009 at 12:00 noon.	- 09/07/2009 at 12:00 noon.
Dated: 02/05/2009	- Opening date & time	- 18/06/2009 at 12:15 P.M.	- 09/07/2009 at 12:15 P.M.

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