

Rescuers may have killed UK Afghan aid worker: Cameron

BBC ONLINE, AFP, London/Kabul

British aid worker Linda Norgrove may have been accidentally killed by US forces during a rescue mission in Afghanistan, David Cameron has said.

International forces there originally said the 36-year-old died on Friday when one of her captors detonated a suicide vest.

But the prime minister said new details had come to light suggesting her death may have resulted from a US grenade.

He said he had spoken to her family about the "deeply distressing" news.

Cameron said he was told of the new developments in a phone call from Gen David Petraeus, the top US commander in Afghanistan, on Monday morning.

He said the general told him US forces were deeply dismayed at the outcome and said it was "deeply regrettable" that information published on Saturday about Norgrove was highly likely to have been



incorrect. The BBC's diplomatic correspondent Bridget Kendall said events would raise questions over UK and US relations.

He said he took full responsibility for

authorizing the operation to rescue Linda Norgrove, who worked for US aid group. She had been kidnapped on September 26.

At the Downing Street press conference, Cameron defended the rescue mission, saying it had his full support as Norgrove had been in "grave danger".

He said: "The decision to launch this rescue operation was not an easy one. But I am clear that Linda's life was in grave danger from the moment she was taken."

"Those on the ground and in London feared that she was going to be passed up the terrorist chain which would increase further the already high risk that she would be killed."

Cameron said 12 meetings of the government emergency committee, Cobra, had taken place before Foreign Secretary William Hague and the US agreed the rescue attempt should go ahead. His decision was then approved by the prime minister.

Karzai confirms Taliban talks

AP, Kabul

Afghan President Hamid Karzai confirmed his government has been in informal talks with the Taliban on securing peace in war-weary Afghanistan "for quite some time" the latest in a series of high-level acknowledgments of contacts with the insurgent group.

The comments came as Taliban fighters ambushed a military supply convoy in the east Monday and fought with Afghan forces in the south.

Unofficial discussions have been held with Taliban representatives over an extended period, Karzai told CNN's "Larry King Live" in an interview to be broadcast yesterday.

"We have been talking to the Taliban as countryman to countryman," Karzai said. "Not as a regular official contact with the Taliban with a fixed address, but rather unofficial personal contacts have been going on for quite some time."

Afghan presidential spokesman Waheed Omar said it was not the first time Karzai had acknowledged talks, saying both the president and his office have repeatedly confirmed unofficial discussions.

"He has talked about it in the past as well. It's not hidden from anyone," Omar said. The president's office previously confirmed there were informal talks with different levels of Afghan

Taliban over the past couple of years.

"We have said that there have been contacts in the past, initiated sometimes by the government, sometimes by the armed opposition," Omar said. He said these have been through intermediaries.

Nato's top commander in Afghanistan Gen David Petraeus has also said the military coalition was aware of overtures made by Taliban insurgents at the highest levels to the Afghan government.

The drumbeat about talks comes as support for a drawn-out military push in Afghanistan is waning in the United States and with other Nato allies as the war enters its 10th year. Sending thousands more US troops this summer to the country's south has yet to show significantly increased security in the Taliban heartland and violence has risen countrywide in recent months.

In the east on Monday, Taliban fighters ambushed a supply convoy guarded by Afghan military contractors as it travelled through Ghazni province on its way to Kandahar in the south, said provincial chief of police Zarawar Zahid. An hour-long gun battle killed eight insurgents and wounded two Afghan security contractors in Qarabagh district.

Six militants died in operations by Afghan forces Sunday in southern Helmand province's Marjah and Greshk districts, the Defense Ministry said in a statement issued Monday.

25 lawmakers accused of vote fraud

AFP, Kabul

Afghanistan's election watchdog confirmed Sunday that more than 170 candidates who stood for parliament, including 25 current lawmakers, have been accused of electoral fraud.

The Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC) said they have registered 4,149 complaints since polling day on September 18. More than half the complaints have been given top priority and if proven, could affect the final results.

Of those candidates accused, 136 were referred by the Independent Election Commission and 39 by security institutions, ECC spokesman Ahmad Zia Razaat told reporters.

"Among the accused candidates, there are 25 members of the lower house," he said. If allegations are proven against any candidate, their votes will be nullified and they will be referred for prosecution.

Another New Zealander sorry for racist comment

BBC ONLINE

A New Zealand broadcaster who called Governor General Sir Anand Satyanand "a fat Indian" has apologised. Michael Laws' comments on his radio show last week were strongly condemned by Prime Minister John Key.

Laws is the second broadcaster from New Zealand to be accused of making "racist" remarks.

On Sunday, TVNZ host Paul Henry quit after provoking outrage over his comments about Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit.

On his show last week, Laws compared the governor general to an obese Monty Python character, Creosote, who explodes after eating too much food.

He said Sir Anand's weight seemed "incongruous" on an Indian.

"I mean, we don't all expect Indians to be begging on the streets of New Delhi, but it's like Anand discovered the buffet table at 20 and he's never really left it," the radio host said.

China-Japan talks 'positive'

ALJAZEERA ONLINE

The defence ministers of Japan and China have met for the first time since a diplomatic dispute erupted last month over the arrest of a Chinese trawler captain by Japanese authorities.

The two officials "held a conversation" on the sidelines of an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) meeting yesterday in the Vietnamese capital, Hanoi, according to China's state-run Xinhua news agency.

Liang Guanglie, the Chinese defence minister, said talks with his Japanese counterpart, Toshimi Kitazawa, went very well and would be positive for bilateral relations.

"The talks were very good," he said. Asked what impact his discussion with Toshimi would have on strained relations, he replied: "Of course it will be positive."

China broke off all high-level contact with Tokyo last month after Japan detained a Chinese fishing boat captain whose vessel collided with Japanese coast guard patrol ships in waters claimed by both sides.

The row between Asia's two biggest economies was their worst in years and undermined recent efforts to improve relations marked by decades of mistrust stemming from Japan's 1930s invasion of China.

The Chinese captain was released after more than two weeks and returned to China on September 25.

With strained relations impacting their strong trade ties, the two countries are trying to mend fences. Naoto Kan, the Japanese prime minister, and his Chinese counterpart, Wen Jiabao, held a brief meeting last week in Brussels on the sidelines of an Asia-Europe summit.

Both spoke of the need to improve ties. They also spoke of high-level talks at an appropriate time.

Kan said he agreed with Wen to "resume high-level political exchanges" suspended following the sea incident.

But the leaders also reiterated claims to a disputed area in the East China Sea where the boat collision sparked the worst row between the two in years.

The uninhabited islands, which China calls the Diaoyu and Japan the Senkaku islands, lie near potential oil and gas reserves. The islands are also claimed by Taiwan.

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A renowned Textile Company is looking for experienced, 1) Architect & Structural Designers, 2) Civil Contractors for constructing prefabricated steel structure based factory unit. Contractors should be 1st class license holder with preferably having the prior experience of working in EPZ area. Interested parties are invited to submit their company profile to -

Box no-A-79, Daily Star, 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215, within 10 days

Tender Notice

2011 Appointment Diary

Sealed quotations are invited from the Bonafide Printers/Suppliers for Printing & Supply of Appointment Diary 2011 for Pan Pacific Sonargaon. The detail Specifications, terms and conditions are mentioned in the Tender Schedule.

Interested bidders may obtain tender schedule from the Purchasing Department on submission of the letter on their respective letterhead up to **October 27, 2010** during office hours on payment of Tk.1000.00 (non-refundable). The quotations with sample will be received up to 02:30 p.m. on **October 28, 2010** and will be opened on the same day at 03:00 p.m. in presence of the bidders, if any.

Tender must be supported by an Earnest Money amounting to 5% of highest quoted price in the form of Bank Draft or Pay Order from any schedule Bank in favor of Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka.

Pan Pacific Sonargaon authority reserves the right to accept / reject any tender in part or in full or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Purchase Manager, Tel (880) 2 8111005 (Extn : 4164)

PAN PACIFIC SONARGAON
Dhaka

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, Bangladesh (Component A)

Invitation for Procurement of Low Lift Pump

Credit No. 4507 - BD, Project ID No. UTF/BGD/040/BGD, Bid Package No. 1G4.C

The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the Procurement of Low Lift Pumps. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of 100 Nos. of Low Lift Pumps, under Package No. 1G4.C to be received by FAO Representation, House No. 37, Road No. 8, Dhanmondi, Dhaka. Bidders having a minimum of 3 (three) years of experience in the supply of the tendered items are only encouraged to participate. The delivery period is 4 (four) weeks from the date of the Notification of the Award.

Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, (current edition), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the guidelines.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents from the office of FAO Representation in Bangladesh at the address below during office hours. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee of Tk.1000.00. The method of payment for the tender documents will be in cash against a written receipt.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security for an amount of Tk. 150,000.00

Bids shall be delivered to the address below by 02:00 Hrs. on 04 November 2010. They will be opened immediately thereafter, in the presence of bidders' representatives, who choose to attend, at the address below. Late bids will be rejected.

FAO Representation in Bangladesh
House # 37, Road # 8
Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205
Tel: 880-2-8118015/126
Fax: 8802-2-811 3446

The publishing of this notice and the receipt of bids does not commit FAO in any way to any party.

Karnaphuli



Karnaphuli

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

"Karnaphuli Green", Bangladesh's single largest real estate development, is a flagship venture of Karnaphuli and has generated unprecedented enthusiasm since its Launch - within less than two weeks thereof, firm bookings have been received for over 200 units.

The following personnel will be appointed to facilitate construction/implementation of the Project upholding highest standards of engineering excellence. Bright, energetic, enterprising and dedicated candidates having the requisite qualifications only, are encouraged to apply.

Deputy General Manager (DGM) Construction (Position-1):

The candidate should be a Graduate Civil Engineer with minimum 12 years experience of which at least 05 years should be in real estate sector with adequate exposure to construction of high quality residential complexes. The incumbent should be capable of managing several project coordinators involved in the construction of multi-storied buildings.

Project Engineer (Position-2):

Diploma in Civil Engineering minimum 10 years or B.Sc Engineering having 06 years of experience is required of which at least 04 years must be with reputed real estate developer as project in-charge for construction of high quality multi-storied apartment complexes.

Assistant Project Engineer (Position-2):

Diploma in Civil Engineering minimum 03 years or B.Sc Engineering having one year of experience is required with reputed real estate developer in construction of high quality multi-storied apartment complexes.

Sr. Executive (Utility) Position-1:

Diploma in Electrical Engineering minimum 03 years or B.Sc Engineering (Electrical) having one year of experience is required with reputed real estate developer in construction of high quality multi-storied apartment complexes.

Manager Procurement (Position-1):

Diploma in Civil Engineering/Graduate in any discipline minimum 07 years experience is required. At least 03 years experience in real estate sector will be treated as an added advantage.

Sr. Executive Procurement (Position-3):

Diploma in Civil Engineering with experience in materials collection, sub-Contractor collection, Labour collection etc. Capable of preparing an estimate & checking the bills accurately.

Receptionist/Computer Operator:

- Minimum graduate in any discipline from any recognized university.
- Must be very good in English & Bengali both writing and verbally.
- Knowledge over MS Word & MS Excel is mandatory.
- Should have 4/5 years working experience in the relevant position.

Project Accountant/Store Keeper:

- B.Com/M.Com with 04 years of practical experience in real estate sector.
- Ability on working on site material management system (all incoming & out going process).
- Candidate will have to stay at site for proper supervision of project materials.
- Ability to work on computer based inventory modules software.
- Ability to maintain project accounting related documents.

Asstt. Store Keeper:

- Graduate/HSC (commerce background will be given preference) with 02 years of practical experience in real estate sector.
- Ability on working on site material management system (all incoming & out going process).
- Candidate will be stay at site for proper supervision of project materials.
- Ability to maintain project accounting related documents.

Competitive remuneration package (negotiable) will be offered to the selected candidate with the provision of career growth. Potential candidates in their respective fields satisfying the job requirements are invited to apply with complete CV, two copies of recent passport size photograph address to **Manager (Admin), Karnaphuli Industries Limited, HR Bhaban, 26/1 Kakrail, Dhaka-1000 by 26th October, 2010.**

The candidates are requested to mention the position applied for on the envelop and provide contact phone/cell number in the CV.