INTERNATIONAL

Int'l court may launch N Korea war crimes case

AFP, The Hague

The International Criminal Court chief prosecutor on Monday launched an inquiry into whether North Korea should face war crimes charges over attacks on the rival South.

Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo said the probe was not requested by South Korea, which has put its forces on heightened alert since an artillery assault on Yeonpyeong island in which four people were killed.

Campo said in a statement that his office has opened a "preliminary investigation" into whether the shelling and the sinking of a South Korean warship on March 26 "constitute war crimes under the jurisdiction of the Court."

The November 23 shelling of Yeonpyeong left two South Korean marines and two civilians dead. The sinking of the Cheonan killed 46 South Korean navy crew.

US diplomat in Myanmar for post-polls talks

AFP, Yangon

A senior US diplomat arrived in Myanmar yesterday, officials said, for the first highlevel talks with the government and democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi since her release and a controversial election.

Joseph Yun, the deputy assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, is due to urge the ruling military junta to free political prisoners and engage with the opposition, according to the US State Department.

"The US official arrived here with Thai Airways this morning," said an airport official, who declined to be named. An unnamed government source also confirmed his arrival.

Nyan Win, spokesman for Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD), said Yun would hold talks with the Nobel Peace Prize winner on Friday.

Japan probe nears Venus orbit

AP, Tokyo

A Japanese probe reached Venus yesterday and prepared to enter orbit on a two-year mission that would mark a major milestone for Japan's space program and could shed light on the climate of Earth's mysterious neighbour.

The probe, called Akatsuki, which means "dawn," would be the first Japan has ever placed in orbit around another planet and comes after the country recently brought a probe back from a samplecatching trip to an asteroid.

Scientists said they would know later Tuesday whether the probe had successfully entered its orbit. They said they briefly lost contact with the probe early Tuesday, but that communication had been restored.

Cameron, Gates in Afghanistan, eye troops pullout in 2011

AFP, Kabul

British Prime Minister David Cameron said yesterday that next year must show "irreversible" progress in the anti-Taliban war, expressing hope that British troops could start leaving Afghanistan in 2011.

Meanwhile, US Defence Secretary Robert Gates flew into Afghanistan on Tuesday for talks with commanders and Afghan President Hamid Karzai, as Washington reviews its strategy in the nine-year war.

His unannounced trip comes amid further tensions between Washington and Kabul after leaked American diplomatic cables offered a scathing account of Karzai and his corruption-tainted

Gates travelled to the sprawling Bagram air base, a year after US President Barack Obama ordered 30,000 extra American troops into the war in a strategy overhaul, also renewing efforts to build up Afghan security forces.

"He arrives here feeling very good about the progress that has been made in the past year," press secretary Geoff Morrell told reporters travelling with Gates.

Making his second visit to the war-torn country as prime minister, Cameron met President Hamid Karzai days after leaked American cables showed heavy criticism by US and Afghan officials of the performance of British forces.

Cameron told a joint press conference with Karzai that he was "cautiously optimistic" over progress being made on the battlefield and about Nato plans to bring some troops home next year and the rest by the end of 2014. "2010 was without a doubt a year in which we made real

progress. 2011 must be the year in which that progress becomes irreversible," he said. "President Karzai gives me confidence that our plans for transition are achievable," he said. "We are going to make it

happen.' The Afghan leader, whose relations with the West have become increasingly strained, was quoted in one US cable in 2009 as saying that British incompetence had led to a breakdown in law and order in Helmand province.

Asked about the memos divulged by the website WikiLeaks Karzai reiterated his view that some may not be authentic and said: "Britain has been a steadfast supporter of Afghanistan and the Afghan people."



British Prime Minister David Cameron (R) and Afghan President Hamid Karzai shake hands before their talks in Kabul yesterday. Cameron said that next year must show "irreversible" progress in the anti-Taliban war, expressing hope that British troops could start leaving Afghanistan in 2011.

Key points in latest Major WikiLeaks expose

AFP, Paris

Key points in the latest secret US diplomatic cables released by WikiLeaks:

HEZBOLLAH GOT 50000 MISSILES

The militant group Hezbollah has acquired an arsenal of some . A major WikiLeaks donor is in 50,000 rockets and missiles, raising fears of an enlarged conflict · trouble in Germany for not with Israel. A Pentagon official indicated Hezbollah's arsenal now

included 40 to 50 Fateh-110 missiles capable of reaching Tel Aviv and most of Israel, and 10 Scud-D missiles. SAUDI ENVOY OF TERROR LINK The United States suspected a Saudi Arabian ambassador to the

Philippines of potential involvement in funding terrorists.

A security aide of then-US president George W Bush raised concerns over Muhammad Amin Waly, who was replaced in January 2010, in a private meeting with Prince Saud al-Faisal, the Saudi foreign minister, in Jeddah in 2007. Waly was replaced by Abdullah Al Hassan as Saudi envoy to

Manila in January this year.

NATO FEARED RUSSIANTHREAT Nato has expanded defence plans in parts of eastern Europe : Hesse said.

amid fears that Russia poses an increasing threat. Contingency plans were drawn up for the three Baltic states -- ; with WikiLeaks," spokesman

Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania -- earlier this year after they lob- . Michael Conrad told AFP, bied for extra protection following the 2008 Russia-Georgia war. The US also offered to beef up Polish security amid fears of a

resurgent Russia, said cables, despite the policy of US President Barack Obama's administration to "reset" relations with Moscow. LIKE A CAT IN JUNGLE The United States views Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis

Rodriguez Zapatero as a "wily politician with an uncanny ability -- like a cat in a jungle -- to sense opportunity or danger."

"It is dangerous to underestimate him, as many former rivals have found out too late," said a January 2009 cable. INEFFECTIVE HUNGARIAN SOLDIERS

The United States views Hungarian soldiers stationed in . with its donation pipelines Afghanistan as ineffective and focussed on "getting home slowly being cut off. unscathed" after doing short stints of small-scale development work

A undated cable signed by Washington's ambassador in . Monday stopped funnelling Kabul, Karl Eikenberry, said the Hungarian Provincial : payments to the organisation, Reconstruction Team (PRT) did little to combat the escalating violence, drug problems and power struggles in the northern province of Baghlan.

US, FRANCE CLOSE COMBAT

France and the United States have been cooperating more closely for a year to combat al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQMI) in a push initiated by Paris.

An account of a January meeting written by the US embassy said that "the French insisted on better coordination in the area of military assistance, sharing intelligence and development projects.'

WikiLeaks donor under pressure

. AFP, Berlin

. filing its accounts on time, but · authorities insisted yesterday : this was unrelated to its ties to the under-fire whistle-blowing organisation.

The Wau Holland . Foundation, which has reportedly transferred 750,000 euros in donations from the public to WikiLeaks, has been sent a second reminder to file its 2009 accounts, tax authori-· ties in the western state of

"But this has nothing to do saying the reminder was · nothing out of the ordinary.

"We haven't got anyone in · our cross hairs, we don't have : any cross hairs."

WikiLeaks has found itself under growing international · pressure following its release of secret US documents to · several news organisations,

MasterCard Worldwide on and on Friday US-based · online payment service PayPal blocked financial transfers.

The Swiss Post Office's banking arm shut down one of · WikiLeaks founder Julian : Assange's bank accounts on · Monday, saying he had provided false information in his application.

Blast hits holy Indian city, 1 killed been told that seven or nine people have been

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

A powerful explosion tore through a crowded religious place in the Hindu pilgrimage town of Varanasi, killing a young girl and injuring 24 people, including two foreigners. The blast took place at around 6:30pm at a

bathing point at Sheetlaghat on the banks of the Ganges river when a large number of devotees were offering their evening prayers. Additional Director General of Police of Uttar

Pradesh Brij Lal told reporters in the state's capital Lucknow that a two-year-old girl had been killed and a French woman and an Italian woman were among those wounded. Eyewitnesses said the explosion sparked

panic among thousands of devotees and tourists crowded in the vicinity of the ghat and triggered a stampede in which dozens were injured. A Home Ministry official UK Bansal said it

was a "medium-intensity blast. He said in the wake of the blast in Varanasi, some major Indian cities, including Mumbai, Bangalore and New Delhi, had been put on high alert.

Asked if it was a terror attack, Bansal said "it would not be appropriate for me to comment right now".

"It was a medium intensity blast and we have

attempt to weaken our resolve to fight the evil forces of terrorism and the terrorists will not succeed," he said and appealed to the people to maintain calm.

injured and one or two could be foreigners,

Mujahideen claimed responsibility for the blast,

Manmohan Singh said it was an attempt to

"weaken" India's resolve to fight the "evil forces

of terrorism" in which they would not succeed.

An e-mail sent by banned terror group Indian

Condemning the blast, Prime Minister

"It is the most unfortunate incident. It was an

Bansal told reporters in New Delhi.

official sources said.

Varanasi had in the past been targets of terror attacks. In 2006, some 20 people were killed and 60 injured in two bomb explosions at a temple and a train station in Varanasi.

Tuesday's blast came a day after the 19th anniversary of the 1992 razing of a mosque by Hindu zealots in Uttar Pradesh's temple town of Ayodhya,

dogs have also been pressed into action.

which had sparked some of post-independence India's worst communal violence. A team of bomb disposal squad and local forensic experts surveyed the blast site. Sniffer

Iran nuclear talks end

Tehran wants sanctions lifted AFP, Geneva

Six world powers wrapped up two days of "substantive" talks with Iran on its contentious nuclear programme here yesterday, with the two sides agreeing to meet again in Istanbul next month. Iranian President Mahmoud

Ahmadinejad meanwhile called on the six -- Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States -- to lift international sanctions against his country if they want the talks to bear fruit.

Catherine Ashton, the European Union's top diplomat, described the Geneva talks as "detailed, substantive." "We have had nearly two days

of detailed, substantive talks focusing on the Iranian nuclear programme and the need for Iran to comply with international obligations," she said.



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সূত্র নং-এপিএসসিএল/প্রকিউরমেন্ট-০২/২০১০/১৭০১

"দবপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি"

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22)	ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা	8	প্রকৃত ঠিকাদারী / সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান (দরপত্র সিডিউল অনুযায়ী)					
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20)	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর ঠিকানা	8	আতগঞ্জ পাওয়ার স্টেশন কোম্পানী পিমিটেড, বি-বাড়ীয়া-৩৪০২				
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সংশোধন বা এতদসংক্রান্ত যে কোন সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন

ব্যবস্থাপক (প্রকিউরমেন্ট)

এপিএসসিএল, আন্তগঞ্জ, বি-বাড়ীয়া



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, Bangladesh (Component A)

Invitation for Procurement of Knapsack Sprayer and Foot Pump Sprayer Credit No. 4507 – BD, Project ID No. UTF/BGD/040/BGD, Bid Package No.1G1.C-3

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 Knapsack Sprayer and Foot Pump Sprayer. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of 351 Nos. of Knapsack Sprayer against Lot 1 and 750 Nos. of Foot Pump Sprayer against Lot 2 under Package No. 1G1.C-3. 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 6 (six) 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. 40,000.00 for Lot 1 and Tk. 125,000.00 for Lot 2.

Bids shall be delivered to the address below by 02:00 Hrs. on 03 January 2011. 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.