

# Ouattara urges peace, vows justice, security

EU to lift sanctions, clashes continue in Abidjan

AFP, Abidjan

Ivory Coast President Alassane Ouattara yesterday faced the challenge of healing a divided nation, vowing justice, reconciliation and security after his forces captured rival Laurent Gbagbo.

"I ask you to remain calm and show restraint," Ouattara, the 69-year-old elected leader of the west African nation, said in a televised address late Monday, while hailing "the dawn of a new era of hope".

He also announced "legal proceedings against Laurent Gbagbo, his wife and his allies", adding that "all measures are being taken" to protect them following their dramatic capture after a four-month long crisis.

Gbagbo, his wife Simone and son Michel are being held at Ouattara's temporary headquarters at an Abidjan hotel, where they are being guarded by UN police amid fears of reprisals or summary justice.

The UN has said that at least 800 people have been confirmed killed in the conflict between the rival camps following the November election.

Meanwhile, clashes involving heavy

weapons erupted in two districts of Ivory Coast's commercial capital Abidjan loyal to former president Laurent Gbagbo one day after he was captured, witnesses told AFP.

The weapons were heard in the central Plateau district and in the northern Cocody area as forces loyal to Gbagbo's rival, President Alassane Ouattara, struggled to return security to the city after 10 days of fighting.

The city after 10 days of fighting with Ouattara's government to remove all sanctions imposed to pressure Gbagbo to step down.

European foreign ministers are meeting in Luxembourg yesterday, with the situation in Ivory Coast high on their agenda.

The ministers are expected to adopt a statement voicing support for Ouattara's reconciliation efforts and to pledge to help Ivory Coast overcome the humanitarian crisis brought on by the presidential stand-off.

French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, whose country has been at pains to deny it is playing a neo-colonial role in its former dominion, said that Gbagbo's capture was good news for African democracy.

France said its military had taken part in the weekend raids at the UN chief's request.



Ivory Coast strongman Laurent Gbagbo and his wife Simone sit on a bed at the Hotel du Golf in Abidjan after their arrest yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

# Gbagbo aide accuses France of 'coup'

AFP, Paris

A spokesman for ousted Ivory Coast strongman Laurent Gbagbo yesterday accused French special forces of carrying out a coup in its former colony on behalf of his rival Alassane Ouattara.

France has repeatedly denied claims that French troops had arrested Gbagbo when he was captured in a bunker in Abidjan.

"It was a coup d'etat which had no other aim but to gain control of the resources of Ivory Coast," Alain Toussaint told reporters in Paris.

"Gbagbo was captured by French special forces, who took him to the Golf Hotel," where Ouattara has his headquarters, he said.

Toussaint demanded Gbagbo be released, but his call was likely to fall on deaf ears in Paris, where the government recognises Ouattara as the rightful president of Ivory Coast.

## NEWS IN brief

### Idea of Gaddafi's ouster for peace 'ridiculous'

AFP, Benghazi

Libyan rebels rejected an African Union initiative for a truce accepted by Muammar Gaddafi, and said the only solution was the strongman's ouster, an idea his son called "ridiculous."

"The Libyan Guide (Gaddafi) does not want to control everything. He is at an advanced age. We would like to bring a new elite of young people onto the scene to lead the country and direct local affairs," Seif al-Islam told France's BFMTV.

"We need new blood -- that is what we want for the future -- but talk of the Guide leaving is truly ridiculous," he added.

### Egypt's Mubarak hospitalised

AFP, Cairo

Former Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak was hospitalised in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh yesterday, two days after he was summoned for questioning by prosecutors, security sources told AFP.

"Mubarak was admitted to the Sharm el-Sheikh International Hospital this afternoon, amid a very heavy security presence in the town," a security source told AFP.

### More Mexico mass graves found

BBC ONLINE

The number of bodies found in mass graves in north-eastern Mexico over the past week has risen to 88, after 16 more corpses were discovered.

Investigators found four new graves in San Fernando, not far from the United States border. They were tipped-off by a suspect who was detained on Saturday.

Yesterday, police found 59 bodies in eight mass graves in San Fernando, in Tamaulipas state. Thirteen more bodies were discovered the following day in two

### France issues first fine for woman in Islamic veil

BBC ONLINE

French police say they have issued their first penalty to a woman for covering her face with an Islamic veil.

The woman was stopped in a shopping centre in Paris on Monday evening - the same day that a law banning face coverings in public came into force.

Police said they gave the 27-year-old woman a ticket that requires her to pay a 150-euro fine or register for citizenship classes within a month.

France is the first country in Europe to publicly ban

### Palestinian Authority ready to govern: UN

AFP, Jerusalem

The Palestinian Authority (PA) is now largely ready to govern a state, the office of the United Nations special coordinator for the Middle East peace process said in a report yesterday.

"In six areas where the UN is most engaged, governmental functions are now sufficient for a functioning government of a state," said the report, which will be submitted to Palestinian donor nations meeting in Brussels on Wednesday (today).

But the report warned that it would be difficult for the PA to make any additional progress while the Israeli occupation continued and peace talks remained stalled.

# Britain, France urge Nato to boost up Libya effort

AU plan tatters as rebels stuck to Gaddafi's ouster

AFP, Benghazi

Nato came under pressure to drop more bombs on the strongman's forces while an African Union peace plan for Libya was in tatters yesterday after rebels stuck to their demand that of Muammar Gaddafi's departure step.

Former Libyan foreign minister Mussa Kussa, who is in Britain after defecting from the regime, said Monday the restive nation could become a "new Somalia" if civil war broke out.

"I ask everyone, all the parties, to avoid taking Libya into a civil war," the former minister said in a statement issued to the BBC. "This would lead to so much blood and Libya will be a new Somalia."

Kussa was leaving Britain yesterday to travel to Qatar for talks ahead of a meeting there of an international contact group on Libya.

Having managed to secure

Gaddafi's agreement to a ceasefire, the African Union delegation encountered resistance from the rebel leadership in Benghazi.

"Due to a political demand set as a pre-condition by the Transitional National Council (TNC) to launching urgent talks on the implementation of a truce, it was not possible at this stage to reach an agreement on the key issue of a cessation of hostilities," an AU statement said.

In Benghazi, rebel leader Mustafa Abdul Jalil said the African initiative did not go far enough.

"From the first day the demand of our people has been the ouster of Gaddafi and the fall of his regime," he said. "Gaddafi and his sons must leave immediately if they want to be safe..."

The rebels also doubted Gaddafi would adhere to a truce. British Foreign Secretary William

Hague urged Nato allies to intensify military operations in Libya.

"We must maintain and intensify our efforts in Nato, that is why the United Kingdom has in the last week supplied additional aircraft capable of striking ground targets threatening the civilian population of Libya," Hague said. "There is always more to do," he added.

"Colonel Gaddafi needs to leave," he said.

His comments came just hours after his French counterpart, Alain Juppe, had said France's Nato allies were not pulling their weight in Libya and their forces should do more to help destroy Gaddafi's heavy weaponry.

France which, with Britain and the United States, led the drive for air strikes, was sceptical about handing political control of the operation to the Nato Western alliance.

### Two Koreas hold talks on volcanic threat

AFP, Seoul

South and North Korea held more talks yesterday about a potential volcanic threat from the peninsula's highest mountain, in a rare example of cooperation after months of confrontation.

Four South Korean experts met their North Korean counterparts at the North's border town of Kaesong for a second round of talks on ways to deal with any eruption at Mount Paektu, the South's unification ministry said.

After a day of discussions they agreed to hold an experts' meeting next month in the North's capital Pyongyang or another location, the ministry said.

They also agreed to conduct a joint field inspection of the mountain in mid-June.

### Pakistan asks US 'to restrict CIA activities'

BBC ONLINE

Pakistan has asked the US to reduce the number of CIA agents in the country and to limit drone strikes along the Afghan border, US media reports say.

The reports quote unnamed officials and come as US and Pakistani spy chiefs met at the CIA's US headquarters.

An official spokesman described those meetings as "productive".

Relations between the two countries have been frayed since a CIA contractor shot dead two men in the city of Lahore earlier this year.

The case stoked anti-American feeling across Pakistan and led to angry demonstrations - particularly when it emerged that he worked for the CIA. Hardline religious parties were keen to see him punished.

The New York Times reported that about 335 US personnel, CIA officers and contractors and special operations force personnel were being asked to leave Pakistan. It quoted an unnamed Pakistani official said to be closely involved in the discussions.

Pakistan also wants the removal of CIA contractors on assignments that Pakistan has not been informed about, Pakistani officials told the paper.

Yesterday's reports follow a candid interview that Pakistan's President, Asif Ali Zardari, gave to Britain's Guardian newspaper on Monday saying that the Afghan war was "destabilising Pakistan".

He also rejected a recent White House report which said Pakistan lacked its own plan to fight insurgents in the country, adding that most US politicians lacked an understanding of the situation.

### Emergency rule to stay in Thai-south

AFP, Bangkok

Thailand yesterday extended emergency rule in most of its violence-plagued deep south for three more months, a government spokesman said.

The decree, which was first introduced in 2005 and covers most of the Muslim-majority provinces of Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat, has been criticised by rights campaigners who say it effectively gives the army legal immunity.

The state of emergency allows the military to detain suspects for questioning without charge.

Suspected Islamic insurgents have waged a violent campaign in the region since early 2004, leaving more than 4,500 Muslims and Buddhists dead.

"There are still attempts to use violence to attack officials and innocent people," deputy government spokesman Supachai Jaisamut said.

### Winklevoss twins lose Facebook appeal

AFP, San Francisco

A US appeals court ruled on Monday that Tyler and Cameron Winklevoss can't back out of the settlement deal they made in a lawsuit charging that Mark Zuckerberg stole their idea for Facebook.

"The Winklevosses are not the first parties bested by a competitor who then seek to gain through litigation what they were unable to achieve in the marketplace," the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals said.

"At some point, litigation must come to an end," the court said. "That point has now been reached."

Twin brothers Tyler and Cameron



Winklevoss twins

enlisted Zuckerberg to finish software code for their ConnectU social-networking website while they were all students at Harvard University in 2003.

Zuckerberg, a second year student at the time, took their code and their idea and launched Facebook in February 2004 instead of holding up his end of the deal, according to the brothers. Facebook rejects that account.

Hollywood made the saga famous in the hit film "The Social Network."

The twins inked a settlement two years ago that got them \$20 million in cash and \$45 million worth of stock valued at \$36 per share.

# 'Unusual' memorial stamps that part Wills and Kate

AFP, Wellington

"Unusual" royal wedding stamps which raised eyebrows around the world by splitting Prince William from his bride-to-be Kate Middleton is only a collection item and there is nothing evil implicated in it, said The Pacific nation of Niue yesterday.

The stamps, approved by Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, have a perforated line between the royal couple. Together they are worth US\$4.53 but when separated the prince is worth \$3.40 and Middleton a cheaper \$2.40.

Niue Premier Toke Talagi said he had received plenty of feedback from around the world since the stamps were issued last month with people saying they found them "unusual".

"People indicated the stamps, made



by New Zealand Post, meant the couple will separate in future. I don't know why they would interpret it that way," Talagi told AFP.

"I don't think it means that. I think it means we're very happy celebrating the royal marriage."

However, Talagi said the stamps could be a tourism boost for the country, which occupies a 260 square-kilometre (100-square-mile) coral island in the south Pacific and has a population of just 1,400.

"I suspect in future a lot of people will come here to see where the stamps are from."

New Zealand Post said on its website they "capture the royal couple as we so often see them -- graceful, composed and very much in love".

The general manager of stamps, Ivor Masters, told New Zealand's TV3 news that the stamps were collectors' items and it was unlikely they would be torn apart for postage.

### 'Dozens injured' in Syrian city

BBC ONLINE

Dozens of people have been injured in clashes with security forces in the Syrian port of Baniyas, where 13 people were killed on Saturday, residents say.

One area is surrounded by army vehicles and gunfire is ongoing, they say.

Rights groups say hundreds of people have been arrested, including several students who took part in a rare rally at Damascus University on Monday.

About 200 people have died in weeks of protests against repression by President Bashar al-Assad's government.

**Admission Summer 2011**  
**Master in Resource and Environmental Management (MREM)**

**Department of Environmental Science and Management (DESM)**

Applications are invited for Summer 2011 Semester for admission to MREM evening program.

**NSU in partnership with University of Manitoba, Canada runs MREM program at the (DESM)**

<b>Admission Requirement</b> A four-year bachelor degree or its equivalent; experience in development and environment fields will be a plus.	<b>Admission Test &amp; Viva:</b>  <b>Friday 22 April 2011</b>
<b>Application Deadline: Thursday 21 April 2011</b>	
<b>Special Features of MREM Program</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision for partial Tuition <b>Scholarship/Stipends</b> from CIDA sponsored Building Environmental Governance Capacity (BEGCB) project fund.</li> <li>• Scope of work as Teaching/Graduate Assistant (TA)/(GA).</li> <li>• Faculty members are PhDs from reputed foreign universities.</li> <li>• Graduates acquire competency to work with national and international environmental and development agencies.</li> </ul>	
<b>Application Forms are available at UCBL Bank, Bashundhara Branch with fee of Tk. 800.00.</b>	
<b>Contact Information</b> MREM Program Office, SAC-722 (Level 7) Department of Environmental Science & Management North South University, Bashundhara, Dhaka 1229 Tel: (880-2) 885-2000, ext. 2201, 2202 and 2059 e-mail: mrem@northsouth.edu visit http://www.northsouth.edu/html/mrem.pdf for program information and visit our program website at http://www.begcb-mrem.com/	

North South University Bangladesh  
The first private university in Bangladesh

