

Libyan capital under seize

US Defence Secretary questions Nato resolve

AFP, Tripoli

Explosions on the outskirts of Tripoli yesterday sent up black plumes of smoke, as Washington warned that Nato's air war on Libyan strongman Muammar Gaddafi's forces could be in peril.

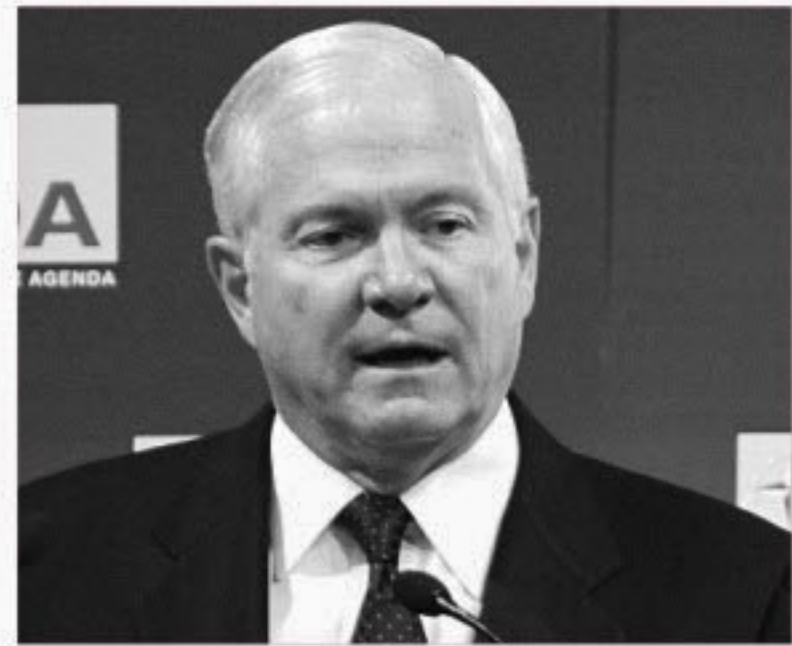
The warning from US Defence Secretary Robert Gates over the military shortcomings of the Western military alliance came a day after Libya's rebels won a cash boost and crucial recognition from key powers.

Two loud blasts were heard in the centre of the Libyan capital at around 3:00pm, coming from the eastern suburbs of Tajura and Ain Zara, said an AFP correspondent who contacted local residents.

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's special envoy, Mikhail Margelov, meanwhile, said he was preparing to visit Tripoli to find a solution to the conflict after meeting the opposition in their Benghazi stronghold.

The surge of support for the rebels battling to oust Gaddafi came at a meeting on Thursday in Abu Dhabi of the International Contact Group on Libya, during which key powers agreed to unlock a billion dollars for their coffers.

Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini said Rome would provide the rebel National Transitional Council with loans and fuel products worth \$438



Robert Gates

million to \$584 million.

And his French counterpart, Alain Juppe, said Paris would release \$420.9 million of frozen Libyan funds for the NTC.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who also attended the Abu Dhabi meeting, pledged another "\$26.5 million to help all the victims of this conflict, including Libyan refugees."

Such money will probably be distributed through relief agencies.

On the diplomatic front, the United States joined Australia and Spain in recognising the NTC as the legitimate representative of the Libyan people, with pressure mounting on the veteran leader to step down.

Militarily, a fresh wave of Nato air strikes also hit Tripoli early yesterday, with three strong explosions shaking the city centre at around midnight.

Other more distant blasts followed.

In Brussels, Gates warned that military shortcomings among Nato members could jeopardise the air war in Libya.

With half of the countries in the 28-member alliance not participating in the Libya campaign, Gates said it reflected a worrisome lack of military assets.

"Frankly, many of those allies sitting on the sidelines do so not because they do not want to participate, but simply because they cannot. The military capabilities simply aren't there," Gates said in a speech.

However, Oslo, which has contributed six F-16 fighters, announced yesterday that it will first reduce its participation before withdrawing from air operations on August 1.

Gates said many allies lacked intelligence and surveillance aircraft and specialists, which meant the US military had to step in to ensure allied warplanes could identify and strike targets.

"Furthermore, the mightiest military alliance in history is only 11 weeks into an operation against a poorly armed regime in a sparsely populated country -- yet many allies are beginning to run short of munitions, requiring the US, once more, to make up the difference," he said.

India's fasting guru taken to hospital

AFP, Dehradun

An Indian yoga guru holding a hunger strike against corruption was hospitalised yesterday after not eating for nearly a week in a protest that has put pressure on the government.

Swami Ramdev, whose popularity stems from his daily TV yoga shows, had continued fasting at his ashram near the holy city of Haridwar after baton-wielding police broke up his protest in New Delhi.

"He is unconscious. Doctors administered glucose to him in the ambulance," his spokesman Lalit Mishra told AFP as Ramdev was admitted to a hospital in Dehradun.

Mishra said that Ramdev has not eaten since Saturday but began drinking lemonade with honey on Tuesday on doctors' orders.

The government had tried to dissuade Ramdev from holding a hunger strike and then surprised many by sending police to break up his protest in Delhi before dawn on Sunday.

Hillary Clinton in talks about World Bank move

Claim '100 percent untrue', says US

REUTERS, Washington

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has been in discussions with the White House about leaving her job next year to become head of the World Bank, sources familiar with the discussions said on Thursday.

The former first lady and onetime political rival to President Barack Obama quickly became one of the most influential members of his Cabinet after she began her tenure at State in early 2009.

She has said publicly she did not plan to stay on at the State Department for more than four years. Associates say Clinton has expressed interest in having the World Bank job should the bank's current president, Robert Zoellick, leave at the end of his term, in the middle of 2012.

"Hillary Clinton wants the job," said one source who knows the secretary well.

A second source also said Clinton wants the position.

A third source said Obama had already expressed support for the change in her role. It is unclear whether Obama has formally agreed to nominate



Hillary Clinton

her for the post, which would require approval by the 187 member countries of the World Bank.

But Top US administration officials vehemently denied suggestions.

"It's 100 percent untrue," Philippe Reines, a close advisor to Clinton, told AFP.

"To be crystal clear," he added in a second statement, "Secretary Clinton has not had any conversations with the president, the White House or anyone about moving to the World Bank."

"She has expressed absolutely no interest in the job. She would not take it if offered."

White House spokesman Jay Carney also chipped in, saying: "The story is completely untrue."

People familiar with the situation, told of the denials from the White House and State Department, reaffirmed the accuracy of the report.

Revelations of the discussions could hurt Clinton's efforts as America's top diplomat if she is seen as a lame duck in the job at a time of great foreign policy challenges for the Obama administration.

NEWS IN brief

Dengue vaccine could be ready by 2015

AFP, Bangkok

French drugs group Sanofi said yesterday that its vaccine against dengue, a mosquito-borne infection that kills thousands of people around the world each year, could be launched in about four years.

"The vaccine could be available... around 2015," Jean Lang, head of vaccine development at the group's subsidiary Sanofi-Pasteur, told reporters in Bangkok.

The launch date is dependent on regulatory approval in each country based on the results of trials.

Possible crimes against humanity by all sides in I Coast: UN

AFP, Geneva

UN investigators said yesterday they had found evidence of possible crimes against humanity by forces loyal to Ivory Coast's ex-president Laurent Gbagbo and followers of his successor Alassane Ouattara.

"These violations were committed by the Defence and Security Forces and their allies, and during their counter-offensive, and since their control of the country, by the Republican Forces of Ivory Coast," the investigators added.

EU sets up anti-hacker team of IT security experts

AFP, Brussels

The EU said yesterday it has set up a new anti-hacker team of cyber fire-fighters after a string of recent attacks, one of which saw 30 million euros' worth of carbon credits stolen.

The 10-strong team of IT security experts will guard against repeats of attacks on sensitive information, for example on the eurozone debt crisis, such as occurred on the eve of the last summit of national leaders in March.

Bus crash kills 12 children in Pakistan

AFP, Muzaffarabad

At least 12 Pakistani children were killed and two others wounded when the bus taking them to school plunged into a canal in Kashmir yesterday, police said.

The accident took place near Mirpur town, some 230 kilometres south of Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistani-administered Kashmir.

He said the bus driver had been speeding when he lost control of the vehicle, which had a total of 18 people on board.

EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLING

Pakistan court orders action

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan's top judge yesterday ordered two security chiefs to be sacked after paramilitary forces shot dead an unarmed man begging for his life in a case that shocked the nation.

Two paramilitary guards were remanded in custody over the shooting, which was captured live on camera and broadcast repeatedly in graphic detail on television, raising disturbing questions about extrajudicial killings.

Chief Justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudry directed the government to remove from their posts Major General Aijaz Chaudhry, head of the paramilitary in Sindh province, and Sindh inspector general of police Fayyaz Leghari.

It was in Karachi, in the southern province, where Sarfaraz Shah was killed on Wednesday.

If the government did not do so within three days, "the court itself will take action against them", he added.



PHOTO: AFP

A woman lights a candle of hope during the passage of the "caravan of comfort" along Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua state, Mexico yesterday. A Mexican convoy protesting violence triggered by a military crackdown on drug cartels has arrived in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico's most violent city late Thursday, on the final leg of its 3,000-kilometer journey.

Moscow agrees to lift ban on EU vegetables

Germany says bean sprouts source of E coli

AFP, Nizhny Novgorod

Russia has agreed to lift its import ban on EU vegetables imposed in the wake of the E coli outbreak, Russian and EU leaders said yesterday after two days of talks.

"We are happy that we agreed that the ban on European vegetables will be lifted," EU Commission chief Jose Manuel Barroso said at a joint news conference with President Dmitry Medvedev in the central Volga city of Nizhny Novgorod.

Without giving a specific time frame for the lifting of the ban, he said that the European Union would send certificates to Russia within the next two days to get the procedure underway.

Medvedev confirmed Russia's willing-

ness to lift the ban, saying sanitary experts from the two sides would have to shortly agree on subsequent moves.

Specialists from Russia and the EU will in the near future have to agree on the certificates that will confirm that vegetables headed for Russia are safe, he added.

Russia last week imposed a blanket ban on imports to prevent the spread of the E. coli bacteria that has left at least 30 dead and some 3,000 sick.

German authorities yesterday identified vegetable sprouts as the source of the outbreak, lifting a warning against eating raw tomatoes, cucumbers and lettuce.

"It's the bean sprouts," said Reinhard Burger, head of Germany's centre for disease control.

SOUTH CHINA SEA ROW Vietnam plans live-fire exercise

BBC ONLINE

Vietnam said yesterday it will hold live-fire exercises in the South China Sea amid escalating tensions with China over disputed waters.

Vietnam warned vessels to stay out of the area off its central coast when it conducts the drills on Monday.

It follows a verbal clash with China over sovereignty in the area.

China reacted angrily after Vietnam said a Chinese fishing boat rammed cables from an oil exploration vessel inside its exclusive economic zone.

Beijing said Chinese fishing boats were chased away by armed Vietnamese ships in the incident on Thursday.

One of the Chinese boats became tangled with the cables of a Vietnamese oil exploring vessel, which continued to drag the Chinese vessel for more than an hour before the net had to be cut, the foreign ministry said.

China accused Vietnam of "gravely violating" its sovereignty, saying Vietnam's actions had endangered Chinese sailors' lives, and warned it to stop "all invasive activities".

UREA FERTILIZER FACTORY LTD. GHORASAL, NARSINGDI. Invitation for Re-Tender (Works)	
1) Project Name	UREA FERTILIZER FACTORY LTD., GHORASAL, NARSINGDI.
2) Source of Fund	UFFL's own fund.
3) Tender Package No & date	UFFL/Constn. (TENDER)/2011/111, date. 08.06.2011
4) Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)
5) Tender Name	Maintenance works of Civil Engineering infrastructures of the factory on annual basis during the year 2011-2012 at UFFL.
6) Time for Completion of work	Upto 30-06-2012.
7) Eligibility of Tenderers	Contractors who have experienced in similar nature of works amounting more than Tk. 5.00 (five) lac in related work order during 30-07-2009 to issue date of this Tender Notice in Government/Semi-Government/Corporation/Autonomous Organization & BCIC enlisted contractors of category A & B for the year 2010-2011. The Certificate issued by the Engineer not below the rank of Executive Engineer must be enclosed along with the tender. Copies of all the documents and certificates must be duly attested.
8) Price of Tender Document	Tk. 500.00 (five hundred) in cash (non refundable) per set.
9) Amount of Tender Security	Tk. 14,340.00 (fourteen thousand three hundred forty) only to be deposited along with the tender in favour of UFFL in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any approved Schedule Bank of Bangladesh. Otherwise the tender will be cancelled.
10) Name and address of the Office(s) Selling Tender Document	a) Cash Section, Accounts Department, Urea Fertilizer Factory Ltd., Ghorasal, Narsingdi. b) Cash Section, Accounts Division, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (6th floor), 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.
11) Name and address of the Office(s) Receiving Tender	(a) Construction Section, UFFL, Ghorasal, Narsingdi. (b) Construction Division, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (19th floor), 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.
12) Name and address of the Office(s) Opening Tenders	(a) Office of the Sectional Head (Civil), UFFL, Ghorasal, Narsingdi. (b) Construction Division, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban (19th floor), 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka.
13) Last Date and time for Selling Tender Document	Up to 21-06-2011 during office hours
14) Last Date and time for Submission of Tender	On 22-06-2011 upto 11.00 A.m.
15) Date and Time for Opening of Tenders	on 22-06-2011 at 11.15 a.m. in presence of the Tenderer(s) / their authorized representative(s) if any.
16) place and date of Pre-Tender meeting	Office of the Sectional Head (Civil), Urea Fertilizer Factory Ltd., Ghorasal, Narsingdi on any working day.
17) Special instructions	(a) All activities in connection with said procurement of work will be guided as per "The procedures for implementation of the public procurement Regulations 2008". (b) The procuring Entity reserves the right to accept or/and reject any or/and all tenders prior to acceptance. (c) If it is not possible to receive the tender on the scheduled date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received on the following working date at the same time and same venue. (d) If it is proved at any stage that the information furnished in the tender by the Tenderer(s) is false and the tender is signed and submitted in a way of fraudulent practice instead of signing the same by the actual Tenderer / their authorized signatory his tender/Work Order will be outright rejected. (e) If the rate quoted by the tenderer is more or less than 5% of the approved estimated cost then the tender shall be treated as cancelled. (f) On the opening day in case any Govt. holiday of Unavoidable circumstances the office is closed, at that time the tender will be received & opened on the next working day in the same time & in the same place.
18) Brief Description of (works)	White wash, distemper, painting, wood work, plaster, glass fitting etc. works.

Md. S.H. Talukder
Dy. Chief Engr. (Civil) & Head of the Section
For Managing Director

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