



WIKINEWS PRINT EDITION

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Top Stories

Kenyan government and opposition agree on power sharing

The heads of the government and opposition in Kenya have signed a power sharing agreement aimed at ending the crisis over December's disputed elections. The agreement was reached after a day of talks mediated by former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan and the Chairman of the African Union Jakaya Kikwete.

Crude oil price reaches new high

Crude oil prices in New York rose to a new record of \$102.59 on Thursday, although the figure increased even more during after hours trading. In less than a month, prices have risen \$10, leading the figures to above the record highs set during the 1980s, of \$102.53, adjusted according to inflation.

Former PM Thaksin returns to Thailand

Thaksin Shinawatra, the former PM of Thailand, has returned to his country after being deposed 17 months ago in a military coup d'état. Within minutes of landing in Bangkok, he was arrested on corruption charges by immigration police, though Thaksin proclaims his innocence, stating that the charges against him are politically motivated. He has been granted bail for 8m baht (£132,000/\$261,000/€173,000) and was ordered not to leave the country.

Wikipedia Current Events

Northrop Grumman and EADS win a US\$35 billion U.S. Air Force contract to build a new refueling plane, the KC-45, shutting out Boeing.

- A White House official resigns after admitting to plagiarism in columns published by the Fort Wayne, Indiana News-Sentinel.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture stands down two employees as part of its investigation of the biggest meat recall in United States history.
- The British Ministry of Defence announces that Prince Harry will have to return home from his deployment in Afghanistan as recent publicity made it too dangerous for him to stay there.
- Turkey has announced a complete withdrawal and end to operations in northern Iraq.
- Ricin is found in a Las Vegas hotel room of a man who was admitted to the hospital in mid-February. The area affected is under quarantine. Officials do not suspect any relation with terrorism.
- Three policemen are killed in Pakistan's North West Province after a bomb explodes near their vehicle. At least 27 people are later killed in a suicide bomb attack on the funeral of one of the policemen.
- The Presidency Council of Iraq approves the execution of Saddam Hussein's cousin Ali Hassan al-Majid, widely known as

Wikipedia Current Events

"Chemical Ali", for his role in the Al-Anfal Campaign against Iraqi Kurds in the 1980s.

- The African Union says its troops will arrive in the Comoros in a few days.

Wikileaks claims 'abuse of process' in court case that resulted in wikileaks.org being take offline

Wikileaks has claimed in a press release that the Swiss bank, Bank Julius Baer & Trust, has abused the system by involving an administrator of the Wikileaks group on Facebook in the court case which has recently lead to a court injunction causing wikileaks.org DNS entry to be removed. (It could still be accessed vis its IP address at <http://88.80.13.160/wiki/wikileaks> or one of its alternative DNS entries) The Facebook user who became involved in the court case has responded to this by saying that "I am an officer of a Facebook group, which is essentially a message board for discussion of issues relating to Wikileaks. I am not, and never have been, an officer of Wikileaks, and I request you [Bank Julius Baer & Trust] not to represent that I am."

Bank Julius Baer & Trust's law firm said that "as an officer of a defendant in this action, my client [Bank Julius Baer & Trust] is entitled to serve you [the Facebook User] a copy of the summons and complaint pursuant."

In a different press release, Wikileaks stated that they were not sure of the authenticity of the documents from Bank Julius Baer & Trust until the court case started. They say that the bank "in attempting to shoot the messenger has only succeeded, spectacularly, in shooting itself."

The injunction, which a Wikileaks user describes as 'blind' and 'unlawful' was granted in the California Northern District Court in San Francisco, California . The case was regarding several documents allegedly obtained from a whistleblower of the Bank Julius Baer & Trust.

Prince Harry ordered to return home

Prince Harry has today been ordered to return home, after details that the 23 year old's front line engagement was leaked by an American website. The details of the Prince's engagement had previously been kept secret by many British and international news agencies, including the BBC and the Associated Press.

The leak of the information was said to be "regrettable" by the Ministry of Defence, however this meant that Prince Harry was ordered to return home due to fears for his, and the others in his unit's safety. Prince Harry will be flown home "immediately", after 10 weeks of front line service. During this he worked as a Joint terminal attack controller (JTAC) and was involved in major operations on the frontline against Taleban forces.

The media blackout was created to lower the risk to the royal, whilst in service in Afghanistan, and was the first large scale agreement of it's kind. The media groups who signed up to the agreement were

rewarded with interviews with the Prince.

Kenya negotiations resume; parliament to debate power sharing accord

Opposition and government negotiators in Kenya resumed talks Friday, focusing on long-term aspects of the country's crisis. The talks received a boost after the leaders of the government and opposition reached a power sharing agreement.

After breaking the deadlock over power sharing, negotiators for the Kenyan government and opposition began to focus on resolving what are seen as long-term solutions to Kenya's crisis, namely constitutional reform, land distribution and poverty.

The talks took on a new vitality after President Mwai Kibaki and opposition leader Raila Odinga signed a power sharing accord in the presence of chief mediator Kofi Annan, Chairman of the African Union Jakaya Kikwete and the Nairobi diplomatic corps.

Mr. Kibaki said he would convene parliament next Thursday to begin debate on the constitutional amendments needed to implement the accord. The speaker of parliament, Kenneth Marende, said he does not anticipate any difficulties in passing the constitutional changes.

"There must be a bill prepared by the government, a bill which will then be tabled in parliament," said Marende. "After it is tabled in parliament it will then be moved in the normal manner and it will be debated and voted for."

Opposition parliament member Ababu Namwamba noted that the Kenyan constitution currently

allows parliament to change the constitution with a two-thirds majority vote. He said this should not be difficult to muster given the broad support for the agreement.

"The main obstacle will be political brinkmanship and hardliners that may crop up," said Namwamba. "But otherwise, if every side maintains the goodwill that has been demonstrated by the two principals, then I do not foresee any difficulty in the implementation of this deal."

The agreement calls for the creation of the post of prime minister who will supervise the ministries and can only be dismissed by a majority vote in parliament. Mr. Odinga is expected to assume this post.

The accord also calls for the distribution of ministerial posts according to the relative strength of each party in parliament.

The African Union, Britain and the United States welcomed the agreement saying they hope it will bring peace and reconciliation to the country.

Kenyans reacted with spontaneous street celebrations in some cities, although some cautioned that similar deals in previous years ended up in failure.

One thousand people were killed and several hundred thousand were displaced by violence that erupted after Mr. Kibaki was declared the winner of a presidential election which the opposition says was rigged.

Iraq approves execution of 'Chemical Ali'

Iraqi officials say the government has approved the death sentence for "Chemical Ali," a cousin of

Saddam Hussein, who is widely known for his role in poison gas attacks on Kurds in Iraq. It is expected that the execution will be carried within a month.

Iraqi officials said Friday the presidency council approved the execution of Ali Hassan al-Majid two days ago. Under Iraqi law that means the former Saddam Hussein henchman will be hanged within 30 days.

Majid ordered chemical attacks against Iraqi Kurds in the 1980s as part of a campaign to quash Kurdish resistance forces. The government of Iraqi Kurdistan says 180,000 Kurds were killed during the Anfal Campaign, including many civilians. Thousands more were deported.

Falah Mustafa Bakir is director of the Prime Minister's office for Iraq's Kurdistan Regional Government. He says Iraqi Kurds want those responsible to face justice.

"For us it was important for these crimes to be documented for the whole world and people to understand that a lot of injustices were committed against our people and we wanted the crimes to be documented and the courts to be open to the public for people to realize that what we were saying was the truth," he said.

In June, Majid and two other Hussein-era officials were convicted of genocide and crimes against humanity for attacks on Iraqi civilians and sentenced to death by hanging.

An appeals court upheld the verdict in September, but the execution was delayed as politicians debated who had the right to give final approval on

sentencing.

The two other officials are senior Hussein-era military chief Hussein Rashid Mohammed and former Defense Minister Sultan Hashim al-Tai. Their execution orders have not yet received final approval.

The U.S. military is holding all three officials and says Iraqi authorities have yet to make a request for them to be handed over.

".asia" domain applications near 300,000 on opening of registration

The new generic top-level domain, ".asia", met with an Internet landrush following the February 20 launch of the Asia-Pacific domain. Applications have not only come from Asian countries, but also from Europe and North America. Asia accounted for 35% of all applications with Europe and North America taking 40% and 24% respectively.

According to the DotAsia Organization, global application on launch were approximately 266,700. Currently Dotalliance Inc. & EuroDNS S.A. are the top two registrars

"We [DotAsia Organization] have reserved several applications for notable small-business companies in the previous sunrise period before this Landrush. This (reservation) take a good effect and several registered organizations all got their wanted websites. With near 300,000 applications anticipated for the ".asia" domain, it demonstrated a strong demand for ".Asia"."
—Edmon Chung, CEO of DotAsia.

With the ".asia" domain having become notable, many more applications are expected before

the closing date of March 12.

Djekanovic to Whitecaps; O'Brien to Earthquakes

Vancouver Whitecaps signed former Toronto FC Goalkeeper Srdjan Djekanovic to a one year contract. Djekanovic posted a record os two wins, three losses and two ties with a 1.28 goals against average with Toronto FC.

In other transaction, Toronto FC traded Right Winger Ronnie O'Brien to San Jose Earthquakes for a First Round Pick in next year's draft and cash.

Crude oil price reaches new high

Crude oil prices in New York rose to a new record of \$102.59 per barrel on Thursday, although the figure increased even more during after hours trading. In less than a month, prices have risen \$10, leading the figures to above the record highs set during the 1980s (taking inflation into account). Information provided by the International Energy Agency has said that the previous record was \$102.53, with the figures being adjusted according to inflation levels.

The weak dollar is seen as a major cause of this rise. Congressman Ron Paul of Texas, pointed out to Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke in a committee meeting this week that despite the price of oil's rapid ascent, it had remained flat when compared to the price of gold.

Increasing demand for oil has also been cited as the cause for this increase. Violence in Nigeria earlier this year has led to a drop the country's production by almost a quarter. The most recent information produced by the

Energy Information Administration has shown an increase in gasoline prices for all but one of the areas surveyed.

There have also been suggestions that reports of a fire at a National Gas Terminal may have contributed to the rising oil price. Time Evans from Citigroup Futures has stated he believes "that this fire at the UK natural gas terminal is creating a strong push in the European market, and that is translating here [the US]."

National Hockey League news: February 29, 2008

There were 7 games played in the National Hockey League on February 28, 2008. The Penguins, with their newly acquired Marian Hossa face the Bruins, the Senators take the ice for the first time since their head coach was fired, and the Flyers try to get their second straight win after a 10 game losing streak.

Game summaries

Pittsburgh Penguins @ Boston Bruins

Marco Sturm scored a pair of goals in the first period to put Boston at a 2-0 lead. In the second period, Zdeno Chara scored at 2:21 to put the Bruins ahead by 3. Per Johan Axelsson gave Boston a 4 goal lead heading into the second intermission. The newly acquired Pascal Dupuis scored his first goal as a Penguin to put Pittsburgh on the board at 13:03 in the third period. Boston would retake a 4 goal lead before the game ended with David Krejci's power play goal. Tim Thomas made 27 saves for Boston, and increased his record to 23-14-4. Marian Hossa, another new addition to the Pittsburgh roster, left the game in the second period after a knee-on-knee collision with Glen Murray.

Ottawa Senators @ Philadelphia Flyers

Jason Spezza scored first for Ottawa on their second power play, breaking the scoreless tie at 6:33 in the second period. After the goal, Spezza butt-ended Braydon Coburn with his stick during some post-goal roughhousing, resulting in Spezza being ejected from the game. Jim Dowd scored to put Philly on the board later in the period. In the third, the Flyers took their first lead of the game when Mike Knuble scored a pair of goals, the second being a power play goal. Martin Biron made 32 saves, earning his 23rd win of the season.

New York Rangers @ Carolina Hurricanes

Brandon Dubinsky put the Rangers on the board at 3:50 in the first period with his 13th goal of the season. Sean Avery also scored in the first period with 44 seconds left to give New York a two goal lead. Chris Drury had a goal 2:14 into the second period. Erik Cole put the Hurricanes on the board before the halfway point of the second. Carolina came within one goal, when Cole scored his second of the night on the team's 4 minute power play in the third period, but Brendan Shanahan would put the blue shirts back up by 2 a few minutes later. Henrik Lundqvist stopped 26 of Carolina's 28 shots, picking up his third straight win.

New York Islanders @ Atlanta Thrashers

Mike Comrie gave New York the first goal of the game 9:15 into the first period. Just over two minutes later, Josef Vasicek put the Islanders up by 2 with his 14th goal of the season. Andy Hilbert scored to put the Islanders up by 3. Eric Perrin scored on a penalty

shot to put Atlanta on the board. Then, Ken Klee, who was assisted by the newest Thrasher Colby Armstrong, scored his first of the season to put the Thrashers within 1. Atlanta tied it up when Alexei Zhitnik scored 1:14 later. The Islanders retook the lead when Comrie scored his second goal of the night 3:17 into the third period, but Atlanta would force overtime when Bobby Holik scored with 1:22 left in regulation. Trent Hunter won it for the Islanders 1:09 into the sudden death overtime, giving the Thrashers their fifth straight loss.

Phoenix Coyotes @ St. Louis Blues

The Blues took the first lead of the game when Ryan Johnson scored 15:13 into the first period. Ed Jovanovski scored on a Coyotes 5-on-3 power play a couple minutes later to tie the game. While still on a 5-on-4 power play, Niko Kapanen scored on a deflection from Keith Yandle to give Phoenix their first, and only, lead of the game. The one goal lead would hold through the next two periods, as the Coyotes sweep the season series against St. Louis, and give the Blues their 5th straight loss. Ilya Bryzgalov made 41 saves, earning his 25th win of the season.

Chicago Blackhawks @ Dallas Stars

Dustin Byfuglien put Chicago on the board first when he scored a power play 4:08 into the game. The Stars responded less than a minute later when Niklas Hagman scored his 23rd goal of the season. Mike Modano gave Dallas their first lead of the game just before the halfway point of the first period. Hagman scored his second of the night 2:47 into the second period. Loui Eriksson put Dallas ahead by 3 less than two minutes later. Trevor Daley put a goal past Patrick Lalime, which was the last

shot he faced of the night, as he was replaced by Corey Crawford. Rene Bourque scored his first of two short handed goals of the night for the Blackhawks, but Hagman would complete the hat trick moments later. Andrew Ladd put Chicago back within 3 goals with over 10 minutes left in the game, but Jere Lehtinen would retake a 4 goal lead for the Stars, his 12th goal of the year. Bourque scored his second short handed goal of the night with 1:45 left. The Stars win their 4th straight. Brad Richards assisted in 5 goals in his Stars debut.

Los Angeles Kings @ Edmonton Oilers

Andrew Cogliano put Edmonton on the board first 47 seconds into the game. Anze Kopitar tied the score with 6 seconds remaining in the first period. Patrick O'Sullivan scored his 17th goal of the season to give Los Angeles their first lead of the game. Ales Hemsky and Robert Nilsson scored a pair of goals about a minute apart to jump into the lead. Just 57 seconds later, Los Angeles retied the game when Dustin Brown scored his 27th goal of the season. Hemsky scored his second of the night to retake the lead for the Oilers, and Fernando Pisani would cushion their lead with two minutes left in the second period. Brown scored short handed to put Los Angeles within 1 with 9:47 left in the game, but the former King Mathieu Garon would preserve the lead for Edmonton. The Oilers win their third straight game, and finish the season series tied with Los Angeles, 2 games a piece.

Wikinews Player of the Day

Today's Wikinews Player of the Day is Brad Richards of the Dallas Stars. Richards, who was traded



by the Tampa Bay Lightning in a 5 player deal on Tuesday, played in his first game in a Dallas Stars uniform. He earned 5 points on 5

assists, and assisted in the game winning goal by Trevor Daley.

Today in History

- 1565 – Portuguese knight Estácio de Sá founded the city of São Sebastião do Rio de Janeiro (St Sebastian of the January River) in honour of King Sebastian I.
- 1872 – Yellowstone National Park, one of the first national parks in the world, was established.
- 1896 – Ethiopia won the decisive Battle of Adwa over Italy, ending the First Italo-Abyssinian War.
- 1919 – Korea under Japanese rule: The Samil Movement began with numerous peaceful protests in Korea, but was brutally suppressed by the Japanese police and army.
- 1954 – The 15-megaton hydrogen bomb Castle Bravo was detonated on Bikini Atoll in the Pacific Ocean, resulting in one of the worst cases of radioactive contamination ever caused by nuclear testing.
- March 01 is Saint David's Day in Wales, Mărțișor in Romania and Moldova, Martenitsa in Bulgaria.

Quote of the Day

Try to remember this: what you project
 Is what you will perceive; what you perceive
 With any passion, be it love or terror,
 May take on whims and powers of its own.
 ~ Richard Wilbur ~

Word of the Day

polymath n

1. A person with extraordinarily broad and comprehensive knowledge.

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