



### Top Stories

#### Talks continue over UN resolution on Lebanon war

There has been more fighting between Israel and Hezbollah as attempts to reach a diplomatic solution to the crisis in Lebanon continue.

#### Lieberman accuses Lamont supporters of hacking website and e-mail system

Incumbent Senator Joe Lieberman (D-CT) has alleged that supporters of his opponent in Connecticut's Democratic Primary, Ned Lamont have hacked his campaign's website.

### Featured story

#### Apollo Moon landings tapes reported missing

The magnetic tapes containing the original video recordings of the five Apollo Moon landings have been reported missing.

### Wikipedia Current Events

•Amid news of slower-than expected growth and a quarterly rise in the unemployment rate in the United States, Federal Reserve System Chairman Ben Bernanke announced that there will be no increase to the Fed fund rate, ending a two-year period of rising interest rates.

•As Chadian President Idriss Déby is sworn into his third term in office, he hugs Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, who only a few days ago was overseeing a campaign to

### Wikipedia Current Events

overthrow the second Déby administration.

•Connecticut United States Senate election: Polls open in these highly contentious primaries. Incumbent Senator Joseph Lieberman accuses supporters of Ned Lamont of hacking his campaign website and e-mail system.

•Lebanon's coastline could take up to 10 years to recover from a massive oil spill, the nation's environment minister has said.

•The Arab League makes a formal bid at the UN to secure changes to a draft Israel-Hezbollah ceasefire resolution.

•Israel recalls its ambassador from Venezuela following repeated anti-Israel comments made by President Hugo Chávez. Venezuela's ambassador to Israel was called back on August 3.

•Ehud Olmert, the Prime Minister of Israel, describes Lebanon's decision to deploy 15,000 troops in southern Lebanon as an "interesting step" which Israel would review.

•A strong earthquake of 6.7 magnitude hits near the island of Espiritu Santo in Vanuatu at 9:18 a.m. local time.

#### Box office breakouts for August 8, 2006

The highest grossing films in the United States box office for the three day period of August 4 - 6, 2006 are:

Talladega Nights with \$47.0 million  
Barnyard: Original Party Animals with \$15.8 million

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest with \$11.0 million  
Miami Vice with \$10.3 million  
The Descent with \$8.9 million

#### Highly contentious Connecticut primary elections underway

Results are pending from the primary elections held today in the U.S. state of Connecticut. The polls opened at 6 a.m. this morning and closed at 8 p.m. local time (UTC-5).

The result is highly anticipated due to the feud between the two United States Democratic Party candidates: Joe Lieberman, the incumbent Senator and challenger Ned Lamont. The most commonly noted difference between the two candidates is their stance on the War on Terror: Lieberman, who was Democrat Al Gore's running mate in the 2000 US presidential election, is also well known for writing an editorial against criticizing President George W. Bush during wartime, Lamont has challenged President Bush's handling of the Iraq conflict.

The campaign leading up to the election became increasingly acrimonious, with numerous "attack ads" used by both sides.

Because of the nature of the candidates and the marginality of the seat, the race has been seen by some as a "referendum" on the Democratic party or a "proxy vote" on the entire 2003 invasion of Iraq

and subsequent war.

The winner of the primary will face the winner of the Republican primary and other candidates in the November 7 general election. Leiberman has stated that if he's rejected in the primary, he will still run in the fall as an independant.

Colorado, Michigan, Missouri and Georgia are also holding primaries today.

### **19 killed in Baghdad blast**

Roadside bombs have killed a total of 19 people and wounded almost 80 in a series of attacks on Baghdad, Tuesday. Two roadside bombs exploded in the Arabi market killing 10 and wounding 69. Earlier in the day, a bomb destroyed a minibus and a taxi in Baghdad's Nahda district killing nine and wounding eight. Two other bombs targetted police, according to officials, wounding three.

### **Talks continue over UN resolution on Lebanon war**

There has been more fighting between Israel and Hezbollah as attempts to reach a diplomatic solution to the crisis in Lebanon continue.

The Arab League is proposing an amendment calling for Israel's immediate and complete withdrawal from Lebanon, a condition that is not in the current draft.

There are also objections to the resolution's call for Hezbollah to end all attacks whilst only requiring Israel to end "offensive" actions. Critics assert this wording gives Israel room to continue defensive operations. Lebanese parliamentary Speaker Nabih Berri, who is also a member of Hezbollah, said the draft is one

sided. "If Israel has not won the war but still gets all this, what would have happened had they won?" Syrian Foreign Minister Wali Muallem called the American-French proposal "a recipe for the continuation of the war".

Israeli analysts say their government is pleased with the draft. "We got what we wanted" said the Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper.

The draft resolution is not expected to come to the UN Security Council for a vote until Wednesday or Thursday.

The Lebanese government has pledged to dismantle Hezbollah's "state within a state" and to send 15,000 troops to be part of a peacekeeping mission in southern Lebanon if Israel withdraws. The UN resolution proposed by Washington and Paris would allow Israel to remain in Lebanon for the time being. The Beirut government's pledge was unanimously approved by Lebanon's coalition cabinet which, significantly, includes two Hezbollah representatives

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert called the Lebanese proposal an "interesting step", but said Israel would pull out of Lebanon once it decides Hezbollah is no longer a threat.

Meanwhile, Israeli air and artillery strikes continue in their effort to secure key strategic points from which Hezbollah has launched rockets into Israel, and to choke off supply lines over which Hezbollah arms have been travelling. Over 90 missiles hit northern Israel by midday.

The intensity of the fighting has forced the UN to delay for a day

an aid convoy into south Lebanon.

Nearly 1,000 Lebanese and 100 Israelis have been killed during the month long conflict. Casualties have been mostly civilian.

### **Former Australian cricketer Dean Jones sacked after "terrorist" comment**

Former Australian cricketer, Dean Jones was sacked by Ten Sports after he called South African batsman Hashim Amla a "terrorist" on air.

Jones, who was a commentator for Ten Sports said "The terrorist has got another wicket.", in reference to Amla (a practising Muslim who sports a long beard) when the latter dismissed Sri Lankan batsman Kumar Sangakkara during yesterday's match at Colombo.

Gerald Majola, the chief executive of Cricket South Africa, said that Supersport as well as Cricket South Africa had received several angry calls in response to Jones' comment. Shortly after Majola's statement, the Australian was spotted at Colombo airport where he clarified that he was "gone". Dean Jones also admitted that his comment was "silly" and "insensitive" and that "it was never meant to be heard on air". He apologised to those offended by his comment and said that he had not intended to be disrespectful.

### **Christchurch, New Zealand floods causes havoc**

Hillside suburbs in Christchurch, New Zealand have been suffering from torrential rain since Monday night. The Heathcote river burst its banks and caused surface flooding in areas.

Around 60-millimetres of rain has

fallen. The Heathcote river in Beckenham has inundated areas in Eastern Terrace, making some roads impassable. Terry Sefton, Christchurch City Council spokesman, said "Eastern Terrace between Birdwood and Sandwich Roads is impassable and some parts of Palentine and Riverlaw terraces are covered in water."

One household near the river has already been evacuated with another twelve also expected to evacuate out of 30 surrounding houses.

Rain has eased slightly and the Christchurch City Council expects people will be able to return to their homes tonight, along with 400 sandbags laid to protect homes.

The Christchurch City Council have set up a welfare centre at Cashmere High School, with meals supplied by the Salvation Army. Civil Defence is also at the school.

Slips in the Port Hills area have also happened, leaving some roads closed and others limited access.

### **Effort to end monkey-ing around on Delhi's subway**

New Delhi authorities hope a fierce looking primate will solve the problem of mischeivous monkeys infiltrating the city's subway system. The Hindustan Times reports that langurs will be used to scare away their smaller cousins. A langur-wallah (or handler) is being paid 6,900 rupees (US\$ 167) a month as a retainer and "will be called in whenever there is a monkey problem" says Anuj Dayal of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation. "There are too many monkeys" said Mr. Dayal.

In June, a monkey reportedly

crawled through some pipes and into a subway car jumping around and making faces at passengers who were evacuated to another car while staff chased the creature.

Delhi is known to suffer from trouble brought on by monkeys. The animals are reported to invade homes, schools and government offices in the city. Scores of animals have moved in as the city expands into surrounding forests. In an effort to control the problem, the Delhi administration captured about 500 monkeys and took them to the outskirts of the city last year.

### **Colombia's Uribe sworn in to second term as president**

President Alvaro Uribe was sworn into his second term of office in the Colombian capital of Bogota, Monday, pledging to improve the economy and make peace with FARC (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia) rebels.

Security was tight in order to prevent a repetition of the attack on his first inauguration in 2002 when FARC rebels fired mortars at the presidential palace killing 20.

Police reported deactivating a car bomb outside of the capital on Monday.

In his inaugural speech, Uribe pledged "Fear will not stop us negotiating. I confess my concern is something else - the risk of failing to get peace and slipping back in security."

The event was attended by 11 heads of state, mostly from South America.

Aribe, 54, a free-market conservative from the land-owning class, is seen as one of the few

remaing allies of US President George W. Bush on a continent that has seen a swing to the left with the election in recent years of leftists in Brazil and Argentina, Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador and Chile. He was re-elected with 62% of the vote in May. He changed the constitution to allow himself to serve two consecutive terms. His first term saw a drop in the number of muders and kidnappings, offensives against the Marxist FARC rebels and an amnesty for right wing paramilitary fighters but there is a widespread feeling that Aribe has failed to militarily defeat the rebels and there is a public mood favouring negotiation. Tens of thousands of civilians have been killed in the four decades-long conflict between rebels, the army, and right wing paramilitaries.

Uribe will also face increasing demands for improved security and more social investment. Half of the country's population lives below the poverty line making less than three dollars a day despite an economic boom and 13 million Colombians have no pension.

"We are against a fiscally tight macro-economic policy that leaves economic growth to the luck of supply and demand. The state must be devoted in equal parts to growth and equality," he said in his speech.

### **Police seize \$1 million worth of cannabis in southwestern Sydney**

Police in South-Western Sydney raided two homes in Greenfield Park on Monday, seizing 1 million AUD worth of cannabis. Both houses were located on Smithfield Road.

The two houses were raided at 11:30 AM AEST on Monday where

police found what they called "ellaborate [sic] hydroponic set-ups". Police seized 360 cannabis plants in addition to a large quantity of processed cannabis.

At the time of the raids, there was nobody at home. No charges have been laid over the discovery, but police say they are continuing investigations.

According to police, the Wetherill Park Target Action Group are cracking down on the cultivation of hydroponic cannabis.

**Today in History**

378 - A large Roman army led by Emperor Valens was destroyed by the Visigoths in the Battle of Adrianople.

1173 - The construction of a campanile, which would eventually become the Leaning Tower of Pisa, began.

1942 - The British Raj arrested Mahatma Gandhi and various leaders of the Congress Party, beginning the suppression of the Quit India Movement.

1945 - World War II: USAAF bomber Bockscar dropped an atomic bomb named Fat Man, devastating Nagasaki, Japan.

1974 - The Watergate scandal: Richard Nixon became the first president of the United States to resign from office.

August 09 is National Day for Singapore (1965), National Women's Day in South Africa.

**Quote of the Day**

"Education, for most people, means trying to lead the child to resemble the typical adult of his society... But for me, education means making creators... You have to make inventors, innovators, not conformists."

~ Jean Piaget

**Word of the Day**

porous; adj

1. Having tiny openings through which liquids may pass.

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