



Top Stories

Mujahedeen Army issues threat of attack on Vatican City

The Mujahedeen Army or Army of the Muaidines, a group of insurgents in Iraq has posted a message on the internet threatening attacks on Vatican City in Rome, Italy.

Princeton report questions electronic voting machine security

Researchers at Princeton university report that Diebold AccuVote-TS electronic voting machines are vulnerable to extremely serious attacks that can steal votes, remain undetected and spread to other machines. Diebold disputes the findings

Featured story

USA beats NZ in the Wheelchair Rugby Championships 2006

The United States of America have beaten the New Zealand Wheel Blacks to win the 2006 Wheelchair Rugby Championships.

Wikipedia Current Events

• The Associated Press claims that Bilal Hussein, an AP photographer and Iraqi citizen, has been held for five months in a United States military prison without charges against him. AP claims they tried to have Hussein released quietly, but when that failed, they went public.

Wikipedia Current Events

- German state elections in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania and Berlin. MWP: SPD 31%, CDU 29%, FDP 10%, Left 17%. Berlin: SPD 31%, CDU 22%, FDP 7%, Left 13%, Greens 13%. For the first time, the NPD got into the state parliament in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania.
- Pope Benedict XVI states that he is "deeply sorry" about the angry reaction from his comments and says that his remarks came from a text that didn't reflect his personal opinion.
- A Roman Catholic nun, who worked as a nurse for SOS Children's Villages is shot dead by gunmen in Mogadishu.
- Hurricane Lane is downgraded to a tropical storm.
- At least 21 people have been killed after a truck bomb went off in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk, according to local police. Reports indicate that the bomb exploded near the offices of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan of Jalal Talabani, the President of Iraq.
- Four people are dead and 62 are wounded when five bomb blasts go off in southern Thailand tourist hotspot of Hat Yai.
- A global day of action, dubbed the 'International Day for Darfur' by Amnesty International, begins with demonstrators marching in several of the world's cities to highlight the plight of refugees and victims of genocide in the

Wikipedia Current Events

- region.
- Swedish general election, 2006 is held to elect 349 members to the Riksdag. Elections to County and Municipal councils are on the same day. Voting is between 08:00 - 20:00. CEST (UTC+2)
- Sweden's center-right opposition alliance Alliance for Sweden declares victory after nearly complete official election results showed it narrowly defeating the governing Swedish Social Democratic Party. The Prime Minister of Sweden, Göran Persson, conceded defeat.
- Hosts Germany fought back from 3-1 down to beat Olympic champions Australia 4-3 and retain their World Cup title in the 11. edition of the Hockey World Cup.

Set of CSI: Miami becomes real crime scene

Police were called to the set of CSI: Miami during filming, when a real body was seen washing up on shore.

A police officer for the Miami Dade Police Department spotted the body while he was working on the show which was being filmed in Bicentennial Park in Miami, Florida.

The cast of the show were attempting to get shots from the air using a helicopter when the officer spotted the body floating a few yards from the set's location.

"Unfortunately, it's not unusual

during certain times of the year that people who have fallen in the bay, either homeless people or people who were asleep or in some cases boaters who had a mishap, fall into the bay and turn up days later," said Delrish Moss, a detective for Miami Police.

There is no word on what caused the individuals death, but police say an autopsy will be performed on the body.

Earlier in the week, the set of CSI: New York was turned into a real crime scene when a mummified body was discovered inside a building located in Los Angeles, California where the show was being filmed.

The corpse "was discovered by a building engineer who checked on the tenant because he had not paid rent for the month," the Miami Herald reported an unnamed source as saying.

CSI: New York just got done filming an episode with a similar plot.

Mujahedeen Army issues threat of attack on Vatican City

The Mujahedeen Army, a group of insurgents in Iraq has posted a message on the internet threatening attacks on Vatican City in Rome, Italy.

The statement is issued to "you dog of Rome" then begins to threaten Rome saying, we will "shake your thrones and break your crosses in your home. Our minds will not rest until we shake your thrones and break your crosses in your home. We swear to God to send you people who adore death as much as you adore life. Rome will be a witness when Mahomad destroys the Vatican. Rome's cross will be destroyed."

The threat comes after Pope Benedict XVI recited verses from a conversation between Emperor Byzantine Manuel II Paleologus and a Persian man in the 14th century. The Pope recited the remarks quoting Paleilogus as saying, "show me just what Muhammad brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached."

Because of the threat, security around Pope Benedict has been increased.

"The preoccupations make reference not only to the Vatican City, but also to diverse objectives that are somehow conducive to the catholic world," the Dominican Today news agency quoted the Italian News Agency as saying.

Security around the Pope "will be discreet not to disturb the context of the mass however, meticulous and attentive, it will cover a more extensive area than what is habitual. [We] have reinforced safety measures in the area surrounding the Vatican."

Secretary of State Cardinal Tarcisio of Vatican City says the Pope apologizes for his remarks made during a speech at the University of Regensburg in Germany on September 12 2006 saying, "the Holy Father is very sorry that some passages of his speech may have appeared offensive to Muslims and were interpreted in a way he hadn't intended them to be. [The speech was supposed to reflect] the relationship between religion and violence in general, and to conclude with a clear and radical rejection of the religious motivation for violence, from

whatever side it may come."

The Pope apologized in public today saying, "at this time I wish also to add that I am deeply sorry for the reactions in some countries to a few passages of my address at the University of Regensburg, which were considered offensive to the sensibility of Muslims. These [comments] were in fact a quotation from a medieval text which do not in any way express my personal thought."

"I hope that this serves to appease hearts and to clarify the true meaning of my address, which in its totality was and is an invitation to frank and sincere dialogue, with great mutual respect," added the Pope.

Study: chemicals from cruciferous veggies kill cancer cells

A new study conducted by researchers from University of Otago's Christchurch School of Medicine has found that certain chemical compounds naturally found in cruciferous vegetables help kill cancer cells that are particularly resistant to chemotherapy. The study has been published in Cancer Research.

The research team found that chemicals called isothiocyanates cause cancer cells to commit suicide. This includes cells with high levels of the protein Bcl-2, which makes them resistant to chemotherapy. Isothiocyanates are naturally found in cruciferous vegetables. These include kale, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, bok choy, radish, and watercress, among others.

Dr. Mark Hampton, the team leader, said that "a cancer cell with a lot of Bcl-2 has increased resistance to chemotherapy drugs

that are used to destroy the tumor. We've found that Bcl-2 can't protect cancer cells against certain isothiocyanates".

Pope apologises in person for the reaction to his comments

The Pope after delivering Angelus Blessing on Sunday has issued a personal statement regarding his offensive remarks last week in Bavaria that angered the Islamic community. He quotes "I am deeply sorry for the reactions in some countries to a few passages of my address at the University of Regensburg, which were considered offensive to the sensibility of Muslims." Senior imams in India have supported the Pope's apology and calls for an end to violent protests. The Pope also clarifies the statement quoting "These in fact were a quotation from a medieval text, which do not in any way express my personal thought."

India, Pakistan decide to resume peace process

Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh and President Pervez Musharraf, who are currently attending the Non-Aligned Movement summit in Havana issued a joint statement confirming that the peace process between India and Pakistan was back on track. The two leaders spoke for over a hour in private to sort out their issues and work out a plan to recommence peace-talks, which were stalled for some time in the aftermath of the 11/7 bombings in Mumbai.

"These talks are happening in the aftermath of the Mumbai blasts. The two countries have decided to condemn terrorism in all its forms," Indian Prime Minister Singh said, while the President hailed his country's relations with India saying Mohabbat Zindabad

(long live goodwill). The Foreign Secretaries of the two nations will now meet to discuss such issues as the demilitarisation of the Siachen glacier and Sir Creek and also the status of confidence building measures such as the Lahore-Amritsar bus service and the Thar Express.

The two countries have decided to form an Indian-Pakistani institution to fight and identify terrorism. The possibility of the intelligence agencies from both countries sharing information with each other is also being explored.

President Musharraf stated that "all outstanding issues including the key Kashmir factor" needed to be resolved. He also invited Dr. Singh to visit Islamabad.

Nun murdered in Somalia after Pope's speech

An elderly nun was shot dead by unidentified attackers in a hospital in Islamist-controlled Somalia.

Muslim leaders in the region have demanded that Muslims "hunt down" and kill the Pontiff. They have also told worshippers that "whosoever offends our Prophet Mohammed should be killed on the spot by the nearest Muslim". The attack comes in the wake of a speech made by the Pontiff on Tuesday in which he quoted a 14th Century Christian emperor who said the Prophet Muhammad had brought the world only "evil and inhuman" things.

Today in History

96 - Nerva was appointed by the Senate to become Roman Emperor, the first of the Five Good Emperors.

1850 - The United States Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Act.

1895 - Daniel David Palmer made the first chiropractic adjustment.

1931 - The Mukden Incident: A section of the Japanese-built South Manchuria Railway was allegedly destroyed by Chinese terrorists, providing an excuse for the Japanese annexation of Manchuria.

1998 - The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), a non-profit organization that manages the assignment of domain names and IP addresses in the Internet, was established. September 18 is Respect for the Aged Day in Japan (2006); National Day in Chile.

Quote of the Day

ardor; n

1. Great warmth of feeling; fervor; passion.

Word of the Day

"I hate a fellow whom pride or cowardice or laziness drives into a corner, and who does nothing when he is there but sit and growl. Let him come out as I do, and bark." ~ Samuel Johnson

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