



Top Stories

Osama bin Laden to release message to US on 9/11

Two U.S.-based terrorism monitors expect al-Qaeda's leader to release a video message on the sixth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

Former Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau criticised in new book "Brian Mulroney: Memoirs 1939-1993"

Former Progressive-Conservative Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney has revealed his most secret thoughts on former Liberal Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

Featured story

Police called to investigate after tenant draws swastikas in landlord's house

The terms "Kike", "Fuck Jews," and "White Power" were graffitied in white around a Canadian house on Tuesday, as well as a large green swastika. Broken windows and walls were found ripped open.

Wikipedia Current Events

Subtropical Storm Gabrielle forms southeast of the Carolina coast in the Atlantic Ocean.

- Two owners of a New Orleans nursing home are found not guilty of negligent homicide concerning the death of 35 residents after Hurricane Katrina.
- Six detained Professors of the Rajshahi University are

Wikipedia Current Events

suspended for their involvement in last month protests for restoring democracy in Bangladesh.

- At least 80 people have died and scores injured as a truck and trailers carrying pilgrims plunges into a gorge near the village of Desuri Ki Naal in Rajasthan, India.
- The pilot of a civilian World War II stunt plane dies while practicing at Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach, Virginia.
- Robert Mugabe, the President of Zimbabwe, accused Levy Mwanawasa, the President of Zambia and Chairman of the Southern African Development Community, of selling out his country to the Western world and plotting with foreign intelligence agencies during an SADC conference in August. President Mwanawasa later apologized to Mugabe, saying Mugabe had misunderstood an earlier comment.
- United States District Court judge Royce Lamberth orders Iran to pay \$2.6 billion to victims and families in the 1983 Hezbollah bombing of a United States Marine Corps barracks in Lebanon that claimed 241 American lives.
- The Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego agrees to pay \$198.1 million to settle 144 claims of sexual abuse by clergy.

Osama bin Laden to release message to US on six year anniversary of 9/11

The leader of al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden is expected to release videotaped message to the American people on or before next week's sixth anniversary of the September 11 attacks on the United States in 2001.

The SITE Institute and IntelCenter, two U.S. based terrorist monitoring groups have stated an announcement, in the name of al-Qaeda's media-production arm, As-Sahab, seen on an Islamist website this week indicates the new al-Qaeda video is about to be released.

The announcement also came with a photo of bin Laden, which is said to have been taken recently. There have been no photos released of bin Laden since 2004, and the last known audio message he recorded is reported to have been made over a year ago.

The U.S. states that capturing Bin Laden is still a top priority.

"Obviously, it's a huge priority for us to capture and kill bin Laden and bring he and the rest of the leadership to justice. I just think people have got to be clear that we're being manipulated every time that they issue a statement, because they're trying to use the media as a way to terrorize us," said the Homeland Security Adviser for the White House, Frances Townsend.

Townsend also stated that the videotape is likely propaganda, but the U.S. will still monitor the situation.

2007 Rugby World Cup: Argentina shock France in tournament opener

Tournament hosts France slumped to a shock defeat against Argentina in the opening match of the 2007 Rugby World Cup.

France looked shaky, making errors throughout and Argentina took the lead early on through penalties from Felipe Contepomi. Ignacio Corleto scored the only try of the match for Argentina in the 27th minute, but Contepomi missed the conversion, hitting the post. At half time Argentina led by 17 points to 9, with all France's points coming from penalties scored by David Skrela.

Although France improved in the second half, Argentina's strong defence held them off and France were only able to close the lead to five points when David Skrela scored his fourth penalty of the match in the 60th minute. Skrela and his replacement Frederic Michalak both missed penalties, damaging French chances of a comeback.

This is the first time that the French have lost during the pool stages of the World Cup.

2003 champions England start defending their title tomorrow when they play the United States. Australia face Japan while New Zealand, who are one of the favourites to win the tournament, play Italy.

Heavy turbulence during WestJet flight injures nine people

Nine passengers were injured after

heavy turbulence during a WestJet flight 80 Boeing 737-700 plane flight yesterday night, causing it to drop 300 metres.

The plane was coming from Calgary International Airport in Calgary, Alberta, where their headquarters are located, and was to arrive in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

There were very minor cases of turbulence, enough that many passengers felt it. The plane, flying at an altitude of about 12,000 metres and 39,000 feet, started getting very heavy turbulence near Sudbury, Ontario, in northern Ontario. The pilot had already spoken to the passengers through intercom about the turbulence. As soon as the seatbelt light came on it was too late for many passengers and the plane, at once, started dropping. The people that were standing at the time of the incident were thrown around the cabin. A man, who later suffered from bad lacerations to his head and leg, had fallen on top of his wife.

Registered nurse Kathi Nelson and licenced practical nurse Nancy Powers, both from British Columbia, were aboard the plane and treated the injured passengers until the plane landed. The injured were taken out of the plane by a large lift.

"The things that were in the pocket in front of me, that are normally fairly snug, went straight up and straight down again," said Powers. "People were nervous and a little bit uncomfortable with what just happened and they weren't sure whether to laugh, scream, or cry."

Three passengers were taken to QEII Health Sciences Centre hospital and six others were

treated at the scene after the plane landed at Halifax Stanfield International Airport at or around 7:30 p.m. All nine have been released.

"We provided emergency response and three ambulances were escorted to the tarmac so they were available immediately adjacent to the aircraft," said Peter Spurway, a spokesman for Robert L. Stanfield International Airport Authority, which owns Halifax Stanfield International Airport. He also said they were notified 40 minutes before of the injuries.

"We would only investigate if we thought that there was a good potential to advance aviation safety," Mike Cunningham of the Transportation Safety Board said today. "So if it turns out to be just an unfortunate encounter that was handled in the proper fashion by the crew, there's no need for us to investigate further than that."

WestJet classified the turbulence as "moderate". Thundershowers also could have caused the problem.

"It's just that it's a little bumpier," said WestJet spokesman Richard Bartrem. In moderate turbulence, "the plane's going to get bounced around a little bit."

The Transportation Safety Board and Transport Canada are investigating if flight crew followed proper procedures. If no evidence is found the Transportation Safety Board will back out of the investigation.

Romanian sergeant killed in Afghanistan by makeshift landmine

A Romanian soldier was killed on Thursday in Afghanistan and two others were wounded after their

armored personnel carrier ran over a makeshift device. According to Romanian daily Evenimentul Zilei, this brings up to seven the number of Romanian soldiers dead on the 'anti-terror' front in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sergeant Major Aurel Marcu, 31, died immediately. Four other members of the team were all injured. Two of the soldiers, lieutenant Nicolae Grigore and lead-soldier Alex Zafiu, were transported by helicopter to a Kandahar military hospital, a Romanian Defense Ministry release informs. The other two received medical assistance in Qalat.

Sergeant Aurel Marcu was married and had a three-year-old child. He is the seventh Romanian Army fatality in the Middle East front, where there have been three victims in Iraq and four in Afghanistan.

With more than 800 soldiers, Romania is one of the ten countries which provide most of the NATO forces.

English Wikinews publishes 10000th article

The English Wikinews, a collaborative citizen journalism site, published its 10,000th news stories today at around 06:56, 7 September 2007 UTC. The 10000th story was entitled Australian comedians "could have been shot" during APEC prank, a follow-up story on Australian TV show The Chaser breaches APEC security; 11 charged. The article was created by accredited Wikinews reporter Nathan Carter from Bathurst, Australia, under his username Cartman02au.

The countdown by Wikinews members has been happening for several weeks, and the site

administrators thanked all contributors with the message "Thanks for supporting Wikinews for 10,000 articles and counting!", which displays on top of all pages.

The closest other Wikinews projects are the German Wikinews, with approximately 6383 articles, and the Polish Wikinews with 5211 articles. Wikinews has projects in 22 different languages, which totals 40,897 articles.

Wikinews, a sister project of the collaborative free online encyclopedia Wikipedia, has been described in many articles by mainstream media as the most extreme form of citizen journalism, allowing readers to write and edit the news content. In contrast to other citizen journalism websites such as OhMyNews and Indymedia, Wikinews articles adhere to the neutral point of view policy.

In the group of projects run by the Wikimedia Foundation which controls Wikipedia and Wikinews, the latter is the only project that allows original reporting, an aspect that is actually discouraged on other projects. Wikinews has some 25 active accredited reporters who have produced a variety of highly local news and interviews, for example with UK politician Tony Benn. Some articles are about Wikipedia, for example the recent reporting on the anonymous post to the Chris Benoit article which seemed to predict the death of his wife Nancy. Most articles on Wikinews however are summary articles based on published news sources.

In the Wikimedia family, Wikinews has been one of the slowest growing members. Several factors contribute to this, including the popularity of Wikipedia and the

fact that Wikipedia also has articles on current events and even a current events portal.

Wikinews moved out of its test phase in December 2004. The previous milestone was the 5000th article on April 29, 2006.

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Australian comedians "could have been shot" during APEC prank

According to the highest ranking police officer in New South Wales, the cast and crew of Australian TV show, The Chaser's War on Everything could have been shot during a prank staged in Sydney where they breached APEC security.

The comedians staged a fake motorcade to gain access to the APEC restricted area in Sydney's CBD. It is believed that the motorcade was waved through security checkpoints on Macquarie Street and ended up just metres from the hotel where United States President George W. Bush was staying. Police moved in on the group when one of the pranksters emerged from a vehicle dressed as Osama bin Laden.

Police commissioner Andrew Scipione said the prank could have resulted in someone being injured. "The reality is... (they) put security services in a position where they might have had to take an action no one would want."

"We have snipers deployed around the city. They weren't there for show, they mean business, that's what they were there for," said Mr Scipione.

"I'm angry, I'm very angry that

this stunt happened, it was a very dangerous stunt." —Andrew Scipione, police commissioner

Mr Scipione was annoyed that the stunt had been carried out. He said "I'm angry, I'm very angry that this stunt happened, it was a very dangerous stunt." The commissioner also said that the comedians had already been warned about carrying out pranks during APEC. "The people that were involved were told - we told them, we sent them maps, ... We made it very clear that they shouldn't do stunts, particularly those that were going to be dangerous," said Mr Scipione.

Neil Fergus, senior executive for Intelligent Risks and former intelligence chief for the Sydney Olympics spoke out against those responsible for the prank. He reinforced that the prank could have ended up in someone being hurt and commended the police for dealing with the situation in the way they did.

"People can talk over each other on radios and there can be confusion, so the police response - I think - was terrific," he said.

"And thank God it was what it was. You've only got to look at the experience that a very professional police service had in London when a young Brazilian was tragically shot by anti-terrorism forces."

"So I think the police are to be commended with the professional way that they did identify the incursion, the restraint that they showed in handling it and the fact that what we're talking about today is a bad and irresponsible joke, instead of a more tragic set of circumstances."

The show's executive producer

Morrow denied placing anyone in danger.

"Was it irresponsible? I wouldn't think so. Hard to say," he said.

"No, no. We had no intention of harming anyone. Sorry guys ... Lucky it was us and not Al Qaeda."

Syria fires on Israeli fighter planes

Syria has fired on Israeli fighter jets after they claim that the planes entered Syrian territory "dropping ammunition" and traveling at the speed of sound.

"Air defense units confronted them and forced them to leave after they dropped some ammunition in deserted areas without causing any human or material damage. We warn the Israeli enemy government against this flagrant aggressive act, and retain the right to respond in an appropriate way," said a spokesman for the Syrian military force.

Israel has neither confirmed or denied the reports, simply stating that "we cannot discuss military operations." Past Israeli military operations into Syrian airspace have been confirmed by the Israeli military, such as the circling of Syrian President Bashar Assad's compound in 2006.

Israel, in the past, would fly over Lebanon and Turkey to perform training exercises and have at times traveled at the speed of sound. The last reported Israeli fighter planes to fly into Syria was in 2006 after an Israeli soldier had been kidnapped. They also flew into Syria just before they began an armed conflict with Lebanon.

Syria has said that no targets were hit and that no one was injured in the incident.

Major League Baseball roundup: September 6, 2007

Tigers hit another walkoff single to win

- Tigers 3, White Sox 2: After winning on Wednesday with a walkoff single in the 11th inning, the Tigers overcame a 2-1 deficit in the bottom of the 9th inning with two RBI singles to win, 3-2. Pinch hitter Sean Casey drove in the tying run off a one-out single, and Omar Infante, who came in to pinch run for Casey, scored off a two-run single by Placido Polanco. For the second game in a row, Bobby Seay (3-0) pitched one hitless inning for the win, while Bobby Jenks (3-5) got the loss, giving up two runs and receiving his sixth blown save, his first since July 17. The Tigers (75-65) trail the Indians by 6 games, pending the results of the Indians-Angels game, and trail the Yankees by 3 games in the AL Wild Card race.

Other games

- Dodgers 7, Cubs 4: Alfonso Soriano hit two homers and drove in all four Cubs runs, but the Dodgers scored one run in the eighth inning and four in the ninth inning, dropping the Cubs into a tie with the Brewers in the NL Central. Andre Ethier hit a pinch-hit three-run homer (11) to win the game for the Dodgers. Joe Beimel (4-1) picked up the win, pitching 1 2/3 perfect innings. Ryan Dempster (2-5) got the loss, giving up four runs in 2/3 inning for his third blown save. Takashi Saito picked up his 37th save in a perfect ninth

inning. The Cubs (71-68) next face the Pirates, while the Brewers play the Reds. The Dodgers (74-66), meanwhile, trail the Diamondbacks by 3.5 games in the NL West, and trail the Padres by 2.5 games in the NL Wild Card race.

- Red Sox 7, Orioles 6: The Red Sox scored six runs early, including Coco Crisp's three-run homer (6), and David Ortiz' solo homer (27) and RBI groundout, but the Orioles also scored six, including Miguel Tejada, who hit two RBI singles in the game, and Kevin Millar, who hit a two-run homer (15). The game was tied 6-6 from the fifth inning until the ninth inning, when Jason Varitek drove in the game-winning run off a single, scoring Crisp. Boston reliever Clay Buchholz (3-0) pitched three innings, giving up just one hit for the win. Danyz Baez (0-6) gave up one run in one inning of work for the loss, and Jonathan Papelbon picked up his 34th save. The Red Sox (85-56) hold a 6.5 game lead in the AL East race over the Yankees, who did not play Thursday.
- Cardinals 16, Pirates 4: Rick Ankiel led the Cardinals, going 3-4 with seven RBI and four runs, including a three-run and a two-run homer (8, 9), and a two-run double. The game was called due to rain in the ninth inning. Kelvin Jimenez (2-0) picked up the win, pitching to just one batter (recording a strikeout). Bryan Bullington (0-1) got the loss, pitching 3 innings and giving up five runs. The

Cardinals (69-68) are just one game back of the Cubs and the Brewers in the heated NL Central race.

- Angels 10, Indians 3: The Angels pounded the Indians, led by Garret Anderson, who went 3-5 with a two-run homer and 3 RBI. Anderson has driven in at least one run in his last 11 games. Kelvim Escobar (16-7) got the win, pitching 5 2/3 innings and giving up three runs, while Paul Byrd (14-6) pitched 4 2/3 innings, giving up five runs for the loss. The Indians (81-59) lead the Tigers by 6 games in the AL Central race; the Angels (83-57) lead the AL West by 8 games.

Wikipedia Current Events

The death toll from Hurricane Felix rises to at least 130 in Nicaragua and Honduras.

•The Polish Sejm votes to dissolve itself, causing early parliamentary elections in October 2007.

•Global Stock Markets fall sharply amid recession fears after the release of a report that shows a surprise decline of the US workforce in August, for the first time in four years.

•The Indonesian Supreme Court rejects an appeal by Bali bomber Amrozi bin Nurhasyim.

•United States District Court judge William Hoeweler refuses to block the extradition of former Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega to France to face charges.

•Disappearance of Madeline McCann: Portuguese police believe that Kate McCann and Gerry McCann may be involved in

Wikipedia Current Events

their daughters possible death with both parents being named as suspects.

•The United States is investigating a video which it has obtained, to see if the claims that the man on it is Osama bin Laden are genuine. If they are found to be, it will have been the first time he has been seen since October 2004.

•The BBC reports that investigations into a recent outbreak of foot and mouth disease has identified five breaches of biosecurity at the Pirbright site of the Institute for Animal Health.

•Voters in Morocco go to the polls for the Moroccan parliamentary election, 2007.

•The President of Russia Vladimir Putin signs a uranium deal with the Prime Minister of Australia John Howard before meeting with the President of the United States George W. Bush.

•President Bush offers North Korea the prospect of a peace treaty if it gives up its nuclear weapons program in talks with the President of South Korea Roh Moo-hyun.

•Christopher R. Hill, United States Assistant Secretary of State says that North Korea has invited experts from the US, China and Russia to inspect nuclear sites to be disabled.

•Typhoon Fitow passes over Tokyo with one casualty occurring in Nagano Prefecture last night.

•Stephenson King becomes the Prime Minister of Saint Lucia after John Compton dies.

Today in History

1331 – Stefan Uroš IV Dušan of the House of Nemanjić was crowned King of Serbia.

1888 – The inaugural season of The Football League in England, the oldest professional league competition in world football (soccer), began with twelve member clubs.

1900 – The Great Galveston Hurricane, one of the deadliest Atlantic hurricanes with estimated winds of 135 miles per hour (215 km/h) at landfall, struck Galveston, Texas, USA, killing at least 6,000 people.

1941 – World War II: German forces began the Siege of Leningrad. Over 1 million of Leningrad's civilians died from starvation before the siege ended on January 27, 1944, becoming one of the most lethal battles in world history.

1974 – Watergate scandal: U.S. President Gerald Ford gave recently-resigned U.S. President Richard Nixon a full and unconditional, but controversial, pardon for any crimes he committed while in office.

September 08 is Independence Day in the Republic of Macedonia (1991); Victory Day in Malta; National Day in Andorra; International Literacy Day.

Quote of the Day

I'm not a politician, I'm a musician. I care about giving people a place where they can go to enjoy themselves and to begin to live again. To the man you have to give the spirit, and when you give him the spirit, you have done everything. ~ Luciano Pavarotti

Word of the Day

lionize; v

1. To treat (a person) as if he were important, or a celebrity.
2. To visit famous places in

order to revere them.

About Wikinews

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http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Main_Page

Word of the Day

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