



### Top Stories

#### US claims Iraqi militants armed with Iranian weapons

United States military and intelligence officials have presented material they say link weapons used by Iraqi fighters to Iran.

#### DaimlerChrysler plans to cut 13,000 jobs

International car company DaimlerChrysler announced Wednesday it would cut 13,000 jobs in North America. About 9,000 jobs will be cut in the U.S., 2,000 in Canada, and 2,000 salaried jobs. Making 13,000 cut jobs.

### Featured story

#### Cars big winner as 34th Annual Annie Awards handed out

Cars drove home the big prize last night, from the 34th Annual Annie Awards, while Flushed Away won five awards, the most of the night. The animation industry's highest honor, ASIFA-Hollywood's Annies recognise contributions to animation, and Wikinews was there, capturing moments on the red carpet.

### Wikipedia Current Events

- The United States redeploys the 173rd Airborne Brigade to Afghanistan to prepare for an anticipated spring offensive by the Taliban.
- Bombay Stock Exchange sells 5 percent stake to Germany's

### Wikipedia Current Events

- Deutsche Börse.
- The Parliament of Serbia rejects a United Nations plan for the future of Kosovo.
  - Author and comedian Al Franken announces his candidacy for Senator of Minnesota.
  - Vodafone's Chief Executive, Arun Sarin, says the company will spend US\$2 billion to enhance its investments in India.
  - Valentine's Day Storm of 2007: A major weather system reaches the Northeastern United States and eastern Canada and hammers the region with snow and ice. The same system is responsible for severe weather in the Midwest and a tornado in New Orleans, Louisiana.
  - U.S. military spokesman Maj. Gen. William Caldwell announces that Muqtada Al Sadr fled Iraq several weeks ago and is in Iran.
  - General Peter Pace, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff says that there is no proof that the Iranian government is directly arming Shia groups fighting in Iraq. White House Press Secretary Tony Snow challenges this statement.
  - The U.S. House of Representatives debates the proposed resolution to oppose President Bush's surge plan.
  - The U.S. military confirms that a United States Marine Corps CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter that crashed on 7 February 2007 was shot down by insurgents.

### Wikipedia Current Events

- French counterterrorism police arrest 11 people who were allegedly part of a network to recruit Islamic radicals to work with Al-Qaeda in Iraq.
- The European parliament has approved a report on secret CIA flights which condemns member states that allowed the operations.
- Tens of thousands of Lebanese rally in Beirut to mark the second anniversary of the killing of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.
- Leaders of the Anglican Church meet in Tanzania with a possibility of a schism over the issue of homosexual clergy.
- Gurbanguly Berdimuhammedow is sworn in as President of Turkmenistan.
- The foreign ministers of China, India and Russia meet in New Delhi, India to discuss greater cooperation between the three Asian countries on issues including terrorism, drug trafficking and Afghanistan.
- A bus belonging to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps has been hit by a car bomb in Zahedan killing 18 people.

#### DaimlerChrysler plans to cut 13,000 jobs

International car company DaimlerChrysler announced today it would cut 13,000 jobs in North America. It could part ways with the loss-making business.

It also plans to cut two Chrysler

plants in an attempt to make Chrysler business profitable by 2008.

About 9,000 jobs will be cut in the U.S., 2,000 in Canada, and 2,000 salaried jobs. Making 13,000 cut jobs.

"It's hard to say if it's enough ... but the stock is reacting nicely, which is further verification that this is a favorable restructuring move and a much-needed one at Chrysler," said chief investment officer at Solaris Asset Management, Tim Ghriskey.

Following some speculation that the companies Daimler-Benz (Mercedes-Benz) and Chrysler, which merged together in 1998 to make DaimlerChrysler, would split, chairman Dieter Zetsche denied allegations.

"We do not exclude any option in order to find the best solution for both the Chrysler Group and DaimlerChrysler."

### **Car bomb kills 11 in Iran**

A car bomb detonated Wednesday outside of Zahedan, the capital of Iran's Sistan-Baluchestan Province. The bomb killed 11 Revolutionary Guard members and injured 34 others.

Jundallah, a Sunni militant group suspected of having ties with al-Qaida, took responsibility for the attack. Officials have yet to confirm their claim. Zahedan deputy Hossein Ali Shahriyari blamed Pakistan calling it a, "safe heaven for insurgents".

### **Funding Gap forces library closures in Jackson County, Oregon**

Due to a US\$23 million budget shortfall, all public libraries in Jackson County, Oregon are

scheduled to close April 6. The U.S. Congress did not renew the Secure Rural Schools and Self-Determination Act, which replaces property tax revenues with revenue sharing from timber harvests. Jackson County used the revenue to pay for libraries and sheriff's patrols. Voters rejected a property tax increase last November. A similar increase will appear on the May ballot; such increases must pass a double-majority vote: a majority of county voters must turn out for the election, and a majority of those must support the increase.

Supporters hope the measure will pass this time. "Many people didn't believe we were going to close libraries." said County Commissioner C.W. Smith. The Ashland City Council has said it would find a funding solution to keep their branch of the library open; other cities have not made similar statements. Some alternative funding solutions, such as charging subscription fees, have been considered. However, charging fees for access to libraries is illegal in Oregon.

Jackson County is located in Southern Oregon, and has a population of 181,000. The Jackson County Library System consists of 15 branches.

### **Archaeologist finds earliest tools used by non-human apes**

Archaeologist Julio Mercader at the University of Calgary has discovered hammer-like tools, dating back 4300 years. The tools are thought to have been used by non-human primates to crack nuts.

The large size of the stones are of too great a weight to have been favoured as tools by humans. Further, humans are not believed to have been in that area at that time for the primates to have learned

from them by observation.

Mercader suggests that this implies the primates learned to use the tools either independently of humans or else by a common ancestor (of common descent).

Further evidence supporting the hypothesis that the hammers were not used by humans includes that the nut residue on the tools are of nuts which were not regularly a part of a human diet.

Mercader elaborates in a prepared statement: "Some of the nuts require a compression force of more than a thousand kilograms to crack. And the idea is to crack the shell but not smash it — it's not a simple technique."

Social and Political implications follow from the findings also. Anthropologist Agustín Fuentes (at Indiana's University of Notre Dame) said, "It puts the nail in the coffin on those who say chimp tool use is atypical."

This parallel of human evolution may also lead to further debate on the legal rights of primates.

### **Canada's best films of 2006 honoured at Genie Awards**

was Canada's most-honoured film from 2006 at Tuesday's 27th Genie Awards in Toronto. The dramatisation of revered Montreal Canadiens ice hockey player Maurice Richard won in 9 of the 13 categories for which it was nominated.

The bilingual police-comedy *Bon Cop, Bad Cop* was 2006's most financially successful movie within Canada which earned it the Golden Reel Award. It also won the Best Picture category and a sound category, but was shut out of the rest of its ten nominated Genie

categories.

The Genies are Canada's leading motion picture honours, conducted each year by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television.

### Indian museum combats spread of HIV

An Indian sex museum Antarang in Mumbai teaches sex workers and their clients safer sex. According to the museum's management, the visitors find learning about safer sex from the graphic exhibits more effective than from lectures. The museum is run by the government as a part of anti-HIV program.

Antarang is a one-room exhibition displaying models of human anatomy and illustrations. This is the only sex museum in India. Since the museum is located in the red light district a great bulk of its visitors are prostitutes who visit the museum together with their partners being taken there by health workers.

There are about 5.7 million people infected with HIV in India - more than in any other country. This number is expected to quadruple by 2010 unless people become less reluctant to speak about the vital necessity of safe sex openly. Indian authorities use many innovative ways to spread necessary knowledge about safer sex and awareness of sexually transmitted diseases.

Many of prostitutes who visited the museum say Antarang changed their lives as they realized the necessity of using a condom.

Indian authorities plan to open another sex museum away from red light district in order to attract wider audience.

### New England braces for winter storm

A storm that has been passing through the midwest some parts of the nation will arrive in New England late tonight. This will be the first major snowstorm of the winter season for the northeast.

There is currently a winter storm warning for most of Massachusetts. It is predicted that there could be near-blizzard conditions in the morning. The storm is expected to bring several inches of snow to the area.

There are currently parking bans in effect in some areas of Massachusetts.

### Today in History

1898 - The USS Maine exploded and sank in Havana, Cuba, killing more than 260 people in a tragedy that precipitated the Spanish-American War.

1942 - World War II: General Tomoyuki Yamashita led the Japanese forces to capture the so called "impregnable fortress" of Singapore.

1971 - The British pound sterling and the Irish pound were decimalised on what is called Decimal Day.

1989 - The Soviet Union officially announced that all of its troops had withdrawn from Afghanistan.

2003 - Millions around the world took part in the largest mass protest movement in history against the impending invasion of Iraq.

February 15 is Candlemas in Eastern Christianity; Flag Day in Canada; National Day in Serbia; Fat Thursday (2007).

### Quote of the Day

The religious persecution of the ages has been done under what was claimed to be the command of God. I distrust those people who

know so well what God wants them to do to their fellows, because it always coincides with their own desires.

~ Susan B. Anthony

### Word of the Day

xenial; adj

1. Hospitable, especially to visiting strangers or foreigners.
2. Of the relation between a host and guest.

### About Wikinews

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