



Top Stories

French newspaper suggests Osama bin Laden may be dead



The French daily newspaper L'Est Republicain reported today that "According to a source that is usually reliable, Saudi secret

services are now convinced that Osama bin Laden is dead," citing what it said was a French secret service report dated September 21. Meanwhile, a Saudi source told CNN that bin Laden has a water-borne illness.

First successful anti-coup protest in Thailand



Amid fears of being arrested for breaking the military ban on protests and political gatherings, 30 people have protested, joined by over 200 observers,

without any immediate arrests in front of Siam Center in downtown Bangkok.

Featured story

Google convicted in case brought by Belgian press



Earlier this week a Belgian court ruled that Google News could not use material from "Belgian publishers

of the French- and German-speaking daily press" without

Featured story

paying a copyright fee. The ruling followed a case brought by Copiepresse, an association of French- and German-language newspaper editors in Belgium, challenging the right of Google to run their news aggregator under the current copyright laws.

Wikipedia Current Events

- The New York Times shares a conclusion from a U.S. National Intelligence Estimate that the Iraq War has made the overall terrorism problem worse.
- Members of Basque separatist movement ETA vow not to surrender their weapons while still seeking independence from Spain, despite the organisation having called a ceasefire six months ago.
- Europe retains golf's Ryder Cup to score a third consecutive win, beating the United States by a score of 18.5 to 9.5.

Secretary of Belgian embassy murdered in New Delhi

Isabelle Dessoy, the Secretary of Federal Staff at New Dehli's Belgian embassy was found murdered in her Vasant Vihar home.

Initial reports indicate that the victim was stabbed 22 times, and her driver, Vijay Pal Chaudhry, is currently the prime suspect. According to police he has fled the scene. The woman was able to telephone her son after the incident, and tell him what had

happened.

Police were apparently informed of the incident at 10:45pm local time, the victim was taken to Safdarjung Hospital where staff declared her dead.

The police assert that robbery was the likely motive, details of the victim's stolen car have been dispatched to surrounding areas and a search for the prime suspect is underway.

Deputy police commissioner R.S. Yadav informed AFP that the victim was 45 years old. Earlier reports had indicated that the suspect was in custody and the victim had been aged 35. A profile on a travel site, apparently belonging to the victim, gives her age as 47 as of June 2006.

Thai junta vows retaliation against foreign media

Saturday saw the current military rulers of Thailand expressing concern over foreign media reports on the coup that ousted caretaker Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

A spokesman for the Council for Democratic Reform under Constitutional Monarchy (CDRM), Major General Thawee Netniyan, said: "At today's meeting top military leaders asked the foreign ministry to urgently retaliate against foreign reporters whose coverage has been deemed insulting to the monarchy,".

Thai media is being kept under strict control by the CDRM, with

over 100 community radio stations in the northern and eastern provinces closed down. The area is reported to be a source of popular support for the ousted PM, whose populist policies appealed to the rural poor majorities.

Today in History

1066 - Harold II of England defeated Harald III of Norway in the Battle of Stamford Bridge, marking the end of Viking invasions of Great Britain.
 1396 - Ottoman forces under Bayezid I defeated a Christian alliance led by Sigismund of Hungary in the Battle of Nicopolis.
 1513 - Conquistador Vasco Núñez de Balboa, upon a peak in presentday Darién, Panama, became the first European to see the Pacific Ocean, which he named Mar del Sur, or South Sea.
 1962 - The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria was formally proclaimed. Ferhat Abbas was elected President of the provisional government, with Ahmed Ben Bella as Prime Minister.
 1996 - The last Magdalen Asylum in Ireland was closed.

Quote of the Day

"No battle is ever won... They are not even fought. The field only reveals to man his own folly and despair, and victory is an illusion of philosophers and fools."
 ~ William Faulkner

Word of the Day

quaquaversal; adj

1. Going off in all directions at once.

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