



WIKINews PRINT EDITION

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Top Stories

Canadian helicopter with 18 onboard crashes into Atlantic Ocean

Two life boats were empty, one person is dead and sixteen others are missing after a helicopter crashed into the frigid north Atlantic Ocean, reported a search and rescue official on Thursday.



Credit: [Airliners.net](#) - GFDL

The Sikorsky S92 helicopter sunk below the surface and the debris field was located about 55 miles southeast of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.

Teenage gunman kills 15 in south-west Germany

A 17 year old gunman has killed fifteen people in the towns of Winnenden and Wendlingen, near Stuttgart in southwestern Germany, before being killed himself in a shootout with police.

Madoff jailed after pleading guilty to \$50 billion fraud scheme

US financier Bernard Madoff, the former chairman of the Nasdaq stock index, has been jailed after pleading guilty to all 11 charges of fraud, money laundering, and perjury surrounding a US\$50 billion Ponzi scheme. Madoff is facing 150 years behind bars, with no chance of parole.

Wikipedia Current Events

Attorney Howard K. Stern is

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charged with conspiring to provide model Anna Nicole Smith with drugs before her death in 2007.

- China's retail sales have increased 15.2% in 2009.
- Iraqi journalist Muntadhar al-Zaidi is sentenced to three years in prison for throwing shoes at then-United States President George W. Bush.
- National Semiconductor will cut 1,725 jobs.
- Pope Benedict XVI acknowledges mistakes in rescinding Bishop Richard Williamson's excommunication for Holocaust denial.
- Zimbabwe releases Deputy Agriculture Minister-designate Roy Bennett from government custody.
- American businessman Bernard Madoff pleads guilty to 11 charges surrounding his US\$65-billion Ponzi scheme.
- Astronauts aboard the International Space Station briefly evacuate to a Russian escape pod as space debris passes.
- One person is killed and 16 are missing after a Sikorsky S-92 helicopter ditches into the Atlantic Ocean near St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada.

An American drone aircraft's missiles kill at least 12 people in Pakistan's Kurram Valley.

Madoff jailed after pleading guilty to \$50 billion fraud scheme

US financier Bernard Madoff, the former chairman of the Nasdaq stock index, has been jailed after pleading guilty to all 11 charges of fraud, money laundering, and perjury surrounding a US\$50 billion Ponzi scheme.

"I'm deeply sorry and ashamed," the financier stated during a speech in the New York court. "I believed it would end quickly and I would extricate myself and my clients. This proved difficult and, in the end, impossible."

Some of Madoff's victims applauded when the former was handcuffed by officers and taken out of the courtroom to a holding cell where he will await sentencing. Madoff is facing 150 years behind bars, with no chance of parole. Sentencing is set for June 16.

Among the charges that Madoff plead guilty to were four counts of fraud, three counts of money laundering, perjury, and making false statements, among others.

Judge Denny Chin of Federal District Court ordered that Madoff be remanded as he was awaiting a sentence, rather than letting him out on bail and allowing him to return to his apartment in Manhattan. "He has incentive to flee, he has the means to flee, and thus he presents the risk of flight," the judge said. "Bail is revoked."

Shin wins Singapore HSBC Womens Golf Classic

Korean Jiayae Shin played a faultless final round to win the HSBC Women's Champions in Singapore at the Tanah Merah Country Club. Starting the final day six shots behind the overnight leader of, Katherine Hull, Shin birdied the first four holes to close the gap quickly.

Shin who is ranked 4th in the world takes home a purse of US\$300,000.

Shin showed class and poise to seal the championship with her approach shot on the 18th. Playing from 180 yards on the par 4, Shin found the green with comfort and was left with a 30 foot putt to seal victory. Despite running her putt well past the hole, Shin sunk the putt to par and finish with 6 under for the day and 11 under for the tournament.

The championship took an interesting turn midway through the final round when Katherine Hull boogied the 10th hole and then two holes later followed with another bogey. Seemingly shaken from two lost shots early on the back nine, Hull then found trouble left on the 14th fairway and had to take an unplayable lie and consequently double-boogied. These two holes took Hull from at one point a four shot lead to suddenly being level with Shin who was gaining in confidence each hole.

Hull managed a birdie on the 17th and still in contention to force a play-off should Shin falter. Hull's final tee-shot again showed the difficulties she had been experiencing all day and pushed it right forcing another drop and effectively ending her chances. Hull finished with another boogie

and 74 for the final round.

Behind Hull and Shin there was a series of interesting battles for the minor placings with Paula Creamer scoring birdie on the 16th and 17th holes and then finding trouble on her first shot on the 18th effectively ending her chance of staging an unlikely win. Her recovery from the bunker still left her short of the green and eventually finishing with a boogie and 8 under for the tournament in equal 3rd place. World number one rated player, Mexican Lorena

Ochoa, never troubled the leaders after winning last years HSBC championship and also winning last week at the tour of Thailand. Ochoa finished in sixth place with a final score of seven under. Her chance of scoring back-to-back wins faded with a disappointing second round of 73.

Another player who found difficulties in finishing the final round was Sun Young Yoo who boogied three consecutive hole starting at the 13th dropping her from second place to eighth. Yoo scored a much needed birdie on the 17th to finish tied for sixth with Jane Park and Lorena Ochoa

Apple reveals new iPod shuffle with voice

Yesterday, Apple Computer revealed the third-generation version of its iPod Shuffle model, which introduces new features including a voice that tells the user what song is playing in their playlist through the user's headphones. Apple stated that the iPod will have 4 gigabytes of space, which is enough to hold approximately 1,000 songs, twice as much as the second-generation Shuffle.

In the announcement of the device, Apple told the media that

the new voice system, called "VoiceOver", will completely replace all of the button controls on the device, and will allow the user to find information about the current song, playlist, and the current battery life remaining. It will be available in 14 languages, which include English, Japanese, German, and French. The new model is also about two times smaller than the second-generation Shuffle, being described as slightly smaller than the size of a AA Battery.

"You previously couldn't have multiple playlists on the iPod Shuffle because you couldn't really switch between them as there was no way to know how you would switch. So now instead of seeing, you get to hear," said Greg Joswiak, the Vice President of iPod Marketing at Apple.

The new iPod was stated to be available in two colors, silver and black, and is expected to be priced at \$79, \$10 higher than the previous model. The current second-generation's 1 gigabyte and 2 gigabyte models will continue to be sold after the release of the device.

"These are exactly the kinds of products you need to come up with in the midst of a recession. It's not a stripped-down experience. It has a new cool user interface that isn't even on the high-end iPods. Apple has worked hard not to make this a race to the bottom," said a market analyst for Jupiter Research.

Space debris threatened International Space Station, astronauts temporarily evacuated

The crew currently of the International Space Station (ISS) was briefly evacuated to the

Russian Soyuz capsule in preparation for a possible impact with space debris.

In memos published by NASASpaceflight.com, the object was described as "elliptical with a low perigee". It was unclear what kind of damage the debris would have caused if it had collided with the ISS. "Tracking of the small piece of debris/MMOD (Micrometeoroid Orbital Debris) was initially classed as a low threat of collision with the ISS.

Universe Today reported the object as being large, while BNOnews said the object was small, about 0.009 meters.

At 12:34 EDT, "as a contingency, NASA's Expedition 18 Commander Mike Fincke, Russian Flight Engineer Yury Lonchakov, and NASA's Sandra Magnus were asked to 'evacuate' into the Russian Soyuz, which would serve as their means of departing from the Station - should it be required," added NASA.

Approximately 10 minutes later, after the threat had passed, the crew returned to its normal duties.

Fundraising to keep Avro Vulcan flying succeeds

Fundraising to keep the only airworthy Avro Vulcan in the world flying have been successful. The one million pounds required to pay for licenses was successfully raised by generous sponsors.

VTST, the trust that returned the bomber to flying condition, requires £80,000 per month to cover maintenance costs and faced a shortfall due to the loss of corporate sponsorship as a result of the credit crunch.

The trust fought to keep the

aircraft from being grounded or sold to a collector in the United States by turning to grassroots campaigning. This included a letter writing campaign to MPs, street collections, and the mobilisation of James Bond fans.

XH558 was returned to flying condition after 15 years of repairs and fundraising. In the summer of 2008 it flew again for the first time since its retirement in 1993.

Once a cornerstone of the United Kingdom's independent nuclear deterrent, the Vulcan bomber has earned a sentimental place in the hearts of the general public and aviation enthusiasts alike.

Cricket: West Indies regain Wisden Trophy

The West Indies cricket team held on to a draw in the fifth and final test of the five match test series at Queen's Park Oval, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad against the England cricket team to win the five test series 1-0 and regain the Wisden trophy after a gap of nine years. This is their first major test series victory in five years.

To win the match, West Indies were set a target of 240 runs in 66 overs or to bat two sessions for a draw. West Indies pair of Fidel Edwards and Denesh Ramdin thwarted the English attack to finish on 114-8 and drawing the match. Earlier in the day Kevin Pietersen scored 102 runs to enable England to declare at 237/6 in their second innings.

England had drawn the previous two tests in Barbados and Antigua and Barbuda and had lost the first test in Jamaica by an innings and 23 runs. The second test in Antigua was abandoned. Matt Prior was declared Player of the match and Ramnaresh Sarwan was

declared the player of the series.

Launch of Space Shuttle Discovery further delayed

NASA has decided to postpone the launch of Space Shuttle Discovery, mission STS-119, for at least four more days. The further delay of launch was due to a hydrogen fuel leak. Discovery was previously set to liftoff tonight at 9:20 p.m. (EDT).

"Space shuttle Discovery's launch to the International Space Station (ISS) now is targeted for no earlier than March 15. Liftoff on March 15 would be at 7:43 p.m. EDT. The exact launch date is dependent on the work necessary to repair the problem," said NASA in a statement on their website.

NASA said during a press conference today that the leak is likely being caused by a hardware issue, later announced to be a suspect connector on the gaseous vent line attached to the shuttle's external tank. Troubleshooting the problem is scheduled to begin on March 12.

Discovery's original proposed launch was for July of 2008. Later it was changed to December 4, 2008. The next change scheduled the liftoff date for February 12, 2009. It was then delayed until February 27, but was then delayed indefinitely on February 20 after NASA discovered an issue with the hydrogen control valves.

The current scheduled mission is set to fly the Integrated Truss Structure segment to the ISS, and to install the final set of power-generating solar arrays. The arrays consist of two 115-foot-long arrays, for a total span of 240 feet, including the equipment that connects the two halves and allows them to twist as they track the

sun. Altogether, the four sets of arrays can generate 84 to 120 kilowatts of electricity – enough to provide power for more than 40 average homes.

Commander Lee Archambault will lead Discovery's crew of seven, along with Pilot Tony Antonelli, and Mission Specialists Joseph Acaba, John Phillips, Steve Swanson, Richard Arnold, and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency astronaut Koichi Wakata.

Today in History

874 – The remains of Saint Nicephorus were brought back to Constantinople to be interred at the Church of the Holy Apostles.

1781 – German-born British astronomer and composer William Herschel discovered the planet Uranus while in the garden of his house in Bath, Somerset, England, thinking it was a comet.

1845 – German composer Felix Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, one of the most popular and most frequently performed violin concertos of all time, was first played in Leipzig, with violinist Ferdinand David as soloist.

1943 – The Holocaust: Nazi troops under SS Hauptsturmführer Amon Göth began liquidating the Jewish Ghetto in Kraków, Poland, sending about 8,000 Jews deemed able to work to the Plaszow labor camp. Those deemed unfit for work were either killed or sent to die at the Auschwitz concentration camp.

1954 – Viet Minh forces under Vo Nguyen Giap unleashed a massive artillery barrage on the French military to begin the Battle of Dien Bien Phu, the climactic battle in the First Indochina War.

1996 – In the deadliest attack on children in the history of the United Kingdom, a spree killer killed sixteen children and a teacher at a primary school in Dunblane, Scotland, before

committing suicide.

Quote of the Day

The joy of life discovered by the Greeks is not a profane type of enjoyment: it reveals the bliss of existing, of sharing — even fugitively — in the spontaneity of life and the majesty of the world. Like so many others before and after them, the Greeks learned that the surest way to escape from time is to exploit the wealth, at first sight impossible to suspect, of the lived instant. ~ Mircea Eliade

Word of the Day

underpin v

1. To support from below with props or masonry.
2. (figuratively) To give support to; to corroborate.

About Wikinews

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