April 13, 2007

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### Top Stories

**Violence in Uganda over forest clearing proposal**

Four people are reported killed in Kampala, Uganda, amidst protest marches organised against a government proposal to cut down 7,000 hectares of forest land to set up a private company’s sugarcane plantations.

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**Plants on other planets may not be green**

A NASA scientist said plants on other planets may not be green, but red or yellow instead. Plants on Earth are green because they contain chlorophyll, which appears green because it absorbs mainly blue and red light, while reflecting green light.

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### Featured story

**Jimbo Wales to create 'code of conduct' for bloggers and the Wikimedia Foundation**

Jimbo Wales, the founder of Wikipedia and the Wikimedia Foundation, is teaming up with book publisher Tim O'Reilly to create a "code of conduct" for bloggers and the Wikimedia Foundation.

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### Wikipedia Current Events

- **Italian riot police clash with hundreds of Chinese merchants in Milan after scuffles break out over traffic problems in Chinatown.**
- **Governor of New Jersey Jon Corzine suffers numerous serious injuries resulting from a hit and run car accident on the Garden State Parkway in Galloway Township.**
- **Cuba-United States relations: Accused terrorist Luis Posada Carriles is released from jail and handed over to U.S. immigration officials.**
- **The Bush administration admits that it may be missing e-mails related to the dismissal of eight United States Attorneys as the Senate Judiciary Committee authorises chairman Patrick Leahy to subpoena documents related to the issue.**
- **Paul Wolfowitz, the President of the World Bank, apologises for his role in a pay scandal involving his girlfriend.**
- **Talk radio personality Don Imus is fired by CBS Radio after making racially offensive comments about the Rutgers University women's basketball team. His simulcasted television show "Imus in the Morning" on MSNBC is also cancelled.**

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**NHL: Jersey opens Playoffs with win over Tampa Bay**

The New Jersey Devils got their ride in the 2007 NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs started off right Thursday night, defeating the the high-voltage offense of the Tampa Bay Lightning before 14,495 at Continental Airlines Arena, in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Zach Parise, the Devils 1st pick (17th overall) in the 2003 draft, who led the team in scoring this season with 31 goals, scored twice in the game, including the winning goal off a pass from Jamie Langenbrunner. Vinny Lecavalier scored twice for the Lightning, but his efforts alone were not enough for Tampa. Martin Brodeur was solid as always in net for the Devils, notching 23 saves to pick up the win.

Tampa and Jersey will face each other at least three more times in the Opening Round of the NHL Playoffs. The next meeting between the two clubs will be Saturday at 7:00 pm EDT, when the teams will meet again at Continental Airlines Arena.

**UEFA Cup: quarter-final second leg roundup**

The second leg of the UEFA Cup quarter-final's occurred Thursday, with three Spanish teams looking to progress to the semi-finals. Osasuna was in the best position to advance after their 3-0 victory over Bayer Leverkusen in the first leg in Germany. Sevilla and Espanyol also held the upper hand going into their matches, as Sevilla defeated Tottenham 2-1 and Espanyol beat out Benfica 3-2 in the first legs. The final match was still completely up in the air after the 0-0 draw in the first leg between Werder Bremen and AZ Alkmaar.

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Matches

**Tottenham Hotspur 2 - 2 Sevilla**

After loosing the first leg 2-1 in Spain, the second leg moved to White Hart Lane in London. Sevilla put the homeside on the backfoot early however, with a Steed Malbранque own-goal giving the visitors the lead. Some good play by former Tottenham striker Freddie Kanoute then doubled Sevilla's lead. Tottenham would score twice through Defoe and Lennon, but it would be too little too late as Sevilla progressed 4-3 on aggregate.

For a full recap of the match see: UEFA Cup: Tottenham out after 2-2 draw with Sevilla

**Werder Bremen 4 - 1 AZ Alkmaar**

After a scintillating 0-0 draw in the first leg, Dutch side AZ Alkmaar travelled to Germany to take on Bundesliga title hopefuls Werder Bremen. With Bremen having scored only one goal in their past three games, Alkmaar was in with a chance as a draw would see them advance. Bremen took control of the game quickly, however, and Tim Borowski put the home side up after sixteen minutes when he slipped in all alone and slid the ball past Boy Waterman. On 32 minutes, Alkmaar equalized through Moussa Dembele as his unstoppable left footed shot flew past Tim Wiese. Five minutes later, Miroslav Klose restored Bremens lead as he tapped home Aaron Hunt's cross. The home side increased their lead after the break, and their top goal scorer Klose was again on the scoresheet. A well put in cross by Diego found Klose in the middle of the box, and his controlled diving head was powered past the helpless Waterman. Diego then secured the win for Bremen with some wonderful individual play. As Diego played a one-two, he spun away from the defender leaving him wide open for the recieve pass, and he then proceeded to finish cleanly past Waterman.

**Osasuna 1 - 0 Bayer Leverkusen**

With the end result of the two legs never in doubt after the 3-0 drubbing of Bayer in the first leg, the second leg was play out at the Estadio Reyno de Navarra in Spain. Bayer needed to score early for any hope of advancing, and they pusted hard. A solid Osasuna defence and some great goalkeeping by Ricardo combined to shut Leverkusen out though. Osasuna eventually scored in the 62nd minute through Gomez Juanlu after keeper Rene Adler parried Roberto Solado's long range effort. Osasuna comfortably held on, and advanced to the semi-finals of the competition.

**Benfica 0 - 0 Espanyol**

Benfica and Espanyol battled to a 0-0 draw at the Estadio de Luz in Portugal. The Spanish side went into the match with a slight edge after winning the first leg 3-2, but the two away goals for Benfica gave them a good chance to progress. Benfica battled hard for the win, hitting the woodwork twice and missing several clean chances, but the eventual draw saw them knocked out of the competiton.

**NHL: Buffalo overwhelms Islanders in Playoff opener**

Brian Campbell and Chris Drury scored two goals each, and the top-seeded Sabres opened the playoffs with an solid 4-1 victory over the New York Islanders before 18,690 at HSBC Arena, in Buffalo, New York. Buffalo goaltender Ryan Miller was very efficient, allowing only one goal in 21 shots. The Islanders backup netminder Wade Dubielewicz filled in for starter Rick DiPietro, who has been bothered by injuries throughout the season.

The game was very defensive for the first half of the game, as both teams were only able to notch a goal a piece. Buffalo scored its first goal 9:30 into regulation, and the Islanders had to wait until 6:58 of the second period, when they evened it up. But the game was pretty much a full onslaught of domination by Buffalo as it dominated the shots category.

The Sabres scored the game-winner shortly after the midway point of the second period, and dealt another quick blow immediately after they returned to the ice for the third period. The Islanders, no doubt, have their problems to work with in terms of injuries, and the frustration could be felt as they drew a penalty late, which would ultimately seal the deal as Brian Campbell would score his second goal with only 3:25 remaining in regulation.

The Eastern Conference series continues at HSBC Arena in Buffalo on Saturday at 7:30 pm EDT, when the Sabres will try to take a 2-0 series lead on the Islanders.

**NHL: Rangers slip past Thrashers in Playoff opener**

The New York Rangers scored the first two goals and never looked back, defeating the Thrashers before 18,857 at Philips Arena in Atlanta, Georgia. The game was the first in the best-of-seven series. Never since their inception into the NHL in 1997, have the Thrashers advanced to the playoffs until this season, and will have to wait for their first ever playoff victory. Despite a desperate last minute power play, Atlanta couldn't manage to beat Rangers goaltender Henrik Lundqvist, who has shined this season. Lundqvist was solid...
again tonight, stopping 21 of 24 shots faced.

Pascal Dupuis of the Atlanta Thrashers was sent into the boards in the first period, and had to come off the ice for some time before returning to score the game's final goal. Kari Lehtonen, goaltender for the Thrashers entered the game with a 2.79 goals-against average. Lehtonen allowed four goals, while stopping 34 shots.

**UEFA Cup: Tottenham out after 2-2 draw with Sevilla**

English club Tottenham Hotspur dropped out of the UEFA Cup after a 2-2 draw at White Hart Lane against Spanish side Sevilla. Spurs lost the first game 2-1 in Spain, and the tie was enough to see Sevilla through 4-3 on aggregate.

Sevilla had a 2-0 lead after just eight minutes in London. Steed Malbranque scored an own goal after 3 minutes as he attempted to clear the ball off the line. The ball scuffed off the bottom of his boot and bobbed into the net. Former Tottenham player Freddie Kanoute then doubled the visitors lead only minutes later after he collected the ball, played a one two, and danced around keeper Paul Robinson. Before the end of the first half, Dimitar Berbatov struck the post off a hammered shot, but the score remained 2-0.

Tottenham struck back in the second half and substitute Jermain Defoe scored minutes after coming on to cut Sevilla's lead. Just a minute later, Aaron Lennon tied the game, putting pressure on Sevilla. Two more chances emerged for Tottenham, one through defender Michael Dawson and Dimitar Berbatov, but neither where able to convert. With only stoppage time remaining, and Spurs in need of two goals to advance, frustration played out as Teemu Tainio was red carded for a dangerous challenge on Puerta.

Sevilla was one of three Spanish sides to advance to the semi-finals Thursday, and they will face Osasuna in the next round, guaranteeing there will be a Spanish club in the final. Tottenham have only the Premiership left to contend for now, as they look to book a European spot for next season against Wigan Athletic on the 15th.

**NHL: Detroit burns Calgary in first playoff matchup**

Calgary never knew what hit them Thursday night, as the Detroit Red Wings, which came into the playoffs as the first seed in the West, cruised to victory. By 8:36 in the first period, the Red Wings had opened up a 2-0 lead on the Flames, with Valtteri Filppula and Nicklas Lidstrom scoring on Calgary netminder Miikka Kiprusoff, who was bombarded by shots the entire game. Dominik Hasek was spectacular in goal, as he has been so many times this season, stopping 19 of 20 shots faced. Calgary's only consolation came at 14:55 in the third, when Alex Tanguay scored a power play goal.

Despite the Red Wings victory, the Flames will have a chance to tie up the series, which is just getting started, when they will do battle against Detroit on Sunday. Opening face off is scheduled for 1:00 EDT.

**CBS fires radio personality Don Imus**

CBS Radio, a subsidiary of CBS, fired Don Imus Thursday amidst controversy over comments made on the air last week about the Rutgers University women's basketball team.

Last week Imus called the team "nappy-headed hos" during one of his radio show broadcasts.

The CBS decision came one day after NBC News pulled the plug on the Imus Show's simulcast on MSNBC as a result of the remarks. A handful of advertisers withdrew their support of the Imus Show prior to both network's decisions.

"There has been much discussion of the effect language like this has on our young people, particularly young women of color trying to make their way in this society. That consideration has weighed most heavily on our minds as we made our decision," said Leslie Moonves, the executive producer for CBS.

Imus does not hold the firing against CBS saying "I understand the pressure they were under. I said it, I wouldn't be here if I didn't say it."

**2007 Cricket World Cup: New Zealand vs Sri Lanka**

Sri Lanka beat New Zealand in the Super 8 phase of the World Cup at the Cricket National Stadium, St. George's, Grenada.

Victory for New Zealand would have assured them of a semi final place, instead it leaves Sri Lanka tied for first place in the Super 8 table with New Zealand and Australia, but third on net run rate.

Toss: New Zealand won, and elected to bat first.

**Two Iraqi MPs killed in bombing at parliament**

Eight people, including two members of the Iraqi Council of Representatives were killed in a bomb explosion at a cafe inside the parliamentary building in Baghdad during lunchtime.
“The canteen was just filling up ... the session was just ending and all of a sudden there was just this huge explosion.” —MP Haydar Abbadi

Approximately 20 people are reported wounded in the attack inside the heavily fortified Green Zone. According to a BBC report, the cafe where the bomb was detonated was frequented by Iraqi MPs. The parliament had closed for lunch only ten minutes earlier and the cafe was at the start of a busy period.

In order for the bomber to reach his target, he would have had to pass through several armed checkpoints, leading to suspicions that the bomb was smuggled in separately. However, according to Associated Press (AP) reports, a scanner used to check pedestrians at the Green Zone entrance near the Council of Representatives was not operational. People were searched by hand or went through metal detectors, and dogs were used to check people entering the building earlier in the day, a rare occurrence, AP said. It is suspected that a bodyguard of one of the lawmakers smuggled in the bomb.

The attack follows an attack on a major bridge across the River Tigris, which was damaged with a truck bomb.

United States military spokesperson Major-General William Caldwell said the blast bore the hallmarks of Sunni Islamist al Qaeda, which has been resurgent in recent weeks despite Operation Law and Order.

### Violence in Uganda over forest clearing proposal

Four people are reported killed in Kampala, Uganda, amidst protest marches organised against a government proposal to cut down 7,000 hectares of forest land to set up a private company's sugarcane plantations.

Two men of Asian decent were stoned to death by a mob and the deaths of two others were being investigated, according to police sources. A witness said that one of the Asians was attacked after he ran his motorcycle into a crowd. BBC News reported that a looter was shot dead and a bystander wounded by security guards.

Asian businesses and a Hindu temple were attacked by rioters and police deployed armoured cars, and used tear gas and opened fire to quell the violence. A group of Asians trapped in the temple by a mob were rescued by police. “This forest is our heritage and cannot be given away by the Ugandan government.” —Phillip Karugaba, spokesperson for Environmental Action Network

The sugar company is owned by the Mehta Group, established by an Indian immigrant Nanji Kalidas Mehta. Asians immigrants formed a prosperous trading community in Uganda before they were expelled by Idi Amin in 1972. Many have returned following Amin's downfall, but some Ugandans view their presence and role in business with suspicion.

The Mabira reserve forest in south-east Uganda covers about 30,000 hectares and is home to several rare species and has been a reserve forest since 1932. A primatologist working in the area announced in February that monkeys in the forest previously thought to be Gray-cheeked Mangabey (Lophocebus albigena), were in fact a new species.

President Yoweri Museveni's government is considering a proposal to de-notify and transfer 7,000 acres of land to the Sugar Corporation of Uganda Limited (Scoul) to expand its sugarcane plantations. A cabinet paper says the plan will generate 3500 jobs and will contribute 11.5 billion shillings to the treasury.

Scoul bills itself as the largest employers in East Africa, with a 7,300 strong workforce manufacturing sugar and industrial alcohol at its 10,000 hectare Lugazi. The Ugandan newspaper Monitor reports that Scoul's plantations have reduced in acreage after it failed to reach agreement over existing leases with various landlords.

Scoul says that plantations at the Mabira forest will help double its annual production to 110 metric tonnes, and in a newspaper advertisement published on Thursday, said that "anti-development lobby groups" were misleading the public about the Mabira plan. In its environment policy, the company says it is committed to a managing land and wetlands resources in an environmentally sensitive manner.

The plan is opposed by Ugandan MPs because of its environmental impact, an official from the Ugandan National Forestry Authority told the news agency AFP that the plan will destroy the area's biodiversity and affect locals' livelihood.

Scoul says the forest land already being encroached upon by subsistence farmers.

Meanwhile, the group has been offered land in Mengo and by the
Anglican church in Mukono as an alternative to the Mabira plan. Scoul Chief Executive S.C Khanna says that he will consider such the alternative if the land is fertile, free of "squatters" and close enough - within 30 km of the sugar factory so that the cost of transporting sugarcane is viable.

Scoul has increased security after multiple fires destroyed crops at its plantations.

UN genocide exhibit removed and put on hold after Turkey objects

A United Nations exhibition, entitled "Lessons from Rwanda", about the 1994 Rwanda genocide, has been dismantled and postponed because Turkey raised objections to the Armenian genocide being mentioned.

The Armenian genocide was carried out by the so called Special Organization of the Young Turks, who specially elected criminals from Turkish prisons to act as escorts in the deportation of Armenians. The Armenian genocide is the second most studied case of genocide after the Holocaust Hitler himself occasionally often referred to the extermination of the Armenians, or the lack of prosecution there of, in support for his plan to exterminate the Jews.

However, the Republic of Turkey has long disputed that the event constituted genocide, claiming rather that the Armenian deaths were a result of inter-ethnic strife, disease and famine during the turmoil of World War I.

The exhibit was set up in the visitors lobby on Thursday and was due to be opened on Monday by U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. "Lessons from Rwanda" was created by Aegis Trust, an anti-genocide NGO, and approved by the U.N. Department of Public Information. The Holocaust, Cambodia, Bosnia, East Timor and Sudan were mentioned as examples of genocide. But it also included a section entitled "What is genocide?" which read: "Following World War One, during which 1 million Armenians were murdered in Turkey, Polish lawyer Raphael Lemkin urged the League of Nations to recognize crimes of barbarity as international crimes."

On Saturday, James Smith, the chief executive of Aegis, was told by the UN to remove the sentence. Aegis would not submit to the Secretary General's request. Smith explains, "Had we been asked to remove reference of atrocities to Jews because Germany objected, we would have been equally resistant."

The suggestion by Armen Martirosyan, the Armenian ambassador to the UN, to remove the words "in Turkey" were also not acceptable. Baki Ilkin, the Turkish ambassador to the UN, said that Turkey expressed "discomfort over the text's making references to the Armenian issue and drawing parallels with the genocide in Rwanda."

On Monday, the panels in the visitor's lobby had been turned around to prevent it being seen by the public. Farhan Haq, U.N. associate spokesman, said that the review process which takes into account "all positions" had not been followed and that "the exhibition has been postponed until the regular review process is completed." Manoel de Almeida e Silva, an official in the strategic communications division, said the exhibit would take place. "We are committed to it. It is a very important issue."

Author Kurt Vonnegut dead at 84

American author Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., best known for works blending satire, black comedy, and science fiction, has died at age 84. After a fall in his Manhattan, New York home, he suffered brain injuries and died on Wednesday from complications related to those injuries.

Some of Vonnegut's most famous works include Slaughterhouse-Five (1969), Cat's Cradle (1963), and Breakfast of Champions (1973). He achieved cult-like status among American college students in the 1960s and 70s.

Plants on other planets may not be green

On Wednesday, NASA scientists said that, unlike green plants on the planet Earth, plants on other planets may be the color red or yellow.

Plants on Earth are green because they contain chlorophyll. The chlorophyll appears green because it absorbs mainly blue and red light in order to produce food for the plant via photosynthesis, while reflecting the green light frequency.

Scientists at NASA point out that if the stars for other planets were in a different state than our sun and if the light frequency that reached the planets' surface was different, then the plants on those planets would have also evolved a different type of photosynthetic pigment other than chlorophyll. This pigment would be dedicated towards the different light frequencies received by the planet causing the plant to appear a different color from green such as red and yellow.

Carl Pilcher, director of the NASA Astrobiology Institute, said, "This
work broadens our understanding of how life may be detected on Earth-like planets around other stars, while simultaneously improving our understanding of life on Earth. This approach--studying Earth life to guide our search for life on other worlds--is the essence of astrobiology."

The research into the color of plants on other planets was started by California Institute of Technology astrobiologist Vikki Meadows and a host of other scientists who were studying how light is absorbed and reflected by plants and some bacteria on Earth. Using this data, a computer model was designed to predict the color of plants and bacteria on other planets.

Nancy Kiang, a biometeorologist at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, noted that it was unlikely any of the plants would be the color blue, "It appears that harvesting blue light is very common across the board for photosynthetic organisms. I think it is unlikely that anything will be blue."

**NSW to Queensland water pipeline would be "cost-effective": Report**

Australian Water Resources Minister, Malcolm Turnbull will release a report in Brisbane today which suggests the piping of water from rivers in Northern New South Wales to South-East Queensland would be a cost-effective solution to water supply problems in drought stricken South-East Queensland.

The report comes just days after South-East Queensland was placed on level 5 water restrictions, the second most severe and the emergence of a report by the Queensland government recommending the construction of a desalination plant north of Brisbane to tackle the region's water crisis.

According to newspapers published by News Limited, the National Water Commission report, which was compiled by the Snowy Mountains Energy Corporation outlines five proposals for piping water from Northern NSW into Queensland. Four of those include damming the Clarence River and pumping water to the Logan River and one suggesting to dam the Tweed River and pumping water to the Nerang River.

The water commission report argues that the best solution over the long-term would be to dam the Clarence River above Duck Creek.

It is believed that should the plan go ahead, the federal government will spend hundreds of millions of dollars on the project. The report argues that the piping of water from NSW would cost less than water recycling, desalination or the proposed dam at Traveston Crossing.

The report is expected to gain only minor attention from the Queensland government, which claims that it is too far to pump water from NSW.

Queensland's opposition leader, Jeff Seeney said the government should "get in a kayak and go up the Clarence ... and just have a look and see the pristine nature of this and the delicate nature of our water system".

**Continental passenger jet almost shot down**

A Continental Airlines Boeing 777 was in danger of being shot down Wednesday, during a New York to Tel Aviv commercial flight. The pilot of the 777 failed to make contact when approaching the Israeli coast, and authorities were afraid the airliner had been taken over by hijackers. Two Israeli F-15s and two F-16s were scrambled to intercept. While the plane was still over the

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Mediterranean, the captain realised the situation and immediately made contact. The Continental airliner was then escorted to Tel Aviv airport by the fighter jets without incident. Upon landing at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion International Airport, an inquiry into the incident was opened by officials.

**Pakistani army involved in NWFP battles**

For the first time President Pervez Musharraf has admitted the Pakistani army has been helping tribal fighters in the NWFP battling foreign militants. Media has in recent days reported on battles between local tribes and al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters, primarily of Uzbek origin.

"The people of South Waziristan now have risen against the foreigners," Musharraf told a conference of defense officials in Islamabad on Thursday. "They have killed about 300 of them. They have support from the Pakistan army. They asked for it."

**Katie Couric unaware of plagiarism**

CBS has admitted that the April 4 installment of "Katie Couric's Notebook" was plagiarized. It seems it consisted mainly of passages lifted verbatim from a Wall Street Journal column by Jeffrey Zaslow which was published in March.

Although, attributed to - and read by - Katie Couric, in the video essay "Katie Couric's Notebook," it has been revealed that she did not write them and that they were supplied for her by CBS producers. Couric, herself, has not commented.

**Wikipedia Current Events**

- An explosion in the cafeteria of the National Assembly of Iraq kills eight people including MP Mohammed Awad and wounds many others.
- A truck bomb explodes on the al-Sarafiya Bridge in Baghdad killing at least 10 people and putting cars into the Tigris River.
- Al Qaida claims responsibility for The Previous Day's bombing in Algiers, Algeria.
- Several candidates in the first round of the East Timor presidential elections including the Prime Minister Jose Ramos Horta have called for a recount amid allegations of voting irregularities.
- India successfully tests its nuclear-capable Agni-III, a surface-to-surface ballistic missile with a range of more than 3000 km.
- North Korean leader Kim Jong-il dismisses Prime Minister Pak Pong-Ju, appointing Kim Yong-Il in his place.
- Premier of the People's Republic of China Wen Jiabao urges Japan to admit to their actions in World War II during a landmark address to the Diet of Japan.
- The Kremlin vetoes an investigation into the death of Yuri Gagarin on the 46th anniversary of the first orbit of Earth.
- The anchor handling tug supply vessel Bourbon Dolphin capsizes in the North Sea. Three people are dead and four are missing.

**Quote of the Day**

The secular state is the guarantee of religious pluralism. This apparent paradox, again, is the simplest and most elegant of political truths.

~ Christopher Hitchens

**Word of the Day**

флабеллум; n
1. A large fan used for religious ceremonies.
2. (anatomy) Any fan-shaped structure.

**Today in History**

- 1598 - King Henry IV of France issued the Edict of Nantes, allowing freedom of religion to the Huguenots.
- 1742 - Messiah, an oratorio by George Frideric Handel, premiered in Dublin.
- 1860 - The Pony Express, the first mail service across the North American continent from the Missouri River to the Pacific coast, was successfully completed for the first time.
- 1943 - World War II: Germany announced the discovery of a mass grave of Polish prisoners-of-war executed by Soviet forces in the Katyn Forest Massacre.
- 1984 - Indian forces launched a preemptive attack on the disputed Siachen Glacier region of Kashmir, triggering a military conflict with Pakistan.
- April 13 is Thai New Year's Day, Vaisakhi in India.

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