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Top Stories

Strong earthquake in Sumatra

Two earthquakes, measuring 6.3 and 6.0 on the Richter scale struck the Indonesian island of Sumatra within the space of two hours, killing at-least 70 people. The death toll may rise as a large number of buildings were destroyed and survivors are still being searched for.

Iranian president and Saudi king agree to fight sectarian strife

Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad met King Abdullah to discuss the region's growing political and sectarian conflicts, agreeing to stand against "enemy plots" that divide the Muslim world.

Featured story

Research In Motion chairman resigns position

Jim Balsillie has resigned as chairman of RIM, the maker of the Blackberry wireless handheld device, over irregularities in the company's accounting of stock options.

Wikipedia Current Events

- The United States and North Korea commence talks in New York City to establish diplomatic relations following the abandonment of the North Korean nuclear weapons program.
- •Ramush Haradinaj, the former Prime Minister of Kosovo, goes on trial at the International Criminal

Wikipedia Current Events

Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia at The Hague for war crimes allegedly committed while he was a regional leader of the Kosovo Liberation Army.

- •A car bomb in Baghdad kills at least 26 people.
- •Two car bombs kill at least 9 United States Army soldiers north of Baghdad.
- •Ungdomshuset in Copenhagen, Denmark, is demolished to prevent it from being re-occupied.
- •The government of Vanuatu declares a state of emergency in Port Vila following ethnic clashes.
- •The 2007 National People's Congress opens at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China. In his report to the nation, Premier Wen Jiabao focuses on environmental concerns, narrowing the wealth gap, controlling housing prices, and "resolute opposition" to Taiwan independence.

Research In Motion chairman resigns position

Research In Motion Ltd. (RIM) cochief executive and chairman, Jim Balsillie, has resigned voluntarily as chairman after an internal review revealed irregularities with how the company accounted for stock options.

The review was carried out over the past 7 months and indicates that, Canadian BlackBerry maker, RIM, will have to restate earnings for all of 2004, 2005, and 2006, and for

the first quarter of 2007. The company will have to lower previously reported earnings by approximately US\$250 million.

The review committee indicated that RIM "failed to maintain adequate internal and accounting controls with respect to the issuance of options in compliance with the Company's stock option plan, both in terms of how options were granted and documented, and the measurement date used to account for certain option grants".

Although the review finds that there was no deliberate misconduct, both Balsillie and cochief executive, Michael Lazaridis, have agreed to pay, voluntarily, up to \$5 million each to compensate the company for the costs of the review and restatement.

All RIM directors and C-level officers will have to pay back any monies received incorrectly as a result of the option irregularities.

Balsillie will retain his positions as co-chief executive and director. In a press release, the company stated that "consistent with current best practices in corporate governance, the roles of chairman and CEO are being separated". Current RIM chief financial officer, Dennis Kavelman, will move to the position of chief operating officer.

RIM is a designer, manufacturer and marketer of wireless solutions for the worldwide mobile communications market and is listed on the Nasdaq Stock Market and the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Aerial collision over Austria kills 8

An aerial collision near Zell am See, Austria has killed 8 people, 5 Swiss citizens, 1 French, 1 German and 1 Austrian.

The collision occurred Monday afternoon between a Super Puma helicopter belonging to Helog S.A, based in Küssnacht (Switzerland), and a private Diamond DA20 "Katana" light aircraft which had taken off from the aerodrome at Zell am See.

All 7 of the passengers and crew from the helicopter were pronounced dead at the scene, as was the pilot of the light aircraft, which had no passengers on board.

The debris from the accident spread over a 20 metre radius and bystanders near to the incident reported seeing a "huge ball of fire in the sky".

The reason for the accident is presently unclear as both craft have lost. been confirmed as passing preflight testing at their respective take-off locations. Furthermore, Zell am See tower radioed the helicopter that a plane was taking off, to which the helicopter replied positively. This conversation should have been heard over radio by the pilot of the plane.

The site of the accident is now being guarded by police, pending the arrival of an investigation team and a delegate of the state attorney.

The sentence of Intel's former contractor expunded

A former contractor of Intel, who was convicted more than a decade ago for bypassing the security systems of the semiconductor

company in 1993, is now free from charge.

The hacker used a special program, named "Crack", that was able to detect the passwords of his former colleagues. He worked at Intel Supercomputer Systems Division and afterwards he suspiciously left the company.

When Randal L. Schwartz was accused the court sentenced him to pay Intel a restitution, estimated at Harry and his troop of 12 soldiers \$ 68,000. Then the hacker was imposed to spend five years of probation and 480 hours of community service. In addition the court sentenced Schwartz to 90 days of deferred jail time. All in all the legal bills of the former Intel contractor exceeded \$ 170,000.

Randal Schwartz told the court that Commenting on the threat, an the reason he used "Crack" is that he wanted to show the disadvantages of Intel's security system, especially when he left the company. He also mentioned about reestablishment of his respect, which, according to Schwartz, was

After more than a decade he appealed to a Democratic governor and on February 2007 a court from Oregon expunged his conviction. The hacker stated that it will take some time for him to absorb the result. The 13-year journey still keeps him in shock.

Al-Qaeda threaten to kill **British Prince Harry in Iraq**

According to a report from the British newspaper The Sun, Al-Qaeda members have issued a prominent threat on the Internet that Britain's Prince Harry will be killed or kidnapped when he is sent out to Iraq for his first tour of duty in the British Army in May this year. Bainimarama intends to hold.

An Islamic website has messages

which have been posted on the site since the 22 year old Prince's deployment to the gulf state was revealed at the start of February. The messages included: "Prince Harry will be sent to Iraq to be killed by Muslims." and "May Allah give him what he deserves — like his fellow crusaders." Another person commented: "He must be wishing for his death."

Furthermore, The Sun reports that will be trained this week to face hostage situations. He also has a group of SAS (Special Air Service) soldiers who will protect him.

The Prince has requested his regiment, the Blues and Royals, to treat him like any other soldier, whether royalty or not. official of the Blues and Royals said: "Officially Harry is being treated just like any other soldier but in reality everyone knows how desperate the insurgents out there will be to get their hands on him."

Fijians in New Zealand urged to protest NZ's involvement in Fiii

The prime minister (PM) of Fiji, Josaia Vorege Bainimarama has urged Fijians living in New Zealand to protest the involvement of the New Zealand government, and PM of New Zealand, Helen Clark, in Fiji's affairs.

The acting PM, and former coupleader, Mr Bainimarama told the Indian-language radio station, Radio Tarana that Helen Clark is affecting and damaging the way he can run his country, because she does not support him. He also says that New Zealand will damage the 2010 Fijian elections, which Mr

Mr Bainimarama has said that he

had wanted to remove the policies in Fiji that are based on races, but New Zealand wasn't prepared to help him. He says that New Zealand and Helen Clark is supporting a race biased government and calls on Fijians to tell her that they don't support that.

Mr Bainimarama took control of Fiji when he initiated Fiji's fourth coup in 20-years on December 6, 2006, saying that the government was corrupt. Mr Bainimarama had opposed the coup in 2000, saying the government was too soft on those involved.

In response to the 2006 coup, the Unites States, Australia, United Kingdom and New Zealand initiated various sanctions.

Today in History

1521 - Ferdinand Magellan and his crew reached Guam and were greeted by the Chamorros. 1836 - Texas Revolution: Mexican forces captured the Alamo after a 13-day siege.

1857 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the Dred Scott Case, a landmark decision that led to several constitutional amendments. 1869 - Dmitri Mendeleev presented the first Periodic Table of Elements to the Russian Chemical Society. 1987 - British ferry M/S Herald of Free Enterprise capsized while leaving the harbour of Zeebrugge, Belgium, killing 193 on board. March 06 is Independence Day in Ghana (1957).

Quote of the Day

For all eternity has God not occupied His intellect with the cabbage's birth as well as yours? It also seems that He has necessarily provided more for the birth of the vegetable than for the thinking being... Will anyone say that we are born in the image of the Sovereign Being, while cabbages are not? ~

Cyrano de Bergerac

Word of the Day

dissemble; v

- 1. To disguise or conceal something; to feign.
- 2. To deliberately ignore something; to pretend not to notice.
- 3. To falsely hide one's opinions or feelings.

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