



Top Stories

Series of explosions hit hotels in Amman

At least three explosions hit US-owned hotels in Amman Wednesday evening, killing at least 57 people and wounding another 115. The first of the apparently coordinated suicide bombings occurred at 8.50 pm (1850 UTC) at the Grand Hyatt hotel in the Jordanian capital. It was followed by explosions at the Radisson SAS and the Days Inn.

France imposes emergency laws in response to riots

Emergency laws have imposed across France in an effort to quell the rioting that has wracked the country for the last 12 days.

Featured story

Teaching Intelligent Design: Dover PA school board election results

Public school board administrators who mandated that creationism be taught in biology classes lose overwhelmingly in their local district re-election bid.

Wikipedia Current Events

- Investigations of the 17th Street Canal, whose failure flooded much of New Orleans, Louisiana in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, show that metal pilings were 7 feet less deep than engineering specifications.
- Conflict in Iraq: At least 30 people have died following an insurgent suicide bomb attack on a restaurant in Baghdad.

Wikipedia Current Events

- The United States House of Representatives drops a provision in the Deficit Reduction Bill that would permit the drilling of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, for fear of losing moderate Republicans when the bill comes to a final vote.
- A Boeing 777-200LR Worldliner jet aircraft breaks the record for the longest non-stop passenger airline flight. The 20,000-kilometer (12,500-mile) flight from Hong Kong to London lasted 23 hours.
- Conflict in Afghanistan: Afghan Insurgents, suspected members of the Taliban, kill seven police in an ambush in Kandahar. Two civilians from Uruzgan were also found decapitated.

U.S. asks Czech Republic to grant asylum to Guantanamo Bay prisoners

A suicide bomber detonated himself in a crowded Baghdad restaurant Thursday morning at approximately 9:30 local time (0630 GMT). 35 were reportedly killed and 25 wounded in the blast. Responsibility for the attack was claimed by Al-Qaeda in Iraq.

The restaurant was frequented by US-backed Iraqi security forces, often the target of Sunni Arab rebels and Islamist Al-Qaeda groups. A police officer said that at least four Iraqi police patrols were in the restaurant at the time of the bombing.

The bombing was one of the

biggest attacks in Baghdad in recent months. A statement on an Islamist website used by Al-Qaeda said that the attack was a part of an Al-Qaeda campaign to counter recent raids by US and Iraqi forces on suspected militant strongholds near the Syrian border.

The attack came just a day after the bombing of hotels in Amman, Jordan, attacks also claimed by Al-Qaeda.

EU's human rights court endorses Turkish headscarf ban

The European Court of Human Rights has ruled on a case brought by a Muslim student of Istanbul university. The ruling upholds the law in Turkey that bans the wearing of headscarves in universities and public offices.

Leyla Sahin brought her case to the court in 1998 after being excluded from classes for wearing an Islamic headscarf. She contended that the ban discriminated against her and denied her right to an education.

The court ruled that the law was reasonable as a measure to help maintain Turkey as secular society. The ruling will impact over 100 other cases brought by Muslim women in the country.

Over 30 killed in a Baghdad restaurant bombing

Jan Krc, the spokesman for the US embassy in Prague, has confirmed that the embassy had asked the Czech government to grant asylum

to some Guantanamo Bay prisoners, Muslims of Chinese origin, who had formerly been suspected of being terrorists. Krc said that the Muslims face persecution if they are sent back to China.

Krc said the request was "a humanitarian request because we clearly need to place these people somewhere," adding that the ex-prisoners would have as much liberty as anyone else given asylum.

The Czech Republic's Interior Minister Frantisek Bublan said; "It concerns prisoners concentrated at the Guantanamo base, of whom membership of Al Qaeda has not been proved. We were asked if we could not include them here in an asylum process."

The Czech interior ministry spokesperson, Radka Kovárová, said that the Czech government turned down the Americans' request because; "Minister Bublan evaluated the whole issue and, bearing in mind potential security hazards, said he would not see offering asylum to these persons as appropriate."

Today in History

1675: Gottfried Leibniz (pictured) demonstrated integral calculus for the first time to find the area under the graph of a function $y = f(x)$ by using antiderivatives.

1930: A patent was awarded to Albert Einstein and Leó Szilárd for their invention, the Einstein refrigerator.

1965: Ian Smith, Premier of the British Crown Colony of Southern Rhodesia, issued the Unilateral Declaration of Independence.

1975: The Australian constitutional crisis of 1975 came to a head as Prime Minister Gough Whitlam was dismissed from office by Governor-General Sir John Kerr.

1978: Maumoon Abdul Gayoom began his first term as President of the Maldives.

November 11 is : Independence Day in Poland (1918) and Angola (1975); St. Martin's Day in the Netherlands; Remembrance Day in the Commonwealth, Armistice Day in Europe and Veterans Day in the United States

Quote of the Day

"We are always living in the final days. What have you got? A hundred years or much, much less until the end of your world."

~ Neil Gaiman

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