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# Confusion in Afghanistan

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Afghan President Hamid Karzai's call on the weekend for peace talks with the Taliban cannot help but raise questions among Canadians and other citizens of western countries, regardless of their political leanings.

Canada joined the United States and other western countries in sending troops to Afghanistan after al-Qaida, which had been aided by the Taliban government, caused mass destruction in New York and Washington on Sept. 11, 2001. The goal of that multinational intervention was to prevent the Taliban from assisting terrorists who wanted to attack the West.

The battle against the Taliban has had mixed results. Western troops did remove the Taliban government, and the Karzai government took over in Kabul. But large parts of the country remain unstable due to ongoing insurgency.

The Karzai government seems to be in greater control of the capital than the rural parts of the country. Sadly, Canadian troops have noted that in some cases ground they captured at great risk ended up back in Taliban control after the Canadians left.

At times, the current response of the Canadian government to the Afghan situation seems as confusing as the situation in Afghanistan. Prime Minister Stephen Harper has said that he will not extend the Afghan mission beyond 2009 unless he has the support of Parliament. His position could be summed up in a few words: We may stay; we may leave — we'll decide later.

Unless the composition of Parliament changes, however, Canada is not likely to stay. The NDP would like to get the troops out, and the Liberals don't want them to stay after fulfilling the current commitment. In short, Canada's long-term commitment to Afghanistan is in doubt.

In a fragile situation such as this, it could be said that Karzai may have reason to think he should try to reach an agreement with the Taliban. It seems to be part of Afghan society — just as much as warlords and poppies grown for illicit purposes.

The hard question may be how Karzai could get the Taliban to agree to participate in an Afghan government without using this opportunity to try to help terrorists strike at the West. Even if the Taliban did offer such a commitment, how could it convince anyone that it could be trusted?

Throughout history, Afghanistan has been a puzzle for outsiders. It remains a puzzle to this day.

# U.S. offers reward for wanted militants; 'Most Wanted' campaign aimed at taking down top 12 insurgents in Afghanistan

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**PAGE:** A6  
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**SOURCE:** Record news services  
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A new U.S. "most-wanted" campaign is offering up to \$200,000 for information on a dozen elusive Taliban and al-Qaida leaders fuelling a rise in bombings and suicide attacks in Afghanistan.

In the south, meanwhile, militants hanged a teen for having U.S. money in his pocket and stuffed five \$1 bills into his mouth as a warning not to use U.S. currency.

To help track down 12 insurgent commanders, posters and billboards are to go up around eastern Afghanistan with their names and pictures. Rewards ranging from \$20,000 to \$200,000 are available for information leading to their capture.

"We're trying to get more visibility on these guys like the FBI did with the mob," said Lt.-Col. Rob Pollock, an officer at the main U.S. base in Bagram. "They operate the same way the mob did, they stay in hiding."

The list does not include internationally known names who already have a large price on their heads, such as al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden — who has evaded U.S. capture since 2001 despite a \$25 million bounty — or Taliban leader Mullah Omar, who is worth a \$10 million reward. Instead, it is filled with local insurgent cell leaders responsible for roadside and suicide bomb attacks. "We want the people in that area to know who this guy is and know he's a bad guy, and when they spot him to turn that guy in," military spokesperson Maj. Chris Belcher said yesterday.

The campaign is reminiscent of efforts in Iraq to capture high-value insurgents. The U.S. military in April 2003 passed out decks of cards with 55 insurgent names and pictures, and in July 2006 the Iraqi government publicized its own most-wanted list of 41 that included Saddam Hussein's wife and eldest daughter.

The program, which went active in recent days, comes despite peace overtures from President Hamid Karzai, who said on Saturday he would be willing to meet with Taliban leader Mullah Omar if it would help bring peace.

Militants hanged the 15-year-old boy from a tree on Sunday in a village in Helmand, the most violent province in the country and the world's No. 1 poppy-growing region.

CANADA PUSHES FOR ENVOY

U.S. offers reward for wanted militants; 'Most Wanted' campaign aimed at taking down top 12 insurgents in Afghanistan

Canada will highlight successes in Afghanistan in a United Nations speech today while pushing the world body to appoint a high-level envoy to raise awareness of NATO's operation.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch in his first speech to the UN General Assembly, arguing the position should be modelled on Tony Blair's work on the Middle East peace process.

Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries, as well as Afghan President Hamid Karzai and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. There is already support for the initiative from the United States and countries like Norway, France and Spain.



# Female suicide bomber kills self, 14 others

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**SOURCE:** Associated Press  
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A woman detonated explosives hidden under her burka at a police checkpoint yesterday, killing herself and 14 others in what appeared to be Pakistan's first female suicide attack, officials said.

The blast in the troubled town of Bannu underscored the growing Islamic militant threat in Pakistan, five days before President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, a U.S. ally, seeks re-election.

Militants attacked a security post in the same northwestern region later yesterday and 24 police officer were feared captured, officials said.

The suicide bomber was in a rickshaw when it was pulled over by police at a checkpoint in Bannu, said Ameer Hamza Mahsud, the local police chief.

Investigators determined that it was a suicide attack and that the bomber was a woman who wore the head-to-toe burka veil common in Pakistan's northwest and in neighbouring Afghanistan, Mahsud said.

# Dallaire to begin testimony at Rwandan genocide trial

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**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: CANADIAN PRESS FILE PHOTO / Former Canadian general Romeo Dallaire will testify at the trial of Desire Munyaneza, who is accused of war crimes in Rwanda in 1994. ;  
**DATELINE:** MONTREAL  
**SOURCE:** Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
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Romeo Dallaire has borne witness to the Rwandan genocide hundreds of times in speeches, interviews, books and movies, but now his haunting testimony will be heard in a Canadian court.

Dallaire, a former Canadian general who now sits in the Senate, is set to take the stand today at the landmark war crimes trial of Desire Munyaneza.

The Toronto resident is accused of leading a militia gang on a spree of rape and murder in the Butare region of Rwanda in 1994 and is the first person to be charged under Canada's new war-crimes legislation.

Dallaire, the head of a failed United Nations mission to keep peace in Rwanda, is the latest expert called to establish the context of the genocide, where an international tribunal has said 800,000 to one million Rwandans were killed.

Dallaire, the highest profile witness to testify at the trial, is not expected to directly link Munyaneza to crimes. Instead prosecutors will use his testimony to try to establish the vast scope and organization behind the slaughter.

Dallaire is one of a handful of people who can give independent testimony about the massacres, said Paulin Ntezirayo, a member of Montreal's Rwandan community.

"Dallaire wasn't hiding to survive, he wasn't killing people," Ntezirayo said. "With his blue UN beret, he's one of the only people who could move around and could see everything. If there is anyone who can say what happened, it's him."

Dallaire, now 61, was a Canadian general in charge of a United Nations mission to keep peace between warring factions in the Rwandan civil war when the massacres began in April 1994.

Dallaire had warned of an impending bloodbath and repeatedly called for foreign troops to intervene once the killing began. Instead much of his force was evacuated and he was left with a few hundred troops at the height of the slaughter.

While Dallaire is hailed as a hero by many for using his meagre force to shield several thousand Rwandans, others have criticized his failure to intervene to protect more Rwandans.

Some have said Dallaire should have ignored orders from UN bureaucrats and home countries and set aside his vague mandate to prevent more bloodshed.

His harshest critics are in Belgium. Ten of the country's soldiers were butchered when Dallaire sent them on a mission to guard the Rwandan prime minister.

While maintaining there was nothing he could do to save the Belgians, Dallaire has often admitted he ultimately failed in his mission.

He brushed off the label "hero" during an appearance on a popular Radio-Canada TV interview show during an appearance aired Sunday.

"Ultimately, the mission was a failure," Dallaire said. "I failed."

Ntezirayo says Dallaire has never cast himself as a hero.

"He did everything he humanly could," Ntezirayo said. "He was a powerless victim, too."

Failure wore heavily on Dallaire, who sank into depression and several suicide attempts and was given a medical discharge from the military.

Dallaire says he maintains his balance now with the help of therapy and medication.

His image as a hero has grown with his psychological rehabilitation. Quebec actor Roy Dupuis gives him a sympathetic portrayal in the recently released Canadian film, *Shake Hands with the Devil*.

The two men appeared together on the Sunday television program.

Dallaire, who recently declined to discuss his upcoming testimony, has become an outspoken advocate of military intervention in humanitarian causes, recently speaking out for Canada's military role in Afghanistan and for intervention in Darfur, Sudan.

He's also part of the effort to stop the use of child soldiers. He has testified by video at other war crimes trials held under an international mandate in Tanzania.

The Canadian Forces awarded Dallaire the Meritorious Service Cross for "fearless leadership, which has helped save the lives of thousands of men, women and children" in Rwanda.

# Canada to push UN for Afghan envoy; Foreign minister says position, to raise awareness of NATO operation, should emulate Tony Blair's work in Middle East

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Canada will highlight successes in Afghanistan in a United Nations speech today while pushing the world body to appoint a high-level envoy to raise awareness of NATO's operation in the war-ravaged country.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch in his first speech to the UN General Assembly, arguing the position should be modelled on Tony Blair's work on the Middle East peace process.

Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries as well as Afghan President Hamid Karzai and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. There is already support for the initiative from the United States and countries like Norway, France and Spain.

Blair, as a special envoy for the Quartet group comprising the United Nations, United States, European Union and Russia, has been working on the Middle East issue since stepping down as Britain's prime minister.

Canada believes a similar high-profile effort regarding Afghanistan will provide more support for Karzai and serve to better co-ordinate development and security efforts.

One issue Bernier likely won't be addressing in his speech is Karzai's contentious call for negotiations with the Taliban, offering to meet with the Taliban leader and give militants a government role.

"We hope the negotiations will only be conducted with individuals and organizations that will respect human rights and renounce violence," Bernier said yesterday.

Afghanistan's reconciliation process must be based on the central government's "legitimacy, authority and respect for the rule of law," he said.

Bernier will talk about progress in rebuilding efforts and governance while applauding countries that have contributed soldiers and aid.

A UN-commissioned report last week said there's been progress in some areas but the country has a long way to go.

The Afghanistan National Human Development Report said the justice system needs to be completely rebuilt.

Canada to push UN for Afghan envoy; Foreign minister says position, to raise awareness of NATO operation

It notes that one-third of Afghans don't have enough food to eat and less than one in three households have access to safe drinking water. The mortality rate for children under five is among the highest in the world.

Bernier, who was appointed to the foreign affairs post in a cabinet shuffle in August, is expected to raise several other issues, including Haiti which is still struggling to recover from a 2004 revolt that toppled former president Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

He'll also talk about Canada's support for a UN resolution criticizing human rights abuses in Iran.

But Afghanistan remains the biggest issue for Canada.

Some 2,500 Canadian troops are involved in NATO's International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan. Most of the Canadians are in the violent southern province of Kandahar. Seventy-one Canadian soldiers and one diplomat have been killed in the conflict.

# U.S. offers \$200,000 for info on 'Most Wanted' Taliban; Most wanted campaign targets dozen insurgent leaders behind recent bombings

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A new U.S. "most-wanted" campaign is offering up to \$200,000 for information on a dozen elusive Taliban and al-Qaida leaders fuelling a rise in bombings and suicide attacks in Afghanistan.

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The list does not include internationally known names who already have a large price on their heads, such as al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden — who has evaded U.S. capture since 2001 despite a \$25 million bounty — or Taliban leader Mullah Omar, who is worth a \$10 million reward.

Instead, it is filled with local insurgent cell leaders responsible for roadside and suicide bomb attacks.

"We want the people in that area to know who this guy is and know he's a bad guy, and when they spot him to turn that guy in," military spokesman Maj. Chris Belcher said Sunday.

The campaign is reminiscent of efforts in Iraq to capture high-value insurgents. The U.S. military in April 2003 passed out decks of cards with 55 insurgent names and pictures, and in July 2006 the Iraqi government publicized its own most-wanted list of 41 that included Saddam Hussein's wife and eldest daughter.

The Afghanistan program, which went active in recent days, comes despite peace overtures from President Hamid Karzai, who said on Saturday he would be willing to meet with Taliban leader Mullah Omar if it would help bring peace.

# Taliban executes teen found with U.S. money; Rebels justify attacks as a response to U.S. meddling in Afghan affairs

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Taliban insurgents hanged a teenager in southern Afghanistan because he had American money in his pocket, stuffing five US\$1 bills into his mouth as a warning to other villagers not to use dollars, police said yesterday. Elsewhere the Taliban killed eight police.

The 15-year-old boy was hanged from a tree Sunday in Helmand province, the most violent province in the country and the world's No. 1 poppy-growing region.

"The Taliban warned villagers that they would face the same punishment if they were caught with dollars," said Wali Mohammad, the district police chief in Sangin.

Dollars are commonly used in Afghanistan alongside the afghani, the local currency, though dollars are more commonly seen in larger cities where international organizations are found.

The rebels often justify their attacks and executions as a response to U.S. meddling in Afghan affairs.

The Taliban killed another man in Sangin on Saturday after he sought farm assistance and seeds from an international aid program, Mohammad said. The rebels accused him of being a spy and shot him to death.

Taliban insurgents in Ghazni province, meanwhile, ambushed a police convoy on Sunday, killing eight officers, said Abdul Khaliq Nikmal, spokesman for the provincial governor.

He said Afghan authorities have sent police reinforcements to the area and were meeting with U.S. military officials to plan a counterattack.

Violence has surged in Afghanistan in recent months. Last week alone, violence killed more than 270 people, including 165 rebels reportedly killed in two large battles in the south and 30 people killed in a suicide bombing on an army bus in Kabul.

President Hamid Karzai on Sunday Karzai said he would be willing to meet personally with Taliban leader Mullah Omar and factional warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of Hezb-i-Islami, in exchange for peace.

On Sunday, Karzai's spokesman, said there was "serious debate" among some Taliban fighters about laying down arms.

But the Taliban said international troops must leave the country before any talks are held.

Taliban executes teen found with U.S. money; Rebels justify attacks as a response to U.S. meddling in Afghan

"Negotiations with Karzai have no worth in the presence of American forces," said Haroon Zarghun, a Hezb-i-Islami spokesman.

"Karzai has, in fact, no authority in the presence of American troops. Talks would be waste of time in such a situation," he told The Associated Press by telephone. "If the United States announces to leave Afghanistan, then we will be ready to hold talks."

Insurgency-related violence has killed more than 4,600 people so far this year, most of them insurgents, according to an AP tally of figures from Afghan and western officials. Taliban spokesmen say western claims of rebel casualties are often greatly exaggerated.

In Helmand's Reg district, Afghan and U.S.-led coalition forces, acting on intelligence reports, were pursuing militants hiding out in the area Monday when they came under attack, the coalition said in a statement. The troops called in air strikes and fought the militants in a gun battle.

More than 20 militants were killed, but there were no reports of civilians hurt. It was not immediately possible to verify the death toll independently.



# Afghan women still risk life to get education; Doors to school remain open despite Taliban threats to both students and teachers

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Sofia Nawabi studies hard and dreams of running her own business one day.

Not so long ago, the 21-year-old Afghan woman couldn't even show her face outside her home, as she does today. To go to school, let alone run a business, was unthinkable under the strict Islamic rule of the Taliban.

The classes are free but in this conservative Islamic province -- an insurgent stronghold where the Taliban continue to hold much influence despite being ousted from power in late 2001 -- there could well be a price to pay for the women who dare to school.

Ehsan Ullah is the founder of the centre, which opened in March, and its predecessor the Sherzai Institute, and the recipient of one of the Taliban's notorious "night letters," dropped on the doorstep of the institute.

"We will bleed you," it warned.

Teachers have been assassinated and students threatened but Ullah says the doors will remain open.

"We try to keep a low profile but we have not gone underground," he says. "We can't go underground. Here, men and women need education. Education is the only light that can make Afghanistan bright again."

A slight man of powerful words, 36-year-old Ullah blames illiteracy for the troubles that plague the nation.

"The warlords, the drug lords, the extremist elements; they are imposed on us because we are uneducated," he says, slapping his hands together in exasperation.

"Education can be the solution to put an end to the killing."

Opened with a private donation from a Canadian citizen and money from Ullah's own pocket, the community centre survives on private donations and matching funds from the Calgary-based CADMUS Foundation. They operate on a shoe-string budget of \$3,000 a month and are ever fishing for international funding.

The Canadian Provincial Reconstruction Team in Kandahar has donated computer equipment and the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology offers online courses via the Internet.

When students started dropping out because they couldn't afford even the bus fare, Ullah arranged a minibus to pick them up.

"Women doctors and nurses and doctor's assistants are terribly needed," Ullah says.

The women pay rapt attention to the lessons, burkas draped over the back of their chairs. Although their presence here is proof that much has changed in Afghanistan, it has not changed enough for many.

Nawabi agrees to speak to The Canadian Press on the condition that her face not be shown.

"For a woman, it's still really hard," she says. "A lot of families don't allow their girls to go outside."

# Appeals court asked to reconsider Khadr decision; Canadian terror suspect's lawyers oppose reconsideration of charges

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020040  
**PUBLICATION:** Times & Transcript (Moncton)  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** C11  
**BYLINE:** THE CANADIAN PRESS  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Times & Transcript  
(Moncton)  
**WORD COUNT:** 310

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Lawyers for Canadian terror suspect Omar Khadr asked a special military appeals court yesterday to reconsider its decision to allow legal proceedings against him to resume at Guantanamo Bay.

The U.S. Court of Military Commission Review ruled last month that Khadr could face murder and terrorism charges at a military tribunal at the U.S. naval base in Cuba, overruling an earlier dismissal of the charges.

The trial judge, Col. Peter Brownback, had thrown the case out in June, saying he lacked jurisdiction to try Khadr because the 21-year-old hadn't been declared an "unlawful" enemy combatant as required by Congress.

But the military review panel decided Brownback has the authority to determine whether or not Khadr was legally fighting U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan.

Khadr's lawyers say two e-mails from Brownback to lawyers involved in the case show the determination will be a hasty, sketchy process that's "fundamentally unfair."

That process would bar an appeal about Khadr's status to a regular U.S. court, said Lt.-Cmdr. William Kuebler, and there would be no chance to contest his status until after the military tries him and imposes a sentence.

The defence isn't entitled to all the evidence against Khadr, said Kuebler, and the judge has already said he won't accept arguments that Khadr was an alleged child soldier deserving of international legal protections.

He was 15 years old when he allegedly threw a grenade that killed a U.S. medic in an Afghanistan firefight in 2002.

"The courts in this process seem determined to avoid the most controversial aspect of Omar's prosecution -- whether imposing a life sentence on a child for so-called war crimes is legal," said Kuebler.

"Allowing the military commission to decide whether it can legally try Omar is like letting the fox guard the henhouse."

The case, which has faced one legal twist after another, is scheduled to resume Nov. 8 in Guantanamo.

The U.S. military is anxious to try Khadr and is seeking a life sentence.

It would be the first full test of a special justice system for foreign terror suspects initially set up by President George W. Bush and revamped by Congress last year.

The process has been condemned by many western countries and human rights groups, but Canada hasn't criticized it.

The Conservative government has said it won't get involved.

# Canada pushes for UN envoy to help support Afghan cause; Politics | Bernier will make pitch in today's speech to UN assembly

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020042  
**PUBLICATION:** The Daily Gleaner (Fredericton)  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A8  
**BYLINE:** The Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 The Daily Gleaner (Fredericton)  
**WORD COUNT:** 127

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Canada wants the United Nations to appoint a high-level envoy to Afghanistan to raise awareness of the war and better co-ordinate efforts there.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch Tuesday in his first speech to the UN General Assembly.

Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

He says the envoy's role should be modelled on Tony Blair's work in the Middle East. Blair has been concentrating on the region since stepping down as Britain's prime minister.

Bernier will talk about key development and aid issues in Afghanistan and highlight countries making critical contributions.

He's expected to raise several other issues, including Haiti and a UN resolution highlighting human rights abuses in Iran.

Canada has about 2,500 troops involved in its mission to Afghanistan. Most of the Canadians are in Kandahar province. Seventy-one Canadian soldiers have been killed in the country since 2002.

# Pakistan first: Female suicide bomber kills 14

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020039  
**PUBLICATION:** The Daily Gleaner (Fredericton)  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A8  
**BYLINE:** The Associated Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 The Daily Gleaner  
(Fredericton)  
**WORD COUNT:** 199

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A woman detonated explosives hidden under her burka at a police checkpoint Monday, killing herself and 14 others in what appeared to be Pakistan's first female suicide attack, officials said.

The blast in the troubled town of Bannu underscored the growing Islamic militant threat in Pakistan, five days before President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, a U.S. ally, seeks re-election.

Militants attacked a security post in the same northwestern region later Monday and 24 policemen were feared captured, officials said.

The suicide bomber was in a rickshaw when it was pulled over by police at a checkpoint in Bannu, said Ameer Hamza Mahsud, the local police chief.

Investigators determined that it was a suicide attack and that the bomber was a woman who wore the head-to-toe burka veil common in Pakistan's northwest and in neighbouring Afghanistan, Mahsud told The Associated Press.

There was no claim of responsibility. Forensic experts would examine the attacker's dismembered body for clues to her identity, Mahsud said.

However, he said it was possible that the bomber came from the nearby tribal belt along the Afghan frontier, where militants affiliated with the Taliban and al-Qaida have seized considerable control.

While there have been reports of women being trained to carry out suicide bombings in Pakistan, Monday's blast appeared to be the first confirmation of such an attack in either Pakistan or Afghanistan.

# Nova Scotia byelection will signal if NDP support holding strong-- pundit

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020036  
**PUBLICATION:** The Daily Gleaner (Fredericton)  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**SECTION:** News;News  
**PAGE:** A6  
**BYLINE:** The Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 The Daily Gleaner  
(Fredericton)  
**WORD COUNT:** 220

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Nova Scotia's Opposition New Democrats in will soon see if their "rope-a-dope" strategy of low-key, defensive politics is enough to win a hotly contested byelection, says a pollster.

Voters head to the polls Tuesday in the NDP-held riding of Cole Harbour- Eastern Passage, the first byelection since the minority Tories won a narrow victory in the June 2006 general election.

Becky Kent, a local councillor from the area, is trying to hold the seat for the NDP, which won it by a healthy 3,000-vote margin in 2006.

The Conservatives have fielded Mike Eddy, Halifax's former fire chief, while the Liberals have put forward Kelly Rambeau, an elementary school principal in Cole Harbour.

Beverley Woodfield, the mother of a soldier killed in Afghanistan, is running for the Green Party, which finished a distant fourth in the most recent election.

Don Mills, president of Corporate Research Associates, predicts a tight race, given the popularity and profile of the local candidates.

But he said the New Democratic Party has the most at stake.

"It's a test for them, to see if their strength in the metro Halifax area is continuing," he said.

The vote will also serve as a test for the NDP's decision to steer clear of bold policy pronouncements and harsh criticism of the government, added Mills.

"It seems it's kind of a rope-a-dope strategy," he said, drawing a parallel with the low-energy, on-the-ropes fighting style used in 1974 by Muhammad Ali against George Foreman.

"They (the NDP) have been playing defensive politics rather than offensive politics. They don't want to make any mistakes."

NDP Leader Darrell Dexter dismissed the idea that his party has been doing little except waiting for the votes to roll in.

# Letters | Yellow ribbons not embraced

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020012  
**PUBLICATION:** The Daily Gleaner (Fredericton)  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**SECTION:** Opinion  
**PAGE:** C7  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 The Daily Gleaner  
(Fredericton)  
**WORD COUNT:** 897

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I worked at an American publication by invitation in the fall of 2002 when it sported an article by former U.S. Presidential candidate and decorated veteran George McGovern.

McGovern said we needed to feed the hungry of the world, not threaten anyone with bombs. He said if people attacked countries that seemed to pose threats, we'd have endless wars.

At that very time, Robert Muller, former secretary-general to the United Nations, said we have two world super powers today: the United States and world public opinion.

As someone who braved the cold to voice opposition to the invasion of Iraq, to the point of catching pneumonia, I know how wrong Muller's well-intentioned statement was.

Today, Canada has gone from world-renowned peacekeepers to active fighters in Afghanistan.

Those who oppose our actions are labeled anti-Canadian or anti-military, shades of questioning George W. Bush and being labeled anti-American.

We say Muslims are fanatics, and surely some are, but the U.S. leaders are avowed Christians and use words such as crusades. Who is more fanatical? More dangerous? Which country is the only one to use nuclear weapons on others?

Are we really doing good or God's work, by rallying behind the U.S.? Or are we being duped?

And when our clerics bless the departing fleets and give elaborate religious rites to the glorious dead, is that what Christ would have done?

What's wrong with this picture?

Yellow ribbons do what?

Are we fighting legitimate battles or are we asked to support insanity and falsehoods?

We are losing many of our youth, while those who return will be wounded in many senses of the word. A few of ours die, and it's horrific tragedy. We are the ones on foreign soil. If our soldiers were defending our own turf, yes, that is heroic, but that's not the case.

How about the hundreds of thousands killed on their home turf by coalition forces in the past few years? How tragic and ungodly is that?



Richard Doiron

Moncton, N.B.

Taliban cruel to women

I am totally amazed and confounded that a woman is heading a campaign to lessen support for our troops in Afghanistan.

Our military is in Afghanistan to fight the Taliban, a cruel regime, famous for denigrating women when they held power in that country. Is Tracy Glynn aware of the documented story of the Afghan woman who had her fingers cut off because she wore nail polish? Or other Afghan women who were arrested because they wore high heels in public?

Has she not read Lolita in Teheran and other books that detail the incredible oppression of women by the Taliban when they (all men) controlled Afghanistan? Well, she should, and hopefully her perspective will change.

Ray Burke

New Maryland, N.B.

NB Power not blocking release of Orimulsion deal information

It has been reported that NB Power wants to keep the details of the Orimulsion settlement secret.

We are proud of what has been accomplished in this settlement. Our agreement with the Venezuelans has a confidentiality clause which the Energy Utilities Board can override.

If the board made such an order, our suggestion is to follow the usual practice in such cases. Full disclosure would be made to the board and intervenors in confidence. In this way, all parties would have all the information they need to perform their roles.

At the same time, the Venezuelans would maintain their commercially sensitive information.

Our sole interest is to work with all parties to ensure the full benefits of the Orimulsion settlement are maintained by and for the people of New Brunswick.

David Hay

President and CEO

NB Power

Fredericton

Oromocto soldier should be red

I do not agree with letter-writer Bill Hazen's comments about Oromocto's wooden soldier at the traffic circle.

I was disappointed and angry when I saw someone had painted the soldier blue and even more so, if true, when I read that town council had authorized it.

I believe the soldier was carved as a Loyalist. If I were the gentleman who carved it, and others in this town as well, I would be very disappointed and angry.

Surely there was some other way to welcome Francophones to the area.

We have lived in this town many times since 1958 and returned here after retirement almost 20 years ago but if this trend of thought continues, it may be time to move on.

S.E. Wall

Oromocto, N.B.

Adopt a chemical spray victim

There are groups of people promoting just about everything you can think of, including, adopt a cat, adopt a puppy, adopt a dog and now adopt a soldier.

All are good and honourable pursuits. But I urge all fair-minded and compassionate Canadians to get behind the victims of the CFB Gagetown chemical spraying atrocity and demand a public and judicial inquiry.

Maybe some industrious group would consider starting an adopt a "Gagetown chemical spraying victim."

James Jennex

Dartmouth N.S.

NB needs addiction treatment

At a sentencing recently of a woman who has a long history of crack cocaine addiction and suffers from mental illness, the judge lamented the lack of treatment facilities, and stated that "Her mental illness can't be treated until her addiction problem is treated."

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Saint John stands behind the judge's comments, and the members named below, who serve as volunteers in provincial and federal prisons, know that they are true.

As advocates for marginalized and criminalized women, we have lobbied successive provincial governments for many years to provide long-term, intensive treatment for women with addictions, such as has been available to men in New Brunswick for decades.

If you want to help us in the struggle to confront and eradicate this obvious discrimination, please leave a message at 506-635-8851, toll-free at 1-866-301-8800, e-mail [efry@nb.aibn.com](mailto:efry@nb.aibn.com), or write to PO Box 23012, Saint John, N. B.

E2J 4M1.

Marianna Stack

Marian Perkins

Denise Durette

Glenna Munro

Berna Critchlow

Saint John, N.B.

Rural residents disrespected

The recent government announcement it will appoint a commissioner to review local governance does nothing to resolve issues currently facing that governance.

It would show genuine sincerity to abandon talk of rural property tax increases dedicated to the City of Fredericton and to openly challenge the city for its plan to charge Local Service District residents to use the city's sports facilities.

There's always a correction when inappropriate assertions are based on assumptions; it will be an impressive correction when the assertion that ignores or insults all rural residents.

Such a correction could be avoided if the appropriate authority showed residents of the LSDs appreciation and respect.

Tom Oldenburg

McLeod Hill, N.B.

# Appoint Afghan envoy, Canada says

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**PUBLICATION:** Kingston Whig–Standard (ON)

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**SECTION:** National/World

**PAGE:** B3

**SOURCE:** The Canadian Press

**DATELINE:** WASHINGTON

**WORD COUNT:** 76

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Canada wants the United Nations to appoint a high–level envoy to Afghanistan to raise awareness of the war and better co–ordinate efforts there.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch today in his first speech to the UN General Assembly.

Bernier says the envoy's role should be modelled on Tony Blair's work in the Middle East. Blair has been concentrating on the region since stepping down as Britain's prime minister.

Bernier will talk about key developments in Afghanistan and highlight countries making contributions.

# U.S. offers cash reward for Taliban information; Insurgents hang boy over American money

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**PUBLICATION:** Kingston Whig–Standard (ON)

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**SECTION:** National/World

**PAGE:** B3

**SOURCE:** AP

**BYLINE:** Jason Straziuso

**DATELINE:** BAGRAM, Afghanistan

**WORD COUNT:** 263

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A new U.S. "most–wanted" campaign is offering up to \$200,000 for information on a dozen elusive Taliban and al–Qaida leaders fuelling a rise in bombings and suicide attacks in Afghanistan.

In the south, meanwhile, militants hanged a teenager for having American money in his pocket and stuffed five \$1 bills into his mouth as a warning not to use U.S. currency.

To help track down 12 insurgent commanders, posters and billboards are to go up around eastern Afghanistan with their names and pictures. Rewards ranging from \$20,000 to \$200,000 are available for information leading to their capture.

"We're trying to get more visibility on these guys like the FBI did with the mob," said Lt.–Col. Rob Pollock, an officer at the main U.S. base in Bagram. "They operate the same way the mob did, they stay in hiding."

The list does not include internationally known names who already have a large price on their heads, such as al–Qaida chief Osama bin Laden – who has evaded U.S. capture since 2001 despite a \$25 million bounty – or Taliban leader Mullah Omar, who is worth a \$10 million reward.

Instead, it is filled with local insurgent cell leaders responsible for roadside and suicide bomb attacks.

"We want the people in that area to know who this guy is and know he's a bad guy, and when they spot him to turn that guy in," military spokesman Maj. Chris Belcher said Sunday.

The campaign is reminiscent of efforts in Iraq to capture high–value insurgents.

The U.S. military in April 2003 passed out decks of cards with 55 insurgent names and pictures, and in July 2006 the Iraqi government publicized its own most–wanted list of 41 that included Saddam Hussein's wife and eldest daughter.

# Soldier's funeral set for Thursday

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**PUBLICATION:** The  
Chronicle–Herald  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**SECTION:** Canada  
**PAGE:** A8  
**WORD COUNT:** 49

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CALGARY – A military funeral will be held Thursday afternoon for Cpl. Nathan Hornburg, who was killed last week while serving in Afghanistan.

Hornburg, 24, of Calgary, was a member of the King's Own Calgary Regiment serving near Kandahar.

The reservist was killed while trying to put a track back on a tank while under mortar fire.

It was his first overseas tour.

# Voice of the people

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**PUBLICATION:** The  
Chronicle–Herald  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**SECTION:** Letters  
**PAGE:** A8  
**WORD COUNT:** 1266

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I read with interest the comments by Coun. Gary Meade in your Sept. 24 article regarding traffic issues on the Hammonds Plains Road. As someone who lives along the road, I can attest to the unsafe conditions caused by the combination of heavy trucks, speeding and reduced ability for local residents to enter and exit their driveways.

The answer, though, does not lie with widening the road and making a frustrating and unsafe situation even worse.

The answer lies elsewhere. The Halifax Regional Municipality has access to an undeveloped right-of-way large enough for the installation of a bypass around this area.

Surely, the long-term, sound, sustainable and safe solution for everyone is to build a controlled access bypass road from above the Pockwock Road intersection to the Bicentennial Highway.

Coun. Meade has spoken of this opportunity. I would encourage him and the rest of HRM council to give this matter serious consideration and develop the best long-term solution for current and future residents of the Hammonds Plains area.

Jeffery Lee, Hammonds Plains

Re: "Hammonds Plains Road needs more lanes, councillor says" (Sept. 24). Coun. Gary Meade indicated he would approach council for support in looking at options to widen this stretch of roadway. Perhaps he should look at other options instead.

The councillor is correct in pointing out that residents themselves are part of the problem with the traffic congestion. It should be a no-brainer that traffic would be bad, considering the road condition and the number of people living in the area. But part of the blame also rests on the shoulders of the municipality for not providing adequate transportation infrastructure.

And I do not mean wider roads. Too often, this municipality is focused on moving cars, as opposed to people. What is really needed is a reliable bus or other mass transit option that provides an adequate number of runs per hour to ensure that people can get to where they are going in a reasonable amount of time. One bus in the morning and one in the evening just won't cut it.

If the road must be widened, by one extra reversible lane as suggested by Coun. Meade, than make this lane a bus and high-occupancy-vehicle-only lane. If mass transit is more convenient than sitting idling alone in your own car, people will use it.

Ian McKay, Halifax

For the last two years in November, my husband and I and many friends have organized a gospel concert to raise money to "fill a stable" for World Vision. Last year, we brought in \$4,000, and the year before the total was \$3,000.

This year our concert is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 18, again at Yarmouth North Baptist Church. Our focus this year is to raise money for water and wells.

Here's our challenge: We would like every town in Nova Scotia to host their own World Vision concert. Send the money via Allen Price, the Atlantic Representative of World Vision, so that he can let us know who won the "World Vision 2007 Water Challenge." His e-mail address is .

We all win, of course, with this type of event. It gives great satisfaction to know you are assisting others to help themselves, and I enjoy donating in honour of my family instead of sending Christmas gifts. This year, we plan to have the Christmas cards ready on site for sponsors to pick up and send early enough to reach their families before Christmas.

So an early Merry Christmas to you all and please join our World Vision 2007 Water Challenge!

George and Wendy Michaels,

Yarmouth

Our law enforcement officers prevent our society from degrading into anarchy. As with any group of people who exercise power, they must be subjected to public scrutiny. But their very difficult job is made almost impossible by those who continue to fault the police for the way they have to do their job.

When a law enforcement officer requests a person to stop creating a disturbance, or is trying to arrest a person, and that person physically resists the request, endangering others, including the officers, force becomes necessary.

The degree of force necessary to subdue the perpetrator and control the situation is the responsibility of those who created the situation, not of the law enforcement officers.

The courts afford us ample opportunity to seek justice if we feel unjustly treated. There is no reason to act like a spoiled brat, even if the media are present and you have an opportunity for your five minutes of fame.

The media, courts and most certainly the public must support our law enforcement officers or we will continue to see more and more violence towards those who protect us.

Basil Stewart, Middleton

Canadian soldiers are presently in Afghanistan, fighting in part for women's rights, so that women can obtain an education and experience freedom. Yet today in Nova Scotia, a single mother in university must quit her studies in order to obtain funding from the government. There are no social programs for single mothers who need housing or extra financial assistance, unless she leaves university for a period of time.

As a student of International Development Studies, I find myself challenging the concept of "development." I also wonder why people in North America believe that the "Third World" exists only in the global South. Is it possible to fade this line of "us" in the North (meaning presumed entitlement) and "them" in the South (meaning powerless) and instead "fight" for the rights and freedom of all women?

Corrine Cash, Purcell's Cove



What happens when you have a child who has been involved in sport since he could say the word "sport" and then when he reaches a certain age (mainly 17 or 18) it is all over?

I have a son who has always played sports. He has played hockey, baseball, basketball and many more. I mention these sports in particular because these are the ones that he has enjoyed the most and these are the ones (except for basketball, which I believe he only has one more year to play) that he can no longer play because in December he will turn 18.

In this world of gangs and youth crime, I do not understand why everything stops for teenagers when they reach a certain age. There are, of course, such sports for the elite players who are fortunate enough to go on to bigger and better things, but what about kids like my son who are in it for the love of it?

They will say that minor sport stops at a certain age because the demand is not there. I disagree. Have they even looked into what demand there might be? What happens now to him and hundreds like him who are left high and dry?

I worry about my son and what he will do to fill his time now that the things that he loves to do have been taken away from him. I wonder how many other parents and kids are out there wondering "what now?"

Anne-Marie Landry, Lawrencetown

Re: Dan Leger's Sept. 24 column, "Welcome to the mushy middle, Mr. Harper." The headline is actually an excessively polite way of saying, "Congratulations, Mr. Harper, you are again a Liberal!"

Of course, with former Conservative campaign manager Tom Flanagan having now revealed his "Four legs good, two legs better" dictum in the Globe and Mail recently in Moses-like fashion, I now fully comprehend that the plan was never to have open and accountable government that favours smaller government, reductions in spending, decreasing corruption and improving regional representation in the West and Atlantic Canada.

It was to get all his backroomers, cronies and supporters to that "public" trough so they could again feed like stink! At least, there is one thing that is "public" that Harper cannot say he doesn't show fondness for: In the upcoming battle over conservative principles, Danny Williams will destroy Stephen Harper because Harper doesn't have any. Bait and switch, just like the Atlantic accords.

Rob Miller, Halifax

# Canada urges UN to appoint Afghan envoy; Bernier believes high-profile effort will better co-ordinate development and security efforts

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**PUBLICATION:** The Chronicle-Herald

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**SECTION:** World

**PAGE:** A6

**SOURCE:** The Associated Press

**ILLUSTRATION:** An Afghan street vendor waits for customers Saturday in the city of Herat, west of Kabul, Afghanistan. Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make a pitch for an Afghan envoy in his first speech to the UN General Assembly. (Fraidoon Pooyaa / AP)

**WORD COUNT:** 401

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WASHINGTON – Canada will highlight successes in Afghanistan in a United Nations speech today while pushing the world body to appoint a high-level envoy to raise awareness of NATO's operation.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch in his first speech to the UN General Assembly, arguing the position should be modelled on Tony Blair's work on the Middle East peace process.

Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries, as well as Afghan President Hamid Karzai and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

There is already support for the initiative from the United States and countries like Norway, France and Spain.

Blair, as a special envoy for the Quartet group comprising the United Nations, United States, European Union and Russia, has been working on the Middle East issue since stepping down as Britain's prime minister.

Canada believes a similar high-profile effort regarding Afghanistan will provide more support for Karzai and serve to better co-ordinate development and security efforts.

In his speech, Bernier will concentrate on progress in rebuilding efforts and governance while applauding countries that have contributed soldiers and aid.

A UN-commissioned report last week said there's been progress in some areas but the country has a long way to go.

The Afghanistan National Human Development Report said the justice system needs to be completely rebuilt.

It notes that one-third of Afghans don't have enough food to eat and less than one in three households have access to safe drinking water.

The mortality rate for children under five is among the highest in the world.

Bernier, who was appointed to the foreign affairs post in a cabinet shuffle in August, is expected to raise several other issues, including Haiti, which is still struggling to recover from a 2004 revolt that toppled former president Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Bernier will also talk about Canada's support for a UN resolution criticizing human rights abuses in Iran.

But Afghanistan remains the biggest issue for Canada.

Some 2,500 Canadian troops are involved in NATO's International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan.

Most of the Canadians are in the violent southern province of Kandahar.

Seventy-one Canadian soldiers and one diplomat have been killed in the conflict.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay has called it a "no-fail mission" that requires more military help to prevent the export of terror. Canada wants countries like Germany, France, Spain and Italy to allow their soldiers into combat zones to fight Taliban militants.

That dangerous burden is currently shouldered mostly by Canada, the United States, Britain, the Netherlands and Australia.

There will be an opportunity for more lobbying at a NATO meeting in the Netherlands later this month.

Canada's mission to Afghanistan is due to end in February 2009.

The Conservatives want to extend it but face enormous public pressure to get out.

Two-thirds of Canadians have said the soldiers shouldn't stay longer than the deadline.

More than half tell pollsters they should get out even sooner.

Karzai has personally appealed to Canadians to continue the fight, saying his country will fall back into anarchy if they don't.

On the weekend, Karzai stepped up his recent calls for negotiations with the Taliban, offering to meet with the Taliban leader and give militants a government role.

# Suicide bomber kills herself, 14 others in Pakistan

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**PUBLICATION:** The  
Chronicle–Herald  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**SECTION:** World  
**PAGE:** A5  
**WORD COUNT:** 159

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PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) – A woman detonated explosives hidden under her burka at a police checkpoint Monday, killing herself and 14 others in what appeared to be Pakistan's first female suicide attack, officials said.

The blast in the troubled town of Bannu underscored the growing Islamic militant threat in Pakistan, five days before President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, a U.S. ally, seeks re-election. Militants attacked a security post in the same northwestern region later Monday and 24 policemen were feared captured, officials said.

The suicide bomber was in a rickshaw when it was pulled over by police at a checkpoint in Bannu, said Ameer Hamza Mahsud, the local police chief.

Investigators determined that it was a suicide attack and that the bomber was a woman who wore the head-to-toe burka veil common in Pakistan's northwest and in neighbouring Afghanistan, Mahsud told The Associated Press.

There was no claim of responsibility. Forensic experts would examine the attacker's dismembered body for clues to her identity, Mahsud said.

# Canada pushes for Afghan awareness envoy

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**PUBLICATION:** The Telegram (St. John's)

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**SECTION:** National/World

**PAGE:** A7

**SOURCE:** The Canadian Press

**BYLINE:** Beth Gorham

**DATELINE:** Washington

**WORD COUNT:** 259

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Canada will highlight successes in Afghanistan in a United Nations speech today while pushing the world body to appoint a high-level envoy to raise awareness of NATO's operation in the war-ravaged country.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch in his first speech to the UN General Assembly, arguing the position should be modelled on Tony Blair's work on the Middle East peace process.

Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries as well as Afghan President Hamid Karzai and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. There is already support for the initiative from the United States and countries like Norway, France and Spain. Blair, as a special envoy for the Quartet group comprising the United Nations, United States, European Union and Russia, has been working on the Middle East issue since stepping down as Britain's prime minister.

Canada believes a similar high-profile effort regarding Afghanistan will provide more support for Karzai and serve to better co-ordinate development and security efforts.

One issue Bernier likely won't be addressing in his speech is Karzai's contentious call for negotiations with the Taliban, offering to meet with the Taliban leader and give militants a government role.

"We hope the negotiations will only be conducted with individuals and organizations that will respect human rights and renounce violence," Bernier said Monday.

Bernier, who was appointed to the foreign affairs post in a cabinet shuffle in August, is expected to raise several other issues, including Haiti which is struggling to recover from a 2004 revolt that toppled former president Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

# Public farewell for fallen Calgary soldier

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020062  
**PUBLICATION:** Calgary Herald  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** City & Region  
**PAGE:** B1 / FRONT  
**ILLUSTRATION:** Colour Photo: Courtesy, Edmonton Garrison / A thousand people are expected at Thursday's funeral for Cpl. Nathan Hornburg. ;  
**KEYWORDS:** WORLD WAR I; COURT MARTIAL; CANADIANS  
**BYLINE:** Deborah Tetley  
**SOURCE:** Calgary Herald  
**WORD COUNT:** 234

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Family, friends, dignitaries and military comrades will gather at Stampede Park later this week to say a final goodbye to fallen Calgary soldier Nathan Hornburg.

The corporal's father, Michael Hornburg, said 1,000 people are expected to attend Thursday afternoon's service to honour the 24-year-old for his sacrifice in Afghanistan.

"It will be a public funeral and there will be a military component," the father said Monday.

Nathan Hornburg, a reservist with the King's Own Calgary Regiment, was killed last Monday during a mortar attack in southern Afghanistan.

During a prolonged firefight with insurgents, Hornburg dismounted from the armoured recovery vehicle he was driving to repair a tread that had fallen off the tank. He was killed by mortar shell fragments.

Hornburg, who was born and raised in the city, is the 71st Canadian soldier to be killed in Afghanistan since 2002, and the third Calgarian.

The man his family calls a "warrior" had been in the country roughly one month of a planned six-month tour.

When Hornburg's body was returned to Canada on Friday, he became the first fallen soldier to travel along the newly named Highway of Heroes, a stretch of Highway 401 between CFB Trenton and Toronto.

His father was amazed at the public's outpouring of support as strangers stood on an overpass and saluted the military cavalcade as it passed by.

He's expecting the same here, as mourners say goodbye to a soldier and friend.

"The response in Ontario from the general public was just really incredible," he said. "I'm sure in Nathan's hometown there will be an equal type of response."

The funeral will be held at the Roundup Centre in Stampede Park on Thursday at 1 p.m. and is open to the public.

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# World vision must reach beyond war

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**PUBLICATION:** Calgary Herald  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** The Editorial Page  
**PAGE:** A14  
**COLUMN:** Kris Kotarski  
**ILLUSTRATION:** Graphic: (See hard copy for graphic).;  
**KEYWORDS:** WAR; FOREIGN AID; CANADA; AFGHANISTAN  
**BYLINE:** Kris Kotarski  
**SOURCE:** For The Calgary Herald  
**WORD COUNT:** 555

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In early September, a leaked report from the Department of National Defence highlighted that the ambitious task of modernizing and restructuring the Canadian Forces — so-called "transformation" — was behind schedule and that a number of Canadian military personnel were facing burnout.

Although the army brass quickly moved to reassure the public the forces were still capable of coping with the challenges at the moment, the report suggested the situation is not sustainable over the long term.

It blamed the shift of attention and resources toward the war in Afghanistan, a perfectly understandable folly for a military engaged in life-and-death situations daily.

Judging from media reports, Senator Colin Kenny, chairman of the Senate defence committee and a noted authority on Canadian military matters, was certainly worried, as were other experts who commented on the issue.

What is more alarming, though, is that this shift of attention and resources is not only a military problem, it is occurring elsewhere in our society as well.

Judging by the current climate of the Canadian public debate, foreign affairs equals Afghanistan, and humanitarian and development goals are usually only mentioned within the context of the Canadian military mission halfway across the globe. With the attention of decision-makers and the public so firmly focused on one goal, what is getting lost as a result?

Although it would be crass to suggest our Afghan mission does not merit the attention it receives, a recent UNICEF report that claims global child deaths are down to only 10 million is one example clearly highlighting there is more to the world than Afghanistan.

Canada also has other global responsibilities that are just as important as supporting our military effort, but are we paying enough attention to address them properly?

Canadians have a well-earned reputation as good global citizens, a reputation most certainly based on a history of advocacy and action. However, how much advocacy and action is being lost to the Afghan mission? Or, to rephrase, is Canada at risk of the same pitfalls that caused our military to lose focus on its own "transformation" because of the totally absorbing nature of our Afghanistan commitment?

The problem of Afghanistan is not that it is drawing away our resources. Sure, we spend a lot on the war, but one gets the feeling that resources are seldom the main problem for a country like Canada.

It is our ears and eyes that we should be worried about, as they are being drawn away from other problems at home and abroad.

Regardless of what happens to our military mission, we have to keep in mind that even if our collective attention span can be rather short, the world remains quite large.

Make no mistake about it: Canada's development commitments are not always being met, and the UNICEF report highlights but one area where Canada can and should do more.

Just within the realm of foreign affairs, Canada and most other G-8 countries continue to lag on their foreign aid commitments, including the bedevilling failure of our governments — both Liberal and Conservative — to stay on track to help meet the 2000 UN Millennium Development Goals of which health care, or even child health care, is but one aim.

What should Canadians do?

Recently, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown pledged material and logistical support for the United Nations and African Union peacekeeping mission in Darfur.

What has Canada pledged?

While Canada cannot solve all the world's problems, it should at least be aware of them, whether our soldiers fight in Afghanistan or not.

We need to take our collective blinders off — citizens, journalists and politicians.

Kris Kotarski is a Calgary writer.



# Burka-clad bomber kills 16 in Pakistan

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020036  
**PUBLICATION:** Calgary Herald  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Early  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A11  
**COLUMN:** Asia Report: News From the Region  
**KEYWORDS:** TERRORISM; TERRITORIAL ISSUES; BOMBINGS; SUICIDE  
**DATELINE:** PESHAWAR, Pakistan  
**BYLINE:** Saad Khan  
**SOURCE:** Agence France–Presse  
**WORD COUNT:** 306

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A suicide bomber disguised in a woman's burka blew himself up at a busy police checkpoint in northwest Pakistan Monday, killing at least 16 people including four policemen, officials said.

The blast happened on the outskirts of Bannu, a key garrison town near Pakistan's troubled tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, where the army is battling al–Qaeda and Taliban militants.

It was the latest in a string of deadly attacks in Pakistan since government troops stormed the al–Qaeda–linked Red Mosque in Islamabad in July, and comes days before President Pervez Musharraf seeks reelection.

"A man disguised in a burka got out of an auto–rickshaw when police stopped the vehicle for a search at a checkpoint. He then blew himself up," police officer Asar Islam told Agence France–Presse.

Examination of remains "confirmed that it was a male suicide bomber" wearing women's clothing, while initial reports of a possible female attacker had been discounted, Bannu police Chief Ameer Hamza Mahsud said.

A doctor at the local hospital, Mohammad Usman, also confirmed the attacker was a man.

Police sources said they had earlier received intelligence that male suicide bombers dressed in all–covering burkas, a common female garment in conservative northwestern Pakistan, would soon launch attacks.

They had beefed up security at all checkpoints and the vehicle carrying the bomber was intercepted as a result, but the attacker blew himself up before they could check it, one source said.

Interior ministry spokesman Brig. Javed Cheema said 16 people were killed and 29 were wounded and that authorities were still investigating the blast.

Officials said four policemen and four women were among those killed.

Chief military spokesman Maj.– Gen. Waheed Arshad confirmed it was a suicide blast, but dismissed earlier witness reports the bombing targeted a military convoy passing through the town.

Also on Monday in Bannu, more than 20 Pakistan troops went missing, feared kidnapped by militants after a gunfight.

Abdul Nawaz Khan, district officer of the Bannu frontier force, said more than 100 militants had surrounded a post and fired rockets and mortar shells. Communication with the troops was then lost.

In a separate incident, Islamic militants shot dead a paramilitary soldier before dawn in North Waziristan, security officials said.

# Teen charged in pickaxe murder

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020003  
**PUBLICATION:** Calgary Herald  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A1 / FRONT  
**KEYWORDS:** MURDERS; CRIME; AFGHANISTAN; CANADA; ALBERTA  
**SOURCE:** Calgary Herald  
**WORD COUNT:** 65

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A man has been charged with second-degree murder after the pickaxe killing of a 17-year-old boy in southeast Calgary.

Matt McKay, a Grade 12 student, died Saturday from a single chop wound to the head during a house party.

McKay's father is mourning the loss of his only child, which follows the death of his wife from heart problems six months ago.

"I lost my whole family this year," said Ken McKay. "Now I have to bury my son, and move on."

Marko Miljevic, 19, was arrested Sunday without incident.

See story, Page B1

# In this valley, reconstruction works; The Taliban have been kept out of Afghanistan's Panjshir Valley, allowing infrastructure to be built in peace

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020131

**PUBLICATION:** Vancouver Sun

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**EDITION:** Final

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** F6

**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: John Ward Anderson, Washington Post / Students gather outside a 16-room school built with U.S. aid in Bazarak, Afghanistan. 'This is the safest part of Afghanistan, because the people of Panjshir stick together,' one construction worker says. 'We have bridges now, wells, new schools, water.' ;

**KEYWORDS:** WAR

**DATELINE:** PARAKH, Afghanistan

**BYLINE:** John Ward Anderson

**SOURCE:** Washington Post

**WORD COUNT:** 1436

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PARAKH, Afghanistan — Slashed across the side of a rugged mountain like the sign of Zorro, the Z Road started as a simple \$59,000 U.S. project to put a radio tower atop a small peak in the Hindu Kush, so people in the remote Panjshir Valley could for the first time pick up commercial radio from Kabul, about 100 dusty, bone-jolting kilometres away.

After road crews conquered the mountain's 90-metre face last November, other forces took over. By the new year, private companies had extended the road to the next hilltop, a kilometre away and 200 metres higher, for a bank of cellphone towers. Then came another extension to the next peak for a TV tower, then plans for a wind farm and, last month, a series of switchbacks to give villages in the next valley their first road to the outside.

This is the way reconstruction in Afghanistan was supposed to be. A little bit of U.S. pump priming, combined with profit motive and human need, would be harnessed by a grateful, liberated population to transform their lives and country. In the process, the people would become loyal allies in the fight against terror.

It hasn't always worked that way. Instead, Afghanistan is besieged by a growing insurgency that is shifting U.S. money and manpower from reconstruction to security, undermining vital road, electricity, school and other projects that are designed to extend the authority of the national government and win hearts and minds.

But in Afghanistan's famed Panjshir Valley — a remote, sparsely populated mountain region that is almost entirely ethnic Tajik — an unprecedented synergy among the local government, the people and U.S. soldiers has helped spark a development boom that is modernizing and transforming the valley, which became Afghanistan's 34th province three years ago. Underpinning it all is an unusual sense of calm that has come with the people's success in keeping the Taliban at bay.

When a U.S. reconstruction team recently returned to Forward Operating Base Lion about 15 kilometres inside the valley, troops parked their military vehicles for the duration of their stay and traveled throughout the province in regular sport-utility vehicles, without body armor and helmets. They often eschewed convoys and went out on missions in single vehicles.

Ambassadors, politicians, NATO and U.S. military officials "all ask the same thing: Can we do this in other provinces?" said Panjshir Gov. Bahlol Bahij. He extols his zero tolerance for opium poppy cultivation and his systems for working with the U.S. military and foreign aid workers and for stopping the spread of the Taliban into his province.

But many aspects of Panjshir make it unique.

Panjshir province is almost entirely Tajik and Sunni Muslim, so the region lacks many of the ethnic, religious and cultural differences that have fueled the insurgency elsewhere in Afghanistan. The province has 300,000 residents and is isolated. An indigenous intelligence network with a knowledge of the landscape enabled Panjshir fighters to repel repeated Soviet, mujaheddin and Taliban offences in the 1980s and '90s and helped this region remain the only unconquered area of Afghanistan.

The fighters were led by national hero Ahmed Shah Massoud, the so-called Lion of Panjshir, who was killed in an al-Qaida suicide bombing two days before the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks in the United States.

Today, nomad sheep herders graze their flocks on the valley floor among rusting Soviet tanks and decrepit armoured vehicles. Terraced gardens line the lower slopes, which climb to slate gray mountaintops scarred by foxholes and trenches. Pictures of Massoud peer out from the windows of mud-brick houses, car windshields, billboards and storefronts. Women in all-encompassing sky-blue burkas walk along roads with young girls in black dresses and white shawls — the traditional school uniform in the valley. Irrigation canals feed groves of walnut, almond and mulberry trees and fields of potatoes, beans and grapes.

"This is the safest part of Afghanistan, because the people of Panjshir stick together," said Mansor Azimi Panjshir, 23, a construction worker. "There's new building all over. We have bridges now, wells, new schools, water — everything looks good."

"It's 100-per-cent Tajik, homogeneous and very conservative, and it's been helped by its remoteness," said a UN official who was not authorized to speak on the record. The U.S. Agency for International Development and a special squad from the United States known as a Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) "have good collaboration with the local government, and that has helped a lot in terms of capacity building and bringing dynamism into the valley."

The PRT — one of 25 in Afghanistan — is the main vehicle for coordinating the U.S. reconstruction efforts here. It has about 40 members from the Air Force, Army, Navy and Army Corps of Engineers, as well as representatives from USAID and the Departments of State and Agriculture, and several translators. The team's bases are protected by local Afghan guards.

"We are in the world's largest Neighbourhood Watch program," quipped Air Force Lt. Col. Christopher J. Luedtke, 42, commander of the team. That luxury has allowed the unit to focus on development issues instead of security, permitting it to mentor local Afghans in planning, budgeting, modern construction techniques, maintenance and other areas that should help them build similar projects on their own and sustain them long-term.

"Panjshir is very much a model for the rest of the nation," Luedtke said. "Security and good governance have provided development, because you can build something and know it will still be here" in the future.

In this valley, reconstruction works; The Taliban have been kept out of Afghanistan's Panjshir Valley, allowing

In addition to the Z Road, which helped bring regular telephone service to the valley six months ago, the Panjshir PRT has been involved in about 90 other projects worth more than \$8 million in the two years since the team was created. USAID has pumped an additional \$32 million into projects, including \$20 million to build the province's first paved road, which snakes 30 miles along the banks of the Panjshir River on the valley's floor. The road opened five months ago and has cut driving time between the provincial capital, Bazarak, and Kabul from five hours to two, dramatically reducing the cost of transporting crops to the market and enticing more business into the valley.

"Now, we can go early to Kabul and come back in the same day," said Abdul Gafur, about 50, a Panjshiri truck driver. "And having the telephone is solving thousands of problems."

Local officials said that because of cellphone service, they received warnings about devastating flood waters heading toward the area this summer and were able to mobilize emergency help within hours. The same should be true for Taliban incursions, they said.

Piggybacking on the private expansions of the Z Road, the PRT is erecting 10 windmills on a mountain 335 metres above the valley floor to provide a new government centre with electricity 24 hours a day, vastly extending its reach to citizens. The team is also giving security training to local police.

Six 16-room schools have been built or are under construction by the PRT, and four more were constructed or refurbished by USAID, improving educational opportunities in the valley, especially for girls.

"Women are really clamouring for education," said Lt. Col. Michelle Atkins, 55, an Army reservist from Columbus, Ohio, who is the team's deputy commander. "These women know there's more out there, and they want it, and I see myself as offering it to them. But we're at least a generation away from seeing the real impact."

The team is also challenging long-standing cultural taboos, like working directly with women.

Teresa Morales, 37, a civilian with the Army Corps of Engineers from Corvallis, Ore., stands toe-to-toe with Afghan builders, explaining proper construction techniques, such as how to mix and pour cement, with an authority that leaves them looking dumbfounded.

"She's taught us a lot about construction that we can use in the future," said Feda Mohammad, 38, the head of a local construction company, as he stood on a school roof this week and reviewed the project.

Mohammad said he had two daughters, and after working with Morales, he figured that they, too, could do construction work and join his company when they were older. "That's why we're building these schools, so women can be educated," he said with a smile. "If they want to, I will let them in my business, and then I can sit at home."

But Morales is not so easily convinced: "We've cracked the door open, but it's a very elusive group of people. It's hard sometimes to understand what's going on."

# Post-9/11 foreign policy requires push for peace: Axworthy; Military responses worry former foreign affairs minister

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**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
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**SECTION:** Cityplus  
**PAGE:** B6  
**KEYWORDS:** POLITICIANS; FOREIGN RELATIONS  
**DATELINE:** EDMONTON  
**BYLINE:** Mike Sadava  
**SOURCE:** The Edmonton Journal  
**WORD COUNT:** 390

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Canada needs a ministry of peace to offset the militaristic direction the country's foreign policy has taken since 9/11, says former foreign affairs minister Lloyd Axworthy.

With all the emphasis on military solutions like the war in Afghanistan, which he said has made little progress in bringing peace and stability to that country, the way Canada pursues these issues should be revisited, he said Monday.

Axworthy, currently president of the University of Winnipeg, travels to Edmonton today to address the annual banquet celebrating the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, who pioneered the use of peaceful methods when India gained its independence in 1947.

"One of the things I really want to raise is an idea I think has some resonance across the country and certainly something I thought about when I was in Foreign Affairs, is that maybe we need a ministry of peace," he said.

Some people might say that this is the responsibility of Foreign Affairs, but that department has many other requirements to represent the interests of Canadians, he said.

But within the legislation governing Foreign Affairs is an unfilled ministry of state position that's supposed to be for international development.

"A ministry of peace could be a place where peace-building activities could be consolidated and development education program across the country and other parts of the world that we could develop techniques for reconciliation," he said.

Axworthy, a former Nobel Prize nominee who has long been a voice for the causes of peace and international development, said that in today's world, Gandhi might want to reform government structures and bring the notion of peace and reconciliation back into the vocabulary of the government.

He noted that Canada's defence budget has doubled while Foreign Affairs has been reduced, the country's foreign aid budget is still less than half the .7 per cent of gross domestic product proposed by Lester Pearson, and Canada is not using its diplomatic networks to promote institutions like the international court.

"Military strength is not unimportant and has to be used at times, but it has become the template for our foreign policy, and not with great results," he said.

He would love to see more about peace and international justice on the education curriculum where children and teenagers could learn about Gandhi and others dedicated to the cause such as Nelson Mandela.

There is a hunger among Canadians to learn about these issues, Axworthy said, noting that a program on conflict resolution at the University of Winnipeg has attracted more than 700 students.

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# Venting; /vent•ing/ v.t. to give free play or expression to an emotion or passion

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020068  
**PUBLICATION:** Edmonton Journal  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Cityplus  
**PAGE:** B2  
**KEYWORDS:** 0  
**BYLINE:** Compiled by Terry McConnell  
**SOURCE:** The Edmonton Journal  
**WORD COUNT:** 637

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- People never seem to take responsibility for their actions anymore, unless it's to celebrate some trivial success. Then they won't stop bragging.
- I hear Hunting Day was a bust. No wonder. Why should our young people go tramping through the bush when then can stay in the city and shoot something from the comfort of their own car?
- For the town of Heisler to name a new street Klein Crescent is very appropriate. It lacks direction, meanders about, and you wind up where you started.
- Now would be a good time for Premier Stelmach to borrow a page from his predecessor and distract everyone from the royalty dilemma by suggesting a ban on gay marriage and telling homeless people to get a job.
- Taking up EnCana on its billion-dollar warning would be a nice way of slowing Alberta's overheated economy.
- Seven months ago, EnCana reported net income for the year of about \$6.6 billion, the largest corporate profit in Canadian history. I'm guessing the company is not going anywhere when Stelmach does the right thing and raises the royalty rates.
- There is a military presence in both Afghanistan and Iraq to instill a democracy that was not sought. Yet, when the Burmese protest against an oppressive military regime, we resort to diplomacy. I don't suppose oil has anything to do with this, does it?
- I want to find some "Made in Canada " gifts to send to China, but I can't seem to find any.
- In May, The Journal reported that low-income seniors who own their own home would be getting a \$63 property tax rebate from the city by the end of July. Well, it's October now and I still haven't seen the money.
- My parents, both quite elderly, are in a long-term nursing home. They are both incontinent, but get only one shower a week, and occasionally they even get overlooked for that. Is this what we have to look forward to?
- My 87-year-old mother hurt her back while standing on the ETS bus, holding on to one of those swinging straps. You can't tell me everyone who had a seat on that bus was older and more frail than she is. What

happened to common courtesy?

- Half the package on a tobacco product warns that it is harmful to the user and yet people still buy it. This is what I call natural selection.
- Dress up for school? We're there to study, not to look pretty for you.
- We went to the home show at Northlands on the weekend. We paid \$10 to park and \$22 for two adult admissions. For that price, popcorn and a movie should have been included.
- I thought I would order my tickets to the home show online since they were only \$9 instead of \$11 at the door. But after I paid the delivery charge (I used my own printer!), a convenience charge and an order-processing fee, the tickets ended up costing me \$1.25 more than they would at the door. – I went to Canadian Tire to buy new shin pads for my daughter's upcoming indoor soccer season. I was told they put all that equipment away because "Soccer season is over." Oh yeah? Says who?
- Here are some more overused media expressions: "any time soon," and "a story we first told you about ... ."
- "At the end of the day," "wreaked havoc," "fully engulfed," "issues," "if you will," "that's what it's all about," "you know what?" and "absolutely!"
- Some guy got out of his SUV to swear at me for suggesting he get off his cellphone and drive. The child who was in the vehicle with him saw the whole thing. It was pretty shameful.
- Letting your dog make a mess on the floor at West Edmonton Mall and then walking away laughing makes you more of an animal than any dog ever could be.
- Let's keep Mountain Daylight Time 12 months of the year. Children would have an extra hour after school to play before it got dark, even on the shortest days.
- I won the school band lottery. My daughter was selected by her teacher to play the clarinet and, hey, after a week it already sounds like music. Send your vent to [venting@thejournal.canwest.com](mailto:venting@thejournal.canwest.com) or by writing us at the Journal Building, T5J 0S1. You can also call us at 498-5842 or fax us at 498-5677.

# Most violent year in Afghanistan since 2001

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020034  
**PUBLICATION:** Edmonton Journal  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A9  
**KEYWORDS:** WAR; TERRORISM; FOREIGN AID; BOMBINGS; AFGHANISTAN  
**DATELINE:** WASHINGTON  
**SOURCE:** McClatchy Newspapers  
**WORD COUNT:** 329

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WASHINGTON – Afghanistan is currently suffering its most violent year since the 2001 U.S.–led intervention, according to an internal United Nations report that sharply contrasts with recent upbeat appraisals by President George W. Bush and his Afghan counterpart, Hamid Karzai.

"The security situation in Afghanistan is assessed by most analysts as having deteriorated at a constant rate through 2007," said the report compiled by the Kabul office of the UN Department of Safety and Security.

There were 525 security incidents — attacks by the Taliban and other violent groups, bombings, terrorism of other kinds, and abductions — every month during the first half of this year, up from an average of 425 incidents per month in 2006.

Last year was the most violent since the U.S. post–Sept. 11 offensive that ousted the hardline Taliban Islamic militia from power and drove Osama bin Laden and his al–Qaida terrorists into neighbouring Pakistan.

The UN's Half–Year Review of the Security Situation in Afghanistan underscored the continuing resurgence of the Taliban, which many experts attribute to Bush's decision to shift troops and resources to Iraq, the U.S. failure to capture the militia's top leaders, and the refuge the militia has secured in the lawless tribal region of neighbouring Pakistan.

There are currently about 40,000 U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan, including about 2,500 Canadians.

Bush and Karzai met for talks Friday in New York and touted advances made since the Taliban's ouster, including reduced childhood mortality rates and increases in the numbers of health clinics and children going to school.

"Afghanistan, indeed, has made progress," said Karzai. The following day, he offered to meet the Taliban's spiritual and political leader, Mullah Mohammad Omar, and to offer militia members cabinet seats if it would bring peace.

The UN report said that the nature of the Taliban insurgency has changed significantly since 2006. Guerrillas have been staging fewer conventional attacks on U.S.–led NATO forces and Afghan troops and relying more heavily on suicide attacks, improvised explosive devices, assassinations, intimidation and abductions, it said.

# Suicide bomber in burqa kills 16 at checkpoint

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020018  
**PUBLICATION:** Edmonton Journal  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Early  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A4  
**COLUMN:** World Digest  
**KEYWORDS:** TERRORISM; SUICIDE; BOMBINGS; FOREIGN RELATIONS;  
CRIME;AFGHANISTAN; PAKISTAN  
**DATELINE:** PESHAWAR, Pakistan  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 91

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PESHAWAR, Pakistan – A suicide bomber disguised in a woman's burqa blew himself up at a busy police checkpoint in northwest Pakistan Monday, killing at least 16 people, including four policemen, officials said.

The blast happened on the outskirts of Bannu, a key garrison town near Pakistan's troubled tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, where the army is battling al-Qaida and Taliban militants.

It was the latest in a string of deadly attacks in Pakistan since government troops stormed the al-Qaida-linked Red Mosque in Islamabad in July, and comes days before President Pervez Musharraf seeks re-election.

# Senate votes \$648 billion in Bush defence bill

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020017  
**PUBLICATION:** Edmonton Journal  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Early  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A4  
**COLUMN:** World Digest  
**KEYWORDS:** SENATORS; POLITICAL REFORM; HEALTH CARE; SENIOR CITIZENS; PATRONAGE  
**DATELINE:** WASHINGTON  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 122

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WASHINGTON – The U.S. Senate on Monday passed a mammoth \$648-billion defence policy bill, shorn of attempts by disappointed anti-war Democrats to dictate President George W. Bush's Iraq strategy. The bill included around \$128 billion for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, according to a Congressional Budget Office estimate.

The legislation passed by 92 votes to three after Democrats lost several attempts to dictate U.S. troop levels in Iraq. While the Department of Defense Authorization bill for fiscal year 2008 sets the size of programs, funds can only be disbursed after the passage of a Senate defence spending bill due to be taken up by the chamber this week.

# Kandahar military base on high alert due to possible threat

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE  
**PUBLICATION:** cpw  
**WORD COUNT:** 75

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KANDAHAR, Afghanistan \_ A state of alert on the international military base at Kandahar Airfield has ended.

The security situation on the base was upgraded late Sunday night due to a possible threat.

The military did not release the exact nature of the threat or the additional security measures in place at the base citing security reasons.

The alert ended Monday morning following additional security sweeps of the base.

There are more than 10,000 international troops and civilians at Kandahar Airfield, the headquarters for NATO operations in the Kandahar province.

Canada has approximately 2,300 troops in Kandahar.

# CP News Agenda for Tuesday, Oct. 2

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** cpw  
**WORD COUNT:** 1023

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p.m. ET: x—denotes wire, y—denotes picture, z—denotes graphics coverage. Copy from other events based on merit and availability. All times local unless otherwise noted. Queries about these events and stories in The Canadian Press report should be directed to the departments listed below (all phone numbers 416 area code): Main Desk (National News) 507–2150 World Desk 507–2165 Sports Desk 507–2154 Ontario Desk 507–2159 Photo Desk 507–2169 Specials Desk (Syndicated Copy) 507–2152 IT Desk (Technical Trouble) 507–2099 or 800–268–8149 WORLD

NEW YORK \_ Foreign Affairs Minister Maxine Bernier gives speech about Afghanistan to United Nations General Assembly. (10 a.m. at United Nations headquarters)

## ATLANTIC

MIRAMICHI, N.B. \_ Inquest into the death of Christopher (Max) Comeau, 22, who died Aug. 3, 2006. He died after being hit by a Miramichi Police cruiser at about 11:30 p.m. while walking home. Through Oct. 3. (Rodd Miramichi River Hotel)

OROMOCTO, N.B. \_ Court martial for Cpl. William Venator, one of four Canadian soldiers charged with drug trafficking. (CFB Gagetown, Building F–1)

SAINT JOHN, N.B. \_ Energy Speaker Series features Terrence O'Brien, deputy director at the California Energy Commission. He will discuss "Shaping California's Future: Protecting the Economy and the Environment." (7 p.m. at Grand Hall, UNB Saint John, 40 Charlotte Street)

DARTMOUTH, N.S. \_ Canada–Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board officially opens its Geoscience Research Centre. (12 p.m. at 201 Brownlow Ave, Suite 27)

HALIFAX \_ LottoFairness.ca officials hold news conference to outline concerns about Atlantic Lottery Corp. procurement procedures. (10 a.m. at World Trade and Convention Centre)

HALIFAX \_ Speech by Marie Mullally, president and CEO of the Nova Scotia Gaming Corp. (12 p.m. at Compass Room, Casino Nova Scotia )

HALIFAX \_ The Offshore/Onshore Technologies Association of Nova Scotia holds its gala dinner, celebrating its 25th anniversary. (6 p.m. at World Trade and Convention Centre, 1800 Argyle Street)

x–HALIFAX \_ Voters in the provincial riding of Cole Harbour–Eastern Passage to cast ballots in byelection.

CARDIGAN, P.E.I. \_ International conference on aquatic invasive species. Through Oct. 4. (Pascal Poirier Park, 10 Weldon St.)

## QUEBEC

ILE D'ORLEANS, Que. \_ Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz announces details of funding for projects under the

Canada–Quebec Water Supply Expansion Program. (10:30 a.m. at Cidrerie Domaine Steinbach, 2205 Chemin Royal Saint–Pierre)

xy–MONTREAL \_ Retired general Romeo Dallaire is scheduled to begin testimony at the war crimes trial of Desire Munyaneza. (9:30 a.m. at Rm. 5.01, Palais de justice)

x–MONTREAL \_ Former Montreal police officer Pierre Goulet is sentenced for his part in a drug smuggling ring. (9:30 a.m. at Montreal Courthouse)

QUEBEC \_ Federal Natural Resources Minister Gary Lunn speaks at a wind–energy conference. (9:30 a.m. at Centre des congres, Blvd. Rene–Levesque East)

x–RIMOUSKI, Que. \_ Hearings continue into how immigrants should fit into Quebec society. (9 a.m. at Hotel de Rimouski et Centre des Congres, 225 Rene–Lepage E.)

## OTTAWA

xy–OTTAWA \_ Public hearings into the bombing of Air India Flight 182. (9:30 a.m. at Victoria Hall, Bytown Pavilion, 111 Sussex Drive OTTAWA \_ Environment Minister John Baird serves breakfast and presents funds to the school breakfast program. (8:30 a.m. at Grant Alternative School, 2625 Draper Ave.)

## ONTARIO

GEORGETOWN, Ont. \_ Inquest begins into death of Bogdan Malek, 48, who was injured at a construction site. Through Oct. 4. (9:30 a.m. at Halton Hills Town Hall, 1 Prince St.)

TORONTO \_ Inquest into death of Mykhaylo Yakymovych, 33, who died May 17, 2004, from injuries sustained on a construction site at a private residence. Through Oct. 5. (393 University Ave., 19th floor)

TORONTO \_ Canadian Union of Public Employees releases study on underfunding for educational assistants. (10:30 a.m. at Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, 106 Trinity St.)

UNDATED \_ Itinerary for Green Party Leader Frank de Jong: Joins Bruce–Grey–Owen Sound Green party candidate Shane Jolley in announcing Green party's agricultural platform (11 a.m., Keady Market, Hwy. 3 southwest of Owen Sound); joins Simcoe–Grey Green party candidate Peter Ellis to discuss Green party's health platform (3 p.m., Stevenson Memorial Hospital, 200 Fletcher Cr., Alliston).

## PRAIRIES

CALGARY \_ Trial for Robert Deer, charged with first–degree murder for allegedly hiring another man to kill Calgary financier Jack Beauchamp over a failed business deal. Through Oct. 5. (Court of Queen's Bench)

EDMONTON \_ Dallas–based Affiliated Computer Services preliminary hearing into charges it offered bribes to Edmonton police officers to get its photo radar contract with the city renewed. Through Oct. 14.

x–EDMONTON \_ Sentencing hearing for a 19–year–old accused, who pleaded guilty in 2006 to charges of first–degree murder in the slaying of Nina Courtepatte, 13, on an Edmonton–area golf course. He was 17 at the time and the hearing is to determine whether he should be sentenced in adult or youth court. (9:30 a.m. at Youth Court)

EDMONTON \_ The Tobacco or Health Conference gives health professionals an opportunity to exchange critical knowledge for effective local, provincial and national tobacco control activities. (Shaw Conference



Centre)

EDMONTON \_ Voir dire arguments in the case of Thomas Svekla, charged with two counts of second-degree murder in the deaths of prostitutes Theresa Innes, 36, and Rachel Quinney, 19. Through Dec. 20. (Court of Queen's Bench)

EDMONTON \_ The Alberta Building Trades Council of Unions holds a media conference to explain its support for union affiliates as they attempt to have sections of Alberta's Labour Relations Code declared unconstitutional. (10 a.m. at Crowne Plaza Hotel)

EDMONTON \_ Environmental groups including the Sierra Club, the Manitoba EcoNetwork and the Saskatchewan Environmental Society, hold public forums on water management. (6:30 p.m. at Prairie Room, Lister Conference Centre, University of Alberta)

LAKE LOUISE, Alta. \_ Indian and Northern Affairs holds a workshop on northern contaminants. Speakers include aboriginal leaders and internationally recognized scientists. Through Oct. 4. (Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise)

BEAUSEJOUR, Man. \_ Scott Skipper, who was the financial chair of the 2006 Manitoba Games, faces one count of theft over \$5,000 in connection with \$35,000 that allegedly disappeared from the event's coffers. (Beausejour provincial court)

SASKATOON \_ Saskatoon cardiologist Dr. Carlos Huerto on trial for defrauding federal and provincial governments. Through Oct. 12.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA

xy-NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. \_ Defence continues in trial of accused serial killer Robert William Pickton. (10 a.m. at New Westminster Supreme Court)

VANCOUVER \_ Grant Fralic, Robert Juker, Ramoncito Veijon, James Mader stand trial for first-degree murder in death of Jody Elliott. Through Oct. 8. (10 a.m. at B.C. Supreme Court)

VANCOUVER \_ Three day Asia Pacific Forum on Mining and Minerals. Speakers include former prime minister Jean Chretien Tuesday at noon. (8:30 a.m. at Hyatt Regency Hotel )

# Appeals court asked to reconsider decision on Khadr's case at Guantanamo

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** POLITICS INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE JUSTICE

**PUBLICATION:** cpw

**WORD COUNT:** 430

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WASHINGTON \_ Lawyers for Canadian terror suspect Omar Khadr asked a special military appeals court Monday to reconsider its decision to allow legal proceedings against him to resume at Guantanamo Bay.

The U.S. Court of Military Commission Review ruled last month that Khadr could face murder and terrorism charges at a military tribunal at the U.S. naval base in Cuba, overruling an earlier dismissal of the charges.

The trial judge, Col. Peter Brownback, had thrown the case out in June, saying he lacked jurisdiction to try Khadr because the 21-year-old hadn't been declared an "unlawful" enemy combatant as required by Congress.

But the military review panel decided Brownback has the authority to determine whether or not Khadr was legally fighting U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan.

Khadr's lawyers say two e-mails from Brownback to lawyers involved in the case show the determination will be a hasty, sketchy process that's "fundamentally unfair."

That process would bar an appeal about Khadr's status to a regular U.S. court, said Lt.-Cmdr. William Kuebler, and there would be no chance to contest his status until after the military tries him and imposes a sentence.

The defence isn't entitled to all the evidence against Khadr, said Kuebler, and the judge has already said he won't accept arguments that Khadr was an alleged child soldier deserving of international legal protections.

He was 15 years old when he allegedly threw a grenade that killed a U.S. medic in an Afghanistan firefight in 2002.

"The courts in this process seem determined to avoid the most controversial aspect of Omar's prosecution \_ whether imposing a life sentence on a child for so-called war crimes is legal," said Kuebler.

"Allowing the military commission to decide whether it can legally try Omar is like letting the fox guard the henhouse."

The case, which has faced one legal twist after another, is scheduled to resume Nov. 8 in Guantanamo.

The U.S. military is anxious to try Khadr and is seeking a life sentence.

It would be the first full test of a special justice system for foreign terror suspects initially set up by President George W. Bush and revamped by Congress last year.

The process has been condemned by many western countries and human rights groups, but Canada hasn't criticized it. The Conservative government has said it won't get involved.

Khadr is the only western prisoner left among Guantanamo's 340 detainees. Other countries, like Britain, demanded their citizens be returned home.

Last month, Liberal Leader Stephane Dion urged Prime Minister Stephen Harper to demand that Khadr be tried in a U.S. civilian court or sent home to face justice.

“It's stunning that Canada can continue to be idle in the face of such an affront to the rule of law,” said Kuebler.

“In the military commissions, if you're right on the law, they just don't let you make the argument.”

Khadr's case could be further complicated by the U.S. Supreme Court. It has agreed to hear arguments about whether Guantanamo prisoners should be allowed to appeal their detentions in a U.S. civilian court.

The hearing will likely be held in December.

# Austrian police arrest man who tried to enter U.S. Embassy with explosives

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE JUSTICE POLITICS

**PUBLICATION:** cpw

**WORD COUNT:** 313

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VIENNA, Austria (AP) \_ A Bosnian who tried to enter the U.S. Embassy in Vienna with a backpack filled with explosives, nails and Islamic literature was arrested Monday after the bag set off a metal detector and the man fled on foot, authorities said.

Police sealed off the neighbourhood as a precaution and shut down or rerouted nearby bus and tram lines. Officers patrolled the area with bomb-sniffing dogs.

The suspect was described only as a 42-year-old native of Bosnia-Herzegovina who now lives in the province of Lower Austria, which encircles most of the capital. Police said they made the arrest a short distance from the embassy in a neighbourhood where security is tight.

The motive for the attack was not immediately clear. Vienna police spokeswoman Michaela Raz said explosives experts were examining the contents of the backpack, which contained at least two hand grenades.

“There were a lot of nails in that bag. Had it exploded, it would have had an enormous shrapnel effect,” said Doris Edelbacher, of Austria's federal counterterrorism office.

Munitions experts were still trying to determine whether the device had been properly rigged to explode.

The suspect spoke broken German and appeared to ramble during an initial interrogation, Edelbacher said.

It was unclear how far he made it into the embassy. Public broadcaster ORF, citing unidentified officials, reported that a metal detector sounded an alarm as the man was passing through security checks and that he fled immediately.

The nature of the Islamic material he allegedly was carrying also was unclear.

Embassy officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

Last month, authorities arrested three people \_ all Austrian citizens of Arab origin in their 20s \_ in connection with a video posted online in March that had threatened Austria and Germany with attacks if they did not withdraw their military personnel from Afghanistan.

One of the suspects was released several days later for lack of evidence.

On Friday, the Interior Ministry said it found a list of politicians circulating online as potential targets for attacks. The individuals were notified, but authorities said there were no indications that any of them were ever in danger.

# The World at 1:30 p.m. Monday

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** cpw  
**WORD COUNT:** 1651

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**HEADLINES:** \_ Putin, signalling plan to keep power, opens door to becoming Russia's prime minister

\_ Stunning attack in Darfur raises new fears over risks deploying UN troops

\_ Diplomats, rights group struggle to count dead following Myanmar crackdown

\_ Deaths of US forces, Iraqi civilians fall in September to lowest levels in over a year

\_ Study: self-disciplined, organized achievers have lower risk for developing Alzheimer's

**DEVELOPING:**

\_ BBN--PADRES-ROCKIES: Game starts 7:37 p.m.

\_ KOREAS-SUMMIT: South Korean president to deliver speech at 6:45 p.m. before departing for North Korea, crossing border about 8 p.m.

**MULTIMEDIA:**

Notable Photos:

**MYANMAR:** XYAN104, Soldiers block a road leading to Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon during a crackdown on pro-democracy advocates.

**SUDAN DARFUR:** ADM112, An African Union peacekeeper from Nigeria evacuates the AU's base in Haskanita, northern Darfur after rebels overran the base in an unprecedented attack.

**MIDEAST ISRAEL PALESTINIANS PRISONERS:** ASC103, Palestinian prisoners peer out through a grate in a cell pending their release from Ketziot prison camp in southern Israel.

**TURKEY RUMI:** XIST101, Whirling dervishes perform at the newly renovated Yenikapi Dervish Lodge in Istanbul during a ceremony to mark the 800th birthday of Sufi mystic poet Mevlana Jelaleddin Rumi.

**Interactives:**

\_ CAMPAIGN 2008: wdc/2008primaries folder; wdc/early2008 folder; wdc/08issues folder; wdc/2008money folder.

\_ SINGLE-GENDER CLASSES: \_national/single\_gender folder.

\_ SPUTNIK ANNIVERSARY: \_science/sputnik\_anniversary folder.

\_ NFL SEASON OVERVIEW: sports/nfl07/regular\_season folder.

\_ PRESIDENTS CUP: \_sports/golf2007/prescup07/prescup\_pix; \_sports/golf2007/prescup07/prescup\_course folder; \_sports/golf2007/prescup07/prescup\_quiz folder.

#### ALSO GETTING ATTENTION:

\_ BIG BEN \_ Londoners heard the bongs from Big Ben mark the noon hour Monday for the first time in seven weeks.

\_ AIRPORTS-TOY SCREENING \_ Airport screeners will be taking a closer look at remote control toys in carry-on luggage due to concerns they could be used to detonate bombs, U.S. officials said Monday.

\_ POLYGAMIST LEADER \_ The woman who was forced to marry her cousin at 14 by a polygamous sect leader said Monday that she wants to set up a fund to help young girls escape polygamy if she wins her civil lawsuit.

\_ FATAL FIRE \_ A judge on Monday ordered that a 10-year-old Ohio boy accused of deliberately setting a fire that killed five people \_ including his mother and sister \_ be released from a juvenile detention center to the custody of his maternal grandmother.

\_ AMISH SCHOOL-SHOOTING \_ Amish families in buggies and wagons, and some on foot, streamed toward a farmhouse Monday to mark the first anniversary of a massacre at a one-room schoolhouse. AP Photo NY107.

\_ FBI-MISSED SPYING \_ Six years after arresting turncoat Robert Hanssen, the FBI remains vulnerable to espionage from within, the parent Justice Department said in a report Monday.

#### TOP STORIES:

##### RUSSIA-PUTIN

MOSCOW \_ Russian President Vladimir Putin, in a surprise announcement after months of avoiding talking about his future plans, adds his name to the ballot in December's parliamentary elections, opening the door to becoming Russia's next prime minister and, perhaps, retaining power when his presidential term ends next year. By Steve Gutterman.

AP Photos MOSB109-110, MOSB117. AP Video.

##### DARFUR-FIGHTING

EL FASHER, Sudan \_ The rebels overran the camp just before dawn as the outgunned peacekeepers \_ some out of ammunition \_ called desperately for help. In war-torn Darfur, the stunning attack raises new fears over the risks faced by a planned deployment of U.N. troops. One key peacekeeping country \_ Nigeria \_ already says it may have second thoughts. By Alfred de Montesquiou.

Eds: An AP reporter was an exclusive witness to the aftermath of the camp attack.

AP Photos ADM108, ADM111-112. Multimedia: An audio slideshow on the attack in Darfur will be posted in the \_international/sudan\_attack folder. AP Graphic DARFUR ATTACKS.

With:

\_ DARFUR-Q&A.

\_ AFRICA-PEACEKEEPERS-GLANCE, a look at previous African peacekeeping missions.

## IRAQ

BAGHDAD \_ The number of U.S. troops and Iraqi civilians killed in the war plummets in September to levels not seen in more than a year, and the U.S. military says new strategies and the 30,000 additional U.S. forces deployed this year are paying dividends. By Steven R. Hurst.

AP Photo BAG104. AP Graphic IRAQ CASUALTIES. Multimedia is posted in the \_international/iraq\_troop\_increase/ folder.

## MYANMAR-DEAD & MISSING

BANGKOK, Thailand \_ One hundred dead outside a school. A detained activist being burned alive at government crematorium. Monks floating face down in rivers. The horror stories following last week's brutal crackdown in Myanmar continue to fill Burmese blogs and other dissident sites. With tight security and government denials, it still remains impossible to verify the authenticity of the stories. By Michael Casey.

AP Photo of Sept. 30: LON803. AP Video.

With:

\_ MYANMAR: Myanmar's junta leader reverts to tactics he's used before, stalling a U.N. envoy for yet another day by shipping him up to a remote northern town for an academic conference on EU-ASEAN relations. As U.N. envoy Ibrahim Gambari is finding out, Senior Gen. Than Shwe does not bother with the usual diplomatic protocol and is not an easy man to meet. AP Photos XYAN104, XYAN115, XYAN120.

## PERSONALITY-ALZHEIMER'S, HFR

CHICAGO \_ A surprising study of elderly people suggests that those who see themselves as self-disciplined, organized achievers have a lower risk for developing Alzheimer's disease than people who are less conscientious. By Carla K. Johnson.

Eds: Hold for release at 4 p.m.

WASHINGTON:

## SCOTUS-RELIGIOUS CASES

WASHINGTON \_ The Supreme Court opens its new term by refusing to get involved in two church-state disputes over religious organizations paying for workers' birth-control health insurance benefits or using public buildings for religious services. By Mark Sherman and Pete Yost.

AP Photos DCSW101, DCSW103. AP Video. Multimedia is posted in the wdc/scotus0708 folder.

With:

\_ SCOTUS-SPECIAL EDUCATION: The Supreme Court hears arguments over whether taxpayers should foot the bill for the son of a wealthy businessman to attend an expensive private school tailored for his special education needs.

\_ SCOTUS-PRIMARY LAWSUIT: The Supreme Court hears arguments over Washington state's ``Top 2''

primary system, which lets the top two finishers advance to the general election even if they are from the same party.

CAMPAIGN 2008:

#### CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING

WASHINGTON \_ Democrats and Republicans report their fundraising totals amid questions about John McCain's political upswing, Fred Thompson's viability and the overall strength of Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama. By Jim Kuhnhehn.

AP Graphic CAMPAIGN FINANCE.

AROUND THE NATION:

#### SEX TAPE–SUSPECT

LAS VEGAS \_ As the manhunt goes on for an ex–con accused of videotaping himself raping a little girl, authorities portray him as a paranoid, always armed survivalist, a former Navy SEAL with a black belt in karate, a one–time animal trainer with Siegfried & Roy. How much of that is true is unclear, and separating fact from fiction in the case of Chester Arthur Stiles is difficult. By Ken Ritter.

AP Photos NVJH101–102.

#### COLLEGES–ALUMNI CAREERS

UNDATED \_ Dozens of colleges and universities across the nation have begun offering career–counseling services not just to recent graduates but to thousands of alumni, including former students who completed their degrees as much as a decade ago. The counselors are also part of a broader effort to boost fundraising by keeping alumni engaged in college life. By Education Writer Justin Pope.

AP Photos TXDP201–202.

#### BROOKE ASTOR WILL

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. \_ Brooke Astor, the aristocrat who spent her long life giving away millions of dollars, carefully arranged to continue her philanthropy after she died. But her favorite charities fear that the nasty family fight over her estate could bleed millions of dollars from the bequest she left them. By Jim Fitzgerald.

AP Photos planned.

AROUND THE WORLD:

#### KOREAS–SUMMIT

SEOUL, South Korea \_ South Korea's president embarks on a summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il, pledging to try to foster peace in only the second–ever meeting between leaders of the divided nation. The meeting comes almost exactly a year after the North tested a nuclear bomb and is the enigmatic Kim's first extended appearance before the world since the last summit in June 2000. By Burt Herman.

Eds: South Korean president to deliver speech at 6:45 p.m. before departing for North Korea, crossing border about 8 p.m.



AP Photos XAHN102, SEL101, SEL106.

## IRAQ & THE MIDDLE EAST:

### AFGHANISTAN

BAGRAM, Afghanistan \_ A new U.S. ``Most-Wanted" campaign offers \$200,000 for information on a dozen elusive Taliban and al-Qaida leaders behind bombings and suicide attacks. In the south, militants hang a 15-year-old boy for having American money in his pocket and stuff five \$1 bills into his mouth as a warning not to use U.S. currency. By Jason Straziuso.

AP Photos KAB102, 105.

With:

\_ AFGHAN-MOST-WANTED: A list of the most-wanted.

## HEALTH & SCIENCE:

### HEALTHBEAT-SAVING LIMBS

WASHINGTON \_ A stubbed toe can lead to having your foot amputated \_ if you're diabetic. And it can happen fast. Foot problems such as wounds that won't heal, infections and warping bones are the most common reason diabetics are hospitalized. And many of the 80,000-plus amputations of toes, feet and lower legs that U.S. diabetics undergo each are preventable. By Medical Writer Lauran Neergaard.

AP Photos WX113-114.

### PANIC ATTACKS-HEART, HFR

CHICAGO \_ The rapid pulse and shortness of breath of a panic attack can feel like a heart attack, and it may signal heart trouble down the road, a study of more than 3,000 older women suggests. Experts said stress hormones produced by panic attacks may play a role. By Carla K. Johnson.

Eds: Hold for release at 4 p.m.

## BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY:

### VIDEO GAME CHEATING

UNDATED \_ Cheating has a long and borderline respected tradition in video games. The games have often slyly included ways \_ intentionally or not \_ for sophisticated players to skip levels or take on supernatural powers. But now the subject is getting a more serious look, because real money is now at stake in virtual worlds. By Technology Writers Brian Bergstein and Matt Slagle.

AP Photos of Sept. 28: VAJM101-103.

## ENTERTAINMENT:

### HANNAH MONTANA MANIA

NASHVILLE, Tenn. \_ Forget The Police, Beyonce or Bruce Springsteen. The hottest concert ticket of the

year is 14-year-old Miley Cyrus, star of the Disney Channel's ``Hannah Montana," who has millions of fans and parents desperate for seats to her 54-date national tour. Venues are reporting sellouts in minutes, and scalpers are getting four to five times the face value for tickets \_ creating a firestorm of complaints from frustrated parents. By Kristin M. Hall.

AP Photos NYET312, OHCLE101.

SPORTS:

BBN--PADRES-ROCKIES

DENVER \_ The San Diego Padres and Colorado Rockies settle the NL wild with a tiebreaker game \_ the first in the majors since 1999. NL Cy Young favorite Jake Peavy, who has 19 wins and leads the majors with a 2.36 ERA, starts for San Diego. He faces Josh Fogg, who has a way coming up big in key games. By Arnie Stapleton.

Eds: Game starts 7:37 p.m.

AP Photos.

# Romeo Dallaire to take stand in landmark Rwandan genocide trial

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE DEFENCE  
**PUBLICATION:** cpw  
**WORD COUNT:** 533

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MONTREAL \_ Romeo Dallaire has borne witness to the Rwandan genocide hundreds of times in speeches, interviews, books and movies, but now his haunting testimony will be heard in a Canadian court.

Dallaire, a former Canadian general who now sits in the Senate, is set to take the stand Tuesday at the landmark war crimes trial of Desire Munyaneza.

The Toronto resident is accused of leading a militia gang on a spree of rape and murder in the Butare region of Rwanda in 1994 and is the first person to be charged under Canada's new war crimes legislation.

Dallaire, the head of a failed United Nations mission to keep peace in Rwanda, is the latest expert called to establish the context of the genocide, where an international tribunal has said 800,000 to one million Rwandans were killed.

Dallaire, the highest profile witness to testify at the trial, is not expected to directly link Munyaneza to crimes. Instead prosecutors will use his testimony to try to establish the vast scope and organization behind the slaughter.

Dallaire is one of a handful of people who can give independent testimony about the massacres, said Paulin Ntezirayo, a member of Montreal's Rwandan community.

"Dallaire wasn't hiding to survive, he wasn't killing people," Ntezirayo said.

"With his blue UN beret, he's one of the only people who could move around and could see everything. If there is anyone who can say what happened, it's him."

Dallaire, now 61, was a Canadian general in charge of a United Nations mission to keep peace between warring factions in the Rwandan civil war when the massacres began in April 1994.

Dallaire had warned of an impending bloodbath and repeatedly called for foreign troops to intervene once the killing began. Instead much of his force was evacuated and he was left with a few hundred troops at the height of the slaughter.

While Dallaire is hailed as a hero by many for using his meagre force to shield several thousand Rwandans, others have criticized his failure to intervene to protect more Rwandans.

Some have said Dallaire should have ignored orders from UN bureaucrats and home countries and set aside his vague mandate to prevent more bloodshed.

His harshest critics are in Belgium. Ten of the country's soldiers were butchered when Dallaire sent them on a mission to guard the Rwandan prime minister.

While maintaining there was nothing he could do to save the Belgians, Dallaire has often admitted he ultimately failed in his mission.

He brushed off the label ``hero" during an appearance on a popular Radio-Canada TV interview show during an appearance aired Sunday.

``Ultimately, the mission was a failure," Dallaire said. ``I failed."

Ntezirayo says Dallaire has never cast himself as a hero.

``He did everything he humanly could," Ntezirayo said. ``He was a powerless victim, too."

Failure wore heavily on Dallaire, who sank into depression and several suicide attempts and was given a medical discharge from the military.

Dallaire says he maintains his balance now with the help of therapy and medication.

His image as a hero has grown with his psychological rehabilitation. Quebec actor Roy Dupuis gives him a sympathetic portrayal in the recently released Canadian film, *Shake Hands with the Devil*.

The two men appeared together on the Sunday television program.

Dallaire, who recently declined to discuss his upcoming testimony, has become an outspoken advocate of military intervention in humanitarian causes, recently speaking out for Canada's military role in Afghanistan and for intervention in Darfur, Sudan.

He's also part of the effort to stop the use of child soldiers. He has testified by video at other war crimes trials held under an international mandate in Tanzania.

The Canadian Forces awarded Dallaire the Meritorious Service Cross for ``fearless leadership, which has helped save the lives of thousands of men, women and children" in Rwanda.

# Canada pushes for high-profile envoy to raise awareness of Afghan struggle

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** POLITICS INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE  
**PUBLICATION:** cpw  
**WORD COUNT:** 527

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WASHINGTON \_ Canada will highlight successes in Afghanistan in a United Nations speech on Tuesday while pushing the world body to appoint a high-level envoy to raise awareness of NATO's operation in the war-ravaged country.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch in his first speech to the UN General Assembly, arguing the position should be modelled on Tony Blair's work on the Middle East peace process.

Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries as well as Afghan President Hamid Karzai and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. There is already support for the initiative from the United States and countries like Norway, France and Spain.

Blair, as a special envoy for the Quartet group comprising the United Nations, United States, European Union and Russia, has been working on the Middle East issue since stepping down as Britain's prime minister.

Canada believes a similar high-profile effort regarding Afghanistan will provide more support for Karzai and serve to better co-ordinate development and security efforts.

One issue Bernier likely won't be addressing in his speech is Karzai's contentious call for negotiations with the Taliban, offering to meet with the Taliban leader and give militants a government role.

"We hope the negotiations will only be conducted with individuals and organizations that will respect human rights and renounce violence," Bernier said Monday.

Afghanistan's reconciliation process must be based on the central government's "legitimacy, authority and respect for the rule of law," he said.

Bernier will talk about progress in rebuilding efforts and governance while applauding countries that have contributed soldiers and aid.

A UN-commissioned report last week said there's been progress in some areas but the country has a long way to go.

The Afghanistan National Human Development Report said the justice system needs to be completely rebuilt. It notes that one-third of Afghans don't have enough food to eat and less than one in three households have access to safe drinking water. The mortality rate for children under five is among the highest in the world.

Bernier, who was appointed to the foreign affairs post in a cabinet shuffle in August, is expected to raise several other issues, including Haiti which is still struggling to recover from a 2004 revolt that toppled former president Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

He'll also talk about Canada's support for a UN resolution criticizing human rights abuses in Iran.

But Afghanistan remains the biggest issue for Canada.

Some 2,500 Canadian troops are involved in NATO's International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan. Most of the Canadians are in the violent southern province of Kandahar. Seventy-one Canadian soldiers and one diplomat have been killed in the conflict.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay has called it a ``no-fail mission" that requires more military help to prevent the export of terror.

Canada wants countries like Germany, France, Spain and Italy to allow their soldiers into combat zones to fight Taliban militants. That dangerous burden is currently shouldered mostly by Canada, the United States, Britain, the Netherlands and Australia.

There will be an opportunity for more lobbying at a NATO meeting in the Netherlands later this month.

Canada's mission to Afghanistan is due to end in February 2009. The Conservatives want to extend it but face enormous public pressure to get out.

Two-thirds of Canadians have said the soldiers shouldn't stay longer than the deadline. More than half tell pollsters they should get out even sooner.

Karzai has personally appealed to Canadians to continue the fight, saying his country will fall back into anarchy if they don't.

# Afghan women get education, still threatened with violence from Taliban

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** DEFENCE EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL

**PUBLICATION:** cpw

**WORD COUNT:** 657

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KANDAHAR, Afghanistan \_ Sofia Nawabi studies hard and dreams of running her own business one day.

Not so long ago, the 21-year-old Afghan woman couldn't even show her face outside her home, as she does today. To go to school, let alone run a business, was unthinkable under the strict Islamic rule of the Taliban.

The classes are free but in this conservative Islamic province \_ an insurgent stronghold where the Taliban continue to hold much influence despite being ousted from power in late 2001 \_ there could well be a price to pay for the women who dare go to school.

Ehsan Ullah is the founder of the centre, which opened in March, and its predecessor the Sherzai Institute, and the recipient of one of the Taliban's notorious ``night letters," dropped on the doorstep of the institute.

``We will bleed you," it warned.

Teachers have been assassinated and students threatened but Ullah says the doors will remain open.

``We try to keep a low profile but we have not gone underground," he says. ``We can't go underground. Here, men and women need education. Education is the only light that can make Afghanistan bright again."

A slight man of powerful words, 36-year-old Ullah blames illiteracy for the troubles that plague the nation.

``The warlords, the drug lords, the extremist elements; they are imposed on us because we are uneducated," he says, slapping his hands together in exasperation.

``Education can be the solution to put an end to the killing."

Opened with a private donation from a Canadian citizen and money from Ullah's own pocket, the community centre survives on private donations and matching funds from the Calgary-based CADMUS Foundation. They operate on a shoe-string budget of \$3,000 a month and are ever fishing for international funding.

The Canadian Provincial Reconstruction Team in Kandahar has donated computer equipment and the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology offers online courses via the Internet.

There are English classes for students' children, as well as an Internet cafe for students where they write to Canadian pen pals and find the world at their fingertips.

When students started dropping out because they couldn't afford even the bus fare, Ullah arranged a minibus to pick them up.

``Women doctors and nurses and doctor's assistants are terribly needed," Ullah says.

With all the international funding flowing into Afghanistan, he wants the students ready to benefit by having computer and business skills and fluency in English.

The women pay rapt attention to the lessons, burkas draped over the back of their chairs. Although their presence here is proof that much has changed in Afghanistan, it has not changed enough for many.

Nawabi agrees to speak to The Canadian Press on the condition that her face not be shown.

“For a woman, it's still really hard,” she says. “A lot of families don't allow their girls to go outside.”

Over 90 per cent of Afghan women are illiterate and 60 per cent of Afghan men, according to the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Under the Taliban, even boys could only attend Islamic studies at mosques.

Today, the Taliban campaign against education continues.

Since 2005, 36 schools have been burned down and 17 teachers killed in Kandahar province alone, according to the Afghan ministry of education. Fourteen schools were torched by insurgents in April and May.

In June, gunmen executed two schoolgirls as they left school in the central Afghan province of Logar. A female passer-by was also killed and four other girls wounded.

More than six million students, 38 per cent of them girls, had been registered for school across the Afghanistan but hundreds of schools have closed because of the threat of violence.

Three hundred schools did not reopen this fall in the volatile southern region alone, including Helmand, Kandahar, Zabul and Uruzgan provinces, according to the education ministry.

“In most of the districts, there is no school,” Abdul Qadar Noorzai, head of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission in Kandahar province, told The Canadian Press. “Where there are schools, the teachers cannot go there.”

It's a problem that should be a priority for the Afghan government, he says.

“If it gets worse, there will be nothing left,” Noorzai says.

Afghan officials have appealed to local communities to defend the schools in their own communities.

“We do not want to protect schools with guns and military,” Siddiq Patman, deputy minister of education, told a local news agency recently. “We want communities to protect their schools, students and teachers.”

Nawabi's family would have preferred she go to school in Kabul, a safer city. But the university has only a handful of female students and it is not free.

“Most families can't afford for their daughters to study,” she says.

For a woman like Nawabi, getting in the door is only one hurdle. Jobs are scarce for women and keeping them dangerous.

Yet when asked what she will do when classes end, a defiant smile raises the edges of Nawabi's lips.



“I just want to run my own business,” she says.

# Justices decline Guantanamo detainee's military commission challenge

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE POLITICS

**PUBLICATION:** cpw

**WORD COUNT:** 229

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WASHINGTON \_ The U.S. Supreme Court is refusing to hear the case of a Guantanamo Bay detainee challenging the legality of the military commission system that plans to try him for war crimes.

Salim Ahmed Hamdan, who once was the driver for al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, is accused of conspiracy and supporting terrorism.

Hamdan sought to combine his case with a separate challenge the Supreme Court is considering regarding Guantanamo Bay detainees.

Under that challenge, the justices will review the cases of detainees who do not face military commission trials and who are challenging their indefinite confinement. Many of the detainees have been held for over five years.

A year ago, Hamdan brought a successful challenge in the Supreme Court to the military commission system created by President George W. Bush following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States.

In response, the White House persuaded the Republican-controlled Congress to pass a law approving the military commissions.

In asking the justices to take up Hamdan's case now, his lawyers said the newly enacted law violated his rights because it allows for only a narrow challenge if a defendant is found guilty.

There is no provision for review of a military commission's factual conclusions, lawyers for Hamdan argue. If convicted, Hamdan would face up to life in prison.

A federal judge ruled last December that Hamdan had no rights because he is an alien detained outside the sovereign territory of the United States.

Hamdan is a Yemeni national captured by Afghan forces in Afghanistan and turned over to the American military in November 2001.

The case is Hamdan vs. Gates, 07-15.

# Military funeral for Calgary soldier killed in Afghanistan to be held Thursday

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL  
**PUBLICATION:** cpw  
**WORD COUNT:** 75

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CALGARY \_ A military funeral will be held Thursday afternoon for Cpl. Nathan Hornburg, who was killed last week while serving in Afghanistan.

Hornburg, 24, of Calgary, was a member of the King's Own Calgary Regiment serving near Kandahar.

The reservist was killed while trying to put a track back on a tank while under mortar fire.

He is the 71st Canadian soldier to die in Afghanistan since the mission began in 2002.

It was Hornburg's first overseas tour.

The non-denominational service will take place at the Roundup Centre and will be open to the public, said spokesman Capt. Malcolm Day.

# Suicide bombing in northwestern Pakistan kills at least 15 people

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE POLITICS  
**PUBLICATION:** cpw  
**WORD COUNT:** 109

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PESHAWAR, Pakistan \_ A burqa-clad suicide bomber has killed at least 15 people today at a crowded police checkpoint in northwestern Pakistan.

Police officer Habib Khan says the bomb apparently was in a rickshaw that was being examined at a police checkpoint around 8:25 a.m. local time in the town of Bannu.

Twenty-two people were injured, seven of them seriously.

It wasn't immediately confirmed that the bomber was a female, but police said early evidence collected at the scene suggested it was.

An army spokesman says the blast killed four police officers and 11 other people, including the bomber.

Pakistan is a key ally of the U.S. in its war on terror and says it has about 90,000 troops in the northwest tribal areas to combat militancy and prevent infiltration into neighbouring Afghanistan.

(The Canadian Press)

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# The Canadian Press World News Budget – Monday, Oct. 1, 2007

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** cpw  
**WORD COUNT:** 595

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Here are the budgeted stories as of 23:00 EDT. The editor handling World news in Toronto can be reached at 416-507-2165.

WASHINGTON \_ Canada wants the United Nations to appoint a high-level envoy to Afghanistan to raise awareness of the war and better co-ordinate development and security efforts there. Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier plans to make his pitch Tuesday in his first speech to the UN General Assembly. 650 words. By Beth Gorham. BC-UN-Bernier, 5th Writethru. Moved.

WASHINGTON \_ Lawyers for Canadian terror suspect Omar Khadr are asking a special military appeals court to reconsider its decision to allow his case to resume at Guantanamo Bay. The U.S. Court of Military Commission Review ruled last month that Khadr could face murder and terrorism charges. 550 words. By Beth Gorham. BC-US-Cda-Khadr, 2nd Writethru. Moved.

SANAA, Yemen \_ NATO ships including HMCS Toronto rescued two survivors of a "catastrophic" volcanic eruption on a tiny Yemeni island Monday, but also pulled four dead from the Red Sea, officials said. Two people remained missing. The eruption began Sunday evening on an oval island about three kilometres across that is uninhabited except for a small Yemeni military base used for naval control of shipping lanes. 700 words. BC-Yemen-Cda-Volcano, 3rd Writethru. Moved.

MOSCOW \_ Russian President Vladimir Putin, in a surprise announcement after months of avoiding talking about his future plans, adds his name to the ballot in December's parliamentary elections, opening the door to becoming Russia's next prime minister and, perhaps, retaining power when his presidential term ends next year. 950 words. By Steve Gutterman. BC-Russia-Putin, 3rd Writethru. Moved.

BEITUNIYA CHECKPOINT, West Bank \_ Dozens of newly released Palestinian prisoners descended from buses and kissed the asphalt at this West Bank checkpoint Monday after Israel freed them in a gesture to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas ahead of a U.S.-sponsored Mideast peace conference this fall. 850 words. By Mohammed Daraghme. See Photo. BC-Israel-Palestinians, 1st Writethru. Moved.

EL FASHER, Sudan \_ The rebels overran the camp just before dawn as the outgunned peacekeepers, some out of ammunition, called desperately for help. In war-torn Darfur, the stunning attack raises new fears over the risks faced by a planned deployment of UN troops. One key peacekeeping country, Nigeria, already says it may have second thoughts. 1,000 words. By Alfred de Montesquiou. See Photo. BC-Sudan-Darfur, 3rd Writethru. Moved.

See also:

\_ BC-Darfur-Q&A. Moved Datafile only.

YANGON, Myanmar \_ Myanmar's junta leader stalled a UN envoy for yet another day Monday, delaying his chance to present international demands for an end to the crackdown on the largest anti-government protests in two decades. A Norway-based dissident news organization estimated that 138 people were killed \_ more

than 10 times the government figure \_ and 6,000 detained in last week's crackdown. 800 words. BC–Myanmar, 1st Writethru. Moved.

See also:

\_ BC–Myanmar–Dead–&–Missing. Moved Datafile only.

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan \_ Sofia Nawabi studies hard and dreams of running her own business one day. Not so long ago, the 21-year-old Afghan woman couldn't even show her face outside her home. To go to school, let alone run a business, was unthinkable under the strict Islamic rule of the Taliban. Now, the classes are free, but in this conservative Islamic province there could still be a price to pay for the women who dare go to school. 850 words. By Dene Moore. See Photo. BC–Afghan–Cda–Women–School. Moved. EDS: Stands for weekend use.

# N.S. byelection will signal if NDP support holding strong – pundits

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** POLITICS

**PUBLICATION:** cpw

**WORD COUNT:** 555

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HALIFAX \_ Nova Scotia's Opposition New Democrats in will soon see if their ``rope-a-dope" strategy of low-key, defensive politics is enough to win a hotly contested byelection, says a pollster.

Voters head to the polls Tuesday in the NDP-held riding of Cole Harbour-Eastern Passage, the first byelection since the minority Tories won a narrow victory in the June 2006 general election.

Becky Kent, a local councillor from the area, is trying to hold the seat for the NDP, which won it by a healthy 3,000-vote margin in 2006.

The Conservatives have fielded Mike Eddy, Halifax's former fire chief, while the Liberals have put forward Kelly Rambeau, an elementary school principal.

Beverley Woodfield, the mother of a soldier killed in Afghanistan, is running for the Green Party, which finished a distant fourth in the most recent election.

Don Mills, president of Corporate Research Associates, predicts a tight race, given the popularity and profile of the local candidates.

But he said the NDP has the most at stake.

``It's a test for them, to see if their strength in the metro Halifax area is continuing," he said.

The vote will also serve as a test for the NDP's decision to steer clear of bold policy pronouncements and harsh criticism of the government, added Mills.

``It seems it's kind of a rope-a-dope strategy," he said, drawing a parallel with the low-energy, on-the-ropes fighting style used in 1974 by Muhammad Ali against George Foreman.

``They (the NDP) have been playing defensive politics rather than offensive politics. They don't want to make any mistakes."

NDP Leader Darrell Dexter dismissed the idea that his party has been doing little except waiting for the votes to roll in.

``I've been out across the province doing the work that has to be done outside of metro (Halifax) in order to put ourself in the position to take the next step forward," he said.

``We're out doing the work we have to do to be prepared to be the next government of this province."

Still, Tory gaffes and scandals have dominated the political agenda in Nova Scotia in the past 15 months.

Premier Rodney MacDonald's biggest embarrassment came last winter when his human resources minister, Ernie Fage, resigned after news broke that the minister was under investigation for allegedly leaving the scene of an accident.

Fage pleaded not guilty to the charge. His trial is slated to begin next month.

The premier has also faced criticism for two policy reversals \_ implementing gas price regulation and then scrapping the province's ban on Sunday shopping.

The NDP has been low key on these and other issues, allowing the Tory government to struggle to explain itself, said Mills.

More recently, the NDP had little to say when the Tories introduced anti-strike legislation for hospital workers, leaving it to Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil to declare the law would be voted down by his party.

McNeil, who is actively campaigning with Rambeau, said his Liberals will benefit from the NDP's quiet approach to such issues.

``They've been hiding," McNeil said in an interview. ``There's a level of arrogance that they believe they're destined for government."

However, McNeil also acknowledges the byelection will register an early verdict on whether his leadership is helping the party rebound from its nine-seat electoral performance in 2006.

The riding became vacant in March when incumbent Kevin Deveau quit politics to work for the United Nations in Vietnam. He had held the riding since 1998.

In late August, the Tories announced the byelection in a high-profile gathering of 10 cabinet ministers that had the flavour of a full-scale campaign.

MacDonald is pitching his candidate as a potentially influential voice in a community that needs a new high school and recreation centre.

``I believe that having a member on the government side truly makes a difference. ... I hope to see (Mike Eddy) around my caucus on Wednesday morning," said the premier.

Polls have show that the gap between the NDP and the Tories is a narrow one, with the Conservatives enjoying a slight rebound in popularity this summer.

With the vacant seat in Cole Harbour-Eastern Passage, the governing Tories hold 23 seats, the NDP 19 and the Liberals nine.



# Suicide bomber blows up bus carrying police in Afghan capital

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL POLITICS DEFENCE JUSTICE

**PUBLICATION:** cpw

**WORD COUNT:** 770

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KABUL \_ A suicide bomber targeted a bus carrying police officers in the Afghan capital Kabul for the second time in four days, killing or wounding at least 10 people and causing major damage to the bus, police said.

The attacker entered from the back of the bus and blew himself up, said an official from Afghanistan's intelligence service who asked not to be identified.

At least 10 people were killed or wounded, said Zemer Bashary, the Interior Ministry spokesman.

On Saturday a suicide bomber wearing a police uniform blew himself up next to a police bus in Kabul, killing 30 people.

Meanwhile, a new U.S. ``most-wanted" campaign is offering up to \$200,000 for information on a dozen elusive Taliban and al-Qaida leaders fuelling a rise in bombings and suicide attacks in Afghanistan.

In the south, meanwhile, militants hanged a teenager for having American money in his pocket and stuffed five \$1 bills into his mouth as a warning not to use U.S. currency.

To help track down 12 insurgent commanders, posters and billboards are to go up around eastern Afghanistan with their names and pictures. Rewards ranging from \$20,000 to \$200,000 are available for information leading to their capture.

``We're trying to get more visibility on these guys like the FBI did with the mob," said Lt.-Col. Rob Pollock, an officer at the main U.S. base in Bagram. ``They operate the same way the mob did, they stay in hiding."

The list does not include internationally known names who already have a large price on their heads, such as al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden \_ who has evaded U.S. capture since 2001 despite a \$25 million bounty \_ or Taliban leader Mullah Omar, who is worth a \$10 million reward.

Instead, it is filled with local insurgent cell leaders responsible for roadside and suicide bomb attacks.

``We want the people in that area to know who this guy is and know he's a bad guy, and when they spot him to turn that guy in," military spokesman Maj. Chris Belcher said Sunday.

The campaign is reminiscent of efforts in Iraq to capture high-value insurgents. The U.S. military in April 2003 passed out decks of cards with 55 insurgent names and pictures, and in July 2006 the Iraqi government publicized its own most-wanted list of 41 that included Saddam Hussein's wife and eldest daughter.

The Afghanistan program, which went active in recent days, comes despite peace overtures from President Hamid Karzai, who said on Saturday he would be willing to meet with Taliban leader Mullah Omar if it would help bring peace.

Militants hanged the 15-year-old boy from a tree Sunday in a village in Helmand, the most violent province in the country and the world's No. 1 poppy-growing region.

“The Taliban warned villagers that they would face the same punishment if they were caught with dollars,” said Wali Mohammad, the police chief in the district of Sangin.

Dollars are commonly used in Afghanistan alongside the afghani, the local currency, though American money is much more common in larger cities, where international organizations are found, than in the countryside.

Militants often justify their attacks and executions as a response to U.S. meddling in Afghan affairs.

Taliban insurgents in Ghazni province, meanwhile, ambushed a police convoy on Sunday, killing eight officers, said Abdul Khaliq Nikmal, spokesman for the provincial governor.

He said Afghan authorities have sent police reinforcements to the area and are meeting with U.S. military officials to plan a counterattack.

Violence has risen in Afghanistan in recent months. More than 4,600 people have died in insurgency-related violence this year, according to an Associated Press count based on official figures.

The most-wanted program will see 200 billboards and 300,000 posters printed, to be put up by Afghan soldiers and police in areas where the military suspects the insurgents are operating. Some on the list are also believed to spend time in neighbouring Pakistan.

The United States says it has killed around 50 mostly midlevel insurgent leaders in the past year.

The highest-ranking leader killed this year was Mullah Dadullah, a one-legged militant who orchestrated a rash of Taliban suicide attacks and beheadings. He died of gunshot wounds in a U.S.-led coalition operation in Helmand in May.

“Those mid- and high-level leaders are co-ordinating the action across Afghanistan. By taking them out there's at least a temporary disruption” in militant operations, Belcher said.

Among the 12 wanted men, the United States is offering the top \$200,000 reward for five, including:

- \_ Abu Laith al-Libi, an al-Qaida training camp leader who has appeared in many Internet videos and who the U.S. says was likely behind the February bombing at the U.S. base at Bagram during a visit by Vice-President Dick Cheney.

- \_ Saraj Haqqani, son of veteran warlord Jalalludin Haqqani and believed to have connections with al-Qaida.

- \_ Tahir Yuldash, leader of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan and an al-Qaida operational commander.

Pollock said the United States is offering up to \$10,000 to Afghans who turn in any foreign fighter, such as militants from Arab countries or Chechnya, Turkey or Uzbekistan. The United States has also been paying money to Afghans who tell authorities about roadside bombs that have been planted.

# US offers US\$200,000 rewards in new Taliban, al-Qaida Most Wanted campaign

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE POLITICS

**PUBLICATION:** cpw

**WORD COUNT:** 95

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BAGRAM, Afghanistan \_ The U.S. military has launched a new Most Wanted campaign offering rewards of up to US\$200,000 for information leading to the capture of 12 Taliban and al-Qaida leaders.

Posters and billboards are being put up around eastern Afghanistan with the names and pictures of the 12 militant leaders.

The reward amounts range from US\$20,000 to US\$200,000.

The list is filled with local insurgent cell leaders responsible for roadside and suicide bomb attacks.

Lt.-Col. Rob Pollack, a U.S. officer at the main American base in Bagram, says the military is trying to use the same methods the FBI used with the mob.

Pollack said the Taliban and al-Qaida operate the same way the mob did.

(The Associated Press)

# Taliban executes Afghan teen for having US money; stuff bills in his mouth

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

**PUBLICATION:** cpw

**WORD COUNT:** 455

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KANDAHAR, Afghanistan \_ Taliban insurgents hanged a teenager in southern Afghanistan because he had American money in his pocket, stuffing five US\$1 bills into his mouth as a warning to other villagers not to use dollars, police said Monday. Elsewhere the Taliban killed eight police.

The 15-year-old boy was hanged from a tree Sunday in Helmand province, the most violent province in the country and the world's No. 1 poppy-growing region.

“The Taliban warned villagers that they would face the same punishment if they were caught with dollars,” said Wali Mohammad, the district police chief in Sangin.

Dollars are commonly used in Afghanistan alongside the afghani, the local currency, though dollars are more commonly seen in larger cities where international organizations are found.

The rebels often justify their attacks and executions as a response to U.S. meddling in Afghan affairs.

The Taliban killed another man in Sangin on Saturday after he sought farm assistance and seeds from an international aid program, Mohammad said. The rebels accused him of being a spy and shot him to death.

Taliban insurgents in Ghazni province, meanwhile, ambushed a police convoy on Sunday, killing eight officers, said Abdul Khaliq Nikmal, spokesman for the provincial governor.

He said Afghan authorities have sent police reinforcements to the area and were meeting with U.S. military officials to plan a counterattack.

Violence has surged in Afghanistan in recent months. Last week alone, violence killed more than 270 people, including 165 rebels reportedly killed in two large battles in the south and 30 people killed in a suicide bombing on an army bus in Kabul.

President Hamid Karzai on Sunday Karzai said he would be willing to meet personally with Taliban leader Mullah Omar and factional warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of Hezb-i-Islami, in exchange for peace.

On Sunday, Karzai's spokesman, said there was “serious debate” among some Taliban fighters about laying down arms.

But the Taliban said international troops must leave the country before any talks are held.

“Negotiations with Karzai have no worth in the presence of American forces,” said Haroon Zarghun, a Hezb-i-Islami spokesman.

“Karzai has, in fact, no authority in the presence of American troops. Talks would be waste of time in such a situation,” he told The Associated Press by telephone. “If the United States announces to leave Afghanistan, then we will be ready to hold talks.”

Insurgency-related violence has killed more than 4,600 people so far this year, most of them insurgents, according to an AP tally of figures from Afghan and western officials. Taliban spokesmen say western claims of rebel casualties are often greatly exaggerated.

In Helmand's Reg district, Afghan and U.S.-led coalition forces, acting on intelligence reports, were pursuing militants hiding out in the area Monday when they came under attack, the coalition said in a statement. The troops called in air strikes and fought the militants in a gun battle.

More than 20 militants were killed, but there were no reports of civilians hurt. It was not immediately possible to verify the death toll independently.

# Female suicide bomber kills self, 14 others in Pakistan's northwest

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL POLITICS DEFENCE

**PUBLICATION:** cpw

**WORD COUNT:** 435

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PESHAWAR, Pakistan \_ A woman detonated explosives hidden under her burka at a police checkpoint Monday, killing herself and 14 others in what appeared to be Pakistan's first female suicide attack, officials said.

The blast in the troubled town of Bannu underscored the growing Islamic militant threat in Pakistan, five days before President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, a U.S. ally, seeks re-election.

Militants attacked a security post in the same northwestern region later Monday and 24 policemen were feared captured, officials said.

The suicide bomber was in a rickshaw when it was pulled over by police at a checkpoint in Bannu, said Ameer Hamza Mahsud, the local police chief.

Investigators determined that it was a suicide attack and that the bomber was a woman who wore the head-to-toe burka veil common in Pakistan's northwest and in neighbouring Afghanistan, Mahsud told The Associated Press.

There was no claim of responsibility. Forensic experts would examine the attacker's dismembered body for clues to her identity, Mahsud said.

However, he said it was possible that the bomber came from the nearby tribal belt along the Afghan frontier, where militants affiliated with the Taliban and al-Qaida have seized considerable control.

While there have been reports of women being trained to carry out suicide bombings in Pakistan, Monday's blast appeared to be the first confirmation of such an attack in either Pakistan or Afghanistan.

Army spokesman Maj.-Gen. Waheed Arshad said the dead included four police officers and 11 other people, among them the bomber. Mahsud said many of the casualties had been crowded around a nearby bus stop.

Some 150 militants attacked the Richi Fort security post west of Bannu on Monday evening with rockets and gunfire, according to an intelligence official.

The official, who was not authorized to speak publicly, said the insurgents overran the post and captured 24 paramilitary police officers. Arshad confirmed the attack but said he had no confirmation that anyone was captured.

Bannu is near the North Waziristan tribal region, about 180 kilometres south of Peshawar.

In recent months, militants have staged almost daily attacks on security forces in North Waziristan and surrounding areas since the breakdown of a peace agreement.

The 2006 agreement had drawn criticism from the United States that it had given al-Qaida breathing space to regroup and perhaps plot new attacks on the West.

But the deal's demise and a wave of violence including suicide attacks in otherwise peaceful parts of Pakistan have fanned concern here that the country is sacrificing its stability at the behest of Washington.

That debate has tarnished the standing of Musharraf, but not deterred him from seeking another five-year presidential term.

Allies of Musharraf, who took power in a 1999 coup, are confident that he will win Saturday's ballot among federal and provincial legislators, despite bitter opposition.

The general wants to be re-elected while he is still army chief. Opponents claim that would violate the constitution, although Musharraf has pledged to give up his powerful military post if he wins.

## --Fifth NewsWatch--

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 290

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A criminal trial verdict on Canada's tainted blood scandal will be released this afternoon in Toronto.

Members of Canada's hemophilia community are anxiously awaiting the Superior Court ruling.

Former Canadian Red Cross medical director Dr. Roger Perrault, three other doctors and a New Jersey pharmaceutical company stand accused in the case.

Perrault faces charges of criminal negligence causing bodily harm for allegedly giving patients an H-I-V-infected blood-clotting product in the 1980's and early 1990's. (5)

(Afghan-Cda-Threat)

A state of alert at Kandahar Airfield has ended.

The security situation was upgraded late Sunday night after an undisclosed threat at the base, home to more than 10-thousand international troops and civilians, including Canadians.

Meantime, coalition troops say they killed 20 suspected militants in southern Afghanistan today.

This comes as the American military is offering rewards of up to 200-thousand dollars for information leading to the capture of 12 Taliban and al-Qaida leaders. (5)

(Yemen-Cda-Volcano) (Audio:055)

A Canadian navy ship has been involved in a dramatic rescue effort in the Red Sea.

Sailors have rescued a Yemeni soldier and recovered the bodies of two others following a volcanic eruption on a small island.

Yemen asked a NATO fleet in the area to help search for eight missing sailors -- four survivors and two bodies have been found. (5)

(BIZ-Alta-Power-Line-Cancelled) (Audio:007)

Alberta's energy regulator has cancelled all proceedings in a proposed Edmonton-Calgary power line plagued by scandal.

It comes after it was learned private investigators were spying on opponents of the project.

The company behind the proposal will re-apply to build the line, but warns band-aid solutions will be required to provide enough power to southern Alberta by the end of the decade. (5)

(Myanmar-Protests)



The U–N is trying to persuade the government of Myanmar to halt its brutal crackdown on anti–government protests.

A U–N envoy has returned to the country for a second time to try to meet with top military leaders.

It's reported the military has loosened it's hold on monasteries at the centre of the protests. (5)

(Facebook–Predators)

New York State's attorney general is no friend of Facebook.

The Internet social networking site has been warned by his office that it may face a consumer fraud charge for failing to shield teens from online predators.

Officials say Facebook has been given two weeks to respond to concerns it hasn't acted on complaints fast enough. (5)

(NewsWatch by Clint Thomas)

# AP–News Agenda

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 991

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WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court begins a new term today.

The justices will tackle a number of big issues. They'll look at cases involving the legal rights of detainees at Guantanamo Bay and the constitutionality of lethal injections for executions.

Other cases will deal with child pornography, voter I–D cards and accountability in fraud cases. And it's possible the justices will decide to take on a Second Amendment case from Washington involving the right to own guns.

Justice Anthony Kennedy remains a decisive swing vote between the four conservatives and four liberals on the court. In the last term, he voted with the conservatives on key cases involving abortion, race and campaign finance. But the big issues this term are ones where Kennedy has more often sided with liberals.

The Supreme Court's new term also coincides with the release of Justice Clarence Thomas' memoir ``My Grandfather's Son." The book traces his life from his childhood to his contentious battle for confirmation.

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Michigan's state government has been partially shut down as lawmakers failed to reach a no budget deal in time for the new fiscal year.

The deadline was midnight, but at that hour Democratic Governor Jennifer Granholm was still awaiting a key vote in the Republican–controlled Senate.

Without a budget in place, the state has no authority to spend money.

Granholm had told about 35–thousand of the state's more than 53–thousand workers not to report to work on Monday if a shutdown occurs. The remaining workers, mostly in public health and safety, are to stay on the job.

Michigan lawmakers are trying to reach a deal that would plug a one–and–three–quarter–billion–dollar deficit. The Democrat–led House passed a bill Sunday that would raise the state's income tax. But it's faced a tougher fight in the Senate.

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — Police in northwestern Pakistan are reporting another suicide bomb attack.

They say the blast killed at least 15 people, including four officers. Twenty–two other people were hurt, several of them critically.

The bomb apparently was in a rickshaw that was being examined at a police checkpoint in a town in the North Waziristan tribal region. Police say it's not clear if the bomb was set off by the driver or by a passenger wearing a burqa.

Authorities say many of the victims were people waiting at a nearby bus stop.

Fighting between Islamic militants and security forces has been raging across northwest Pakistan in recent months. Most of the combat has taken place in the rugged mountains along the Afghan border. U-S officials think al-Qaida is regrouping in the region and that Osama bin Laden may be hiding there.

BAGRAM, Afghanistan (AP) — The U-S military has launched a new "Most Wanted" campaign in Afghanistan.

It's offering rewards of up to 200-thousand dollars for information leading to the capture of 12 Taliban and al-Qaida leaders.

Posters and billboards are being put up around eastern Afghanistan with the names and pictures of the 12. The reward amounts range from 20-thousand to 200-thousand dollars. The list includes local insurgent cell leaders responsible for roadside and suicide bomb attacks.

An American military spokesman in Afghanistan says the idea is "to get more visibility on these guys like the F-B-I did with the mob."

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Coalition forces in Afghanistan are reporting troops backed by airstrikes have killed more than 20 suspected militants in the southern part of the country.

In a statement, the coalition says Afghan and coalition troops, acting on intelligence reports, were hunting down militants in volatile Helmand province when they came under attack. The troops called in airstrikes and fought the militants in a gun battle.

The coalition says there are no reports of civilians hurt.

The clash comes days after President Hamid Karzai renewed his offer to hold peace talks with the Taliban. Karzai's spokesman says there is "serious debate" among some Taliban fighters about laying down arms. But a Taliban spokesman says there will be no negotiations until American and other foreign troops get out of Afghanistan.

HASKANITA, Sudan (AP) — At least 10 peacekeepers in northern Darfur are dead after rebel forces stormed a small African Union base there.

About 1,000 rebels from the Sudan Liberation Army attacked the base Saturday night using armoured vehicles and rocket-propelled grenades. Peacekeepers fought back but the rebels overran the compound. A peacekeeper from Nigeria says the African Union troops eventually ran out of ammunition and took refuge in a ditch.

Soldiers say the rebels looted several armoured vehicles and took a large amount of ammunition before the Sudanese army drove them out yesterday. The remaining peacekeepers were evacuated.

Besides the 10 dead, more than 30 peacekeepers are missing.

The attack comes ahead of peace talks aimed at resolving the Darfur conflict.

CHICAGO (AP) — Kids can have heart attacks too, so doctors are warning that when a child reports crushing chest pain, it should be taken very seriously.

A report from Ohio doctors documents nine cases over 11 years in children as young as 12. All but one were boys.

They all lacked common risk factors for heart problems, such as obesity, family history, high blood pressure, unhealthy cholesterol levels and drug abuse.

The doctors say the cause of their heart attacks was most likely a heart spasm that briefly cut off blood supply.

One Ohio 13-year-old who was part of the study takes heart medicine daily and nitroglycerin pills when occasional chest pain returns. He still snowboards, shoots hoops and does other hobbies he enjoyed before the attack.

The report appears in October's issue of the medical journal Pediatrics.

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The San Diego Padres and Colorado Rockies are headed to a one-game playoff today to determine the National League wild card winner.

Colorado beat Arizona 4–3 in Denver yesterday while San Diego lost in Milwaukee 11–6.

The playoff will take place in Denver with the winner landing the N–L wild card berth and a spot in the first round of the playoffs against Eastern Division champ Philadelphia. San Diego will go with 19-game winner, while 10–and–9 Josh Fogg will pitch for the Rockies.

The one-game playoff is the first in baseball since the New York Mets beat Cincinnati in 1999.

UNDATED (AP) — Philadelphia wrapped up the National League East with a 6–1 win over Washington.

That win, coupled with New York's 8–1 loss to Florida, secured the title for the Phillies. It's Philadelphia's first title since 1993 and puts the franchise in the playoffs for the 10th time in franchise history.

This year's Mets will go down among the biggest chokers in baseball history. By losing their final game of the season to Florida, the Mets completed a collapse of historical proportions.

Back on September 12th the Mets led the Phillies by seven games but they fell apart from there. Veteran Tom Glavine got the ball for the Mets Sunday but failed to get the job done, allowing seven runs in the first inning.

(The Associated Press)

# INDEX:Politics, Justice, International

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** POLITICS JUSTICE INTERNATIONAL  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 118

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WASHINGTON – Lawyers for Canadian terror suspect Omar Khadr are asking a special military appeals court to reconsider its decision to allow his case to resume at Guantanamo Bay.

The U.S. Court of Military Commission Review ruled last month that Khadr could face murder and terrorism charges at the special military commission tribunal.

In June, Col. Peter Brownback threw the case out, saying the tribunal lacked jurisdiction to try the 21-year-old because he hadn't been declared an 'unlawful' enemy combatant, as required by Congress.

But the review panel decided Brownback has the authority to go ahead.

Khadr's lawyers say they have no forum there to argue that Khadr was an alleged child soldier deserving of international legal protection.

Khadr was 15 years old when he allegedly threw a grenade that killed a U.S. soldier in an Afghanistan firefight in 2003.

# INDEX:Defence, International, Justice, Politics

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** DEFENCE INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE POLITICS

**PUBLICATION:** bnw

**WORD COUNT:** 95

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BAGRAM, Afghanistan – The U.S. military has launched a new Most Wanted campaign offering rewards of up to US\$200,000 for information leading to the capture of 12 Taliban and al-Qaida leaders.

Posters and billboards are being put up around eastern Afghanistan with the names and pictures of the 12 militant leaders.

The reward amounts range from US\$20,000 to US\$200,000.

The list is filled with local insurgent cell leaders responsible for roadside and suicide bomb attacks.

Lt.-Col. Rob Pollack, a U.S. officer at the main American base in Bagram, says the military is trying to use the same methods the FBI used with the mob.

Pollack said the Taliban and al-Qaida operate the same way the mob did.

(The Associated Press)

## --Eleventh NewsWatch--

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 291

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Canadian hemophiliacs who got H-I-V and hepatitis C from tainted blood are hoping for justice today.

A verdict will be announced this afternoon in Toronto in a criminal trial related to the tainted blood scandal, which left thousands infected.

Four doctors and a U-S drug firm face charges of criminal negligence causing bodily harm for allegedly failing to recall a lot of potentially-tainted blood.

Mike McCarthy, former vice-president of the Canadian Hemophilia Society, says those charged seemed more interested in money than in protecting the public.

The doctors and the drug company have pleaded not guilty. (11)

(UN-Bernier)

Canada's foreign affairs minister will make a pitch to the United Nations tomorrow to appoint a high-level envoy to Afghanistan.

Maxime Bernier will argue an envoy is needed to raise awareness of the war and better co-ordinate efforts there.

He says the envoy's role should be modelled on former British prime minister Tony Blair's work in the Middle East.

It will be Bernier's first speech to the U-N General Assembly. (11)

(CEOS-Climate)

Top business leaders are getting onside to combat climate change.

They have a proposal that calls for government intervention and acknowledges all of society will have to pay a stiff price.

The Canadian Council of Chief Executives is calling for a national strategy that it says produces real reductions in greenhouse gases.

But the document will likely face criticism from environmentalists for not going far enough.

It does not suggest a carbon tax or absolute reductions in gas emissions. (11)

(Noisy-Classrooms)

A study suggests Canadian children don't hear well in school because their classrooms are too noisy.

The study for the Canadian language and literacy research network finds many classrooms have poor acoustics as well as noise, and teachers have to strain their voices to be heard.

The association says the problems can be reduced by some simple fixes, including improved acoustics in classrooms. (11)

(Memphis University Shooting)

Officials say a University of Memphis football player was the apparent target when he was shot and killed on campus.

Officials say Taylor Bradford was shot last night in his car near a university housing complex.

Classes have been canceled for the day. (11)

(India–Nazi Bedspread)

A furniture company in India is withdrawing the name of a new collection of bedspreads called ``The Nazi Collection."

The Indian Jewish Federation quickly lodged a complaint about the name — and the swastika decoration on the bedsheets.

The furnishing dealer has apologized.

The swastika is an ancient Hindu symbol that was appropriated by Hitler.

In India the symbol is like a good luck charm.

Also many Indians are unaware of the holocaust. (11)

(NewsWatch by Roger Ward)



# Update:CORRECTS name to Maxime

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

**PUBLICATION:** bnw

**WORD COUNT:** 106

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WASHINGTON – Canada wants the United Nations to appoint a high-level envoy to Afghanistan to raise awareness of the war and better co-ordinate efforts there.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch Tuesday in his first speech to the UN General Assembly.

Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

He says the envoy's role should be modelled on Tony Blair's work in the Middle East. Blair has been concentrating on the region since stepping down as Britain's prime minister.

Bernier will talk about key development and aid issues in Afghanistan and highlight countries making critical contributions.

He's expected to raise several other issues, including Haiti and a UN resolution highlighting human rights abuses in Iran.

(The Canadian Press)

# CP News Agenda for Tuesday, Oct. 2

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 1023

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p.m. ET: x—denotes wire, y—denotes picture, z—denotes graphics coverage. Copy from other events based on merit and availability. All times local unless otherwise noted. Queries about these events and stories in The Canadian Press report should be directed to the departments listed below (all phone numbers 416 area code): Main Desk (National News) 507–2150 World Desk 507–2165 Sports Desk 507–2154 Ontario Desk 507–2159 Photo Desk 507–2169 Specials Desk (Syndicated Copy) 507–2152 IT Desk (Technical Trouble) 507–2099 or 800–268–8149 WORLD

NEW YORK \_ Foreign Affairs Minister Maxine Bernier gives speech about Afghanistan to United Nations General Assembly. (10 a.m. at United Nations headquarters)

## ATLANTIC

MIRAMICHI, N.B. \_ Inquest into the death of Christopher (Max) Comeau, 22, who died Aug. 3, 2006. He died after being hit by a Miramichi Police cruiser at about 11:30 p.m. while walking home. Through Oct. 3. (Rodd Miramichi River Hotel)

OROMOCTO, N.B. \_ Court martial for Cpl. William Venator, one of four Canadian soldiers charged with drug trafficking. (CFB Gagetown, Building F–1)

SAINT JOHN, N.B. \_ Energy Speaker Series features Terrence O'Brien, deputy director at the California Energy Commission. He will discuss "Shaping California's Future: Protecting the Economy and the Environment." (7 p.m. at Grand Hall, UNB Saint John, 40 Charlotte Street)

DARTMOUTH, N.S. \_ Canada–Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board officially opens its Geoscience Research Centre. (12 p.m. at 201 Brownlow Ave, Suite 27)

HALIFAX \_ LottoFairness.ca officials hold news conference to outline concerns about Atlantic Lottery Corp. procurement procedures. (10 a.m. at World Trade and Convention Centre)

HALIFAX \_ Speech by Marie Mullally, president and CEO of the Nova Scotia Gaming Corp. (12 p.m. at Compass Room, Casino Nova Scotia )

HALIFAX \_ The Offshore/Onshore Technologies Association of Nova Scotia holds its gala dinner, celebrating its 25th anniversary. (6 p.m. at World Trade and Convention Centre, 1800 Argyle Street)

x–HALIFAX \_ Voters in the provincial riding of Cole Harbour–Eastern Passage to cast ballots in byelection.

CARDIGAN, P.E.I. \_ International conference on aquatic invasive species. Through Oct. 4. (Pascal Poirier Park, 10 Weldon St.)

## QUEBEC

ILE D'ORLEANS, Que. \_ Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz announces details of funding for projects under the

Canada–Quebec Water Supply Expansion Program. (10:30 a.m. at Cidrerie Domaine Steinbach, 2205 Chemin Royal Saint–Pierre)

xy–MONTREAL \_ Retired general Romeo Dallaire is scheduled to begin testimony at the war crimes trial of Desire Munyaneza. (9:30 a.m. at Rm. 5.01, Palais de justice)

x–MONTREAL \_ Former Montreal police officer Pierre Goulet is sentenced for his part in a drug smuggling ring. (9:30 a.m. at Montreal Courthouse)

QUEBEC \_ Federal Natural Resources Minister Gary Lunn speaks at a wind–energy conference. (9:30 a.m. at Centre des congres, Blvd. Rene–Levesque East)

x–RIMOUSKI, Que. \_ Hearings continue into how immigrants should fit into Quebec society. (9 a.m. at Hotel de Rimouski et Centre des Congres, 225 Rene–Lepage E.)

## OTTAWA

xy–OTTAWA \_ Public hearings into the bombing of Air India Flight 182. (9:30 a.m. at Victoria Hall, Bytown Pavilion, 111 Sussex Drive OTTAWA \_ Environment Minister John Baird serves breakfast and presents funds to the school breakfast program. (8:30 a.m. at Grant Alternative School, 2625 Draper Ave.)

## ONTARIO

GEORGETOWN, Ont. \_ Inquest begins into death of Bogdan Malek, 48, who was injured at a construction site. Through Oct. 4. (9:30 a.m. at Halton Hills Town Hall, 1 Prince St.)

TORONTO \_ Inquest into death of Mykhaylo Yakymovych, 33, who died May 17, 2004, from injuries sustained on a construction site at a private residence. Through Oct. 5. (393 University Ave., 19th floor)

TORONTO \_ Canadian Union of Public Employees releases study on underfunding for educational assistants. (10:30 a.m. at Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, 106 Trinity St.)

UNDATED \_ Itinerary for Green Party Leader Frank de Jong: Joins Bruce–Grey–Owen Sound Green party candidate Shane Jolley in announcing Green party's agricultural platform (11 a.m., Keady Market, Hwy. 3 southwest of Owen Sound); joins Simcoe–Grey Green party candidate Peter Ellis to discuss Green party's health platform (3 p.m., Stevenson Memorial Hospital, 200 Fletcher Cr., Alliston).

## PRAIRIES

CALGARY \_ Trial for Robert Deer, charged with first–degree murder for allegedly hiring another man to kill Calgary financier Jack Beauchamp over a failed business deal. Through Oct. 5. (Court of Queen's Bench)

EDMONTON \_ Dallas–based Affiliated Computer Services preliminary hearing into charges it offered bribes to Edmonton police officers to get its photo radar contract with the city renewed. Through Oct. 14.

x–EDMONTON \_ Sentencing hearing for a 19–year–old accused, who pleaded guilty in 2006 to charges of first–degree murder in the slaying of Nina Courtepatte, 13, on an Edmonton–area golf course. He was 17 at the time and the hearing is to determine whether he should be sentenced in adult or youth court. (9:30 a.m. at Youth Court)

EDMONTON \_ The Tobacco or Health Conference gives health professionals an opportunity to exchange critical knowledge for effective local, provincial and national tobacco control activities. (Shaw Conference

Centre)

EDMONTON \_ Voir dire arguments in the case of Thomas Svekla, charged with two counts of second-degree murder in the deaths of prostitutes Theresa Innes, 36, and Rachel Quinney, 19. Through Dec. 20. (Court of Queen's Bench)

EDMONTON \_ The Alberta Building Trades Council of Unions holds a media conference to explain its support for union affiliates as they attempt to have sections of Alberta's Labour Relations Code declared unconstitutional. (10 a.m. at Crowne Plaza Hotel)

EDMONTON \_ Environmental groups including the Sierra Club, the Manitoba EcoNetwork and the Saskatchewan Environmental Society, hold public forums on water management. (6:30 p.m. at Prairie Room, Lister Conference Centre, University of Alberta)

LAKE LOUISE, Alta. \_ Indian and Northern Affairs holds a workshop on northern contaminants. Speakers include aboriginal leaders and internationally recognized scientists. Through Oct. 4. (Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise)

BEAUSEJOUR, Man. \_ Scott Skipper, who was the financial chair of the 2006 Manitoba Games, faces one count of theft over \$5,000 in connection with \$35,000 that allegedly disappeared from the event's coffers. (Beausejour provincial court)

SASKATOON \_ Saskatoon cardiologist Dr. Carlos Huerto on trial for defrauding federal and provincial governments. Through Oct. 12.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

xy-NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. \_ Defence continues in trial of accused serial killer Robert William Pickton. (10 a.m. at New Westminster Supreme Court)

VANCOUVER \_ Grant Fralic, Robert Juker, Ramoncito Veijon, James Mader stand trial for first-degree murder in death of Jody Elliott. Through Oct. 8. (10 a.m. at B.C. Supreme Court)

VANCOUVER \_ Three day Asia Pacific Forum on Mining and Minerals. Speakers include former prime minister Jean Chretien Tuesday at noon. (8:30 a.m. at Hyatt Regency Hotel )

# --Seventeenth NewsWatch--

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 270

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Strange and ludicrous.

These are some of the terms being used by advocates struggling to understand a court ruling handed down in Toronto today.

Justice Mary Lou Benotto says there was no wanton or reckless disregard, just reasonable and professional reactions during a difficult time.

The judge is acquitting the former head of the Red Cross blood program, three other doctors and a pharmaceutical company on charges related to the distribution of tainted blood products in the 1980's.

Thousands of Canadians became infected with H-I-V or hepatitis C.

John Plater of the Hemophilia Society argues a reasonable person would have taken the products off the market. (17)

(UN-Bernier)

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will ask the United Nations to appoint a high-level envoy to Afghanistan.

He'll make the pitch tomorrow, in his first speech to the General Assembly.

Bernier will suggest the envoy should play a role similar to that of former British Prime Minister Tony Blair -- who is focusing on the Middle East. (17)

(US-Cda-Khadr)

Lawyers for the only Canadian held at Guantanamo Bay want a special military appeals court to reconsider its decision to let the prosecution of Omar Khadr to continue.

They say sending the case back to the military court at the prison camp leaves them no chance to argue Khadr was a child soldier, and deserved legal protection.

Khadr was 15 when he was arrested in Afghanistan, and accused of killing an American soldier. (17)

(Crime-Laws-Unused)

Manitoba Justice Minister Dave Chomiak says he will update laws that have never been used, even though they were designed to help fight gang activity.

Chomiak says part of the problem is that police are too busy fighting crime, and don't have time for the paperwork.

He says the laws will be changed so other agencies can tackle the work. (17)

(HEALTH–Smoking–Addiction)

The first puff may tell whether a young person will get hooked on cigarettes.

Researchers say those who feel relaxed after that first drag on a smoke are the ones most likely to get hooked.

They're also the ones who will find it hardest to quit. (17)

(Britney–Spears)(Audio:177)

Britney Spears is losing custody of her children.

A judge in Los Angeles is giving Spears until Wednesday to surrender the two little boys to their father, Kevin Federline.

It's a temporary order after a special hearing today — just days after Spears was charged with a hit-and-run. (17)

(NewsWatch by Paul Cross)

# Kandahar military base on high alert due to possible threat

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 75

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KANDAHAR, Afghanistan – A state of alert on the international military base at Kandahar Airfield has ended.

The security situation on the base was upgraded late Sunday night due to a possible threat.

The military did not release the exact nature of the threat or the additional security measures in place at the base citing security reasons.

The alert ended Monday morning following additional security sweeps of the base.

There are more than 10,000 international troops and civilians at Kandahar Airfield, the headquarters for NATO operations in the Kandahar province.

Canada has approximately 2,300 troops in Kandahar.

# 20 suspected insurgents killed in southern Afghanistan battle

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 63

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KABUL – Afghan and U.S.-led coalition troops clashed with insurgents today in southern Afghanistan, calling in air strikes that killed more than 20 suspected militants.

The coalition says in a statement the troops were pursuing militants hiding out in the Reg district of volatile Helmand province when they came under attack.

The troops called in air strikes and fought the militants in a gun battle.

The coalition says there are no reports of civilians hurt.

(The Associated Press)



# TOR OUT YYY

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 332

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The Canadian navy says a volcano has erupted on a tiny island off the coast of Yemen.

And Canada's own ship, H-M-C-S Toronto, has been asked to help in the search for survivors in the Red Sea.

At the time of the eruption Sunday night, the NATO fleet was sailing north toward the Suez Canal, so the Yemeni government asked for its help.

There are no reports of deaths, but nine people are missing. (2)

(Afghan-Cda-Threat)

Thousands of international troops based at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan, including hundreds Canadian soldiers, are on high alert this morning.

No word yet on what the specific threat is, but the security situation at the base was upgraded late last night.

Meantime, more than 20 suspected insurgents have been killed by coalition troops during a gun battle in volatile Helmand province.

Coalition forces had been pursuing militants when they came under attack. (2)

(BIZ-CEO's-Climate Change)

Canada's business leaders are about to flex their muscle to try and get all Canadian governments to do something about climate change.

A task force of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives is releasing a report today, calling for a national strategy to produce real reductions in greenhouse-gas emissions.

The report is most critical about the failure of provinces and Ottawa to agree on a common action plan.

It believes the most effective way of achieving environmental sustainability is through technological advances, and so governments should establish long-term tech funds to drive innovation. (2)

(Liberals-Cold-Feet)

One of Stephane Dion's staunchest supporters is urging the Liberal leader not to defeat the Harper minority government and force a fall election.

Toronto-area Liberal M-P Byron Wilfert says there are no burning issues at the moment, and no need to send voters to the polls right now.

He says the Liberals have the luxury of deciding when the time would be right.

Dion says the party won't decide which way it'll vote on the October 16th throne speech until he sees what the Conservatives are planning. (2)

(Hfx–Transit–Strike)

Commuters in the Halifax area are breathing a huge sigh of relief.

There will be no transit strike this morning.

It'll be business as usual for 575 bus drivers and ferry captains in Halifax, after a tentative contract agreement was reached on the weekend.

Details haven't been released, pending a vote by the union members. (2)

(RCMP–Recruiting) (Audio: 05)

The Mounties are hoping the old adage holds true -- that they always get their man, or woman.

The R–C–M–P is set to launch a massive recruiting drive today to beef up its workforce, as hundreds of older officers prepare to retire over the next few years.

The drive will be aimed at prospects aged 18 to 34, and will include an 800–thousand–dollar advertising blitz. (2)

(NewsWatch by Karen Rebot)

# Afghan–Execution

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01

**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE POLITICS JUSTICE

**PUBLICATION:** bnw

**WORD COUNT:** 96

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KANDAHAR, Afghanistan— Taliban militants hanged a teenager in southern Afghanistan because he had American money in his pocket.

Police say the Taliban stuffed five U–S one dollar bills into the victim's mouth as a warning to other villagers not to use American dollars.

The 15–year–old boy was hanged from a tree yesterday in Helmand, one of the most violent provinces in the country and the world's number one poppy–growing region.

Dollars are commonly used in Afghanistan alongside the afghani, the local currency, though dollars are more commonly seen in larger cities.

Militants often justify their attacks and executions as a response to U–S meddling in Afghan affairs.

(The Associated Press)

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# INDEX:International, Politics

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** INTERNATIONAL POLITICS  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 132

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WASHINGTON – Canada wants the United Nations to appoint a high-level envoy to Afghanistan to raise awareness of the war and better co-ordinate stabilization efforts there.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier plans to make his pitch Tuesday in his first-ever speech to the UN General Assembly.

Bernier, who has already discussed the idea with representatives from several countries and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, says the envoy's role should be modelled on Tony Blair's work in the Middle East.

Blair has been concentrating on Mideast peace efforts since he stepping down as Britain's prime minister earlier this year.

Canada has 2,500 troops in Afghanistan, most battling insurgents in war-torn Kandahar province. Seventy-one Canadian soldiers have died since Ottawa began its Afghan mission in 2002.

Bernier is also expected to raise several other issues in his speech, including Haiti and a UN resolution to toughen sanctions against Iran.

# TOR OUT YYY

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 347

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The Canadian navy has pulled one survivor and two bodies from the Red Sea.

Navy spokesman Ken Allen tells The Canadian Press the warship H-M-C-S Toronto had been helping in a search-and-rescue operation for eight people missing after a volcano erupted last night on an island off the coast of Yemen.

The NATO fleet had been in the area, and was asked by the Yemen government to help search the Red Sea waters for survivors.

Allen says as the ship was leaving the area to end the search, the Canadian ship found a survivor and pulled him from the water.

He's recovering in sick bay.

The Canadian crew also recovered two bodies, too.

Dutch and American ships rescued four other survivors.

Two other people are still missing. (3)

(Afghan-Cda-Threat)

Hundreds of Canadians and other soldiers at the international military base at southern Afghanistan's Kandahar Airfield are under high alert this morning, due to a possible threat.

Details aren't being released, but the security situation at the base was upgraded last night.

There are more than 10-thousand international troops and civilians, including more than two-thousand Canadians, whose main home base during this Afghan mission is Kandahar Airfield. (3)

(Violence-Darfur)

At least 10 African Union peacekeepers are dead in Darfur after rebel forces overran their base.

Peacekeepers say they ran out of ammunition and that the rebels were armed with grenades and armoured vehicles. (3)

(NWT-Elxn) (Audio: 46)

Voters across the Northwest Territories head to the polls today to elect the territory's next government.

Fifty-two candidates are running for the 19 seats available in a legislature that operates under a consensus system with no political parties.

The premier and six ministers are chosen by the legislature in a vote that follows the general election, while those members not elected to cabinet become the unofficial opposition. (3)

(Lake–Superior)

The water level of the biggest and deepest of the five Great Lakes is at its lowest point in more than 80 years for this time of year.

Drought and warm temperatures have combined to drop Lake Superior's average water level for September four centimetres beneath the previous low for the month.

All of the Great Lakes have been in decline since the late '90's, with Lakes Huron and Michigan about 60 centimetres below their long–term average levels. (3)

(HEALTH–Kids–Heart Attacks)

Kids can have heart attacks too.

So doctors in Ohio are warning that when a child reports crushing chest pain, it should be taken very seriously.

Their report in ``Pediatrics" documents nine such cases over 11 years in children as young as 12 -- mostly boys, who all lacked common risk factors for heart problems.

Doctors say the cause of their heart attacks was most likely a heart spasm that briefly cut off blood supply. (3)

(NewsWatch by Karen Rebot)

## --Eighteenth NewsWatch--

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**DATE:** 2007.10.01  
**KEYWORDS:** ADVISORIES  
**PUBLICATION:** bnw  
**WORD COUNT:** 266

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The former national medical director of the Canadian Red Cross has been found not guilty of criminal negligence dating back to the tainted blood scandal of the 1980's.

A judge in Toronto has ruled that Doctor Roger Perreault, three other doctors and a pharmaceutical company acted reasonably and professionally.

But advocates for Canadians who contracted H-I-V or hepatitis C from the products are outraged.

Mike McCarthy of the Hemophilia Society calls the ruling a shock, and thinks other victims will consider the ruling a miscarriage of justice.

The Red Cross issued an apology last year -- to tens of thousands of Canadians who became infected. (18)

(US-Iraq-Blackwater)

The F-B-I is sending investigators to Iraq to probe last month's killing of 11 Iraqis in a shootout in Baghdad.

Criminal charges could be filed against some guards working for a private American security company -- Blackwater U-S-A.

The F-B-I says it's responding to a request from the U-S State Department.

A congressional report released today shows Blackwater has fired more than 120 workers over the past three years for violence, drugs, and misuse of weapons. (18)

(UN-Bernier)

Canada wants the United Nations to do more to raise awareness of the ongoing war in Afghanistan, and to do a better job of co-ordinating efforts there.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch tomorrow, in his first speech to the U-N General Assembly.

Bernier will call for the appointment of a high-level envoy to Afghanistan. (18)

(Austria-US-Embassy-Explosives)

Police in Vienna, Austria are holding one man who set off an alarm at the U-S embassy today.

The 42-year-old Bosnian had explosives, nails, and Islamic literature in his backpack.

Police say the two hand grenades he carried, combined with the nails, would have created an enormous amount of shrapnel. (18)

(Sask-Propane-Leak)

Several blocks of downtown Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan have been evacuated.

Canadian Pacific Railway says propane had started leaking from a tanker car.

Police have evacuated business and homes within four blocks of the leak. (18)

(Que-Gas-Emissions)

The provincial government in Quebec says it will help companies that reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

It's putting 25 (m) million dollars into a fund for businesses that convert from heavy oil to natural gas.

The program is aimed at industries such as pulp and paper. (18)

(NewsWatch by Paul Cross)



# Iraq war debate 'distorted'; Pace says 'personal venom' clouding people's judgment

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**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** C2  
**ILLUSTRATION:** Colour Photo: Win McNamee, Getty Images / PRAISE: U.S.President George W. Bush speaks at ceremony for outgoing Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Peter Pace Monday in Fort Myer, Va. ; Colour Photo: Gen. Peter Pace ;  
**DATELINE:** WASHINGTON  
**BYLINE:** Ann Scott Tyson  
**SOURCE:** The Washington Post  
**WORD COUNT:** 370

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WASHINGTON – Marine Gen. Peter Pace, the outgoing chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, warned Monday that the debate over the Iraq war was being distorted by "personal venom" and said the United States cannot "vote our way out" of the war.

Meanwhile, Pace's successor, Navy Adm. Michael Mullen, who was sworn in Monday as the new chairman, addressed a different concern about unexpected conflicts ahead. "The fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan will one day end," he said. "We must be ready for who and what comes after."

As antiwar protesters demonstrated at the gate of Fort Myer in Virginia, where the change-of-command ceremony took place, Pace said that democracy is strengthened by divergent views discussed "in a civil manner."

But, he said, "what worries me is that in some instances right now we have individuals who are more interested in making somebody else look bad than they are in finding the right solution. They are more interested in letting their personal venom come forward instead of talking about how do we get from where we are to where we need to be."

Pace, 61, who served for two years as chairman and four years as vice-chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was not renominated by Bush for a second two-year term. Defence Secretary Robert Gates said Pace would have faced a "contentious" confirmation hearing in the Senate.

Bush, in remarks at the ceremony, praised Pace for bringing "dignity to a political process that might have worn down a lesser man."

On the final day of his 40-year military career, Pace appeared to address critics in Congress and elsewhere.

"This dialogue is not about 'Can we vote our way out of a war?' We have an enemy who has declared war on us. We are in a war," he said.

"So the dialogue is not about 'Are we in a war?' but how and where and when to best fight that war to preserve our freedom."

Gates hailed Pace's service, beginning as a Marine platoon leader during the battle for the Vietnamese city of Hue in 1968, when several men under Pace lost their lives.

"Your debt has been more than repaid," Gates said.

Mullen, a native of Los Angeles and Naval Academy graduate whose last job was chief of naval operations, spoke of the stress on American ground forces and the importance of striking a balance between U.S. security interests in Iraq and Afghanistan and in the rest of the world.

# World Report

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020080

**PUBLICATION:** The Windsor Star

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**EDITION:** Final

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** C2

**COLUMN:** World Report

**ILLUSTRATION:** Colour Photo: Nigel Treblin, Agence France–Presse, GettyImages / WHO  
WILL BE CROWNED TOP BEAUTY?: Models Barbara Sima, left, of Austria, Susana Khelesiya Erdkoenig, of Austria and Lena Henriksson, of Sweden pose during the final of Beauties in Motion Monday at the GOP Variete in Hanover, central Germany. According to the organizer, Beauties in Motion is the only model contest in Germany for women in wheelchairs. Ten women, three of them from Germany, reached the final. A total of 218 women from eleven countries took part in the event. ;

**SOURCE:** Compiled from Star News Services

**WORD COUNT:** 1192

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## EUROPE

### TEEN APOLOGIZES DURING DOUBLE MURDER TRIAL

ANTWERP, Belgium – A Belgian teenager, on trial for murdering a toddler and her African nanny in a race–hate crime, on Monday apologized and told the court he loathed his actions.

On the first day of his double murder trial, Hans Van Themsche, 19, who admits the crimes, said "I want to say how much I loathe what I have done."

"I want to apologize to the victims, to their friends and also to foreigners," he continued with head bowed.

Turning to the public gallery, where the father of murdered two–year–old Luna Drowart had stood up, the accused looked up and three times repeated the word "sorry."

Van Themsche is charged with murdering, in May 2006, Oulematou Miangadou, a 24–year–old nanny before turning his gun on two–year–old Luna who started crying.

He is also accused of the attempted murder of a 47–year–old Turkish woman, Songul Kos, who was shot and seriously injured as she sat on a bench nearby.

### POLL SHOWS SOME GERMANS WANT BERLIN WALL BACK

BERLIN – One in five Germans would like to have the Berlin Wall back, according to a poll released Monday ahead of the 17th anniversary of German reunification.

Nineteen per cent of respondents surveyed said the country was better off while it was divided, while 75 per cent said they were glad the Wall that kept easterners captives of the communist bloc for 28 years had fallen.

Remarkably, a full 21 per cent of the country's 16.7 million easterners felt nostalgic about the concrete, barbed wire and armed guards that separated them from the west.

#### TRAWLERS CAUGHT BREAKING BAN ON COD FISHING

WARSAW – Forty Polish trawlers have been caught breaking an EU ban on cod fishing in the Baltic Sea, which Brussels says is necessary to prevent threatened stocks, Poland's maritime affairs ministry said Monday.

"According to inspectors, 40 vessels have breached the Brussels ban. They were carrying a total of 15 tonnes of cod," ministry spokesman Krzysztof Gogol said.

Despite warnings from the European Commission that Poland has already filled its cod quota in the Baltic for this year, Polish authorities have said they have no immediate plans to punish fishermen who catch cod there.

#### BOSNIA GETS EXTENSION ON POLICE REFORM DEAL

SARAJEVO – The top international envoy to Bosnia said Monday the country has won a few more days to agree on key police reforms after its leaders showed readiness to look for a compromise.

"Bosnia–Hercegovina still has a chance to avoid being left behind ... the European Commission will wait for a few more days, but only a few more days," Miroslav Lajcak said.

Reaching a deal to unify Bosnia's ethnically divided police forces is a precondition for the country to sign an agreement on closer ties with the European Union.

#### POPE NAMES INDIVIDUAL TO ORGANIZE MAJOR EVENTS

VATICAN CITY – Pope Benedict XVI on Monday named a new person to organize the celebration of the major dates in the Catholic calendar, the Vatican announced.

The new master of papal liturgical ceremonies is Guido Marini, 42, who previously served as secretary to the last three archbishops of Genoa.

He succeeds Piero Marini, who had organized papal ceremonies since 1987.

The pontifical master of liturgical ceremonies organizes the major celebrations on the Catholic calendar, such as Christmas and Easter, which are transmitted via television to the faithful around the world.

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#### AFRICA

##### SENEGAL PRESIDENT AGAINST IMMIGRANT DNA TESTS

DAKAR – Senegal President Abdoulaye Wade spoke out Monday against French moves to carry out DNA testing of would-be immigrants wanting to join their families.

The French National Assembly passed a bill that would tighten the rules for immigrants, including voluntary DNA tests to prove family ties.

"We are against these DNA tests. It is not to question science but with all the uncertainties that scientific

judgments pose ... then, frankly, I do not see what DNA tests can do," he said.

#### TEN KILLED IN BATTLE OVER DISPUTED BORDER TOWN

MOGADISHU – At least 10 people were killed Monday in heavy fighting between forces from the breakaway states of Somaliland and Puntland over a disputed town on their border, military sources said.

The fighting, which lasted for more than hour and involved exchanges of heavy artillery fire, took place near Las Ano, a town near the Ethiopian border claimed by both Puntland and Somaliland.

A Puntland military commander on the frontline said Somaliland forces had started the hostilities.

#### OPERATION SUNRISE TWO HOPED TO CONTROL INFLATION

HARARE – A new currency is to be unveiled in Zimbabwe by year-end in a fresh bid to rein in galloping inflation, the central bank chief said on Monday.

"It is over a year since we launched Operation Sunrise One which saw the slashing of three zeros" off the country's currency, Bank of Zimbabwe governor Gideon Gono said.

"Speculation and expectation have been high about when Operation Sunrise Two is coming. Indeed, I can confirm that Sunrise Two is coming and it is coming very soon."

He warned businesses and individuals from keeping huge sums of money saying that they would risk losing their money as the central bank will impose strict deposit thresholds during the changeover to the new currency.

#### MURDER SUSPECTS ACQUITTED; LACK OF EVIDENCE CITED

NAIVASHA, Kenya – Three Kenyans suspected of robbing and murdering a British farmer three years ago were acquitted Monday for lack of evidence, according to judicial sources.

Naivasha Chief Magistrate Jennifer Muchemi said that the prosecution had failed to prove its case against George Njuguna Wambui and Stephen Mburu Ndirangu who were accused of killing Martin Palmer in August 2004.

The two suspects were nevertheless sentenced to seven years in prison for illegal possession of gun ammunition.

The third suspect was not sentenced.

#### EBOLA VIRUS OUTBREAK UNDER CONTROL: EXPERTS

KINSHASA – Health experts are slowly bringing under control an outbreak of the feared Ebola virus in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Doctors Without Borders (MSF) aid group said Monday.

Experts are most worried about the possible spread of the hemorrhagic fever in isolated villages in West Kasai province in the centre of the country.

Twenty four cases of Ebola, five cases of typhoid fever and a case of Shigella dysentery have been confirmed in West Kasai since Sept. 11.

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## MIDEAST

### SUICIDE BOMBER DRESSED IN WOMEN'S BURQA KILLS 16

PESHAWAR, Pakistan – A suicide bomber disguised in a woman's burqa blew himself up at a busy police checkpoint in northwest Pakistan Monday, killing at least 16 people including four policemen, officials said.

The blast happened on the outskirts of Bannu, a key garrison town near Pakistan's troubled tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, where the army is battling Al-Qaida and Taliban militants.

### VOLCANO LAVA KILLS SIX YEMENI SOLDIERS

HODEIDA, Yemen – A volcano erupted on a Red Sea island, burning to death six Yemeni soldiers and sparking a major rescue operation for their comrades on the garrison island, the military said Monday.

Survivors evacuated to the Yemeni port city of Hodeida said four of the soldiers were killed outright when the volcano erupted on the island of Jabal al-Tair, some 150 kilometres away.

"Four of our comrades have died, burned by the lava," said one soldier who was among the evacuees.

The bodies of two other soldiers were recovered from the sea by a Canadian navy frigate.

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## ASIA

### JAPAN OFFERS DIVORCE LOAN FOR THOSE RE-STARTING LIVES

TOKYO – Japan's first-ever divorce loan caters to those who fell head over heels in love only to find themselves up to their necks in debt.

Named "Re" for those re-starting their lives, the loan helps divorcees cover the cost of compensation and legal payments and offers a lower interest rate than credit cards loans, on which Japan's growing number of divorce-seekers have depended in the past.

"It's not that we are recommending divorces," said Yoshimi Aoki, spokesman for Ogaki Kyoritsu Bank, based in Gifu, central Japan, which offers the loan.

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## NORTH AMERICA

### TEXAN GUILTY IN IRAQ OIL CASE; FACES PRISON TIME

NEW YORK – A Texas oilman pleaded guilty to charges that he paid millions of dollars in bribes to win contracts linked to the UN-run oil-for-food program in Saddam Hussein's Iraq, U.S. prosecutors said Monday.

Wyatt, 83, "pleaded guilty to participating in a scheme to pay illegal surcharges to the former government of Iraq in connection with the purchase of crude oil" from the UN program between mid-2000 and 2003, said

Michael Garcia, the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York.

Under the plea terms Wyatt forfeits over \$11 million and agreed to begin serving a sentence by Jan. 2, 2008.

#### FRENCH PRESIDENT TO VISIT WASHINGTON NEXT MONTH

WASHINGTON – U.S. President George W. Bush is expected to host French President Nicolas Sarkozy in Washington next month, a senior U.S. administration official said Monday.

The visit, Sarkozy's first formal trip to Washington since taking office, comes as the U.S. and its partners have sought to beef up pressure on Iran .

# Playing politics with foreign policy

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**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
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Ottawa

Talking to the enemy isn't sleeping with the enemy. It's an obvious distinction this federal government wilfully ignores every time it distorts foreign policy in the relentless pursuit of domestic votes.

Once a calm, respected voice in the diplomatic babble, Canada is now inclined to shout first and angrily. That's what it did when Palestinians exercised their democratic right to turf the corrupt, incompetent Fatah. That's what it's doing again in Afghanistan where the administration and insurgents are taking halting first steps away from civil war and toward political accommodation.

Canada's refusal to talk to Hamas or the Taliban is appealing. Both have histories and agendas this country rightly rejects. Opprobrium makes that perfectly clear and, to the extent of Ottawa's modest offshore influence, encourages better behaviour.

But lesser motives are top of mind for a prime minister and a Conservative government that sees international affairs through the prism of partisan politics. Ostracizing Hamas is mostly about breaking the connection between Jewish voters and the Liberal party. Rejecting the Taliban as a negotiating partner reinforces that tough image essential to a ruling party selling itself as standing up for Canada.

Those tactics serve Conservatives better than the country. As hard as it may be to grasp or even stomach, the rise of Hamas to power and the emergence of the Taliban as an interlocutor are small success stories within an otherwise relentlessly bleak global narrative.

Nurturing democracy is worthy work. It's also painfully slow and rife with trial-and-error that masks long-term progress with short-term setbacks.

Stephen Harper put his finger on one of the vexing problems in New York last week. Violent groups often morph into political parties to use democracy as just another weapon. That's particularly true where the ballot box question is pre-determined by loyalty to clan and sect.

Surprising themselves as well as Hamas, many Palestinians crossed that divide when, much like Canadians, they used their votes not so much to elect a government as to throw one out. But instead of rewarding the process or imposing the discipline of power on the winning party, Ottawa and, much more actively, Washington made sure the government couldn't effectively exercise its mandate or even provide security. The results are now sadly self-evident.

Afghanistan is just as complex, just as riddled with pitfalls. As a combatant Canada can't be an honest broker. And today's Taliban, unlike the one forced from power, is still too fissured and amorphous to bargain with a



single, credible voice. Even so, with no military victory possible, it's as much in this country's interest to push for a political solution that includes insurgents – but not Al Qaeda – as it is for Hamid Karzai to advance negotiations while his wearying allies are still there doing the fighting and strengthening the president's hand.

In Asia as in the Middle East, Harper's manoeuvring room is now limited by Conservative foreign policy impatience, unfortunate rhetoric and hunger for home applause.

By demonizing enemies and diminishing their importance to local solutions, the Prime Minister gravitated to the wrong side of potentially positive trends.

Voters will ultimately decide if stonewalling Hamas and the Taliban is better politics than foreign policy. But talking is a prelude to peace and peace is made between enemies.

James Travers' national affairs column appears Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

# Afghanistan

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**EDITION:** Met  
**SECTION:** World And Comment  
**PAGE:** AA03  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
**WORD COUNT:** 196

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Suicide bomber kills 12 police officers on bus

A suicide bomber attacked a bus carrying police in the Afghan capital Kabul today, killing 12.

One official, who declined to be named, said the bus, full of police on their way to work, was completely destroyed.

He said there was a possibility it may have been a double suicide attack as a motorcycle next to the bus was also blown apart.

One report said there were 15 wounded.

The blast, on the western outskirts of Kabul, happened at the start of the morning rush hour.

Yesterday, Taliban fighters ambushed an Afghan police convoy in the Ajristan district and killed eight officers, the Interior Ministry said.

United States

Khadr renews effort

to halt legal proceedings

Lawyers for Canadian terror suspect Omar Khadr asked a special military appeals court yesterday to reconsider its decision to allow legal proceedings against him to resume at Guantanamo Bay.

The U.S. Court of Military Commission Review ruled last month Khadr, 21, could face murder and terrorism charges at a military tribunal at the U.S. naval base in Cuba, overruling an earlier judgment. Khadr is accused of murdering a U.S. military medic during a 2002 battle in Afghanistan. He was 15 at the time.

Indonesia

Powerful quake off coast triggers tsunami alert

A powerful earthquake hit the western coast of Indonesia's Sumatra island today, prompting authorities to issue a tsunami alert.

The quake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.2 struck nearly 160 kilometres off the coast. There were no immediate reports of deaths or injuries.

From the Star's wire services

# Bomber clad in burqa kills 16; Suicide killer was a man: police

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020041  
**PUBLICATION:** The Ottawa Citizen  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A10  
**DATELINE:** PESHAWAR, Pakistan  
**BYLINE:** Saad Khan  
**SOURCE:** Agence France–Presse; with files from Reuters  
**WORD COUNT:** 376

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PESHAWAR, Pakistan – A suicide bomber disguised in a woman's burqa blew himself up at a busy police checkpoint in northwest Pakistan yesterday, killing at least 16 people, including four police officers, officials said.

Also yesterday, former Pakistani prime minister Benazir Bhutto said she might allow a U.S. military strike inside Pakistan to eliminate al–Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden if she were the country's leader.

"I would hope that I would be able to take Osama bin Laden myself without depending on the Americans. But if I couldn't do it, of course we are fighting this war together and (I) would seek their co–operation in eliminating him," Ms. Bhutto said in an interview on BBC World News America.

Ms. Bhutto, who has vowed to return to Pakistan on Oct. 18 after eight years in exile, was speaking less than a week before an election on Saturday that President Pervez Musharraf is expected to win, despite slumping popularity.

Pakistani opposition MPs said they would stage a mass resignation today to protest Gen. Musharraf's bid to win another five–year term in power.

Gen. Musharraf, a key U.S. ally who seized control of the nuclear–armed Islamic republic in a bloodless coup in 1999, is standing for re–election while keeping his role as army chief.

Yesterday's suicide blast happened on the outskirts of Bannu, a key garrison town near Pakistan's troubled tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, where the army is battling al–Qaeda and Taliban militants.

It was the latest in a string of deadly attacks in Pakistan since government troops stormed the al–Qaeda–linked Red Mosque in Islamabad in July.

"A man disguised in a burqa got out of an autorickshaw when police stopped the vehicle for a search at a checkpoint. He then blew himself up," said police officer Asar Islam.

Examination of remains "confirmed that it was a male suicide bomber" wearing women's clothing, Bannu police Chief Ameer Hamza Mahsud said.

A doctor at the area hospital, Mohammad Usman, confirmed that the attacker was a man.

Police sources said they had earlier received intelligence that male suicide bombers dressed in all-covering burqas would soon launch attacks.

They had beefed up security at checkpoints and the vehicle carrying the bomber was intercepted as a result, but the attacker blew himself up before they could check it, one source said.

Also yesterday, in Bannu, more than 20 Pakistani troops went missing, feared kidnapped by militants after a gunfight.

Abdul Nawaz Khan, district officer of the Bannu frontier force, said more than 100 militants had surrounded a post and fired rockets and mortar shells. Communication with the troops had then been lost.

# Bomber clad in burqa kills 16; Suicide killer was a man: police

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020039  
**PUBLICATION:** The Ottawa Citizen  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Early  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A10  
**DATELINE:** PESHAWAR, Pakistan  
**BYLINE:** Saad Khan  
**SOURCE:** Agence France–Presse; with files from Reuters  
**WORD COUNT:** 375

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PESHAWAR, Pakistan – A suicide bomber disguised in a woman's burqa blew himself up at a busy police checkpoint in northwest Pakistan yesterday, killing at least 16 people, including four police officers, officials said.

Also yesterday, former Pakistani prime minister Benazir Bhutto said she might allow a U.S. military strike inside Pakistan to eliminate al–Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden if she were the country's leader.

"I would hope that I would be able to take Osama bin Laden myself without depending on the Americans. But if I couldn't do it, of course we are fighting this war together and (I) would seek their co–operation in eliminating him," Ms. Bhutto said in an interview on BBC World News America.

Ms. Bhutto, who has vowed to return to Pakistan on Oct. 18 after eight years in exile, was speaking less than a week before an Oct. 6 election that President Pervez Musharraf is expected to win despite slumping popularity.

Yesterday's suicide blast happened on the outskirts of Bannu, a key garrison town near Pakistan's troubled tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, where the army is battling al–Qaeda and Taliban militants.

It was the latest in a string of deadly attacks in Pakistan since government troops stormed the al–Qaeda–linked Red Mosque in Islamabad in July.

"A man disguised in a burqa got out of an autorickshaw when police stopped the vehicle for a search at a checkpoint. He then blew himself up," police officer Asar Islam told AFP.

Examination of remains "confirmed that it was a male suicide bomber" wearing women's clothing, Bannu police chief Ameer Hamza Mahsud said.

A doctor at the area hospital, Mohammad Usman, confirmed that the attacker was a man.

Police sources said they had earlier received intelligence that male suicide bombers dressed in all–covering burqas, a common female garment in conservative northwestern Pakistan, would soon launch attacks.

They had beefed up security at checkpoints and the vehicle carrying the bomber was intercepted as a result, but the attacker blew himself up before they could check it, one source said.

Interior ministry spokesman Brig. Javed Cheema said 29 were wounded and authorities are still investigating the blast.

Also yesterday, in Bannu, more than 20 Pakistani troops went missing, feared kidnapped by militants after a gunfight.

Abdul Nawaz Khan, district officer of the Bannu frontier force, said more than 100 militants had surrounded a post and fired rockets and mortar shells. Communication with the troops had then been lost.

In a separate incident, Islamic militants shot dead a paramilitary soldier before dawn in North Waziristan, the most conflict-hit of Pakistan's tribal zones, security officials said.

# U.S. security firm has fired 122 Iraq-based employees; Reasons involve guns, drugs, lewd conduct

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**PUBLICATION:** The Ottawa Citizen  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Early  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A10  
**DATELINE:** WASHINGTON  
**SOURCE:** Citizen News Services  
**WORD COUNT:** 277

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WASHINGTON – The controversial private security firm Blackwater USA has fired 122 of its hired guns in Iraq for a laundry list of problems over the past three years, according to a report released yesterday by the Democratic staff of the House oversight committee.

The report, which was released the day before the committee is scheduled to hear from U.S. State Department officials and Blackwater founder Erik Prince about the use of private contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan, notes that among those terminated, 28 were fired for weapons-related incidents, 25 for drug and alcohol violations and 16 for inappropriate or lewd conduct.

Blackwater has long been criticized by Iraqis and a smattering of U.S. lawmakers as a band of rogue gunmen accountable to no one. The North Carolina-based company has faced closer scrutiny since a Sept. 16 incident in Baghdad in which Blackwater personnel are accused of killing 11 Iraqi civilians.

The 15-page report offered new information about fatal Blackwater shootings and portrayed the employees as frequently resorting to violence. Blackwater didn't respond to requests for comment.

Blackwater employees have been involved in at least 195 shooting incidents since 2005, firing the first shot more than 80 per cent of the time, according to the report, which was compiled by the committee's Democratic staff.

The company's contract with the State Department permits Blackwater personnel to use force only when in "imminent and grave danger."

Representative Thomas Davis, the top Republican member of the House oversight committee, defended the company, saying Blackwater's contract requires rigorous training and security clearances for all personnel.

"The Blackwater contract is hardly an open-ended licence for out-of-control 'cowboys' to shoot up Baghdad," Mr. Davis said in a statement.



# Suicide bomb attack destroys police bus in Afghan capital

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**PUBLICATION:** The Ottawa Citizen  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A7  
**DATELINE:** KABUL  
**SOURCE:** Agence France–Presse; with files from McClatchy Newspapers  
**WORD COUNT:** 281

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KABUL – A suicide attack destroyed a police bus in the Afghan capital Kabul early today, with first reports saying there were heavy casualties, government officials said.

"There has been a suicide attack involving a police bus. There is no exact details of the casualties at this stage," city police chief Gen. Alishah Paktiawal said.

"There are casualties, we don't know how many," interior ministry spokesman Zemarai Bashary said, adding most of them appeared to be police.

An intelligence official said initial unconfirmed reports indicated the bus was destroyed and there were heavy casualties.

"It seems to be a copy of the attack on the army," he said on condition of anonymity, referring to a blast four days ago that destroyed a military bus, killing 30 people and wounding 30 more.

In Friday's attack, the assailant — wearing a military uniform — blew himself up at the door to the military bus, which was taking staff to work in the morning rush hour.

Meanwhile, the U.S. military is planning a "wanted" poster campaign in the hope of reeling in key figures behind deteriorating security in Afghanistan which has claimed dozens more lives in recent days, officials said yesterday.

Three of the dead were children, one a 15-year-old that an Afghan official said was hanged by Taliban after a \$5 bill was found on him. "Taliban simply hanged him because they found a \$5 note in his pocket," district governor Mohammad Wali said.

Afghanistan is suffering its most violent year since the 2001 U.S.-led intervention, according to an internal UN report that sharply contrasts with upbeat appraisals by U.S. President George W. Bush and his Afghan counterpart, Hamid Karzai.

"The security situation in Afghanistan is assessed by most analysts as having deteriorated at a constant rate through 2007," said the report compiled by the Kabul office of the UN Department of Safety and Security.

# U.S. to publish 'wanted' posters as insurgency grows more deadly

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**PUBLICATION:** The Ottawa Citizen  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Early  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A7  
**DATELINE:** KABUL  
**SOURCE:** Agence France–Presse; with files from McClatchy Newspapers  
**WORD COUNT:** 305

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KABUL – The U.S. military is planning a "wanted" poster campaign in the hope of reeling in key figures behind deteriorating security in Afghanistan which has claimed dozens more lives in recent days, officials said yesterday.

Three of the dead were children, one a 15-year-old that an Afghan official said was hanged by Taliban after a \$5 bill was found on him. "Taliban simply hanged him because they found a \$5 note in his pocket," district governor Mohammad Wali said.

Meanwhile, five Afghans working with the international community were kidnapped.

The posters and billboards, offering between \$20,000 and \$200,000 for the capture of a dozen "wanted" Taliban and al-Qaeda fighters, will be put up in eastern Afghanistan, U.S. Sgt. Dean Welch said. "It is a campaign to put some people in the public view in the hope that maybe we can break up some mid-level Taliban cells," he said.

The east, along with the south, sees the worst of an insurgency led by the extremist Taliban movement that was in government between 1996 and 2001.

With insurgency violence at its highest, Afghanistan and its international allies are debating talks with the rebels to end the killing, which has already left 5,000 people dead this year, most of them rebels.

The United Nations in Kabul said yesterday it would support peace talks with insurgent leaders — some of whom the United States has labelled terrorists — but this did not mean they would be removed from a UN "blacklist."

Afghanistan is suffering its most violent year since the 2001 U.S.-led intervention, according to an internal UN report that sharply contrasts with upbeat appraisals by U.S. President George W. Bush and his Afghan counterpart, Hamid Karzai.

"The security situation in Afghanistan is assessed by most analysts as having deteriorated at a constant rate through 2007," said the report compiled by the Kabul office of the UN Department of Safety and Security.

# Canadian air drops save lives by replacing perilous land convoys; Cargo drops are risky, but not as risky as trucking supplies in Afghanistan, writes Matthew Fisher above Ghorak, Afghanistan.

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**PUBLICATION:** The Ottawa Citizen

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**EDITION:** Early

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** A7

**ILLUSTRATION:** Colour Photo: Sgt Roxanne Clowe, Canadian Forces / Supplies are dropped from a Canadian Forces CC-130 Hercules aircraft to resupply coalition forces taking part in combat operations in Afghanistan. Now based in Kandahar, the big Canadian planes have been able to play a growing role in resupplying troops in the field. ; Colour Photo: Cpl Lou Penney, Canadian Forces / The Hercules is a large, slow-moving target, so pilots concentrate on getting in and out of the drop zone as fast as they can. ;

**BYLINE:** Matthew Fisher

**SOURCE:** The Ottawa Citizen

**WORD COUNT:** 653

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Canada has begun making dramatic air drops from CC-130 Hercules aircraft to troops in hostile territory to spare the lives of convoy crews that would otherwise face a long and perilous land journey to carry out the same mission.

During one such flight last week, a four-engine Hercules turboprop popped over the crest of a spectacularly beautiful mountain range before making a dramatic rock-and-roll lunge down toward a purple smoke marker on the desert floor below. Seemingly defying gravity, the 33-year-old pilot, Capt. Aidan Costelloe, forced the nose of his aircraft up at the last possible moment and seven tonnes of urgently needed food, water, fuel and ammunition rolled out the back door. Several parachutes quickly opened and the load floated to the ground.

Not long after getting back to the home airfield at Kandahar, the air crew received word from those on the ground at Ghorak — a small group of Canadian troops mentoring Afghan security forces — that the drop had been a success.

Except for a few cases of water, which had ruptured, the cargo had landed on target, in good condition and, quite literally, at the exact second it was supposed to.

The rationale for sometimes using air drops to supply troops in remote locations is clear. More than half of the 71 Canadian deaths in Afghanistan have been caused by suicide bombers or improvised explosive devices that have struck Canadian vehicles. Many of those deaths have occurred on resupply convoys.

"This saves lives, big time. To not use this resource if it is available would be a crime," said Lt.-Col. Nicolas Eldaoud, who oversees the Canadian Forces' immensely complicated logistics chain in Central Asia from the main base at Kandahar. "Every time we have an air drop, it means we don't need to send out a combat logistics patrol that puts my soldiers in harm's way."

Canadian air drops save lives by replacing perilous land convoys; Cargo drops are risky, but not as risky as

Sgt. Rob Gearn, who as loadmaster ran the air drop at the back of the Hercules, agreed.

"What the convoys do is very dangerous and we can eliminate that by delivering cargo right to their doorstep," the 43-year-old Hamilton man said. "We will do this for any NATO nation that asks, but there is extra meaning when we do it for the Canadians because they can see the Maple Leaf on our tail when we fly past."

The air drops are not, however, without risks. The relatively slow and awkward Hercules are purpose-built for such tactical missions but they present quite a big target, no matter how well they are flown.

"Essentially, we establish a run-in track, come in as quick as we can, slow down suddenly to drop the cargo and then get out fast," Capt. Costelloe, who is also from Hamilton, said after the flight. "Everything is about limiting our exposure to ground fire as much as we can."

Surprisingly, the air crew and those waiting on the ground seldom speak with each other.

"They know the game plan. We know the game plan. So there is no need for us to talk with each other," Sgt. Gearn said. "We saw the smoke they threw and that was enough. We try to keep everything as simple as we can."

In order to keep the enemy guessing, the flight profiles and drop points always vary, as do the timing for such runs, which can also be conducted at night. Although Canada made a few such air drops to troops here last year, doing so regularly only became possible last month when several Canadian Hercules were based at Kandahar for the first time. Before that, they were located at an airfield several hours away in the Middle East.

The Kandahar air detachment's boss, Capt. Stephen McLean, 38, of Ottawa, who is also a Hercules pilot, said basing Canadian aircraft in Afghanistan had already produced many benefits, for the Canadians and others in the International Security Assistance Force.

"We are now much more involved in ISAF operations," Capt. McLean said. "Whenever we do anything it means they can free up a helicopter to do something else."

I have the feeling we will be getting a lot more calls, not just from the Canadians, but from ISAF."

# U.S. bills cost teen his life

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020498  
**PUBLICATION:** The Winnipeg Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 10  
**BYLINE:** AP  
**DATELINE:** KANDAHAR  
**WORD COUNT:** 178

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Posters are going up around eastern Afghanistan with the names and pictures of the 12, with rewards ranging from \$20,000 to \$200,000. KEYWORDS=WORLD

# Trained MDs foolishly ignored

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020494  
**PUBLICATION:** The Winnipeg Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Editorial/Opinion  
**PAGE:** 9  
**BYLINE:** LYN COCKBURN  
**WORD COUNT:** 433

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Well Doc, you're half right. It is a huge issue, but increasing enrolment in med school isn't the only answer.

The other half of the equation is an efficient, thorough yet speedy vetting of the thousands of foreign-trained doctors currently residing in Canada. Seven thousand of them at a conservative estimate. Many of these international medical graduates or IMGs are waiting in vain for an opening in residency, a requirement for licensing.

So where are they and what are we doing about them?

The answers are: driving cab and not nearly enough.

The more fortunate ones are doing medical research at universities or working for pharmaceutical companies. Some of the unlucky ones, particularly from war-torn countries such as Afghanistan, are on welfare.

What an unconscionable waste. What a tragedy for these doctors, and for the thousands of Canadians who can't find a family physician.

## BABY STEPS

Sure we've taken baby steps and some of these new Canadians have managed to jump through the bureaucratic hoops. They're now fluent in English and they've passed the medical exams. It's that last hoop that stops them. Residency. There are few vacancies available to IMGs.

To be fair, some provinces have loosened the bureaucratic noose. For example, Ontario licensed 2,961 doctors in 2006 and 42% were foreign trained. That's about 1,243 doctors. Better, but not good enough since there are reportedly some 4,000 foreign-trained doctors in that province.

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Great. But it's a drop in the medical bucket. And none of these piecemeal measures has helped my Chinese friend.

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# Letters to the Editor Column

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020489  
**PUBLICATION:** The Winnipeg Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Editorial/Opinion  
**PAGE:** 8  
**COLUMN:** Letters to the Editor  
**WORD COUNT:** 413

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## UNSAFE DRIVERS A PROBLEM

Re: Crash kills tow driver, Oct. 1.

What an absolutely unnecessary tragic loss of an abundantly beautiful and a dynamic young person in yet another traffic accident.

I say there is an urgent call to address the perennial problem of unsafe drivers on Winnipeg streets, specifically during early morning and late-night hours. This particular crash brutally ended the vibrant life of Amanda Frizzley way too prematurely.

The face glaring out of the newspapers and the television screens is not just a pretty face, it is the face of an extraordinarily lovely woman pleading the community to address the traffic and driving catastrophes of monumental proportions.

Do something to eradicate this plague from our city streets with top most priority. Let us look at this chronic traffic fatalities problem collectively as a responsible community.

Make use of the signals sent to us by this exceedingly charming woman in the persona of Amanda Frizzley. She is pleading to the rest of us to take positive and constructive measures to save lives on the streets of Winnipeg and elsewhere.

Bob Clinton Silver

Winnipeg

Her death is a tragedy.

## LEAVE NATIVES ALONE

Over the past weeks, letters of ignorance have plagued the Winnipeg Sun. First about Rosser, now about Hollow Water, soon Ontario.

Letter writer Al Yakimchuk is totally right: this is about money and lots of it, just like Oka and Caledonia. The only thing is I think it is the greed of the government using First Nation land for cottage development.

Why is the government always right when they act, where is their proof of right to that land? Just because they say they are right doesn't make it right.



Using the armed forces of Canada against the First Nation people again would prove to be a disastrous scenario for Canada, especially if they pursue on First Nation land. The use of words may be a better and more intelligent solution here.

Ian Bushie is standing up for his people and their rights, reinforcing the role of being a leader and chief.

Kris Stevenson

Winnipeg North

Many so-called "ignorant" readers disagree, Kris.

WHO NEEDS HOCKEY?

My two boys quit hockey a year ago on their own. They felt they had no life for other activities with two practices a week and games/tournaments every weekend.

We took up skiing and snowboarding. My season pass costs for the two boys and my daughter and myself are about \$700. No more driving around the province for tournaments, hotels, equipment, fundraising, etc.

Why aren't more people doing it?

Brent MENZIES

Morden

Some kids can't get enough shinny.

LET STUDENTS DECIDE

It's a shame some people don't full understand what the military does such is the case of letter writer J. Kirby. He writes that we were peacekeepers and now we're warriors.

The simple fact is the military is and has always been trained to answer to a number of callings, whether it be search and rescue to peacekeeping or being warriors as he puts it.

I hope for his sake he never has to endure what many in Afghanistan are. It is Canadian soldiers and many other like them that allow him to sleep soundly at night.

I say let the students decide what career path they will choose and not the institutions.

R. McKie

435 Sqn Winnipeg

Freedom of choice is worth defending.

# Trained MDs foolishly ignored

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020413  
**PUBLICATION:** The Toronto Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Editorial/Opinion  
**PAGE:** 18  
**BYLINE:** LYN COCKBURN  
**WORD COUNT:** 433

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020400  
**PUBLICATION:** The Toronto Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 10  
**BYLINE:** AP  
**DATELINE:** KANDAHAR  
**WORD COUNT:** 178

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020102  
**PUBLICATION:** The Ottawa Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Editorial/Opinion  
**PAGE:** 15  
**BYLINE:** LYN COCKBURN  
**WORD COUNT:** 433

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# Khadr lawyers make appeal

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020678  
**PUBLICATION:** The London Free Press  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A8  
**BYLINE:** SUN MEDIA NEWS SERVICES  
**DATELINE:** WASHINGTON  
**COLUMN:** News Digest  
**WORD COUNT:** 151

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Lawyers for Canadian terror suspect Omar Khadr asked a special military appeals court yesterday to reconsider its decision to allow legal proceedings against him to resume at Guantanamo Bay. The U.S. Court of Military Commission Review ruled last month that Khadr could face murder and terrorism charges at a military tribunal at the U.S. naval base in Cuba, overruling an earlier dismissal of the charges. The trial judge, Col. Peter Brownback, had thrown the case out in June, saying he lacked jurisdiction to try Khadr because the 21-year-old hadn't been declared an "unlawful" enemy combatant as required by Congress. But the military review panel decided Brownback has the authority to determine whether or not Khadr was legally fighting U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan. KEYWORDS=WORLD

# Bernier seeks Afghan envoy

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020666  
**PUBLICATION:** The London Free Press  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Editorial/Opinion  
**PAGE:** A6  
**BYLINE:** CP  
**DATELINE:** WASHINGTON  
**WORD COUNT:** 101

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Canada will highlight successes in Afghanistan in a United Nations speech today while pushing the world body to appoint a high-level envoy to raise awareness of NATO's operation.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch in his first speech to the UN General Assembly, arguing the position should be modelled on Tony Blair's work on the Middle East peace process.

Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries, as well as Afghan President Hamid Karzai and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

There is already support for the initiative from the United States and countries like Norway, France and Spain.

Blair, designated a special envoy, has been working on the Middle East issue since stepping down as Britain's prime minister.



# 'Very violent tour' earns medals

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020647

**PUBLICATION:** The London Free Press

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**EDITION:** Final

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** A1

**ILLUSTRATION:** 2 photos 1. photo of JOHN CONRAD 2. BREAK TIME: Master Warrant Officer Bradley Montgomery of Chatham and London native Maj. Mark Gasparotto take a break atop Masum Gar, Canadian operating base, in Afghanistan in the summer of 2006.

**BYLINE:** RANDY RICHMOND, SUN MEDIA

**WORD COUNT:** 369

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A London military commander, his right-hand man from Chatham and a third soldier from Listowel will receive medals this week for their efforts during a harrowing tour in Afghanistan.

"We saw quite a bit of combat. My true gratitude is to my guys," Major Mark Gasparotto of London said.

Gasparotto commanded the 23 Field Squadron Combat Engineers from August 2006 to February 2007, one of the bloodiest tours of duty Canadian soldiers have seen in Afghanistan.

"It was a very violent tour," Gasparotto said from CFB Gagetown, N.B.

Riding in the back of Gasparotto's light-armoured vehicle during most of his trips "outside the wire" of headquarters was Master Warrant Officer Bradley Montgomery, originally from Chatham.

The two men, as well as Lt.-Col John Conrad of Listowel, who served with a different unit, are to receive Meritorious Service Medals from the Governor General.

The awards are given for a deed or activity of "a very high standard that brings . . . honour to the Canadian Forces," says the Department of National Defence.

Gasparotto, a combat engineer, was credited with "exceptional leadership under enemy fire" that "saved the lives of Canadian soldiers," the department says.

The Catholic Central grad commanded what he called an "eclectic group" of 135 combat engineers.

They fought as infantry during battle, blew holes through enemy defences, built bunkers for their own defence, sniffed out and dismantled explosives, and built a key road through the heart of insurgents' territory.

"We were attacked almost every day by the Taliban, who did not want the road to go through," Gasparotto said.

They were also under attack by drug lords, rival tribes and armed men engaged in centuries-old blood feuds.

"It is very complex place," Gasparotto noted.

The squadron suffered many injuries and lost one soldier, Sgt. Shane Stachnik, a 30-year-old Alberta native

killed in battle Sept. 3.

His men relied on their faiths, their trust in each other and their professionalism to overcome the injuries and deaths, Gasparotto said.

"Being a member of the military is no employment. It is a lifestyle and we are professionals."

Gasparotto signed up 10 years ago, after getting a civil engineering degree from the University of Waterloo.

"He has always had a passion for the military and exhibited the same qualities of leadership, bravery and calculated risk-taking growing up for which he is now being honoured," said his father, Renato Gasparotto, a London lawyer.

His son has served in Bosnia and earlier in Kabul. For the next two years, Gasparotto will teach tactics to young officers at Gagetown.

Six soldiers from his squadron will get medals this week.

Montgomery was cited for his loyalty and selflessness.

"During four separate incidents, he readily placed himself in harm's way to aid soldiers who had been targeted by enemy attacks," the Defence Department said.

Conrad served as commanding officer of the National Support Element, which supplies combat service to other troops, in Kandahar from February to August 2006.

"Leading by example and sharing the risks of ambushes and improvised explosive devices, Lt.-Col Conrad frequently accompanied soldiers on combat logistic patrols and missions to evacuate the wounded," said the defence department's news release. KEYWORDS=LOCAL

# Khadr lawyer appeals

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020902  
**PUBLICATION:** The Edmonton Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 29  
**BYLINE:** CP  
**DATELINE:** WASHINGTON  
**WORD COUNT:** 255

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But the military review panel decided Brownback has the authority to determine whether or not Khadr was legally fighting U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan.

Khadr's lawyers say two e-mails from Brownback to lawyers involved in the case show the determination will be a hasty, sketchy process that's "fundamentally unfair." That process would bar an appeal about Khadr's status to a regular U.S. court, said Lt.-Cmdr. William Kuebler, and there would be no chance to contest his status until after the military tries him and imposes a sentence.

The defence isn't entitled to all the evidence against Khadr, said Kuebler, and the judge has already said he won't accept arguments that Khadr was an alleged child soldier deserving of international legal protections.

He was 15 years old when he allegedly threw a grenade that killed a U.S. medic in an Afghanistan firefight in 2002.

"The courts in this process seem determined to avoid the most controversial aspect of Omar's prosecution -- whether imposing a life sentence on a child for so-called war crimes is legal," said Kuebler.

The case, which has faced one legal twist after another, is scheduled to resume Nov. 8 in Guantanamo.

The U.S. military is seeking a life sentence. KEYWORDS=WORLD

# U.S. bills cost teen his life

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020895  
**PUBLICATION:** The Edmonton Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 20  
**BYLINE:** AP  
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**SOURCETAG** 0710020888  
**PUBLICATION:** The Edmonton Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Editorial/Opinion  
**PAGE:** 11  
**BYLINE:** LYN COCKBURN  
**WORD COUNT:** 433

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# Death Notices

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020835  
**PUBLICATION:** The Calgary Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 60  
**WORD COUNT:** 1831

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## ROPERTZ – WILHELM

October 5 1930 – September 29, 2007

Wilhelm Ropertz beloved husband of Mavis Reid of Calgary passed away peacefully at the Agape Manor Hospice on September 29, 2007 at the age of 76 years. He was born in Claybank, Saskatchewan. Besides his loving wife of forty five years, Wilhelm is survived by fifteen children; Bonnie (John) Cooke, Barbara Reid, Diane (Charlie) Fagan, Donny (Sharlyne) Reid, Sharon (Brian) Kruse, Larry Reid, Sue (Kelly) Wipf, Shelley (Brian) Hoffer, Tami (Sid) Smid, Debbie (Dave) Watts, Kevin (Shauna) Cossette, Rhonda (Steve) Thrun, Tracy Fagan and Arlene (Gord) Hillier. He is also survived by thirty six grandchildren; thirty one great-grandchildren and two brothers. Wilhelm is also survived by his new special friend, Justin Walters and pet companion "Scotty". He was predeceased by his parents Edward and Adelle; sister Adelle; two brothers Ricky and Adolph; son Randy; twin granddaughters Debbie and Donna and two grandsons; Scotty and Brian Corey. A special thanks to the nurses and staff at the Agape Hospice. Those wishing to pay their respects, may do so at First Memorial Funeral Services, 240 – 17 Avenue S.W., Calgary, AB on Tuesday, October 2, 2007 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Funeral Services will be held at First Memorial Funeral Services, 240 – 17 Avenue S.W., Calgary, AB, on Wednesday, October 3, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. with Pastor Pat Dennis, officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Agape Manor Hospice. Arrangements & Cremation in care of FIRST MEMORIAL FUNERAL SERVICES Directors, Phone (403) 216-2222  
[www.firstmemorialfuneral.com](http://www.firstmemorialfuneral.com)

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## SHIELDS – JOHN PATRICK

1954 – 2007

John Patrick Shields, beloved husband of Alice, of Calgary Alberta passed away peacefully on September 26, 2007. He is survived by his four children Beth of London England, David (Erin), Dawn and Jennifer of Calgary Alberta; his brothers Paul (Winnipeg) and Brian; two sisters, Patsy (Bill) (San Diego) and Susan (Mountain View County); as well as his many nephews and nieces. He was predeceased by his parents Peter and Iris. John was born in Calgary Alberta on January 30, 1954. As a native Calgarian, he grew up along the Bow River in the Parkdale Community where he and Alice married in 1972 and then started a family. John was a strong leader in the community as a chairman of the parent teacher association, a scout leader for St. Barnabas Church, an active Legion member, a coach for the youth baseball team and leader of community events. He completed his post secondary education at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology becoming an accomplished photo journalist and published author. In the years that followed, John successfully built several of his own businesses. John spent the last 17 years working as a highly respected realtor who handled all matters with professional integrity; often going above and beyond the call of duty. As an outstanding sportsman, John won a variety of tournaments and trophies. However, most notably he was a passionate

outdoorsman and felt most at home when out in the mountains camping, fishing, hiking and hunting alongside his family, friends and two dogs. Over the duration of John's life he continued to initiate and lead many exciting endeavors for others; including fishing derbies and building a river raft for the Calgary River Raft Race. John was a selfless man who in any given situation would help those in need and had the ability to make things happen for others in the most difficult of circumstances. John will be remembered, loved, appreciated and missed by his family and friends, for all his amazing qualities and for everything that he brought to the lives of those around him. A celebration of John's life will be held outdoors at St. Barnabas Scout Camp, on the Nordegg trunk road 15km North West of the Wildcat Hills Gas Plant, at 1pm on Saturday, October 6, 2007. In lieu of flowers please email the family with your best memory of John to shieldsbeth@hotmail.com. For further information, directions and the meeting point, please contact the family directly through email or by telephone.

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#### MCFARLANE – GORDON

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of one of our Brothers, Gordon A. McFarlane on September 30, 2007. The Executive Board and Members of the Operating Engineers, Local 955 extend our deepest sympathies

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#### CHAPMAN – STANLEY WILLIAM

1929 – 2007

Mr. Stanley (Stan) Chapman of Calgary, Alberta passed away at the Rockyview General Hospital on September 29, 2007 at the age of 78 years, following a difficult battle with prostate cancer. He is survived by one son Brent (Nicole) of Calgary. He was the very proud grandpa of Nigel, Makayla and McKenzie. He will be forever remembered as Uncle Stan to numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents Richard and Sara, three brothers Reg, Derek and Hank, sister Marjorie and twin sister, Shirley. He spent several years with the Royal Canadian Navy, and was a member of the King George Lodge. Stan was employed by Canadian Western Natural Gas for 33 years. In recent years Stan enjoyed riding his horse Turner in the Al Azhar Shriners Mounted Patrol. The family would like to express their sincere appreciation to the nurses of Unit 59 and 71 at the Rockyview General Hospital. A celebration of Stan's life will be held at Leyden's Chapel of Remembrance (2nd Street and 17th Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta) on Thursday, October 4, 2007 at 1:30 p.m. A private family interment will take place prior to the service. If friends so desire, memorial donations may be made to Al Azhar Shriners, Patient Transportation Fund (5225 – 101 Street NW, Calgary, Alberta T3L 1S4). Arrangements entrusted to LEYDEN'S FUNERAL HOME, RECEPTION AND CREMATION CENTRE, 17th Avenue and 2nd Street SW (304 – 18th Avenue SW) Telephone 228-4422. [www.leydens.com](http://www.leydens.com).

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#### WATMOUGH – RUPERT L.

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of one of our Brothers, Rupert Watmough on September 27, 2007. The Executive Board and Members of the Operating Engineers, Local 955 extend our deepest sympathies.

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## HORNBURG – NATHAN

June 19, 1983 – September 24, 2007

With sadness we announce the death in Afghanistan of our cherished son, brother, and friend Nathan. His dreams for a sane and free world live on in his father Michael Hornburg of Calgary, mother Linda Loree and sister Rachel Herbert (Tyler) of Nanton, and his large extended Loree and Hornburg families: uncles Dave (Cindi) and Lance (Toby), aunt Mavis Moon (Gord) and cousins Cobi, Steven, Katie, Brady, Jesse, and Tessa in Canada, and uncles Jim, David (Dona), Joseph and aunts Jane Rund and Rose Bingham (Andy) of Missouri and cousins Nicole, Katie, Charla, Matthew, Adam, Alex, Ava and Luke. He will be missed by Grandpa Murchel Hornburg of St. Louis and Granny Con Loree of Nanton. We trust he is greeted by Pop (William Loree) and Grandma (Margaret Hornburg). He will live on in the hearts of the many friends he inspired wherever he went. His creativity and spirit were nourished by the Calgary Waldorf School, his independence by self-directed studies at Bishop Carroll High School, his expansive grasp of the world through a broad range of courses at Mount Royal College, and his endurance and toughness by seasons of hard work with Saunders Landscaping. At eighteen, Nathan's desire for action and meaningful contribution led him to join the King's Own Calgary Regiment. His rich range of experiences with the military reserves took him to bases in Canada, the US and Germany. He answered the call to join Operation Peregrine to fight the 2004 forest fires in Kelowna, B.C. Nathan was a leader who never shrank from responsibility. It was with careful deliberation and a lifelong concern for fairness and equality that he volunteered to train with the Lord Strathcona Horse Regiment in Edmonton to learn to operate a Leopard 2 armoured recovery vehicle in Kandahar province in Afghanistan. Only 27 days into his deployment, after a long day of battle he was killed by a mortar shell in a daring attempt to rescue a disabled tank. To honor Nathan's memory donations may be made to the Calgary Waldorf School Nathan Hornburg Memorial Fund to enhance sports programs there as well for children in need in the community, or to the Town of Nanton Nathan Hornburg Memorial Fund for development of sports facilities.

"All it takes for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." –

Edmund Burke

Funeral Services will be held at The Roundup Centre, Exhibition Hall B, 20 Roundup Way SE, Calgary on Thursday, October 4, 2007 at 1:00pm. Interment to take place on Saturday, October 6, 2007 in Nanton, Alberta. Messages of condolence may be forwarded to the family at [www.piersons.ca](http://www.piersons.ca). Arrangements in care of PIERSON'S FUNERAL SERVICE LTD. Telephone 235-3602.

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## JENSEN – ERIC (EJ) K.

1954 – 2007

Eric (EJ) K. Jensen of Calgary, passed away from liver cancer on Wednesday, September 26, 2007 at the age of 53 years. Eric will be remembered by his family and many close friends as a devoted father and a dedicated musician. He provided great fun, laughter, and entertainment as he performed on stage, singing and skilfully playing guitar with his band "EJ and the Rockets." He shared his talent with the music community for most of his life and he will be deeply missed. Eric is survived by two daughters, Christine and Kathleen and their mother, Michelle; two brothers, Sven and Paul (Verna); and two sisters, Osa (Bud) and Alice (John). He is also survived by five nieces and nephews, Shawn (Marilyn), Pamela, Aaron, Sheena and Kelsey. Eric was predeceased by his parents, Jens Carl and Anna Marie. A Celebration of Eric's life will be held at Centre Street Church Main Campus (3900 – 2nd Street N.E.) on Thursday, October 4, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. To email expressions of sympathy: [ccl@hffs.com](mailto:ccl@hffs.com), subject heading: Eric Jensen. In lieu of flowers, if desired, memorial

donations may be made at any ATB Financial location to the account of Michelle Jensen (In Trust) for their children's education. For further information contact Mary Brieger at (403) 974-5187. HERITAGE FUNERAL SERVICES "Calgary Crematorium Chapel" Telephone: 299-0111 KEYWORDS=OBITUARY

# World Sunflashes Column

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020799  
**PUBLICATION:** The Calgary Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 16  
**BYLINE:** REUTERS AND CP  
**COLUMN:** World Sunflashes  
**WORD COUNT:** 173

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## COURT WANTS KHADR CASE RECONSIDERED

WASHINGTON—Lawyers for Canadian terror suspect Omar Khadr asked a special military appeals court yesterday to reconsider its decision to allow legal proceedings against him to resume at Guantanamo Bay.

The U.S. Court of Military Commission Review ruled last month Khadr could face murder and terrorism charges at a military tribunal at the U.S. naval base in Cuba, over-ruling an earlier dismissal of the charges.

## MORE WAR AWARENESS SOUGHT

WASHINGTON — Canada wants the UN to appoint a high-level envoy to Afghanistan to raise awareness of the war and better co-ordinate efforts there.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch today in his first speech to the UN General Assembly.

Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries and UN secretary general Ban Ki-moon.

## PUTIN HINTS AT LEADING AGAIN

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin said yesterday he could be a future prime minister, giving a clear sign he plans to keep power after his second term ends next year.

Putin's second term as president ends next year and he is barred from running for a third consecutive term by the constitution, something he has repeatedly ruled out changing.

"As far as heading the government is concerned, this is a quite realistic suggestion, but it is still too early to think about it," Putin said. KEYWORDS=WORLD

# Trained MDs foolishly ignored

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020797  
**PUBLICATION:** The Calgary Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Editorial/Opinion  
**PAGE:** 15  
**BYLINE:** LYN COCKBURN  
**WORD COUNT:** 433

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Five thousand eight hundred for sure. Ten thousand four hundred probably. That's how many doctors Dr. Andrew Padmos, CEO of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, says we'll be short by 2010.

Padmos told a national conference on Friday that this shortage is the biggest issue affecting Canadian health care today. He added that nothing will change unless governments expand medical school enrolment.

Well Doc, you're half right. It is a huge issue, but increasing enrolment in med school isn't the only answer.

The other half of the equation is an efficient, thorough yet speedy vetting of the thousands of foreign-trained doctors currently residing in Canada. Seven thousand of them at a conservative estimate. Many of these international medical graduates or IMGs are waiting in vain for an opening in residency, a requirement for licensing.

So where are they and what are we doing about them?

The answers are: driving cab and not nearly enough.

The more fortunate ones are doing medical research at universities or working for pharmaceutical companies. Some of the unlucky ones, particularly from war-torn countries such as Afghanistan, are on welfare.

What an unconscionable waste. What a tragedy for these doctors, and for the thousands of Canadians who can't find a family physician.

## BABY STEPS

Sure we've taken baby steps and some of these new Canadians have managed to jump through the bureaucratic hoops. They're now fluent in English and they've passed the medical exams. It's that last hoop that stops them. Residency. There are few vacancies available to IMGs.

To be fair, some provinces have loosened the bureaucratic noose. For example, Ontario licensed 2,961 doctors in 2006 and 42% were foreign trained. That's about 1,243 doctors. Better, but not good enough since there are reportedly some 4,000 foreign-trained doctors in that province.

And Alberta now offers clinical assistant positions in which IMGs work under the supervision of Canadian doctors.

Great. But it's a drop in the medical bucket. And none of these piecemeal measures has helped my Chinese friend.

He, his wife and daughter came here eight years ago and are now Canadian citizens.

He graduated in medicine from Beijing University and all his documents are translated. He's passed the medical exams and he's applied for residencies all over Canada. To no avail.

He's got a good job as a medical researcher at a university where he now expects to stay for the rest of his working life. He likes his job, but he is just a little bored. And there are innumerable Canadians out there who wish he'd move to their little town which has no doctor. He would if he could.

"I'll go anywhere," he once said to me. "I'll go north, I'll go to a small town. I just need that residency."

#### HOPE FADES

But now, he has given up all hope of becoming a licensed physician in Canada.

I got an e-mail from him the other day in which he wrote about this and that. His English is very good (and so it should be, since I was one of his teachers!), but when he referred to his five-year quest for a residency, his language skills momentarily deserted him.

Referring to the innumerable bureaucrats he has dealt with over the years, he wrote: "They foolishled me."

There are some 7,000 foreign-trained doctors in Canada who may well believe government bureaucracy has made fools of them. And they're right.

# U.S. bills cost teen his life

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020788  
**PUBLICATION:** The Calgary Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 10  
**BYLINE:** AP  
**DATELINE:** KANDAHAR  
**WORD COUNT:** 178

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Taliban militants hanged a teenager in southern Afghanistan because he had U.S. money in his pocket, and they stuffed five \$1 bills in his mouth as a warning to others not to use dollars, police said yesterday.

The 15-year-old boy was hanged from a tree on Sunday in Helmand, the most violent province in the country.

"The Taliban warned villagers that they would face the same punishment if they were caught with dollars," said Wali Mohammad, the district police chief in Sangin.

Dollars are commonly used in Afghanistan alongside the afghani, the local currency, although the U.S. currency is more commonly seen in larger cities where international organizations are found.

Militants often justify their attacks and executions as a response to U.S. meddling.

Violence has surged in Afghanistan in recent months. Last week alone violence killed more than 270, including 165 militants killed in two large battles in the south and 30 people killed in a suicide bombing on an army bus in Kabul.

The U.S. military launched a new "Most Wanted" campaign offering rewards of up to \$200,000 for information leading to the capture of 12 Taliban and al-Qaida leaders.

Posters are going up around eastern Afghanistan with the names and pictures of the 12, with rewards ranging from \$20,000 to \$200,000. KEYWORDS=WORLD

# Calgary soldier to be honoured with military funeral

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**SOURCETAG** 0710020781  
**PUBLICATION:** The Calgary Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 7  
**ILLUSTRATION:** photo of NATHAN HORNBURG Killed in battle  
**BYLINE:** PABLO FERNANDEZ  
**WORD COUNT:** 114

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Calgary soldier Cpl. Nathan Hornburg will be laid to rest with full military honours, the army announced yesterday.

A military funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday for the 24-year-old reservist, killed Sept. 24 while serving in Afghanistan.

The non-denominational service will take place at the Roundup Centre and will be open to the public, said military spokesman Capt. Malcolm Day. Hornburg, a member of the King's Own Calgary Regiment serving near Kandahar as the driver of a Leopard 2 armoured recovery vehicle, was killed by mortar fire as he rushed forward under fire to help a tank that had become disabled in heavy fighting.

He is the first member of the King's Own to be killed in combat since the Second World War.  
KEYWORDS=ALBERTA

# UNITED NATIONS: FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER ADDRESSES GENERAL ASSEMBLY Bernier wants UN to create envoy who will rally support for Afghan struggle

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**PUBLICATION:** GLOBE AND MAIL

**IDN:** 072750201

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**PAGE:** A4

**BYLINE:** BETH GORHAM

**SECTION:** National News

**SOURCE:** CP

**EDITION:** Metro

**DATELINE:** Washington DC

**WORDS:** 564

**WORD COUNT:** 482

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BETH GORHAM The Canadian Press WASHINGTON Canada will highlight successes in Afghanistan in a United Nations speech today while pushing the world body to appoint a high-level envoy to raise awareness of NATO's operation.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch in his first speech to the UN General Assembly, arguing the position should be modelled on former British prime minister Tony Blair's work on the Middle East peace process.

Mr. Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries, as well as Afghan President Hamid Karzai and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. There is already support for the initiative from the United States and countries like Norway, France and Spain.

Mr. Blair, as a special envoy for the quartet group comprising the United Nations, United States, European Union and Russia, has been working on the Middle East issue since stepping down as prime minister.

Canada believes a similar high-profile effort regarding Afghanistan will provide more support for Mr. Karzai and serve to better co-ordinate development and security efforts.

In his speech, Mr. Bernier will concentrate on progress in rebuilding efforts and governance while applauding countries that have contributed soldiers and aid.

A UN-commissioned report last week said there's been progress in some areas but the country has a long way to go.

The Afghanistan National Human Development Report said the justice system needs to be completely rebuilt. It notes that one-third of Afghans don't have enough food to eat and fewer than one in three households have access to safe drinking water. The mortality rate for children under five is among the highest in the world.

Mr. Bernier, who was appointed to the foreign affairs post in a cabinet shuffle in August, is expected to raise several other issues, including Haiti, which is still struggling to recover from a 2004 revolt that toppled former



president Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

He'll also talk about Canada's support for a UN resolution criticizing human-rights abuses in Iran.

But Afghanistan remains the biggest issue for Canada.

Some 2,500 Canadian troops are involved in NATO's International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan. Most of the Canadians are in the violent southern province of Kandahar. Seventy-one Canadian soldiers and one diplomat have been killed in the conflict.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay has called it a "no-fail mission" that requires more military help to prevent the export of terror.

Canada wants countries like Germany, France, Spain and Italy to allow their soldiers into combat zones to fight Taliban militants.

That dangerous burden is currently shouldered mostly by Canada, the United States, Britain, the Netherlands and Australia.

There will be an opportunity for more lobbying at a NATO meeting in the Netherlands later this month.

Canada's mission to Afghanistan is due to end in February of 2009.

The Conservatives want to extend it but face enormous public pressure to get out.

Two-thirds of Canadians have said the soldiers shouldn't stay longer than the deadline. More than half tell pollsters they should get out even sooner.

Mr. Karzai has personally appealed to Canadians to continue the fight, saying his country will fall back into anarchy if they don't.

On the weekend, Mr. Karzai stepped up his recent calls for negotiations with the Taliban, offering to meet with the Taliban leader and give militants a government role.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS:

GEOGRAPHIC NAME: Canada; Afghanistan; World

SUBJECT TERM: foreign policy; foreign relations; strife; defence

PERSONAL NAME: Tony Blair; Maxime Bernier

ORGANIZATION NAME: Armed Forces; North American Treaty Organization; United Nation

# IN BRIEF Appeals court asked to reverse Khadr decision

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**PUBLICATION:** GLOBE AND MAIL

**IDN:** 072750008

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**PAGE:** A17

**BYLINE:**

**SECTION:** International News

**SOURCE:** STAFF

**EDITION:** Metro

**DATELINE:** Washington DC

**WORDS:** 129

**WORD COUNT:** 134

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Staff Washington Lawyers for Omar Khadr, who is accused of killing for al-Qaeda, have asked a special military appeals court to reverse its decision allowing the trial of the only Canadian held at Guantanamo Bay to proceed.

"To permit the current proceedings to go forward would severely prejudice [Omar Khadr's] case and violate international law and fundamental notions of due process," his lawyers argued.

Mr. Khadr was only 15 when he is alleged to have thrown a hand grenade that killed a U.S. Special Forces medic during a battle in Afghanistan.

"The courts in this process seem determined to avoid the most controversial aspect of Omar's prosecution – whether imposing a life sentence on a child for so-called war crimes is legal," said Lieutenant-Commander Bill Kuebler.

**ADDED SEARCH TERMS:**

**GEOGRAPHIC NAME:** Canada; Afghanistan; United States; Guantanamo Bay

**SUBJECT TERM:**terrorism; suspects; justice

**PERSONAL NAME:** Omar Khadr

**ORGANIZATION NAME:** al-Qaeda

# Dallaire set to take the stand; Will tell Canadian court at war crimes trial about scope of Rwandan genocide

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020029  
**PUBLICATION:** The Hamilton Spectator  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Canada/World  
**PAGE:** A8  
**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: The Canadian Press File Photo / Retired General Romeo Dallaire, seen here with former Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, brushes off the label 'hero'. ;  
**DATELINE:** MONTREAL  
**BYLINE:** Les Perreux  
**SOURCE:** The Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
**WORD COUNT:** 490

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Romeo Dallaire has borne witness to the Rwandan genocide hundreds of times in speeches, interviews, books and movies, but now his haunting testimony will be heard in a Canadian court.

Dallaire, a former Canadian general who now sits in the Senate, is set to take the stand today at the landmark war crimes trial of Desire Munyaneza.

The Toronto resident is accused of leading a militia gang on a spree of rape and murder in the Butare region of Rwanda in 1994 and is the first person to be charged under Canada's new war crimes legislation.

Dallaire, the head of a failed United Nations mission to keep peace in Rwanda, is the latest expert called to establish the context of the genocide, where an international tribunal has said 800,000 to one million Rwandans were killed.

Dallaire, the highest profile witness to testify at the trial, is not expected to directly link Munyaneza to crimes. Instead prosecutors will use his testimony to try to establish the vast scope and organization behind the slaughter.

Dallaire is one of a handful of people who can give independent testimony about the massacres, said Paulin Ntezirayo, a member of Montreal's Rwandan community.

"Dallaire wasn't hiding to survive, he wasn't killing people," Ntezirayo said.

"With his blue UN beret, he's one of the only people who could move around and could see everything. If there is anyone who can say what happened, it's him."

Dallaire, now 61, was a Canadian general in charge of a United Nations mission to keep peace between warring factions in the Rwandan civil war when the massacres began in April 1994.

Dallaire had warned of an impending bloodbath and repeatedly called for foreign troops to intervene once the killing began. Instead much of his force was evacuated and he was left with a few hundred troops at the height of the slaughter.

Dallaire set to take the stand; Will tell Canadian court at war crimes trial about scope of Rwandan genocide

While Dallaire is hailed as a hero by many for using his meagre force to shield several thousand Rwandans, others have criticized his failure to intervene to protect more Rwandans.

Some have said Dallaire should have ignored orders from UN bureaucrats and home countries and set aside his vague mandate to prevent more bloodshed.

His harshest critics are in Belgium. Ten of the country's soldiers were butchered when Dallaire sent them on a mission to guard the Rwandan prime minister.

While maintaining there was nothing he could do to save the Belgians, Dallaire has often admitted he ultimately failed in his mission.

He brushed off the label "hero" during an appearance on a popular Radio-Canada TV interview show during an appearance aired Sunday.

"Ultimately, the mission was a failure," Dallaire said. "I failed."

Ntezirayo says Dallaire has never cast himself as a hero.

"He did everything he humanly could," Ntezirayo said. "He was a powerless victim, too."

Failure wore heavily on Dallaire, who sank into depression and several suicide attempts and was given a medical discharge from the military.

Dallaire says he maintains his balance now with the help of therapy and medication.

His image as a hero has grown with his psychological rehabilitation.

Quebec actor Roy Dupuis gives him a sympathetic portrayal in the recently released Canadian film, *Shake Hands with the Devil*.

The two men appeared together on the Sunday television program.

Dallaire, who recently declined to discuss his upcoming testimony, has become an outspoken advocate of military intervention in humanitarian causes, recently speaking out for Canada's military role in Afghanistan and for intervention in Darfur, Sudan.

He's also part of the effort to stop the use of child soldiers.

He has testified by video at other war crimes trials held under an international mandate in Tanzania.

The Canadian Forces awarded Dallaire the Meritorious Service Cross for "fearless leadership, which has helped save the lives of thousands of men, women and children" in Rwanda.

# Canada pushes for Afghan envoy

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**IDNUMBER** 200710020027  
**PUBLICATION:** The Hamilton Spectator  
**DATE:** 2007.10.02  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Canada/World  
**PAGE:** A7  
**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: Bernier;  
**DATELINE:** WASHINGTON  
**BYLINE:** Beth Gorham  
**SOURCE:** The Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
**WORD COUNT:** 423

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Canada will highlight successes in Afghanistan in a United Nations speech today while pushing the world body to appoint a high-level envoy to raise awareness of NATO's operation.

Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier will make the pitch in his first speech to the UN General Assembly, arguing the position should be modelled on Tony Blair's work on the Middle East peace process.

Bernier has discussed the idea with representatives from several countries, as well as Afghan President Hamid Karzai and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. There is already support for the initiative from the United States and countries like Norway, France and Spain.

Blair, as a special envoy for the Quartet group comprising the United Nations, United States, European Union and Russia, has been working on the Middle East issue since stepping down as Britain's prime minister.

Canada believes a similar high-profile effort regarding Afghanistan will provide more support for Karzai and serve to better co-ordinate development and security efforts.

In his speech, Bernier will concentrate on progress in rebuilding efforts and governance while applauding countries that have contributed soldiers and aid.

A UN-commissioned report last week said there's been progress in some areas but the country has a long way to go.

The Afghanistan National Human Development Report said the justice system needs to be completely rebuilt. It notes that one-third of Afghans don't have enough food to eat and less than one in three households have access to safe drinking water. The mortality rate for children under five is among the highest in the world.

Bernier, who was appointed to the foreign affairs post in a cabinet shuffle in August, is expected to raise several other issues, including Haiti which is still struggling to recover from a 2004 revolt that toppled former president Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

He'll also talk about Canada's support for a UN resolution criticizing human rights abuses in Iran.

But Afghanistan remains the biggest issue for Canada. Some 2,500 Canadian troops are involved in NATO's International Security Assistance Force there. Most of the Canadians are in the violent southern province of

Kandahar. Seventy-one Canadian soldiers and one diplomat have been killed in the conflict.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay has called it a "no-fail mission" that requires more military help to prevent the export of terror.

Canada wants countries like Germany, France, Spain and Italy to allow their soldiers into combat zones to fight Taliban militants. That dangerous burden is shouldered mostly by Canada, the United States, Britain, the Netherlands and Australia.

Canada's mission to Afghanistan is due to end in February 2009. The Conservatives want to extend it but face enormous public pressure to get out.

Two-thirds of Canadians have said the soldiers shouldn't stay longer than the deadline. More than half tell pollsters they should get out even sooner.

# Editorial – Karzai's surprise

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**PUBLICATION:** WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

**DATE:** 2007.10.02

**PAGE:** A10

**SECTION:** Editorial Leaders

**WORD COUNT:** 482

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None Afghan President Hamid Karzai's weekend invitation to the Taliban to sit down and have a chat about sharing power with his elected government caused a bit of consternation among Canadians, as well it might have. For five years, at the cost of 71 lives and dozens more casualties, Canada has been fighting in Afghanistan to prevent precisely that from happening.

Mr. Karzai clearly caught politicians in Ottawa off guard. Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier scrambled for a response, finally suggesting that negotiations "only be conducted with individuals and organizations that will respect human rights and renounce violence." The Liberals, who originally committed Canada to a combat role in Afghanistan but no longer want to fight there, also appear not to want to talk there either. "It's out of the question to even envisage the possibility of negotiations with the Taliban" as long as they continue to use terror tactics against Canadian troops, party defence critic Denis Coderre proclaimed.

Both Mr. Coderre and Mr. Bernier are right in their own way. On Sunday, the Taliban hanged a 15 year old boy from a tree in southern Afghanistan and stuffed five \$1 bills in his mouth as a warning to other Afghans to have nothing to do with NATO. Mr. Coderre is right in saying that one cannot usefully talk to people who sanction such atrocities.

Taliban fighters who lay down their arms and come in from the war, however, should be welcomed into the democratic political process, as Mr. Bernier hesitantly suggests. In the event of victory for the Afghan government and its NATO allies, that is where they will have to end up in any case, and sooner is better than later for an early peace. Taliban fighters suffer heavy casualties in combat and many will eventually realize that what they cannot win on the battlefield, they might one day win at the ballot box.

In the event, the apprehension that Mr. Karzai was undermining Canadian and NATO war efforts appears to have been wrong. Attached to his original offer to negotiate were riders that he and everyone else were aware that hardline Taliban — such as the leader, Mullah Omar — will not accept under any circumstances: that NATO troops will stay in Afghanistan until an agreement is reached; and that there can be no Islamist revision of the country's secular constitution.

Less extreme members of the Taliban leadership, however, appear to be tempted by the terms and there are reports of divisions within its ruling council. A victory for the Taliban "moderates" in this struggle would be a victory for Afghans and Canadians alike — and, perhaps, pave the way toward real negotiations.

# Letters to the Editor

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None Regina stadium multi-use Re: Bomber stadium bad, Pats arena good, Sept. 25.

Bartley Kives' comparison of two projects does little to tell your readers about the serious issues at hand when it comes to taxpayer funding of infrastructure projects and our approach to the City of Winnipeg. I would like to clarify some important facts.

The Conservative government recently announced it would support Regina's IPSCO Place project. IPSCO Place is not primarily a sports arena — it's a multi-use facility that will operate year-round and will contribute to Regina's economic development in many ways.

The proposed Winnipeg stadium appears to be a sports venue for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, a professional football team.

Lawrence Cannon Minister of Transport Ottawa Bombers need new stadium Re: Suggestion ridiculous, Sept. 26.

I must disagree with Jesse Hamonic's opinion that Randy Turner was wrong in his support of federal funding for a new stadium (Getting fed up with patronizing, myopic feds, Sept. 23). Turner was correct.

The stadium will still be publicly owned, not like the MTS Centre which is private. Therefore, it deserves a higher investment of public money. David Asper is contributing one-third of the construction cost in exchange for owning the football team. We should be grateful for this investment. The current stadium was originally funded 100 per cent by the public. Our leaders back in 1952 had a vision that a new stadium and arena were important pieces of infrastructure that a province and city required.

To not build a new stadium is not an option. It is not feasible to renovate the current stadium. Without a new stadium the Blue Bombers' future is dismal. Their demise would be a permanent loss in the taxes that they generate, which in turn contribute funds to government that help build other infrastructure such as roads and bridges.

The argument about boiling water, safe roads and bridges is one that will go on until the end of eternity. I am sure this was the case back in 1952, too. It is ridiculous to think that Manitoba or Winnipeg will have better infrastructure if a new stadium is not built with the aid of federal funds.

Ask yourself why recently it is OK for the federal government to invest in other sports venues such as BMO Field in Toronto (\$27 million, 43 per cent of the total cost), which is used for a new professional soccer team, and a new arena in Regina (\$20 million).

That contribution is one-third of the entire cost, with apparently no private funds being provided.

Ralph Malec Winnipeg High school violence scary The fact that Thomas Erin McKay was stabbed at Sisler High School sends shivers up my back, considering I'm also a high school student.



Nothing like that has ever happened in rural Manitoba where I live, but the past few years have made it evident that it could. School is supposed to be a safe place, but recent history has shown that we might not actually be safe there.

So how can the police be downplaying these incidents? They may not happen very often in Winnipeg schools, but we also used to say that they didn't happen very often in Canada either. There's no denying that school violence is getting more and more common, so we should be doing all that we can to prevent another attack. If we don't, the next one could be fatal.

Sasha Ostrowski St. Pierre Jolys Facebook good for teens Re: Camera phones, Facebook erode personal privacy, Sept. 24.

On Facebook you are allowed to show your friends how you are feeling and what you are up to. I think Facebook is one of the safest sites on the Internet these days because you can add friends and deny people you don't know. Instead of going into chatrooms and talking to complete strangers, it's easier to find friends on Facebook and to find friends from the past. It is safe and easy and for teens who don't get out often, they can have a hobby and see what their friends are doing so they can join them.

Mikel Derbowka Dufrost It's buyer beware Have you ever felt stupid because you just bought a new camera, then two months later they come out with a better camera for the same price as yours? Well, you can certainly blame the technology world for that one. Technology is advancing so fast that you end up seeing a flashing LED light stating, "OVERLOAD." That's the way some manufacturers want you to feel (in other words they want you to buy more of their products).

Just recently, my brother purchased a brand new camera. It was everything he needed — an eight mega-pixel, eight giga-byte memory card capacity, and credit-card-thin, with a 5.5 cm LCD screen. Then, about two months later, the next edition came out with just slightly better features, and for the same price as his. Man, my brother was quite frustrated about this. The good part is, he eventually got over it. Well, lesson learned. Technology advances so fast, you can't even say "mega-pixels" before the next edition of whatever it might be comes out.

So buyers out there, do your homework before you go out and purchase anything. My brother found that out the hard way.

DAVID ROZGONYI Age 12 Winnipeg Phosphorus a threat Re: Filling the gap, Oct. 1.

I applaud the Winnipeg Free Press for the phosphorus editorial.

It is a serious problem for Lake Erie. Unfortunately, I am not aware of any phosphorus bans in the United States around Lake Erie. It has been talked about in Michigan and there is a bill in the Ohio legislature to get it down to .05 per cent — better than the over eight per cent that many brands carry.

Beginning late last summer and again this spring and summer, a new algae appeared in the far western basin of Lake Erie's warmest, shallowest waters. It is called *lyngbya wollei* and comes from the southeastern U.S. It is matted with little balls of hair like fibers.

It lands on rocks and weeds grow from it — two to four or more inches high. No one seems to know what it will mean to Lake Erie.

In the south it has clogged water and power intakes.

The State of Washington has banned phosphorus in dishwasher detergent.

I hope that you find this information useful.

Sandy Bihn Western Lake Erie Association Oregon, Ohio Quit body bag business The frustratingly few countries involved in Afghanistan by NATO seem to make their own rules of military engagement. Canada's foreign affairs minister suggests that countries operating in the comparatively safe northern areas should supply more tanks and planes to the cause.

Perhaps it's time that Canada, having continually contributed their share of casualties, should switch roles and provide this equipment, letting others step into the body bag business.

ROBERT C. BISSETT Morden

# Veterans ask city to rename DVP; Spring Request; No reply from City Hall 'a slap in the face'

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**ILLUSTRATION:** Color Photo: Peter J. Thompson, National Post / The new name proposed for the city-owned Don Valley Parkway is Veterans Memorial Parkway. ;  
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Veterans say their letters to the Mayor seeking to rename the Don Valley Parkway in honour of Canada's war dead have been ignored since the spring, leading some retired officers to decry the lack of courtesy and question the silence.

A proposal to rechristen the DVP, the route that the remains of all of Canada's soldiers killed in Afghanistan travel en route to the Toronto coroner's office, was jointly made in May by the Fort York branch of the Royal Canadian Legion and the St. George's Society, the city's oldest charity. No reply was received.

A second letter to Mayor David Miller about renaming the DVP the Veterans Memorial Parkway was sent in July. That also has gone unanswered, veterans say.

"This requires a simple 'We'll look into it' or 'No, we're not interested.' But to have no response at all? It is a slap in the face. It is terribly discourteous," said Marv Rich, a retired colonel and president of the Fort York legion.

He wonders if the controversy this summer, when a backlash prompted a reversal of a city order to remove "Support Our Troops" decals from fire trucks, is at the root of the silence.

"Maybe there is a political sensitivity here, but, jeepers, people fought and died for freedom," he said.

A spokesman for Mr. Miller said the letters have been received and a response will be sent. He would not say what the reply would be or what the Mayor thinks about the idea.

"Toronto is certainly not lacking for tributes to our veterans. We greatly respect them and greatly appreciate their sacrifices," said Stuart Green, spokesman for Mr. Miller.

"We get a lot of letters in the office and we don't respond to them all as quickly as we would like sometimes," he said.

Mr. Green dismissed suggestions the Mayor was trying to avoid another spat with veterans by sitting on the letters.

Bob Dale, a Second World War veteran awarded both the Distinguished Service Order and the Distinguished

Flying Cross, said Toronto is hardly awash in tributes.

"It needs something tangible, not a once-a-year thing, especially for the young people. Having this road renamed would be a daily reminder," he said.

The idea arose after the provincial government started accepting proposals for renaming provincial highways to recognize public sacrifice.

The Fort York legion had few options -- there are only two provincial highways running through Toronto, the Queen Elizabeth Way and Highway 401, also named the Macdonald-Cartier Freeway. Both already honour prominent people.

Thoughts turned to the DVP, a city-owned, six-lane expressway.

"Toronto has only two significant public monuments honouring our veterans. They are the Cenotaph at Old City Hall and the new Memorial Wall at Queen's Park. They only receive attention on Remembrance Day," says the first letter to Mr. Miller.

Veterans deserve more, it concludes: "Without their sacrifices, Toronto could not be the city it is today."

Since the letters were sent, the province has given the name "Highway of Heroes" to the portion of Highway 401 stretching from the military base in Trenton, where the flag-draped caskets of soldiers arrive from Afghanistan, to the top of the DVP.

The military corteges then proceed down the DVP to the Toronto coroner's office.

Moving, impromptu gatherings of civilians and emergency personnel have gathered along the route and on overpasses to greet each of the war dead.

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**KEYWORDS:** 0