

## Police arrest 25 for Jakarta bombing attacks

■ The U.S. Embassy is secure after the suspect of Jakarta's explosion is caught.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAKARTA, Indonesia - Indonesian police announced Sunday they had arrested 25 people suspected of carrying out a spate of bombings in the capital and said the next target would have been the U.S. Embassy.

The suspects were implicated in attacks including a blast at the Jakarta Stock Exchange that killed 15 people, said Brig. Gen. Dadang Garnida.

One suspect, armed with a grenade, was detained on his way to attack the U.S. Embassy and a crowded department store nearby, the officer said.

U.S. Embassy officials declined to comment Sunday.

The U.S. State Department warned last week that American companies and interests might be targeted by the bombers.

Police officials said most detainees were from the northwestern province of Aceh, wracked by decades of bloody fighting between separatist guerrillas and Indonesian troops. All were arrested in the capital, and police were seeking more suspects.

No military or police personnel were arrested, despite speculation that disaffected elements within the armed forces, loyal to former dictator Suharto, might have been responsible.

President Abdurrahman Wahid installed a new national police chief Saturday, ordering him to take quick action to stop the attacks, which he claimed were designed to undermine his reformist 11-month-old government.

The first suspect was arrested Saturday, police said. After his Saturday interrogation, 24 others were detained Sunday.

"They are suspected of being responsible for all the bombings in Jakarta," Garnida said. "One suspect said he was going to bomb the U.S. Embassy and Sarinah (department store) next."

Among those arrested were four men believed to be the ring-leaders of the bombing operation, said Senior Superintendent Saleh Saaf, deputy national police spokesman.

"The people arrested have no links to military or police," he said. "We suspect terrorist groups from Aceh are behind the bombings. Most of those caught are Acehnese."

The troubled province's main rebel group, the Free Aceh Movement, denied any involvement in the Jakarta bombings.

"It's impossible those arrested

are our members because we have no forces in Jakarta," said Ayah Muni, a separatist spokesman.

The Free Aceh Movement has been fighting for independence from Indonesia since 1975. Although Indonesia is mostly Muslim, the rebels want to introduce Islamic law and re-establish the feudal Sultanate of Aceh.

The arrests coincided with peace talks at which rebel representatives and Indonesian diplomats in Switzerland agreed Sunday to extend a three-month truce until January and enter "exploratory talks" aimed at achieving a lasting peace.

Fighting in Aceh has continued despite the June 2 truce. Supt. Abadan Bangko, a local police chief, said security forces killed a guerrilla fighter in a gun battle Saturday in the north of the province. Rebel spokesman Sayed Adnan confirmed the

clash, but claimed the victim was an innocent bystander.

In the regional capital, Banda Aceh, a man was shot dead by unidentified gunmen on Saturday, Bangko said.

The series of explosions in Jakarta coincided with developments in a corruption case against former president Suharto, leading to speculation that they were the work of his supporters.

Suharto's family and lawyers deny the accusation. They also maintain that Suharto, 79, is too weak after three strokes to attend his trial. He went through a court-ordered medical evaluation Saturday.

Wahid's replacement of the national police chief came after officers failed to carry out his order to arrest Suharto's youngest son, Tommy, in connection with the bombings. Police cited a lack of evidence.

### World/Nation

The Associated Press

#### Wyoming I-80 travelers stranded after snowstorm surprise

RAWLINS - Thousands of stranded motorists sought shelter as a snowstorm shut down 200 miles of Interstate 80 and caused a 12-car pileup east of Laramie on Saturday.

Interstate 80 was closed between Rock Springs and Cheyenne for a second day after cars slid and crashed on the icy asphalt.

Hotels quickly filled with travelers waiting for the interstate to reopen. The American Red Cross expected 2,600 people in two shelters in Rawlins and 200 people at a shelter in Rock Springs.

The storm draped a swath of snow up to 15 inches deep from Encampment to Casper before heading southwest into Colorado late Saturday night. It was expected to taper off by Sunday, leaving behind temperatures in the 50s and 60s.

#### Texas Bush operatives accuse Gore of having campaign spy

AUSTIN - Vice President Al Gore declared Sunday that he doesn't know how his campaign ended up with a bootleg videotape of George W. Bush rehearsing for next month's debates.

But, he told reporters, "If somebody in the Bush campaign keeps sending confidential internal data to us, we'll keep turning it over to the FBI."

That comment, in a conference call with reporters, came as the two camps traded new accusations over the mysterious package - and whether there is a Gore spy in Bush's campaign.

Bush operatives seized upon the Gore campaign's suspension of a junior staffer in the matter to hurl new accusations at Gore's Nashville, Tenn.-based operation.

The Gore staffer, Michael Doyno, 28, was suspended after he acknowledged boasting of a "mole" planted in Bush's campaign.

Doyno now insists the "mole" was a product of his imagination and Gore spokesman Mark Fabiani said campaign officials do not believe there is any such Democratic spy.

#### California Decision to tap stockpiles stabilizes gas prices

CAMARILLO - Gasoline prices remained steady over the past two weeks, with no immediate impact from President Clinton's decision to tap 30 million barrels of oil from emergency stockpiles, an analyst said Sunday.

The Lundberg Survey of 10,000 stations nationwide found that the average price of all grades, plus taxes, was \$1.62 per gallon Friday. It was a tenth of a cent per gallon lower than prices the survey found two weeks ago, but 28 cents per gallon higher for the same period a year ago.

Analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday that prices likely wouldn't drop to 1999 levels any time soon.

Clinton's announcement Friday may have had some "psychological effect" on retail prices, but the oil won't hit the market until next month, Lundberg said.

Rising energy costs are becoming an issue in the presidential campaign as winter heating bills are expected to be as much as 50 percent higher than last year's. Crude oil is selling for more than \$34 per barrel, a 10-year high.

#### Peru Government questioned after spy chief alluded arrest

LIMA, Peru - Peru's ousted spy chief fled Sunday to Panama, triggering opposition demands that President Alberto Fujimori's government explain how the former top aide eluded arrest and prosecution over a bribery scandal at home.

Fujimori said nothing about Vladimiro Montesinos' pre-dawn flight from the country, carried out in secrecy. Instead, he attended an annual ceremony honoring the armed forces and praised the intelligence services and military, where Montesinos has placed allies in many of the top posts.

Montesinos, who was at the center of a bribery scandal that is cutting short Fujimori's presidency, arrived in Panama early Sunday, the Panamanian government confirmed.

## Voting eccentricity concerns Yugoslavs

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia - With the opposition claiming victory, Slobodan Milosevic was locked in a bitter election race Sunday that could spell the end of his 13 years in power, after Yugoslavs turned out in large numbers in chaotic voting.

Hours after polls closed, it appeared the best that Milosevic could hope for was to head into a runoff Oct. 8 against his strongest challenger, Vojislav Kostunica.

Kostunica's supporters claimed he had won outright and accused Milosevic of trying to manipulate the vote count to force a runoff.

"There is no doubt that we overwhelmingly won on all levels," said opposition campaign manager Zoran Djindjic.

On Sunday night, the state election commission suspended the official count for the night without announcing any results.

Kostunica's supporters said they would offer proof that their candidate had won the election, while political parties issued differing figures they said were based on their poll watchers' reports.

Milosevic's Socialist Party claimed the president was leading Kostunica by about 46.87 percent to 38.6 percent based on returns from 754 polling stations.

During Sunday's voting, monitors reported that some boxes were stuffed with Milosevic ballots, prominent opposition members were dropped from registration rolls and voters were forced to cast ballots publicly.

The White House said it had "a lot of concerns about this election." Deputy Press Secretary Nanda Chitre pointed to the monitors' reports, saying, "These types of things show a pattern of irregularity that really brings into question the integrity of the whole process."

The United States - which has invested millions of dollars in an attempt to organize the tradition-

*"There is no doubt that we overwhelmingly won on all levels."*

Zoran Djindjic

Kostunica's campaign manager

ally fractured Serbian opposition - has made ousting Milosevic a major goal, believing there can be no stability in the Balkans so long as he remains in power.

If Milosevic loses, he risks extradition to the U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, which indicted him last year for atrocities committed by his troops in Kosovo. He may also risk massive revenge by Yugoslavs tired of being an impoverished pariah country after a decade of his rule.

The European Union has promised massive aid to Yugoslavia if Milosevic loses. Montenegro, the smaller republic that along with Serbia forms present-day Yugoslavia, said it would hold an independence referendum if Milosevic wins.

The Center for Free Elections and Democracy reported a turnout of 74.6 percent in Serbia.

Milosevic made no statement about the seemingly unfavorable returns. Earlier Sunday, he brushed aside accusations that he would rig the vote to stay in power, predicting prosperity after he wins and his troubled country is "cleared up" politically.

Kostunica, a 56-year-old law professor, said after voting that he expected to win.

The Center for Free Elections and Democracy reported major voting irregularities. They included opposition representatives being kicked out of polling stations or not allowed to inspect voters' lists, voting boxes and ballots.

The government's electoral commission said the vote passed without irregularities, "despite Western propaganda."

Most of the examples cited by the monitoring group could not be confirmed.

However, in Kosovo, Western reporters saw cases where polling stations were never opened, where prominent opposition members were told their names were not on registration rolls or where voters had no privacy to mark their ballots.



Miguel Martinez of France pedals his way to a gold medal in the men's cross country mountain biking event Sunday at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

## U.S. crew team unsuccessful

■ The defeat of the men's and women's eight shows the need for improvement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PENRITH, Australia - The U.S. men's eight crew thought it had fixed all its problems. A fifth-place finish in the Olympics proved otherwise.

It was a huge failure for a boat that won the last three world championships, one that was supposed to revive an American tradition in racing's most glamorous event.

Instead, they found up Sunday with the same finish as in 1996.

"This past week has been the toughest of my life," said Dave Simon, the only new crew member on a boat carrying four members of all three world champions and four from the last two. "We thought we had our problems fixed, but with such little time ..."

The women's eight was almost as big of a flop as the men's, finishing last by more than 10 seconds.

After the finish, three crew members laid on their backs and another put her head in her hands, all wondering how their silver-medal squad from last year's worlds did worse than their fourth-place finish in Atlanta.

"It never came together," said Amy Fuller, a member of the last

three U.S. women's eight. "I can't even pinpoint what went wrong. In '92, when we got the silver, it was a lot of work but it just clicked off from the start. Both in '96 and today, it felt off from the first stroke."

The lone saving grace Sunday was a bronze medal in the lightweight women's double sculls. Even that was a bit disappointing - Christine Collins and Sarah Garner led for the first half of the race, then saw Romania and Germany zip by.

"We pushed out in front and just tried to hold on," said Collins, of Worcester, Mass., who has her first Olympic medal to go along with four world championships.

"We just didn't have the same kick at the end as they did."

The U.S. was the only country to qualify in all 14 events and nine of them made the finals. Only three won medals - one silver, two bronze - for the worst performance since 1972.

So instead of leaving Sydney with the most medals since taking eight in Los Angeles, the United States will go to Athens looking for their first gold medals since the boycott-tainted 1984 games and their first against a full field since '64.

That '64 crew won the men's eight. It was the 11th U.S. victory in 14 tries, including nine of 10.

All the surviving members of that squad visited, called or

*"We pushed out in front and just tried to hold on. We just didn't have the same kick at the end as they did."*

Christine Collins  
U.S. crew member

wrote this year's team to help gear up for their moment of glory.

But things were out of whack from their first race at the Sydney International Regatta Center.

They were second in a first-round heat and barely won a second-chance race to qualify for the finals. Over the ensuing days, they moved from the athlete's village to a hotel closer to the venue and tested out various seat changes.

Jeff Klepacki ended up replacing Chris Ahrens as the stroke, but it didn't help. The Americans were last after 500 meters and only passed one boat the rest of the way.

They finished as close to sixth as they did to fourth.

"I thought what we needed was to step back, get our rhythm going again," Coach Mike Teti said of the new lineup. "In the race, we got a little bit behind early, felt some pressure and started trying too hard - probably way too hard."

## Jerusalem negotiations continue

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM - Rolling back expectations of a final deal by next month, Prime Minister Ehud Barak said Sunday that he is prepared for a partial agreement with the Palestinians - a prospect the Palestinians said is out of the question.

Barak told the Israeli cabinet that he does not rule out the possibility that "a comprehensive agreement will be achieved on most of the issues, while a time limit will be set for agreement on a very small part of them," his office said in a news release.

Palestinian parliament

speaker Ahmed Qureia, also a senior peace negotiator, rejected the idea of another interim agreement. "There has to be agreement on every issue or there will be no agreement at all," he told reporters.

Until recently, Barak has said a full-fledged agreement would be the preferable outcome of intensive negotiations, and has given "50-50" chances to achieving a deal by next month.

Barak's statement Sunday confirmed that approach.

The Camp David talks broke down over rival Palestinian and Israeli claims to east Jerusalem, in

particular the Al-Aqsa mosque compound, the third holiest site in Islam and also the site of the Jewish temple, sacked in 70 A.D. by the Romans.

The issues of borders and the future of the Palestinian refugees also remain unsolved, although considerable progress has been achieved in those areas.

Israeli media reported that Barak hopes to meet with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to bridge some of the gaps.

Qureia said such a meeting would be welcome "as long as it is not for public relations."

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