

## World leaders say Milosevic must go

### Military force will not likely be used to push Milosevic from office.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — As protesters swept through the streets of Belgrade Thursday, many world leaders urged Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic to step down, but none threatened to intervene with force.

"Go," said British Prime Minister Tony Blair. "Go now. Go before any more lives are lost, before there is any more destruction."

President Clinton said the people of Serbia had spoken out, first in last month's elections, then on the streets.

"The people of Serbia have made their opinion clear," Clinton said. "They did it when they voted peacefully and quietly, and now they're doing it in the streets because there's been an attempt to rob them of their vote."

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said the people of Serbia "have made a clear choice. They are asking for democratic rule ... and I hope that this choice and their voice will be heard."

In France, President Jacques Chirac appealed to Milosevic supporters to recognize the opposition's electoral victory and stand aside.

"For pity's sake, let's stop and give the Serb people back their freedom," he said.

Russia has offered to mediate between Milosevic and rival presidential candidate Vojislav Kostunica — so far to no effect. President Vladimir Putin, speaking in New Delhi, said:

"We will not overplay our influence and our importance, but we are not going to underestimate it either."

Al Gore and George W. Bush also urged Milosevic to go.

"We call upon Milosevic to get out of power," said Gore, the Democratic presidential nominee. "It (power) will be taken from him if he does not because the people of Serbia have spoken, and now they're rising up."

Republican rival Bush said it was "clear the people have spoken. It is time for Mr. Milosevic to go."

Western leaders, while offering moral support, signaled they were unwilling to send military aid to the protesters in Belgrade.

"We have no intentions of intervention," British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said.

Said Annan: "I think there have been quite a lot of statements by U.N. member states who have tried to move the situation forward. Beyond that, I'm not sure if there is any concrete action one can take in this situation."

Clinton ruled out U.S. military intervention.

"I don't believe that it's an appropriate case for military intervention, and I don't believe that the United States should say or do anything which would only strengthen Mr. Milosevic's hand," he said.

Several European leaders appealed to the Yugoslav security forces not to use violence against the protesters.

"My appeal is: Don't resort to violence. Don't shoot on your own people," German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder said.



Vojislav Kostunica, who is claiming victory in the recent Yugoslav presidential elections, talks in front of the Kolubara Kostunica mine where 7,000 workers have been on strike for more than a week near Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

## Milosevic retains power for now despite uprising

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — Mobs seeking to topple Slobodan Milosevic turned their fury on his centers of power Thursday, leaving parliament and other key Belgrade sites in shambles and flames.

The 13-year rule of the Yugoslav president appeared near collapse.

Hundreds of thousands of people swarmed through the capital to demand that Milosevic accept his apparent electoral defeat by Vojislav Kostunica in the Sept. 24 election. The uprising developed with stunning speed, swelling as security forces showed little willingness to battle the largest anti-Milosevic protest ever.

Many police put down their clubs and joined flag-waving crowds as they surged across central Belgrade through clouds of tear gas. As demonstrators charged and riot police covered behind helmets and shields, the federal parliament building, the state broadcasting center and police stations fell in quick succession.

Protesters tossed documents and portraits of Milosevic through the broken windows of the parliament com-

plex. Smoke billowed from the building and from the state television headquarters nearby.

Dozens of people were injured, according to witnesses. Some police who fired on demonstrators were beaten. Elsewhere in the country, thousands more people joined smaller rallies in a number of towns.

"What we are doing today is making history," Kostunica proclaimed during an evening speech in front of Belgrade city hall, across from parliament.

The domino-like successes of the opposition did not fully erase fears that Milosevic could still strike back.

Kostunica asked supporters to remain on the streets until dawn to try to block any possible counterattack by the military.

He also appealed to people from the countryside to stream into Belgrade for rallies Friday.

The crowd chanted for Milosevic's arrest. Kostunica answered: "He doesn't need to be arrested. He arrested himself a long time ago."

At the White House, President Clinton said: "The people are trying to get their country back."

British Prime Minister Tony Blair

*"The people are trying to get their country back."*

President Bill Clinton

said of Milosevic: "Your time is up. Go now."

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, on a refueling stop in Ireland en route home from Middle East peace talks, was trying to reach Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov to seek his country's help in getting Milosevic to step aside. Clinton has urged Russia, which has been sympathetic to Milosevic, to acknowledge Kostunica.

There was no immediate reaction from Milosevic, and his whereabouts were not clear. There was heavy police presence around the Milosevic compound in Belgrade's Dedinje neighborhood.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said U.S. officials believe Milosevic was still in Belgrade.

In case he tried to flee by land, Bulgarian officials placed border guards on extra alert.

## Shuttle "bolted" to ground, sort of

### ■ Protruding bolts on another shuttle lead NASA to delay the launching of Discovery.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — NASA called off Thursday's launch of the space shuttle Discovery because of last-minute concerns over bolts on the external fuel tank.

The space agency, aiming to lift off tonight, stressed that the problem must be solved before Discovery can fly.

This 100th space shuttle flight is a crucial space station construction mission.

"We think it's prudent to stand down for a day," said shuttle manager James Halsell. "In other words, we do not want to get 'go fever.'"

The problem occurred Sept. 8 during the space shuttle Atlantis' launch but was discovered only Wednesday.

While analyzing film returned to Earth aboard Atlantis two weeks ago, engineers noticed that one of the three bolts between the shuttle and the external fuel tank did not retract properly eight minutes into the flight. Photographs showed 2 1/4 inches of the 14-inch bolt sticking out on the tank.

Engineers reviewed the film again Thursday but could not figure out what happened, so the Discovery countdown was halted just before the start of fueling.

The seven astronauts had not yet boarded the shuttle. Before launching Discovery, NASA wants to understand the bolt malfunction and determine

whether it poses a danger. At worst, a protruding bolt could cause the separated tank to tumble and slam into the shuttle.

"I think the word you use would be 'catastrophic,'" said Halsell, himself a shuttle pilot. "I would not want to expose astronauts to that risk."

The troublesome bolt is at the bottom of the Atlantic, along with what is left of the rest of the external fuel tank. The 153-foot, rust-colored tank is jettisoned once the shuttle reaches orbit.

There is evidence of bolt problems on previous flights, including Endeavour's launch in February, said launch manager Bill Gerstenmaier. But the bolts have never protruded like this, he said.

NASA usually has more time between flights to review all the data from the previous mission, but it has quickened its launch pace to build the international space station.

The minimum number of days allowed between shuttle launches is 21. This gap would have been 27 days if Discovery had soared Thursday.

Halsell said NASA remains committed to launching space shuttles seven or eight times a year. Next time, though, the space agency may try to analyze the problem more quickly, he noted.

"If there's a success to be shown here, it's that the system does work and that we're able to respond even this close in to the next launch," he said.

Discovery holds two new segments for the international space station, a girder like truss and a docking port for future shuttle visits. NASA wants these parts installed before the first permanent crew lifts off at the end of the month.

## Emotions rise as Columbus parade nears

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DENVER — The city's first Columbus Day parade in nearly a decade has stirred fears of violence this weekend between Italian Americans on one side and Hispanics and American Indians on the other.

The city hasn't held the parade since 1991 amid concern that groups who believe Christopher Columbus was a killer and slave trader would clash with marchers.

This year, under a federally mediated pact, Denver's Italian community had agreed to call Saturday's celebration an Italian Pride parade and make no mention of Columbus. But the pact collapsed.

Parade organizers and members of the American Indian Movement have pledged to be peaceful, but there is fear tempers will boil over.

Parade organizer C.M. Mangiaracina said the parade will go forward and the protesters "can choke on it."

"My boys of Italian descent are going to be heard in this city," he said Thursday. "They are not going to do this to us anymore."

American Indian Movement spokesman Vernon Bellecourt, who is based in Minneapolis, said the organization has called for civil disobedience against groups and governments that celebrate Columbus.

"If the German Americans were to honor Adolf Hitler with festivities and parades and march through Jewish communities, nobody would tolerate that," he said. "We, as Indian communities, are supposed to put up with honoring Columbus?"

Some communities have dropped plans to put their fire trucks in the parade for fear the vehicles might get damaged and firefighters might get hurt. Mayor Wellington Webb has pleaded for calm, and the governor pledged state help to maintain the peace.

"I understand protest and issues of social justice," Webb said. "I also understand that these are highly emotional issues for both sides. But we need to seek some common ground."

Denver's Columbus Day parades have been tumultuous. In 1989, the American Indian group's Russell Means and three others were arrested after they threw fake blood on a Columbus statue. The next year, protesters shouted anti-Columbus slogans as the parade went through downtown.

## World/Nation

The Associated Press

### ■ Northern Ireland Questions unanswered over fatal car bombing

OMAGH — A father's angry plea for justice marked the end Thursday of a month-long coroner's inquest into the car bombing of Omagh, an atrocity that left 29 people dead, shattered a community and raised questions about the price of Northern Ireland's peace process.

Victor Barker, whose 12-year-old son James was killed in the 1998 attack, condemned the British government for failing to crack down on the Irish Republican Army dissidents responsible.

The 500-pound car bomb blew up in the midst of a crowd of shoppers on Omagh's main shopping street. Victims included mothers shopping for school uniforms, a woman heavily pregnant with twins, two toddlers and a pair of Spanish exchange students.

The 29 dead and more than 300 wounded — many of whom lost limbs, suffered extensive burns or were blinded — made it the bloodiest terrorist strike in Northern Irish history.

### ■ Washington Congress passes AIDS prevention bill

Congress agreed Thursday to provide more than \$1 billion a year for AIDS prevention and treatment in a bill that factors in HIV infections as well as AIDS cases in determining how federal money will be distributed.

The legislation reauthorizes for five years the Ryan White CARE Act, which expired when the new fiscal year began Oct. 1. The House approved the measure by a 411-0 vote and the Senate by unanimous consent. It now goes to the president for his signature.

The sponsor, Rep. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., said the emphasis on AIDS victims rather than those infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, has been "devastating."

"While our attention was placed on AIDS the virus silently spread through communities of color, and more and more women became unknowingly infected," he said.

Every year 40,000 Americans become infected with HIV. Time Warner Inc. and EMI

### ■ London Time Warner, EMI Group call off joint venture

Group have called off their \$20 billion joint venture in the face of opposition from European regulators, removing a major obstacle to Time Warner's larger combination with America Online Inc.

The Warner-EMI deal would have created a giant music company, reducing the number of major record companies in the world from five to four. European regulators had expressed concern that the new company would have had a dominant position in the markets and in the emerging area of online music distribution.

The two companies offered several concessions, but in the end they were not sufficient. Those remedies were reported to have included the sale of Virgin, a major music label acquired from British mogul Richard Branson in 1992 for \$960 million, as well as parts of the companies' music publishing business.

### ■ Denver McCain ads have positive affect on pollsters

DENVER — Sen. John McCain, a supporter of federal legislation to require background checks at gun shows, is appearing in TV ads to endorse similar efforts in Colorado and Oregon.

The ads, which began appearing Wednesday, irked opponents, but pollsters believe the overall effect will be marginal because ballot initiatives in both states have drawn widespread support in recent polls.

"Our last poll showed it passing by what, 85 percent," said Denver pollster Paul Talmey. "How much more do you want?"

McCain, an Arizona Republican, said he supports a similar bill in Congress, but it is tied up in a House-Senate conference committee and isn't expected to be put to a full vote this year.

### Weather

**TODAY**  
Partly cloudy  
high 47, low 31

**TOMORROW**  
Partly sunny  
high 39, low 26

**SUNDAY**  
Partly cloudy  
high 46, low 26

## Daily Nebraskan

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