

RELEASE IN FULL

NEWSTICKERS 2200 EDT 10/30/2009 - 1200 EDT 10/31/2009 (U)**SCA****Afghan official: Eight linked to UN attack arrested**

KABUL (AP) - Authorities have arrested eight people, including one in Saudi Arabia, in connection with this week's deadly attack on a guest house used by United Nations employees, the Afghan intelligence chief said. He said those arrested claimed the assailants came from Pakistan's Swat Valley.

Afghan official: We had advance intel on UN attack

KABUL (AP) - Afghan intelligence had advance information that a Taliban attack was in the works in Kabul before a deadly assault on a U.N. guest house and ramped up security, but not during the pre-dawn hours when the militants struck, a top official said October 31.

Pakistan: Militant fight won't end in Waziristan

ISLAMABAD (AP) - Pakistan's president says the offensive in tribal regions that shelter Taliban fighters will press on until all the country's militants are wiped out, an apparent reaction to Secretary Clinton's warning that al-Qaida also needs to be targeted.

NEA**Clinton faces huge challenge in Mideast talks**

ABU DHABI (AP) - U.S. Secretary of State Clinton, in a new push on Mideast peace, held talks October 31 with Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas before shuttling to Israel. It was a personal plea for the two sides to resume talks even as U.S. officials acknowledge there's little prospect for an immediate breakthrough.

Iran's Mousavi hints at new opposition rally

TEHRAN (Reuters) - Opposition leader Mousavi appeared to urge his supporters to take part in rallies next week marking the 30th anniversary of the U.S. embassy takeover by radical students in Tehran.

Yemen sentences eight more rebels to death

SANAA (Reuters) - A court sentenced to death eight men involved in a Shiite rebellion, who were arrested last year for fighting government troops north of the country's capital.

EUR

Turkish prime minister rules out early election

ISTANBUL (Reuters) - Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan ruled out holding a general election before its scheduled date in 2011, dismissing media reports this week that he might bring the vote forward by one year.

Merkel to push for climate pact in US Congress

BERLIN (AP) - German Chancellor Angela Merkel will urge the U.S. Congress to support an international pact to combat climate change in her address to the House and Senate next week. Merkel departs November 2 for a two-day visit to Washington, where she is to meet with President Obama, as well as address both the House and the Senate.

Bush, Gorbachev, Kohl mark Berlin Wall's fall

BERLIN (Reuters) - George Bush, Mikhail Gorbachev and Helmut Kohl paid their respects to the ordinary people who were behind the peaceful revolution of 1989 that brought down the Berlin Wall at an emotional ceremony in Berlin October 31.

Berlusconi says he won't resign even if convicted

ROME (Reuters) - Italian Prime Minister Berlusconi has no intention of resigning even if he were convicted in one of the trials against him, he said in an interview for a book to be published next week. The conservative leader faces two trials next month following a decision by Italy's top court to lift his immunity from prosecution and allow legal proceedings against him to resume.

AF

Zimbabwe president: opposition "not mentally stable"

HARARE (AP) - Zimbabwe's president said he is committed to working with his estranged prime minister despite his assessment that the former opposition leader is "not mentally stable" for boycotting the coalition government.

Ethiopia's Meles agrees to election rules

ADDIS ABABA (Reuters) - Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi and three opposition parties signed a set of rules for next year's national elections amid accusations of a crackdown on dissent ahead of the poll.

EAP

Burma's Suu Kyi supports U.S. policy of engagement

RANGOON (AP) - Detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi is aware of an upcoming visit by two American officials and supports the new U.S. policy of engaging with Burma's military rulers, her lawyer said.

WHA

Jamaica central bank head quits, successor named

KINGSTON (Reuters) - Jamaica's central bank governor, Derick Latibeaudiere, who was leading negotiations with the IMF to obtain a \$1.2 billion loan, has resigned. Finance Minister Audley Shaw said in a brief statement that Byron Wynter, a former deputy governor, would take over as head of the Bank of Jamaica on December 1.