



### Top Stories

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surrounding their party's U.S. presidential nominee, former congressman Bob Barr.

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### Top Stories

dedicated to leaking previously unreleased documents.

#### Despite threats, "Alaska Women Reject Palin" rally held

A group calling itself "Alaska Women Reject Palin" held an anti-Sarah Palin rally Saturday, despite receiving threatening phone calls last week. Palin is the vice presidential candidate, running with John McCain, on the Republican ticket in the American presidential election to be held on Nov. 4.



Credit: AKMuckraker (CC-BY 3.0)

### Wikipedia Current Events

Hewlett-Packard announces plans to cut 24,600 jobs.

•Shots are fired into the air in a confrontation between US and Pakistani forces; US forces retreat; Pakistan denies involvement of their forces.

•Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, the Secretary General of NATO, visits Georgia in a show of support.

•At least 11 spectators die in a stampede at a club football match in Butembo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, following a riot incited when a goalkeeper proceeded to use an animist spell in an attempt to rally his team.

### Wikipedia Current Events

•12 tourists are killed and 37 injured when a coach collides with a delivery truck outside of Ras Sidr in Egypt. Reports suggest 7 of the 12 dead are foreign nationals.

•A power-sharing agreement between Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe and opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai is officially signed, making Tsvangirai prime minister of Zimbabwe and chair of cabinet meetings. Mugabe maintains his position as president and remains in control of the country's army.

•Nigerian Oil Crisis: Nigeria's main rebel group claim to have destroyed an oil installation owned by Shell in the Rivers State region in the south of the Country.

#### Zimbabwean rivals sign power sharing deal

Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe and opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai today signed a power sharing deal in the county's capital, Harare.

Speaking to crowds of people celebrating the deal, Tsvangirai said that "this unity government will let businesses flourish so our people can work and provide for their families with pride." He also said that "I've signed this agreement because I believe it represents the best opportunity for us to build a peaceful and prosperous democratic Zimbabwe."

Mugabe also spoke after the deal. "Let us be allies," he said. "People will want to see if what we promise is indeed what we strive to do ... We are committed. I am committed. Let us all be committed."

Despite the agreement, there was some tension at the protest, with supporters of the two parties throwing stones at each other.

The deal means that Tsvangirai is now the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, acting as the head of the council of ministers. Mugabe remains the president of Zimbabwe, meaning that he is still the chair of the cabinet.

The cabinet contains 16 seats from Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change, while Mugabe's Zanu-PF has fifteen seats. The MDC also controls the police and Zanu-PF control the armed forces.

The agreement also requires press freedom in Zimbabwe.

### **Oasis star Noel Gallagher assaulted on stage in Toronto**

Noel Gallagher, lead guitarist and songwriter for British rock band Oasis, was assaulted on September 7 as his band headlined the Virgin Festival in Toronto, Canada.

The band was in the middle of a performance of the song "Morning Glory" when the attacker, Daniel Sullivan, 47, ran on to the stage and pushed Noel over before attempting to attack Liam Gallagher.

Security officials quickly apprehended Sullivan and had to restrain Liam from attacking Sullivan. Gallagher was admitted to hospital. After a 15-minute

delay the band returned to complete the set but refused to play an encore.

Gallagher wrote on his blog that the attacker "evaded our crack security team and assaulted my midriff."

Noel Gallagher had fallen on his monitor speakers and received bruised hips and ribs which forced Oasis to cancel two scheduled North American concerts, including one in New York. The concert ending their Canadian tour, to be held in London, Ontario, has been rescheduled to December 15.

### **Libertarian National Committee in fierce deadlock over how to address growing Bob Barr controversies**

The Libertarian National Committee (LNC) was reported to be in a deadlock Sunday night over how to address the growing controversies surrounding their party's U.S. presidential nominee, former congressman Bob Barr.

Many libertarians have spoken out against Barr since his last minute refusal to attend former Republican presidential hopeful Congressman Ron Paul's third party unity conference at the National Press Club in Washington, DC on Wednesday.

The effort to replace Barr as the nominee has been rejected. Not a single person on the 17-member LNC was willing to make the motion.

However, at-large representative Dr. Mary Ruwart — who lost the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination to Barr at the National Convention in May by only a few votes — is supporting a resolution to apologize to Paul.

This is being countered by

Treasurer Aaron Starr, who favors a resolution to chastise Paul for not endorsing Bob Barr and "splitting the Freedom Movement."

Currently, neither resolution has enough votes to pass.

### **Despite threats, "Alaska Women Reject Palin" rally held**

A group calling itself "Alaska Women Reject Palin" held an anti-Sarah Palin rally Saturday, despite receiving threatening phone calls last week. Palin is the vice presidential candidate, running with John McCain, on the Republican ticket in the American presidential election to be held on Nov. 4.

On Wednesday, the group sent a press release to the local media about the rally. The press release, a copy of which was obtained by Wikinews, says that Alaska Women Reject Palin is a group "who challenge the claim that Palin's value systems and ideals reflect all women and middle-class American families, and who urge voters to scrutinize Palin's politics, and decide for themselves if hers is the example by which they and their families want to live."

"The whole thing grew out of frustration," Charla Sterne, one of Alaska Women Reject Palin's group members and an organizer of the rally, told The Washington Post. "Last week this was just ten women sitting around talking about this perception that all of Alaska supports Sarah Palin. We apparently hit a nerve and started a movement."

Eddie Burke, a KBYR talk radio host, broadcast the names and contact information of two of the group's members on the air.

"They're a bunch of socialist

maggots, that's what I'm going to call them — socialist maggots, that's what they are, a bunch of socialist baby-killing maggots," Burke said on his radio show, according to local television news station KTUU 2.

Burke says he's conservative and a "Palinista," but on Thursday he admitted to KTUU news that he "... was probably a little over the top."

According to KTUU, Burke encouraged his listeners to call the two organizers listed in the press release.

Burke called the document public, but one organizer objected to the release of information on ethical grounds.

"I was honestly shocked because I couldn't believe that a member of the media would take information that I think is pretty standard in a press release and use it for what seems like pretty unethical purposes, for one thing," an organizer told KTUU.

The organizer's name was not released by KTUU, and her image was distorted on television broadcasts.

KTUU broadcast part of one message sent to an organizer, "You liberals need to get a life. What is wrong with you? You think you speak for everybody? You don't speak for nobody but your individual, stupid selves."

Alaska Public Radio published portions of three messages, including the one broadcast by KTUU.

"[a]nd don't go around and tell people that you are standing up for all the women of Alaska," one woman said, "that's not right. ... "

"I just heard on Eddie Burke about you," another woman said, "you people are disgusting, how can you call yourself a woman."

Both organizers said their voice mail systems were "full of messages."

"We were bombarded with all kinds of hateful, abusive, intimidating phone calls," organizer Sterne told the Anchorage Daily News. It not clear if Sterne is the same woman interviewed by KTUU, but Alaska Public Radio said that Sterne considered not attending the rally, but decided to go through with it.

According to KTUU, the two organizers contacted police, and were told that they could file an alleged-harassment report, but as of Thursday, had not done so. KTUU cites Anchorage Police Department Lt. Paul Honeman as saying that Burke's on-air encouragement instigated the harassment. As of Thursday, Burke has not been punished in any way.

#### *The rallies*

According to the Anchorage Daily News, word of the rally spread via the internet and as many as 1500 people attended, both for and against Palin.

The rally started just hours after Palin spoke in downtown Anchorage's Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center, to a crowd estimated between 1000 and 1500. The event was dubbed "Welcome Home Sarah."

"Alaska, I'll be doing it for you," Palin said. "Going forth in these days ahead, Alaska, I pledge to do my level best and to be worthy of the confidence this beautiful state has put in me."

Comments about Palin at the second rally were mainly negative, but views differed among those gathered in support of Palin.

"Sarah Palin frightens the hell out of me. I don't want her anywhere near the White House," Marybeth Holleman of Anchorage told the Anchorage Daily News.

According to the Anchorage Daily News, supporters of Palin cite the good she has done as Governor of Alaska, including a check all Alaskans received from the state.

"I'll bet on the other side none of those people are going to reject that and send it back," Rick Case said of the \$1,200 check.

Alison Till, a geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, criticized Palin on what Till called her lack of reliance on "solid and unbiased science" when making decision about energy, global warming, the teaching of creationism in public schools and her refusal to put polar bears on the list of endangered species.

"She is unqualified," Till told the Anchorage Daily News.

At the Palin rally, views were different.

"I'm all in for Sarah," Tracy Jones told the Anchorage Daily News. "This is really exciting. I watched this town go from crayons to perfume. I think it's fresh, exciting, and I'm really proud of her."

"This is a historic moment," 84-year-old first-time political-rally-attendee Pauline Kee said. "This is the most important day for Sarah and the state."

Wikinews has sent an e-mail to Burke, but as of midnight Sunday, he has not responded.

### **Decade worth of messages, interviews from bin Laden leaked to web**

Ten years of messages and interviews with al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden have been leaked. Translated by the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the documents were posted on a blog Friday.

Posted to Secrecy News blog on September 12, and copied to similar sites including Wikileaks.org, the ten years of messages span from 1994-2004. The packet, issued in 2004, is nearly 300 pages, and labeled "official use only". It was translated by the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS), a division of the CIA, and includes interviews with bin Laden from various news agencies and also includes messages he sent directly to the United States.

One message includes bin Laden's denial of having anything to do with the September 11, 2001 attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania.

"Following the latest explosions in the United States, some Americans are pointing the finger at me, but I deny that because I have not done it. The United States has always accused me of these incidents which have been caused by its enemies. Reiterating once again, I say that I have not done it, and the perpetrators have carried this out because of their own interest," said bin Laden on September 16, 2001, just five days after the attacks.

Bin Laden also states that he was

living in Afghanistan at the time of the attacks and that "I have held talks with His Eminence Amir al-Momenin [Taleban leader Mola Mohammad Omar Mojahed], who does not allow such acts to be carried out from Afghanistan's territory." Again on September 28, 2001 in an interview with Karachi Ummat, bin Laden denies any involvement with the attacks and further denied that al-Qaeda had anything to do with plotting and carrying out the attacks.

However, in May, just four months prior to the September 11 attacks, bin Laden reportedly says that if the Taliban allows him, he can make life for Americans very difficult.

"If the Taleban allowed, [I] could make life miserable for the United States. The United States [is] imposing unjust sanctions on Muslims. Imposing such sanctions and boasting of power [is] a US hobby. The U.S. will fall to pieces," stated bin Laden which was quoted by ANN on May 17, 2001. Five years before, bin Laden declared a "jihad" on the U.S..

In April of 2002, the television station London MBC said it obtained a video reportedly showing bin Laden and an al-Qaeda spokesman praising the 9/11 attacks. It also allegedly showed, for the first time, images of some of the members of al-Qaeda responsible for hijacking the aircraft used in the attacks.

Bin Laden also blames the U.S. for the bombings in China in 1997 saying that the U.S. was trying to "to sabotage relations between China and the Muslim world through the CIA." He then goes on to say that he would "promise" to bring "action in the understanding between Pakistan, Iran and

China."

The current whereabouts of bin Laden is not known.

### **Wikipedia Current Events**

A stampede in the Indonesian town of Pasuruan leaves 21 people dead, most of whom are thought to be women.

- At least 1 person has died and 26 are missing after a Ro-ro ferry sinks near the Turkish city of Bandirma.

- Lehman Brothers files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy resulting from the subprime mortgage crisis.

- The Dow Jones industrial average falls by over 500 points as the New York Stock Exchange responds to events over the weekend.

- Six men have been found guilty of terrorism-related offences in Melbourne, Australia. Abdul Nacer Benbrika was found guilty of intentionally directing the activities of a terrorist organization while five other men were found guilty of being members of the same organisation. Four other men were acquitted and the jury is still considering its verdict on two men.

- The remnants of Ike are blamed for 13 more deaths in the Midwestern United States.

- More than one million households in the Midwestern United States are left without electricity due to high winds.

- President George W. Bush warns that motorists will face a "pinch" from rising costs caused by Hurricane Ike.

- NASA Scientist report that the Ozone\_hole over the Antarctic

**Wikipedia Current Events**

has reached its largest expanse, 27 million square kilometers vs 26 million square kilometers in 2006.

**Today in History**

1701 – Prince James Francis Edward Stuart, more commonly referred to as the "Old Pretender", became the Jacobite claimant of the thrones of England and Scotland.

1776 – American Revolutionary War: Infuriated by British troops sounding their bugle horns like it was a fox hunt, the Americans held their ground en route to a victory at the Battle of Harlem Heights in present-day New York City.

1810 – Miguel Hidalgo, the parish priest in Dolores, Guanajuato, delivered the Grito de Dolores to his congregation, instigating the Mexican War of Independence against Spain.

1963 – Malaya, Singapore, North Borneo (present-day Sabah), and Sarawak merged to form Malaysia.

1982 – A Lebanese militia under the direct command of Elie Hobeika carried out a massacre in the Palestinian refugee camp of Sabra and Shatila, killing at least 700 civilians.

September 16 is Prinsjesdag in Netherlands (2008); Dieciséis de septiembre in Mexico; Hari Malaysia in Malaysia; Independence Day in Papua New Guinea

**Quote of the Day**

It is the modest, not the presumptuous, inquirer who makes a real and safe progress in the discovery of divine truths. ~ Henry St John, 1st Viscount Bolingbroke

**Word of the Day**

indubitably adv

1. In a manner that leaves no possibility of doubt; undoubtedly.

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