June 10, 2008

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Top Stories

Four Pakistani policemen shot dead

Four Pakistani police officers have



been shot dead by suspected militants, according to police. The attackers allegedly shot into a police car

before setting it on fire.

NASA's Phoenix spacecraft having trouble analyzing soil samples

NASA has stated that the Mars Phoenix lander is having trouble analyzing soil samples that its robotic arm is collecting.



According to NASA, the soil appears to be too clodded to

pass through screens on the way to Phoenix's Thermal and Evolved-Gas Analyzer (TEGA).

UN summit results in pledge to mitigate food crisis

A three-day United Nations (UN) summit, bringing together leaders from 181 countries, has wrapped



up with a pledge by all attending countries to address the global food shortage crisis.

Key actions cited include doubling the world's food production by 2030, providing resources for farmers in poor countries and increasing humanitarian aid in times of crisis.

Buildings destroyed to slow flooding in China lake

Chinese troops today destroyed a variety of debris, including wooden houses, as part of an effort to slow the flooding of a lake.

Wikipedia Current Events

24 miners are rescued from the Ukrainian coal mine collapse with 12 still missing and one reported fatality.

- •A further three British
 Conservative MEPs are facing
 allegations of financial abuse,
 following the resignation of two
 fellow members from European
 Parliament positions last week.
 Al-Naimi, the Saudi Arabian oil
 minister calls for a meeting of oil
 producing and consuming nations
 to discuss record oil prices.
- •Apple, Inc. introduced a new iPhone with 3G capabilities, a GPS, and new features. The device is called iPhone 3G.
- •Bulgarian sumo wrestler
 Kotooshu became the first
 European to win the prestigious
 Summer Grand Tournament in
 Tokyo last month and is now a
 step closer to attaining his sport's
 highest rank.
- •IBM and Los Alamos National Laboratory break processing speed barrier with the world's first petaflop computer, Roadrunner.
- •India's prime minister Manmohan Singh calls for global nuclear disarmament asking world countries to create 'timebound

Wikipedia Current Events

framework' to rid the world of atomic weapons.

- •Indonesia makes the practice of the Ahmadiyya form of Islam in Indonesia a crime punishable by five years in prison.
- •Tens of thousands of Spanish truck drivers start an indefinite strike over the increases in the price of diesel.
- •The government of the Indian state of Rajasthan meets with leaders of the Gujjar community after two weeks of protests over the reservation system.
- •The President of the US George W. Bush commences the last visit to Europe of his presidency.
- •The United States Secretary of Defense Robert Gates nominates Norton Schwartz to be the next Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force with Michael B. Donley nominated as the next United States Secretary of the Air Force.

Apple launches 3G iPhone

Apple Computers today launched a 3G version of its iPhone device. Steve Jobs, the Apple Chief Executive Officer, announced the development at a developers' conference, where he promoted the iPhone by saying that, "just one year after launching the iPhone, we're launching the new iPhone 3G that is twice as fast at half the price."

Apple has claimed that the 3G iPhone will provide internet access at double the speed of the internet

access provided by the previous versions.

The price for the iPhone has also been reduced to \$199 in the US.

For several months there has been speculation among Apple fans about the launch of a 3G iPhone.

CTV acquires rights to 'The **Hockey Theme'**

The CTV Television Network has acquired the rights to The Hockey Theme. Composed by Dolores Claman, The Hockey Theme was the theme song of Hockey Night in Canada, one of the most popular Canadian television programs, since 1968.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's (CBC) latest license to broadcast The Hockey Theme had expired at the conclusion of the latest NHL season. On June 6, negotiations between Claman and CBC broke down, with the CBC announcing that a deal could not be reached. The CBC offered to resume negotiation with a mediator today. However, by midafternoon today, Claman's representatives announced that they had sold the rights to CTV.

CTV will use this song in its broadcasts of National Hockey League (NHL) games on The Sports Network (TSN) and Réseau des sports (RDS), as well as during will continue to serve grape the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Seattle homeless advocates arrested for blocking intersection

14 or 15 homeless advocates who had been blocking an intersection in downtown Seattle, Washington were arrested by police. The protest was in response to street sweeps that have been aimed at removing homeless camps.

The protesters, members of an organization called "Real Change", were taken peacefully to a bus after ignoring two police warnings to leave the area. They were then taken to the West Precinct station for processing, with the possibility of facing pedestrian interference charges.

The group had been camping overnight in front of the City Hall Plaza with the message that the city needs shelters for the homeless instead of simply running them out of camps. The city says that it gives residents warning and offers of social services before removing these camps due to health and safety issues.

McDonald's pulls sliced tomatoes from menu

McDonald's Corp. has temporarily pulled tomatoes from its sandwiches in in the United States. and again," he added. They stated a precautionary move in the wake of a salmonella outbreak. At least 145 people in around 16 states have been infected with the bacteria known as Salmonella Saintpaul. The sandwiches affected are the premium chicken sandwiches and the Big N' Tasty burger.

Raw cherry tomatoes and grape tomatoes don't present a problem, the FDA says. McDonald's said it tomatoes in its premium salads.

Israel, Iran engage in war of words

Israel and Iran are engaged in a war of words following comments made by Shaul Mofaz, Israel's Transportation Minister, stating that his country will "attack Iran" if Iran began researching nuclear Iran does not stop building up its nuclear program.

On Friday, June 6 in an interview

with Yedioth Ahronoth, an Israeli newspaper, Mofaz was quoted: "Attacking Iran, in order to stop its nuclear plans, will be unavoidable. If Iran continues its plan to develop nuclear weapons, we will attack it. The window of opportunity has closed. The sanctions are not effective. There will be no choice but to attack Iran to stop its nuclear program."

Iran has responded to Mofaz's statements saying that Israel would suffer a "painful response" if it attacks.

"If somebody wants to do such a foolish job, the response will be very painful," said Mostafa Mohammad-Najjar, Iran's Defense Minister, to reporters. "Ever since it lost to Hizbullah, Israel has been suffering from psychological problems, which is why its people make foolish remarks every now

The United States is committed to diplomacy regarding Iran's nuclear program and has urged Israel to also use diplomacy.

"We are trying to solve this diplomatically," said Dana Perino, the current Press Secretary for the White House. She also added that the U.S. "would never take any options off the table."

Israel's Prime Minister, Ehud Olmert, has not commented on the remarks made by Mofaz, but he states that while sanctions are a positive measure, "much more needs to be done to pressure the regime in Tehran to cease its aggressive nuclear program."

energy in the 1950s; the country has continuously stated that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes.

2008 COMPUTEX Taipei: Another insight of "Design"

the Taiwan Design Center (TDC), Taiwan positioned a stable place in industrial and students' designs after winning several international design awards including G-mark, Red Dot, and iF.

To promote the design of Taiwan into the world, not only pavilions from the Taiwan Excellence Gold & Silver Awards, d & i Award of COMPUTEX, Best Choice of COMPUTEX, and Taiwan Design Innovation Pavilion, the TDC & Taiwan External Trade Development Council also held the "Design Think Forum" to examine and forecast the design industry in Taiwan on the 2nd Day of COMPUTEX (June 4).

"Transformations from strategic innovation and organization design will be the critical elements for an enterprise who wanted to be grown up and competitive in the world. The growth of an industry is built with not only the basic infrastructure of hardware and economy but also some key elements including design, traditional culture, and creativity." —Taiwan Design Center.

In the "TAITRA ICT 5-Stars Press Conference", Walter Yeh, Vice President of Taiwan External Trade Development Council, talked to Wikinews Journalist Rico Shen about "Design", he said: "We [the TAITRA] did a good attempt on 'iF Design Award Pavilion' at 2007 TAITRONICS (a.k.a Taipei International Electronics Show) and it [the pavilion] was highly respected by several industries not only the design [industry]. This year, we'll still promote this pavilion to market the design of Taiwan into the world. In addition, we invited several world-class juries from vast fields to keep

several innovation awards more fair and professional in every Taipei Trade Shows."

Besides of the "iF Design Award 2008 2nd Taiwan International Culture and Creative Industries Exhibition (a.k.a Creative Taiwan), which will be showcased at Taipei World Trade Center on October 23 - 26, will be a critical trade show for cultural, design, and creative industries. As a result, the growth of design industry will pulse the future of the other industries including the ICT.

Long March 3B rocket launches **Chinasat-9 satellite**

A Chinese Long March 3B carrier rocket has launched the Chinasat-9 satellite. The rocket lifted off from pad 2 at the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre at 12:15 GMT this afternoon. Chinasat-9, also known as Zhongxing-9 and ZX-9, is a communications satellite, which will initially be used taking part in a training exercise to relay coverage of the 2008 Olympic Games. The launch was conducted by the China Great Wall Industrial Corporation.

Around twenty minutes after the rocket lifted off, the satellite separated from the third stage, into a geosynchronous transfer orbit. It will raise itself into a geosynchronous orbit, around 35,000 kilometres above the equator, by means of its onboard S-400 apogee motor. Chinasat-9 was constructed by Thales Alenia Space of France, based on the Spacebus-4000C2 satellite bus. It is equipped with 22 J-band (IEEE Ku-band) transponders, and will be operated by the China Telecommunications Broadcast Satellite Corporation on behalf of the China Ministry of Post and Telecommunications.

Chinasat-9 is the last of a number of communications satellites which have been launched by China over the last few years to boost capacity for the Olympic Games, Pavilion" at TAITRONICS 2008, the including the Sinosat-2 spacecraft, which was lost after it failed to deploy its solar panels subsequent to its launch in late 2006. One more satellite, Echostar-CBM was scheduled to be launched, however this was cancelled due to performance issues. The Olympic Games will take place in August.

> This is the 3rd orbital launch that China has conducted so far this year, and the 28th orbital launch of the year in total. The next Chinese launch is believed to be scheduled for August, when a Long March 2C will launch a pair of remote sensing satellites.

UK policeman killed while training

A policeman from the United Kingdom was killed today while with his police force, in the city of Manchester.

The policeman died as a result of a shot to the chest. The incident occurred at approximately 10:30 UTC (11:30 local time) this morning.

Greater Manchester Police released a statement regarding the incident, saying that the officer was shot at Thorpe Road, which is found in the Newton Heath area of the city.

2008 e21FORUM: Intel confronts Microsoft again

The opening day of COMPUTEX 2008, e21FORUM was held at the Taipei International Convention Center on June 3 to forecast the future of ICT industry world-wide. To connect with the topic of "WiMAX" mainly promoted by

Taipei Computer Association, e21MagicMedia, convener of e21FORUM, entitled the forum topic as "Leading to a Bright Future with Technology".

Since the e21FORUM was initially held from 2001, the dialogue between Microsoft and Intel became a key topic in this event. This year, executives from Microsoft and Intel confronted here Protection Agency, lightning struck again.

In the opening keynote, Sean M. Maloney, Executive Vice President of Intel Corporation, started his speech to forecast the future of WiMAX. "WiMAX will become a must-have trend. When it matured[sic], it will bring on the utilization percentages on mobile devices like MID and UMPC." stated Maloney. In addition, he also demonstrated the application of SSD by shocking and stunning its device to prove its sustainability and damage-proof in front of forum participants.

On the other hand, Microsoft participated in the COMPUTEX 2008 entitled "It's better with Windows" to demonstrate the advantages of Microsoft Windows with "Trusted", "Familiar", and "Compatible". In the second keynote, Steven Guggenheimer, Vice President of Microsoft Global OEM Department, explained the opportunities which OEMs and ODMs can provide to elevate users' experiences by optimizing Microsoft Windows to the best performance.

Finally in the executive panel, DigiTimes and experts from ICT industry in Taiwan forecast the future of WiMAX. Executives coordinately commented that the basic infrastructure will be a critical factor when developing the WiMAX applications in Taiwan.

Lightning strikes park in Connecticut killing 1, injuring 4

At least 4 people are injured, one "very seriously", and at least one is dead after being struck by lightning during a thunderstorm which passed over a park located in Madison, Connecticut.

According to the city's local chapter of the environmental a pavilion at approximately 5:00 p.m. (eastern time) at Hamonasset Beach State Park.

The names of the victims have not vet been released. At least four people remained hospitalized. Nearly 26,000 people are reported to have lost power when the storms moved through the area.

Today in History

1190 - The Third Crusade: Frederick I Barbarossa drowned in the Saleph River in Anatolia. 1719 – Jacobite risings: British forces defeated an alliance of Jacobites and Spaniards at the Battle of Glen Shiel in the Scottish Highlands.

1829 - In rowing, Oxford defeated Cambridge in the first Boat Race held in the Thames in London. 1838 - More than twenty-five Australian Aborigines were massacred near Inverell, New South Wales.

1935 - American physician Bob Smith had his last alcoholic drink, marking the traditional founding date of Alcoholics Anonymous. June 10 is Portugal Day (Portugal's National Day and the Deathday of Luís de Camões

Quote of the Day

We are drowning in information, while starving for wisdom. The world henceforth will be run by synthesizers, people able to put together the right information at the right time, think critically

about it, and make important choices wisely. ~ E. O. Wilson

Word of the Day

wreak v

1. To cause, inflict or let out, especially if causing harm or iniurv.

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