

Israeli troops catch accused leader of suicide bombings

By Michael A. Lev
Chicago Tribune

JERUSALEM (KRT) — Israeli forces on Monday captured a top aide to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat as U.S. officials announced that Secretary of State Colin Powell would meet again with Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to try to jump start the Middle East peace process.

Powell, who is to see Sharon on Tuesday and Arafat the following day, embraced an Israeli suggestion for an American-led peace conference that could take place among foreign ministers and not necessarily involve Arafat. That addresses a key Israeli demand, but analysts said the Palestinians and Arab states might reject any meeting arranged to specifically exclude Arafat.

Sharon, meanwhile, said Israeli troops would withdraw from most West Bank cities by next week. He provided two important exceptions, however: Bethlehem, where Palestinian gunmen are holed up in the Church of the Nativity; and Ramallah, where Israeli troops have placed Arafat's compound under siege.

The arrest of Marwan Barghout, leader of the Tanzim militia and a chief organizer of the 18-month-old armed uprising against the Israeli presence in Palestinian lands, brought condemnation from Palestinian officials.

"Any harm to Barghouti will lead to grave consequences," Arafat aide Ahmed Abdul Rahman told Reuters.

Israeli officials once considered Barghouti, 41, a supporter of the peace process, a man they could deal with, perhaps even a palatable alternative to Arafat. But the Sharon government now views him as a terrorist masquerading as a politician.

Israeli officials tie Barghouti to the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, a shadowy group linked to Arafat's Fatah movement that has claimed responsibility for a series of suicide bombings and shooting attacks on Israeli soldiers and civilians.

Defense Minister Binyamin Ben Eliezer said Barghouti had turned Fatah's militia into "the most murderous of the terrorist organizations, committing most of the recent attacks against Israel."

Sharon said Israel would try Barghouti, who was brought to Jerusalem for interrogation after his arrest in Ramallah. Barghouti had been evading Israeli troops since their sweeping assault on Palestinian territories began nearly three weeks ago after a Passover holiday suicide bombing killed 26 Israelis.

Barghouti, the highest-ranking Fatah official detained by Israel, had not left the Palestinian-controlled town of Ramallah for 19 months, for fear of being arrested by Israel or being killed.

Some members of the Sharon government despise him. When his arrest was announced, a government spokesman said bitterly: "They should have killed him. He doesn't deserve to live and he will be a bigger headache alive."

Well-educated, charismatic and a



(KRT) Marwan Barghouti, shown in this May 2001 file photo, was arrested in Ramallah in the West Bank by Israeli forces.

member of a prominent Ramallah family, Barghouti is a member of the Palestinian parliament and one of the most popular figures of the current uprising. He is considered an accomplished street politician believed capable of expertly organizing demonstrations but whose darker impulses are less understood.

Barghouti has talked both of the promise of a negotiated peace settlement with issue and made threats that there can be "no security without peace."

"I do not seek to destroy Israel but only to end its occupation of my country," he once said.

© 2002, Chicago Tribune. Distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services

army camo hair color pipes — 100s
 hair color pipes — 100s skateboards — hot
 pipes — 100s skateboards — hot stickers — 1000s
 stickers — 1000s t-shirts jewelry
 t-shirts wallets shirts — 1000s
 wallets body jewelry added belts
 body jewelry posters — 1000s martial arts
 posters — 1000s martial arts Grateful Dead
 studded belts Grateful Dead backpacks
 martial arts Grateful Dead backpacks
 Grateful Dead backpacks
 backpacks blacklights 57 W. BROADWAY • 687-0139 — 100s
 army camo www.lazar's.com skateboards — hot
 *Over \$10. Excluding skateboards, snowboards, scales and tobacco products.

10% off everything

LAZAR'S BAZAR

STUDENT TRAVEL

It's YOUR trip, take it!

London.....\$647
 Paris.....\$745
 Brussels....\$784
 Rio de Janiero..\$874
 San Jose C.R...\$566

BUDGET HOTELS
 for as little as
\$18
 A NIGHT!!!

Fares are round-trip from Eugene. Restrictions may apply. Tax not included.



STA TRAVEL

800.777.0112

www.statravel.com

Pope summons cardinals to Rome

By Tom Huddleley and Flynn McRoberts
Chicago Tribune

ROME (KRT) — Pope John Paul II on Monday summoned U.S. cardinals to the Vatican next week to discuss the sex scandals roiling the Catholic Church — an extraordinary signal of how serious the pontiff now considers the crisis.

The call to Rome of the eight American cardinals who lead archdioceses — including Chicago's Francis George — amounted to a dramatic departure from the pope's public reticence on an issue that has shaken the credibility of the church's American leadership.

Church observers could not name another instance where a pope summoned the American cardinals on such short notice to address a specific issue.

The Vatican's announcement followed by just days a lunch meeting between the pope and leaders of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in which they discussed the American church's handling of priests accused of sexual abuse.

Leading the delegation to the Vatican was the conference president, Bishop Wilton D. Gregory, a Chicago native who as head of the diocese of Belleville, Ill., has actively addressed the scandal.

Gregory "relayed to the Holy Father very honestly what the situation is in the American church — that it is a very painful, significant moment for the church," said Bishop William Skylstad of Spokane, Wash., the vice president of the

conference who also attended the lunch with the pope last Tuesday.

Since the latest sex-abuse scandal erupted with disclosures in Boston that offending priests had been quietly shuttled from parish to parish, John Paul II had made only two brief references to the issue. One came in a single paragraph in his 22-page pre-Easter letter to priests in which he wrote that they are affected by "the sins of some of our brothers" who have succumbed to "the most grievous forms" of evil.

As recently as last week, the pope expressed "fraternal solidarity" with U.S. clergymen over the widening scandal and made clear that he thought it was up to them to clean up the mess created by fellow priests.

His summons on Monday sent a very different signal. "The fact that the Vatican is calling the cardinals together betokens a recognition ... that this is a problem affecting the entire church nationally," said Scott Appleby, professor of history at the University of Notre Dame.

"Calling the cardinals together to talk about something is not extraordinary," Cardinal George said in an interview Monday night. "What is extraordinary is the moment. ... The more we discuss this, the better off we are in general."

Despite the extraordinary nature of next week's session, church experts cautioned against predicting immediate, fundamental changes from it.

"There is a danger of having excessively high expectations of what can come from this meeting," said Rev. Thomas Reese, editor of America, the national Catholic weekly magazine. "Obviously, the pope cannot micromanage the priest personnel policies of every diocese in the U.S. But the cardinals could float ideas with the pope and get his reactions."

© 2002, Chicago Tribune. Distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services.

Advertise. Get Results.

346-3712

Oregon Daily Emerald

Spring Specials

- 500 Whenever Minutes
- Unlimited Weekend Minutes
- Free Long Distance & Roaming \$39⁹⁹/mo.

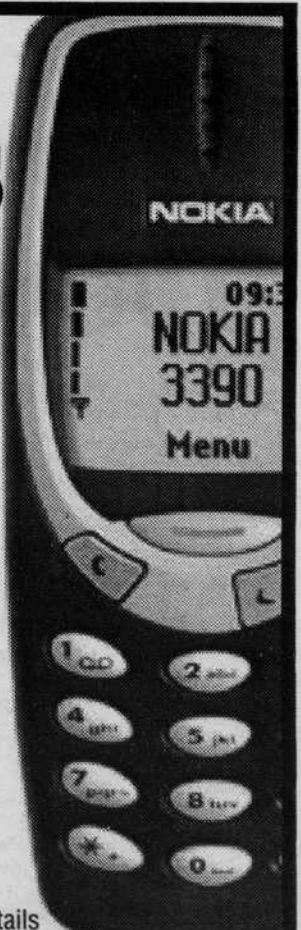
Free
 Nokia 3390
 with activation

25% off
 on all accessories with
 your student ID
 and this ad.

SmartWireless.com

315 Coburg Rd. (Next to Albertsons) • 343-3388

*OAC - Some restrictions apply - see store for details



NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU TRAVEL,
 YOU'RE ALWAYS CLOSE TO CAMPUS.

oregon daily emerald on the world wide web
 www.dailyemerald.com