

Today	Wednesday	Thursday
High: 56 Low: 40 Precip: 90%	High: 54 Low: 37 Precip: 10%	High: 56 Low: 36 Precip: 20%

IN BRIEF

Suicide bomber kills three in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV, Israel — A 16-year-old Palestinian laden with explosives blew himself up Monday in a crowded outdoor market in Tel Aviv, killing three Israelis, wounding 32 and scattering body parts and blood-spattered vegetables on the ground. The bomber's mother said the militants who dispatched him were "immoral." The attack tested Israel's promise to show restraint during the absence of the ailing Yasser Arafat. Palestinian leaders — including Arafat — immediately condemned the attack, the first since a Sept. 22 bombing in Jerusalem.

Gunmen kidnap six in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Gunmen stormed the compound of a Saudi company in a fashionable Baghdad neighborhood Monday, seizing an American, a Nepalese and four Iraqis after a gunbattle in which a guard and one of the assailants were killed, police said. The American, who was not identified, was the 12th U.S. citizen reported kidnapped or missing in Iraq. He was grabbed about 500 yards from the house where two Americans and a Briton were kidnapped, and later beheaded, last month.

Rehnquist undergoing radiation and chemo

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist revealed Monday that he is undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatment for thyroid cancer, signs he has a grave form of the disease and probably will not return to the bench soon. The election eve disclosure by the 80-year-old justice underscores the near certainty that the next president will make at least one appointment to the Supreme Court and probably more.

US tightens overseas embassy security

RIGA, Latvia — Security was tighter around the U.S. embassies in Finland and Latvia on Monday amid a U.S. warning that Americans living and traveling in the Nordic and Baltic nations should be on guard against a possible terrorist strike.

Many governments in the region said there was no specific evidence of a planned attack, but Norway closed its embassy in Riga, the Latvian capital, and port officials in Tallinn, Estonia, said they had begun checking passengers and baggage at terminals for Baltic Sea ferries. Latvia had more undercover police out on the streets of Riga.

The U.S. State Department "urges all U.S. citizens in the Nordic and Baltic countries to be vigilant as to their surroundings, especially in centers of ground-based mass transit, and to report any unusual or suspicious persons, incidents or circumstances to the nearest police authorities," the Web site of the U.S. Embassy in Finland said.

—The Associated Press

Osama Bin Laden threatens to 'bleed America bankrupt'

The al-Qaida leader appeared in a Monday broadcast, allegedly to affect the presidential election

BY DONNA BRYSON
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAIRO, Egypt — Osama bin Laden vowed to bleed America to bankruptcy, according to a full transcript of un-aired portions of a videotape released Monday by an Arab television station. The al-Qaida leader's remarks appeared targeted to the final days of the U.S. presidential campaign in which the struggling economy is a major issue.

Bin Laden boasted in his first appearance in more than a year that for every \$1 al-Qaida has spent on terrorist strikes, it has cost the United States \$1 million in economic fallout and military spending, including emergency funding for Iraq and Afghanistan.

"As for the size of the economic deficit, it has reached record astronomical numbers," bin Laden said, estimating the deficit at more than \$1 trillion.

In reality, spending in the war against terror and other factors have resulted in an expected \$377 billion shortfall for 2003 — the highest deficit since World War II accounting for inflation. The total U.S. national debt is near the \$7.4 trillion statutory limit.

Bin Laden dwelled on al-Qaida's economic strategy against the United States, according to the complete transcript of the 18-minute video that aired on Al-Jazeera and was obtained by U.S. intelligence. Al-Jazeera broadcast about 14 minutes of the video Friday

and put the full English language transcript on its Web site on Monday.

The terror mastermind whose al-Qaida network carried out the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks credited the religiously inspired Arab volunteers that he fought with against the Soviets in Afghanistan with having "bled Russia for 10 years, until it went bankrupt and was forced to withdraw in defeat." He suggested the same strategy would work against the United States.

"So we are continuing this policy in bleeding America to the point of bankruptcy," a calm and forceful bin Laden said in the tape that appeared near the end of a U.S. campaign that has focused on the war on terror as well as the foundering U.S. economy.

Bin Laden, in rhetoric that seemed to echo critical campaign headlines in the United States, accused President Bush of going to war in oil-rich Iraq simply to create business for military contractors linked to his administration.

In his message aimed at American listeners, bin Laden claimed al-Qaida was winning its war with the United States, and that contractors "like Halliburton and its kind" were also benefiting, while the losers were "the American people and their economy."

Bin Laden noted reports that al-Qaida spent \$500,000 "on the event" — referring to Sept. 11 attacks — while the United States has lost more than \$500 billion "in the incident and its aftermath," he added, citing an estimate

by a British think tank.

Evan F. Kohlmann, a U.S.-based counterterrorism researcher, said it was as if bin Laden were following the news from the United States, perhaps on satellite TV, and drawing shrewd assumptions about what concerns Americans.

"He is trying to create doubts in America's mind that this war is worth the cost," Kohlmann said.

Al-Qaida has long made a point of hitting economic targets. The World Trade Center was likely targeted in the Sept. 11 attacks both because attacking it would kill thousands and because the twin towers were symbols of America's economic power. In a video that surfaced in December 2001, bin Laden said the Sept. 11 attackers struck the American economy "in the heart."

Bin Laden's top deputy, Ayman al-Zawahri, comes from an Egyptian militant group that attacked tourism and other economic targets in hopes of bringing down Egypt's government. In an audiotape that surfaced in October 2002, al-Zawahri threatened new attacks on the U.S. economy.

At about the same time, a small boat crashed into a French oil tanker off the coast of Yemen and exploded. That attack was seen as a strike at international oil shipping. Saudi militants linked to al-Qaida have attacked foreigners working in that kingdom's oil industry.

In August, U.S. officials said they had uncovered indications al-Qaida was targeting financial sites, including the New York Stock Exchange and World Bank buildings.

FRESHMEN – SOPHOMORES – JUNIORS – SENIORS

MARINE CORPS OFFICER TRAINING

To qualify for Marine Corps Officer programs, students must be U.S. citizens, enrolled in a university, and be willing to accept physical and mental challenges. Officer Candidate School is a ten-week session in Quantico, Virginia. Students are paid about \$3,000 during training.



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CAREER FIELDS

The Marine Corps offers 18 career fields in which you can become a leader. Some of them are Communications, Logistics, Intelligence, Public Affairs, Military Police, Finance, and Computer Science. The Marine Corps is an organization that *builds* leaders. In each of these fields you'll be given the authority and responsibility that most college graduates seek, but seldom achieve.

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The Marine Corps has a dedicated group of attorneys who are also Marine Officers. This field is open to students who are seniors in college or currently enrolled in law school. Marine Corps Judge Advocates (attorneys) quickly handle their own cases and have a great deal of trial time. They are generously compensated for their law degree and are paid a salary which is competitive with that of many civilian firms.

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