

Today	Wednesday	Thursday
High: 55 Low: 46 Precip: 60%	High: 58 Low: 42 Precip: 50%	High: 57 Low: 39 Precip: 10%

**IN BRIEF**

**5.9-magnitude aftershock rocks northern Japan**

TOKYO — A strong earthquake rocked northern Japan on Monday near the area where the country's deadliest quake in a decade struck last month. At least eight people were injured.

The 5.9-magnitude quake, which hit at 11:16 a.m., was centered close to the earth's surface in the Chuetsu area of Niigata state, the Meteorological Agency said. It was considered an aftershock to the 6.8-magnitude tremor that hit on Oct. 23, the agency said.

After the quake, service on a high-speed train line between Tokyo and Niigata was suspended for safety checks. One train derailed last month when the initial quake struck almost directly under its tracks.

Television footage from Niigata showed swaying power lines and ceiling lamps. Three weaker tremors of magnitudes 5.0, 4.5, and 4.2 struck in rapid succession in the half hour following the initial aftershock, the Meteorological Agency said.

There was no danger of a tsunami, or ocean waves triggered by seismic activity, it said.

**Rumsfeld: 'Rule of Iraq assassins must end'**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Defeating the insurgents in Fallujah is critical in the battle for a free Iraq because "one part of the country cannot remain under the rule of assassins," Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Monday. "These are killers. They chop people's heads off," he told a Pentagon news conference hours after American and U.S.-trained Iraqi troops launched an assault on Fallujah.

**EWU students arrested after campus bombing**

SPOKANE, Wash. — Four Eastern Washington University students were suspended, and two faced criminal charges Monday, after a pipe bomb

exploded outside a dormitory. The bomb detonated about 1 a.m. Saturday outside the Morrison Hall dormitory on EWU's Cheney campus, but caused no injuries or damage.

Barbara Richey, director of university relations, said the two students who were arrested face possible federal charges. Their names were not released. Two others were indirectly involved and were being questioned, she said.

She called the incident isolated and apparently "just a bad prank."

The investigation by university police was joined by Spokane County sheriff's detectives and the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

The four students were removed from their dormitory rooms and temporarily suspended pending the outcome of the criminal investigations, Richey said.

**Serb report acknowledges planned mass murder**

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — A Serb commission's final report on the 1995 Srebrenica massacre acknowledges that the mass murder of 7,800 Muslim men and boys by Bosnian Serb forces was planned, an international official said Monday.

The report on the worst massacre of civilians in Europe since World War II was presented to the Bosnian Serb government last month but has not yet been made public.

"The report itself admits and provides details of the plan and deliberate liquidation of thousands of Bosniaks (Muslims) by the Bosnian Serb forces," Bernard Fassier, the deputy to Bosnia's top international administrator, Paddy Ashdown, told reporters.

Although Bosnian Serbs have long been blamed for the massacre, it was not until June — following the Srebrenica commission's preliminary report — that Serb officials acknowledged that their security forces carried out the slaughter.

The number of victims has long been disputed, with Bosnian Muslim officials claiming 8,000 men and boys were killed in Srebrenica. But Fassier said the commission found that 7,800 were killed after it compiled 34 lists of victims.

Nearly 1,200 Srebrenica victims have been identified through DNA analysis.

—The Associated Press

**Yasser Arafat critically ill; visiting rights restricted**

**Power struggle emerges between Palestinian leaders, Suha Arafat — wife of Palestine's ailing president**

BY LARA SUKHITIAN  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CLAMART, France — Palestinian leaders rushed to Paris on Monday to check on the critically ill Yasser Arafat, but hospital officials said visiting rights were restricted, setting the stage for a dramatic showdown between the delegation and Arafat's wife.

Early Monday, Suha Arafat accused the leadership, including top lieutenants Ahmed Qureia and Mahmoud Abbas, of coming to the French capital with the sole intention of usurping her husband's role as head of the Palestinian Authority.

"I tell you they are trying to bury Abu Ammar alive," she shouted, using Arafat's nom de guerre, in a furious telephone call with Al-Jazeera television from the 75-year-old Arafat's bedside in a hospital southwest of Paris.

"He is all right, and he is going home," she insisted.

Tayeb Abdel Rahim, a senior Arafat aide, called a news conference in the West Bank to dispute the claims. "What came from Mrs. Arafat doesn't represent our people," he said, accusing her of wanting "to be the lone

decision maker."

And Palestinian Cabinet minister Salah Taamri said, "We are Yasser Arafat's family. We knew Yasser Arafat even before Mrs. Suha Arafat was born. We care for Yasser Arafat and no one has the right to deny the truth from the Palestinian people."

The Palestinian leadership abruptly called off the Paris trip, then reversed its decision. Qureia, the Palestinian prime minister, and Abbas, a former prime minister and the current PLO deputy chairman, landed in France late Monday on a private jet.

The prospect of their being barred from Arafat's hospital bedside was bound to inflame an increasingly tense power struggle.

Suha Arafat, his wife of 13 years and mother of his daughter, seems to have aligned herself with hard-liners who apparently seek to take over the Palestinian leadership in a post-Arafat era, though some Palestinian officials said her motives are more financial. According to a senior official in Arafat's office, she has received monthly payments of \$100,000 from Palestinian coffers and is widely believed to have control of vast funds

collected by the PLO.

This year, French prosecutors launched a money-laundering probe into transfers of \$11.4 million into her accounts. She has refused to talk to reporters about Palestinian finances. Suha Arafat, 41, lives in Paris and has not been to the West Bank or seen her husband since the latest round of Palestinian violence began in 2000.

Some Palestinians have complained Suha Arafat has gained too much power, as she controls the flow of information about her husband's condition and has taken charge of access to the ailing leader.

"She is not part of the Palestinian leadership," Arafat security adviser Jibril Rajoub told Israel's Channel Two TV.

On their trip to Paris, Qureia and Abbas, who is considered a likely successor to Arafat, were accompanied by Foreign Minister Nabil Shaath and Parliament Speaker Rauhi Fattouh. They drove straight from the airport in a nine-car convoy to a hotel a few miles from the hospital.

"Tomorrow they will see the French officials and visit President Arafat in his hospital," said Nabil Abu Rdeneh, one of Arafat's senior aides. They were also to meet French President Jacques Chirac.

Arafat was in intensive care

ARAFAT, page 7

**Loyalists fearing overthrow shield Ivory Coast President Gbagbo**

**More than 500 injured in Ivory Coast, Red Cross says; U.N. Security Council considers sanctions**

BY PARFAIT KOUASSI  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast - Thousands of government loyalists massed outside the home of Ivory Coast's president Monday, facing off against French armored vehicles in response to urgent appeals for a "human shield" around the hard-line leader, amid fears of an overthrow.

French and Ivory Coast military leaders, appearing together on state

television, appealed for calm following three days of violent protests the Red Cross said had wounded more than 500 people. Two hospitals reported five dead and 250 wounded in Monday's clashes alone.

The Ivorian army said it would start joint patrols in Abidjan, the commercial capital, with French and U.N. peacekeepers.

The U.N. Security Council met to consider sanctions and the African

Union came out in support of French and U.N. intervention, isolating President Laurent Gbagbo.

Chaos erupted Saturday when his air force killed nine French peacekeepers and an American aid worker in an airstrike on Ivory Coast's rebel-held north. The government later called the bombing a mistake, which France rejected.

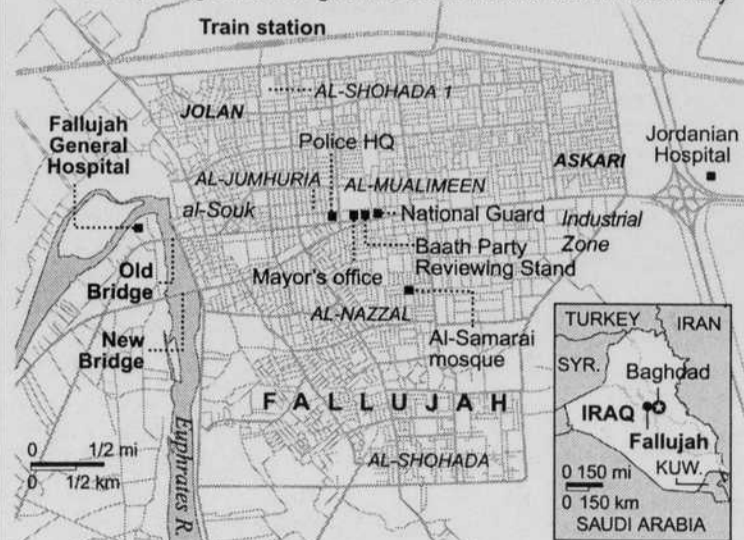
On Monday, French armored vehicles moved in around Gbagbo's home in Ivory Coast's commercial capital, Abidjan.

"Their presence here is scaring people. They're crying and they think

IVORY COAST, page 4

**The siege of Fallujah begins**

Thousands of U.S. troops, backed by armor and an air barrage, launched the long-awaited assault on Fallujah, Iraq, on Monday aimed at putting an end to guerrilla control of the Sunni Muslim city.



**Sunday night**  
Air and artillery bombardment of the city through Monday morning and afternoon

**Early Monday**  
► U.S. and Iraqi forces seized two bridges and a hospital that they said was under insurgents' control.

**After nightfall**  
► U.S. troops advanced on Jolan following artillery, tank and warplane attacks on the district's northern edge where Sunni militant fighters have dug in.  
► Iraqi troops took over a nearby train station  
► Simultaneously, troops pushed into Askari district

SOURCES: Space Imaging Eurasia; ESRI

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