



RÉVOLUTIONNAIRE 01/2008

The Foremost Inter-Disciplinary Defence E-Bulletin

突破 *Revolucionario* *Revolutionary* *Merevolusikan* *Revolutionär* *Kraantikari*

4 January 2008

Contemporary Conflict

- Leaders call for talks after Gaza clashes
- Mob burns Kenyans seeking refuge in church
- Kenya ethnic violence fears grow
- East Congo violence fuels rape spree
- Iraqi Shiite Praises Sunni Groups

Terrorism & Counter-Terrorism

- Benazir Bhutto killed in attack
- Gunman kills U.S. diplomat, driver in Sudan
- Israeli embassy evacuated in Australian capital
- Deadly bomb blast strikes Colombo

Diplomacy & Defence Strategy

- Egypt's Mubarak says Israel faked smuggling evidence
- Al Qaeda ally denies role in Bhutto slaying
- Iran ready to implement energy projects in Djibouti
- Olmert hints Jerusalem division is inevitable
- Israel lashes out at Egypt over Gaza crossing
- S.Korean spy chief made unannounced trip to NKorea

Defence Technology

- Some China firms avoid U.S. technology transfer licenses
- SKorea's military on alert against overseas hackers

Non-Traditional Security

- Energy sector needs \$150 b over five years
- Oil eases after leap to \$100

Military / Peacekeeping / Humanitarian Operations

- 24 helicopters
- Egypt sends 1,200 peacekeepers to Darfur

Nuclear Proliferation

- 2008 to be a crucial year for nuclear energy in Turkey, says TAEK's head
- 'Iran can help Egypt get nuclear energy'
- E.ON Will Invest \$7.8 Billion in Sweden, Dagens Industri Says
- N.Korea vows to bolster 'war deterrence'

Articles from subscriber only sites are available on request. Révolutionnaire is edited by Samuel Chan, with contributions from Bernard Loo and Joshua Ho. The Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS) is a key research component of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS). It focuses on security research to serve national needs. IDSS' faculty and research staff conduct both academic and policy-oriented research on security-related issues and developments affecting Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific. Its research agenda presently comprises the following programmes: Maritime Security, the Revolution in Military Affairs, Multilateralism and Regionalism, Contemporary Islam, Indonesia and China.

CONTEMPORARY CONFLICT

[Leaders call for talks after Gaza clashes](#)

International Herald Tribune – 1 January 2008

Gaza remained tense Tuesday after a night of clashes between gunmen of the rival Hamas and Fatah groups, while leaders on both sides called for a renewed dialogue. Seven Palestinians were killed and 40 were wounded in the clashes Monday night and early Tuesday, according to Dr. Muawiya Hassanein, head of the emergency medical service in Gaza. Twenty-five were wounded by gunfire, and the rest were beaten, Hassanein said. A spokesman for the Hamas-run interior ministry, Ehab al-Ghsein, blamed Fatah for the violence, saying the fighting had started when Fatah supporters shot at worshipers emerging from a mosque in the southern town of Khan Yunis, killing a local Hamas leader, Mahmoud Abu Taha, and a 10-year-old boy. The clashes spread to other areas, including Beit Lahiya in the north and Gaza City, as Fatah observed the 43rd anniversary of its foundation. Among the victims was a Hamas policeman who was shot in the head and two civilians, he said, adding that in Gaza City, Palestinians affiliated with Fatah from two large clans, Hillis and Dagmush, had been involved in attacks on Hamas. Fatah officials would not comment. Hamas had banned Fatah from holding large anniversary rallies, after a similar Fatah ban on Hamas celebrations in the West Bank last month of its 20th anniversary. Ghsein said that the Hamas rulers of Gaza had come to an agreement with Fatah allowing for limited activities "on condition that they wouldn't harm security." But in the days leading up to the anniversary, the Hamas police confiscated Fatah flags and other materials stored at Fatah headquarters in Gaza, and arrested Fatah activists. In November, Hamas forces killed seven Fatah supporters after a memorial rally in Gaza for the late Palestinian leader and Fatah founder, Yasser Arafat, ended in violence. Hamas seized control of Gaza last June after routing Fatah forces in a brief factional war. The Palestinian president, Mahmoud Abbas, of Fatah, fired the unity government and appointed a caretaker government of independents in the West Bank. Hamas, which won parliamentary elections in 2006, does not recognize its legitimacy, and rules alone in Gaza.

[Mob burns Kenyans seeking refuge in church](#)

CNN – 2 January 2008

Gangs of young men armed with machetes are roaming the streets in Kenya as post-election violence threatens to engulf the country. Horrific attacks are being reported, including the torching of a church where people who had sought refuge were burned alive. At least 148 people have been killed and about 75,000 have fled their homes since President Mwai Kibaki won a narrow victory, according to Kenyan government officials. The Associated Press reported a higher number -- about 275 -- have died since Saturday. Much of the violence is between supporters of Kibaki from the majority Kikuyu tribe and backers of opposition leader Raila Odinga, who is from the Luo tribe. The ethnic violence, previously rare in Kenya, is reminiscent of the strife that led to the Rwanda genocide. In a particularly disturbing incident, a mob appears to have burned a church filled with Kenyans seeking refuge from the violence. The Red Cross told The Associated Press that

at least 50 were burned to death at the church, some of them children. As many as 200 people were at the church, about 185 miles northwest of Nairobi, KTN reporter Tony Biwott told CNN. Biwott said he counted at least 15 charred bodies, including children, in the burned church and an adjacent field. The national police commissioner has said in Kenyan society, churches are considered sacred and no one would expect such violence there. He said an investigation into the incident is under way. About 120 people are reported dead and over 1,000 injured countrywide, according to The Red Cross. Police and political backers of opposition leader Raila Odinga began clashing about four days ago as Odinga, of the Luo tribe, narrowly lost Kenya's presidential election to Mwai Kibaki. Kibaki is a member of Kikuyu, Kenya's largest tribe. Violence broke out in several cities as frustration mounted during the slow hand-count of the ballots. Kibaki was re-elected with 51.3 percent of the vote, to 48.7 percent for Odinga. International observers said the balloting fell short of international standards for democratic elections. The United States has withheld congratulations for Kibaki, citing concerns of voting problems, even though Kibaki has claimed victory.

[Kenya ethnic violence fears grow](#)

BBC – 2 January 2008

At least 250 people have been killed, including 30 in western Kenya burned to death while sheltering in a church. Many Kenyans have been taking refuge from armed mobs and looters as fears mount of further attacks and reprisals. The African Union chairman is due in Kenya, as the US and UK add their voices to AU calls to end the violence. Mwai Kibaki, who was officially re-elected president in Thursday's vote, and opposition leader Raila Odinga, who says he was robbed of victory by fraud, have both called for an end to the killing. A government spokesman told the BBC that Mr Odinga's supporters are "engaging in ethnic cleansing" in an "organised, calculated manner". Mr Odinga has countered in an interview with the Associated Press that Mr Kibaki's government was "guilty, directly, of genocide". The majority of those killed in the church were Kikuyu, the same tribe as Mr Kibaki, and there have been reports of people being targeted on the basis of their ethnicity. Abbas Gullet, secretary general for Kenya's Red Cross, told AFP that only those from "the right ethnic group" had been allowed through barricades in some places. Correspondents say that although the election was more about economic and political issues than tribal ones, there is a danger that as the violence escalates it will take on more of an ethnic dimension.

[East Congo violence fuels rape spree](#)

Reuters – 3 January 2008

Intense fighting between government and militia forces in eastern Congo has led to a surge in rape by fighters from all sides, women and doctors say. Renewed hostilities between the army and troops loyal to renegade Tutsi General Laurent Nkunda have stoked a volatile crucible of violence in Congo's North Kivu province, where traditional Mai Mai fighters and Rwandan Hutu militia also roam. Sexual violence has escalated as hundreds of thousands of people have been forced to flee the safety of their homes -- around 400,000 people since August, when Nkunda quit a peace deal, bringing North

Kivu's displaced population to 800,000. Congo's government has called a peace summit for Sunday, but there is little optimism the chronic fighting will end soon. Christophe Kimona, a surgeon at Goma's Heal Africa hospital, repairs the torn and damaged genitals of rape victims. Many can no longer control urination without surgery. Most rape victims say their attackers were armed groups of rebels or government soldiers. But Kimona said as rape becomes so common with the conflict, more civilians are committing rapes too, and the victims are often children. There are laws in place to try rapists but victims often have little faith in the judicial system, said Marie-Antoinette Okimba, a senior field officer with U.N. refugee agency UNHCR. "Many believe there is nothing that can be done -- especially if they were raped by military," Okimba said.

[Iraqi Shiite Praises Sunni Groups](#)

Associated Press – 4 January 2008

A top Shiite politician on Thursday acknowledged the contribution of U.S.-backed Sunni Arab groups to the decline in violence across Iraq and called for their use in the continuing fight against al-Qaida. Meanwhile, the U.S. military reported the deaths of three soldiers — the first Americans killed in the new year. Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim's praise for the role of the Sunni groups, many of which had fought U.S. and Iraq's Shiite-dominated security forces before switching sides last year, runs contrary to the hard-line position recently taken by Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's government. The government said last month it will disband the groups, known as Awakening Councils in some regions and Concerned Local Citizens in others, after restive areas are calmed. It said it did not want them to be a separate military force and would not allow them to have any infrastructure, such as offices. The Sunni militias, more than 70,000-strong, have been credited by U.S. commanders as being instrumental in what they say is a nearly 60 percent reduction in violence in the last six months. It also was affected by the dispatch of additional U.S. troops and a six-month cease-fire declared in August by anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr and his militia. But al-Maliki's government has been deeply uneasy about the potential for the Sunni fighters — now better organized and armed — to switch sides again, posing a threat to stability and the Shiite domination that followed the ouster of Saddam Hussein's Sunni-led regime. However, al-Hakim, head of parliament's largest bloc and the country's most powerful political party, was conciliatory in his comments Thursday, although his praise for the Sunni groups was moderate and he did not say whether their future role should be permanent. Noting the decline in violence, he said the credit should go to the role played by the groups, adding: "We still believe in the necessity of continuing with this strategy."

TERRORISM & COUNTER-TERRORISM

[Benazir Bhutto killed in attack](#)

BBC – 27 December 2007

Pakistani former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has been assassinated in a suicide attack. Ms Bhutto - the first woman PM in an Islamic state - was leaving an election rally in Rawalpindi when a gunman shot her in the neck and set off a bomb. At least 20 other people died in the attack and several more were injured. President Pervez Musharraf has urged people to remain calm but angry protests have gripped some cities, with at least 11 deaths reported. Security forces have been placed on a state of "red alert" nationwide. There were no immediate claims of responsibility for the attack. Analysts believe Islamist militants to be the most likely group behind it. Ms Bhutto, leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), had served as prime minister from 1988-1990 and 1993-1996, and had been campaigning ahead of elections due on 8 January. It was the second suicide attack against her in recent months and came amid a wave of bombings targeting security and government officials. Nawaz Sharif, also a former prime minister and a political rival, announced his Muslim League party would boycott the elections. He called on President Musharraf to resign, saying free and fair elections were not possible under his rule. The United Nations Security Council held an emergency session and later said it "unanimously condemned" the assassination.

[Gunman kills U.S. diplomat, driver in Sudan](#)

CNN – 1 January 2008

An American diplomat working toward restoring peace in war-torn Sudan was shot and killed along with his driver early Tuesday as he headed home from a New Year's party in the Sudanese capital, his family said. U.S. officials are working with Sudanese authorities to determine whether it was a targeted attack or an isolated incident. John Granville, 33, was a U.S. Foreign Service diplomat from Buffalo, New York. His sister said he had telephoned his mother Monday to wish her a happy new year, and mentioned he was planning to attend a party. Hours later, the family received a call from U.S. officials that Granville had been shot sometime after midnight local time. Sudan is eight hours ahead of Eastern time. The Sudanese Interior Ministry identified the driver as 40-year-old Abdel Rahman Abbas and said the car was heading to a western suburb of Sudan's capital, The Associated Press reported. Abbas, who was killed instantly in the attack, was employed by the U.S. Embassy, said Walter Braunohler, a spokesman for the embassy. Granville died several hours later from his injuries. Granville's sister, Katie McCabe, said she believes hospital workers did not notice that her brother had been shot in the stomach -- in addition to the hand and shoulder -- which caused fatal internal bleeding. Braunohler said it was too early to determine the motive for the attack. "At this point we're not ruling anything out, but we don't know," he said.

[Israeli embassy evacuated in Australian capital](#)

Reuters – 1 January 2008

The Israeli embassy in Australia's capital Canberra was evacuated on Wednesday after the discovery of a suspicious package containing white powder, a spokesman told Reuters. "The embassy was evacuated this morning after we discovered white powder in an envelope sent through the mail," Dor Shapira said. "The police are investigating what it is and we expect to find out soon." A police spokesman said the heavily protected embassy, in the leafy diplomatic quarter, had been evacuated as a precaution. Several foreign embassies, including the U.S., Japanese and South Korean missions, have been targeted in powder scares in recent years, as well as Australia's Parliament House. All turned out to be harmless. In 2005, a full-scale emergency was triggered after powder was sent to the Indonesian embassy in Canberra during a controversy over the drug trial and jailing of an Australian woman in Bali. An envelope containing white powder was also sent to former Australian foreign minister Alexander Downer at Parliament House.

[Deadly bomb blast strikes Colombo](#)

BBC – 2 January 2008

A bomb targeting a bus in the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo has killed at least four people and injured another 20, police and military officials say. The blast took place as the military bus was passing a busy junction in a district that houses key military installations, reports said. A hospital official told Reuters that two of those killed were soldiers. Military officials said they suspected the separatist Tamil Tigers. The rebels denied involvement, Reuters reported. The powerful explosion took place near Hotel Nippon in Colombo's commercial Slave Island area. Victims were taken to the Colombo national hospital, where several people were reportedly in critical condition. "There was a Claymore (landmine) attack targeting an army bus carrying troops," a military official at the scene told Reuters. The official said there were "about 11 soldiers" on board the bus. Most of the victims were civilians while a few soldiers were also admitted with shrapnel injuries, news agency AFP quoted hospital director Hector Weerasinghe as saying. Police and eyewitnesses said the low-budget Nippon hotel suffered extensive damage and staff members were also among those wounded. Fighting between troops and the rebels, who want autonomy for minority Tamils in the north and east, has worsened in recent months. A Norwegian-brokered ceasefire in 2002 broke down two years ago, resulting in renewed fighting that has killed more than 5,000 people. At least 70,000 people have died since the war began in 1983.

DIPLOMACY & DEFENCE STRATEGY

[Egypt's Mubarak says Israel faked smuggling evidence](#)

Reuters – 27 December 2007

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has accused Israel of fabricating evidence it says implicates Egyptian security forces in helping Hamas militants smuggle arms into Gaza, and warned Israel not to ruin its ties with Egypt. Mubarak's comments were made to Israeli daily Yedioth Ahronoth and were carried by Egypt's state news agency MENA on Thursday, a day before publication of the interview in Israel. Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni said this week Egypt was doing a "terrible" job of stopping the flow of arms, and Israeli foreign ministry officials said Israel had sent a videotape to Washington showing Egyptian security forces helping Hamas militants smuggle arms across the border. "Our officials (saw the pictures)... and I'm informing you that they're fabricated pictures and computer work... Anybody can make pictures of arms smugglers...I can organize pictures of an Israeli man and an Israeli woman smuggling arms and plotting a terrorist operation," Mubarak said, according to MENA. "Anyone who tries to accuse Egypt of cooperating with arms smugglers, I tell him he's a big liar," Mubarak said. An Israeli foreign ministry spokesman declined to comment on Mubarak's remarks. Mubarak also lashed out against criticism that Egypt was not doing enough to prevent arms being smuggled into Gaza. "If the way we deal with the arms smuggling is not good enough for you, please, do the work yourselves," Mubarak said in excerpts published in Yedioth Ahronoth on Thursday. He said Livni "who ran to the media to complain about us and to grade us, instead of picking up the phone or sending an envoy, has crossed my red lines," according to the paper. Livni told an Israeli parliamentary committee on Tuesday that Egypt's failure to stop arms smuggling risked strengthening Hamas over President Mahmoud Abbas's Fatah, backed by the West. "It's very easy to sit in an office in Jerusalem and grade us on our performance in the field, but it has soured the atmosphere. And relations with Israel are very important to me. Don't spoil them," Mubarak said. Egypt rejected Israeli complaints about weapons smuggling into Gaza after talks between Mubarak and Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak on Wednesday, and said Israel was trying to distract attention from Jewish settlement building.

[Al Qaeda ally denies role in Bhutto slaying](#)

Reuters – 29 December 2007

Al Qaeda-linked Pakistani militant Baitullah Mehsud was not involved in the assassination of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, his spokesman said on Saturday, and blamed the government for killing her. "I strongly deny it. Tribal people have their own customs. We don't strike women," Mehsud's spokesman Maulvi Omar said by telephone from an undisclosed location. The government said on Friday that Mehsud was responsible for Bhutto's killing as she left an election rally in the garrison city of Rawalpindi, close to Islamabad, on Thursday. Al Qaeda is actively trying to destabilize Pakistan, and there have been several assassination attempts on President Pervez Musharraf, his former prime minister Shaukat Aziz and former interior minister Aftab Ahmed Khan Sherpao. But the militant's spokesman said Bhutto was a victim of

President Pervez Musharraf's security apparatus, repeating a conspiracy theory many Pakistanis are willing to believe. "This was a well-planned conspiracy carried out by the intelligence agencies, army and government for their own political motives," said Omar, the official spokesman for the Taliban in Pakistan, adding his condemnation of the killing of Bhutto. Mehsud is one of Pakistan's most wanted militant leaders and is based in the South Waziristan tribal region on the Afghan border, known as a major sanctuary for al Qaeda and the Taliban.

[Iran ready to implement energy projects in Djibouti](#)

Tehran Times – 30 December 2007

Iran's First Vice President Parviz Davudi said here on Friday that Iran is ready to contribute to implementation of different economic projects in Djibouti. Davudi told Djiboutian Prime Minister Delita Mohammed Delita that Iran is capable of commissioning projects in Africa, in Djibouti in particular, regarding its rich experience in the fields of petrochemical, dam-building, housing, refinery, and power plant construction in Central Asia, South Africa, the Middle East, and other African states. The VP underscored Iran's right to have access to peaceful nuclear energy, IRNA reported. "Release of a report by 16 U.S. intelligence institutions made it clear that Iran has had no diversion in its nuclear activities and they are peaceful in nature. The acknowledgement to righteousness of Iran negates any possibility for referral of Iran's case to the UN Security Council from the International Atomic Energy Agency." He thanked Djibouti for defending Iran at the international communities on Tehran's peaceful nuclear projects and for human rights issue. Delita, for his part, defending Iran's stance for access to peaceful nuclear energy, said his country will always stand beside Iranian government and nation. "Close viewpoints by the two countries can help further upgrade mutual relations," said Delita, asking Iran to contribute to his country's economic projects.

[Olmert hints Jerusalem division is inevitable](#)

Reuters – 2 January 2008

Prime Minister Ehud Olmert signaled on Tuesday Israel might have no choice but to share Jerusalem with the Palestinians in a peace deal, citing international pressure for compromise over the holy city. "The world that is friendly to Israel ... that really supports Israel, when it speaks of the future, it speaks of Israel in terms of the '67 borders. It speaks of the division of Jerusalem," Olmert said in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*. Israel captured Arab East Jerusalem in the 1967 Middle East war and annexed it in a move that failed to win international recognition. It regards all of Jerusalem as its "eternal and indivisible" capital. Palestinians want East Jerusalem to be the capital of the state they aspire to establish in the occupied West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. The future of Jerusalem is one of the core issues Israel and the Palestinians agreed to tackle in peace talks they renewed after a U.S.-hosted summit in Annapolis, Maryland in November. Olmert's comments appeared to be another move by the prime minister to prepare Israeli public opinion for the possibility of a deal that would loosen Israel's control of all of Jerusalem. His deputy and close confidant, Haim Ramon, has said Israel should in future negotiate creation of a "special regime" that would govern some of the sacred sites in

Jerusalem's walled Old City. In separate remarks on Tuesday, Defense Minister Ehud Barak made clear there would be no sweeping changes in Israel's network of hundreds of roadblocks and checkpoints in the West Bank while negotiations went ahead. Barak, addressing Israeli troops in the West Bank, said the barriers, condemned by Palestinians as collective punishment, helped to thwart attacks by militants. Israel and the Palestinians have said they hoped to reach a peace agreement before U.S. President George W. Bush, who visits Israel and the West Bank next week, leaves office next year. Olmert has already questioned publicly the wisdom of annexing outlying Arab neighborhoods of the city after the 1967 conflict. But he has insisted Israel would never agree to return to its pre-1967 borders.

[Israel lashes out at Egypt over Gaza crossing](#)

Reuters – 3 January 2008

Israel accused Egypt on Thursday of undercutting Israeli-Palestinian peace prospects by letting about 2,200 Palestinian pilgrims return to the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip without Israeli screening. The Palestinians had been stuck in Egypt for about a week after completing the Muslim haj pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Israel insisted they return to Gaza through its territory to allow them to be screened for smuggled cash or weapons. But Egypt allowed them to return directly through Rafah, a terminal on its border with Gaza. Egypt said it allowed the pilgrims through Rafah for humanitarian reasons. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas launched statehood negotiations at a U.S.-sponsored peace conference in Annapolis, Maryland in November with the goal of reaching agreement by the end of 2008. The pilgrims had been stranded in Egypt while Cairo tried to negotiate on their return with Israel and the Palestinians. Some smashed furniture and windows in protests at a shelter there. Israel has no presence at Rafah although a U.S.-brokered deal between it and the Palestinians says the crossing cannot be opened without Israeli consent. Egypt has mostly kept Rafah closed since Hamas routed Abbas's Fatah faction in Gaza in June.

[S.Korean spy chief made unannounced trip to NKorea](#)

Associated Press – 4 January 2008

South Korea's spy chief made an unannounced visit to North Korea on the eve of his country's presidential election last month, an official said on Friday. Mr Kim Man Bok, head of the National Intelligence Service, made the one-day trip to Pyongyang on Dec 18 to install a commemorative stone in front of a pine tree that President Roh Moo Hyun planted during a summit trip to the North in October, an NIS spokesman said. Local media speculated that the spy chief might have also discussed inviting the North's No 2 leader, Mr Kim Yong Nam, to visit Seoul before Roh's term ends late next month. But the NIS spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity citing office policy, dismissed the speculation as groundless. At the October summit, Mr Roh asked North Korean leader Kim Jong Il to visit Seoul, but the reclusive leader declined, saying he would send his deputy first. The North's leader promised at a 2000 summit with then South Korean President Kim Dae-jung to make a return trip to the South, but has not made good on the pledge.

DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY

Some China firms avoid U.S. technology transfer licenses

International Herald Tribune – 1 January 2008

Six months ago, the U.S. government quietly eased some restrictions on the export of sensitive technologies to China. The new approach was intended to help U.S. companies increase sales of high-technology equipment to China despite tight curbs on sharing technology that might have military applications. But now the administration is facing questions from weapons experts about whether some equipment - newly authorized for export to Chinese companies deemed trustworthy by Washington - could instead end up helping China modernize its military. Equally worrisome, the weapons experts say, is the possibility that China could share the technology with Iran or Syria. The technologies include advanced aircraft engine parts, navigation systems, telecommunications equipment and sophisticated composite materials. The questions raised about the new policy are in a report to be released soon, possibly this week, by the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control, an independent research foundation that opposes the spread of arms technologies. The government's new approach is part of an overall drive to require licenses for the export of an expanded list of technologies in aircraft engines, lasers, telecommunications, aircraft materials and other fields of interest to China's military. But while imposing license requirements for the transfer of these technologies, the administration is also validating certain Chinese companies so that they can import these technologies without licenses. Five such companies were designated in October, but as many as a dozen others are in the pipeline for possible future designation. Mario Mancuso, the under secretary of commerce for security and industry, said the new system was resulting in more effective protections. "We believe that the system we have set up ensures that we are protecting our national security consistent with our goal of promoting legitimate exports for civilian use," he said during an interview. "We have adopted a consistent, broad-based approach to hedging against helping China's military modernization." But the Wisconsin Project report, made available to The New York Times, asserts that two nonmilitary Chinese companies designated as trustworthy are in fact high risk because of links to the Chinese government, the Peoples Liberation Army and other Chinese entities accused in the past of ties to Syria and Iran. One of the Chinese companies, BHA Aerocomposite Parts, is partly owned by two U.S. companies: the aircraft manufacturer Boeing and the aerospace materials maker Hexcel, with each holding a 40 percent stake. The remaining 20 percent is owned by a Chinese government-owned company, AVIC I, or China Aviation Industry Corp. I. The Wisconsin Project report also asserts that both Boeing and Hexcel have been cited for past lapses in obtaining proper licenses for exports. Spokesmen for both Boeing and Hexcel said during interviews that they were fully confident that BHA had no ties to the Chinese military and that its use of aircraft parts and materials were strictly for commercial and civilian ends. AVIC I, the Chinese government entity that owns a minority share of BHA, also produces fighters, nuclear-capable bombers and aviation weapons systems for the People's Liberation Army, the report says. The U.S. State Department has cited another AVIC I subsidiary, China National Aero-Technology Import & Export, for links to arms sales to Iran and Syria. Business groups that advocate greater technology-sharing with

China in civilian aeronautics and other areas say that the administration has been cautious in its new policy, in particular choosing Chinese companies with U.S. partners or owners. The three other Chinese companies announced as "validated end users" in October are Applied Materials China, a subsidiary of Applied Materials USA, a maker of semiconductors; Chinese facilities operated by National Semiconductor, an American company; and Semiconductor Manufacturing International.

[SKorea's military on alert against overseas hackers](#)

AFP – 3 January 2008

South Korea's military has been put on alert against overseas hackers who have gained access to some soldiers' personal computers, the defence ministry said Thursday. It did not identify the country where the hackers are based but Chosun Ilbo newspaper said it was China. The Defence Security Command, which handles counter-intelligence, this week warned all military units to be on the alert against hacking, a ministry spokesman said. "The alert was issued after the counter-intelligence command found 'third-nation' hackers had successfully broken into some soldiers' computers via e-mails to steal private data," the spokesman told AFP. "No military information has been leaked." The South's military runs its own Intranet, usually disconnected to the Internet, and also has separate servers for processing confidential data, he said. But the command instructed troops to keep no official data on personal computers and also to update anti-virus programmes. The spokesman said hackers used emails entitled in Korean "Current state of the North Korean army's capabilities" to arouse the curiosity of soldiers. The hacking virus starts working when the emails are opened. Chosun Ilbo said military investigators had traced the hackers to China but failed to identify whether they are ordinary citizens or military personnel. It noted that China launched a military unit called NET Force to carry out online warfare against enemy computer networks in 2000, with one million civilian "red hackers" operating in the country. The Korea Institute for Defence Analyses, a state think-tank affiliated with the defence ministry, said one of its researchers had his computer hacked by a Chinese in 2004. "The Chinese hacker took out private data, neither official nor confidential, from the researcher's personal computer while pretending to be a Korean e-mailer," a spokesman told AFP. South Korea is one of the world's most wired societies with 34 million people or 70 percent of the population using the Internet.

NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY

[Energy sector needs \\$150 b over five years](#)

The Hindu – 27 December 2007

The Indian energy sector is exhibiting a rich potential for investment in diverse streams, driven by the surging economy and the resultant demand-supply gap in the short-run; and by the need to achieve sustainability and self-sufficiency in the long-run. A long term vision, and adequate policy and regulatory support are necessary to realise this potential, according to a report jointly released by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and

KPMG. The report titled 'India Energy Inc. — Emerging Opportunities and Challenges', released recently at the CII-India Energy Conclave 2007, said India's power and upstream energy sectors need investments to the tune of \$120-150 billion over the next five years. It emphasises the need for strong private sector participation to complement public sector and to bring in the required capabilities and technologies. Policies have increasingly recognised the need to promote private investment. Private interest in captive coal mining, oil and gas exploration and in the power sector has shown significant progress and is also envisaged in the nuclear sector, the report notes. By world standards, India's current level of energy consumption is very low. For the year 2004-05, the total annual energy consumption is estimated at 572 mtoe (million tonnes oil equivalent) and the per capita consumption at 531 kgoe (kg oil equivalent). With a targeted gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate of 8-10 per cent and an estimated energy elasticity of 0.80, energy requirement is expected to grow at 6.4-8 per cent. This would mean a five-fold increase in energy requirement over the next 25 years. Energy transport infrastructure such as ports, railways, pipelines and power transmission networks need significant investment. The policy now allows private participation in all these areas and some private sector activity is already under way. Tariff reform in the energy sector and distribution reform in the power sector are two important steps that need to be successfully carried out. Tariff reform to phase out subsidies or to target them effectively and distribution reforms to bring efficiency in the power sector are vital. Along with private participation, there is a move to bring in market mechanisms in the energy sector under an independent regulatory oversight. A gradual approach is important till the supply side position improves and more players enter the sector so that markets can work effectively. Dealing with the key opportunities in the sectors, the report says India has one of the largest reserves of the nuclear fuel, thorium. However, the nuclear energy programme will continue to be uranium-based until commercial production based on thorium becomes feasible. If the Indo-U.S. nuclear deal goes through, there will be a boost to nuclear energy and private participation in this sector would be expected. The report approvingly refers to the investments by the private sector in coal, oil, gas and hydro and renewable energy sectors and tapping of the vast opportunities available in these areas. However, it called for certain key imperatives like need to ensure that private sector investment complements public sector investment, encourage private investment, encourage market mechanisms with a credible and independent regulatory oversight, reduce vulnerability to price and supply shocks, bring in efficiency and enhance capacity in energy transport infrastructure besides tariff reform and power sector reform and Government support for energy efficiency.

[Oil eases after leap to \\$100](#)

Reuters – 3 January 2008

Oil prices dipped on Thursday, after jumping to a lifetime high of \$100 the day before, fuelled by expectations of thinning U.S. stockpiles, the falling dollar and geopolitical risks. U.S. light crude for February delivery slipped fell 41 cents to \$99.21 a barrel by 2:47 a.m. EST. U.S. crude traded a single lot at \$100 a barrel on Wednesday, with gains fuelled by new-year fund buying and violence in Nigeria and Algeria. London Brent crude shed 39 cents to \$97.45. Oil prices climbed 57 percent in 2007, and many fund

managers were bracing for another year of volatile and rising commodity prices. Gold also hit a record high on Wednesday. Despite oil rocketing to \$100, the White House said it would not open up the nation's emergency crude reserves to bring down prices while Libya and Qatar said the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries was powerless to halt the rally. Indonesia's OPEC governor warned on Thursday that oil prices could climb to the \$100-\$110 level and said the cartel might decide to increase output at its February 1 meeting in Vienna if supply was insufficient, although an Iranian official reiterated there was no shortage of supply. Oil prices have nearly tripled since 2003, driven by rising demand in China and other developing countries, tight stockpiles and geopolitical turmoil. And some saw big gains ahead. "In the next five years or so oil prices rising to \$200-\$250 a barrel would not surprise me," said Puru Saxena, a Hong Kong-based money manager overseeing more than US\$370 million in assets, half of which are invested in commodities.

MILITARY / PEACEKEEPING / HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS

[24 helicopters](#)

Houston Chronicle – 1 January 2008

U.N. takes control of Darfur peacekeeping mission but lacks basic support in Sudan — and abroad. Today marks the start of a limited, mainly theoretical success in Darfur. After years of bloodshed, it's still the only kind of success to occur. The United Nations finally is taking command of the African Union mission, forming a new, hybrid peacekeeping force. Mainly, though, this takeover underlines what still hasn't been done, both by Sudan and by the world community. Some additional peacekeepers will land on the ground, the green berets will be exchanged for blue and the mission will have access to the deep pockets of the U.N. But Sudan is still blocking the entrance of most U.N. troops because they are not African; the world community, despite much indignant rhetoric, still has not supplied the force with the basic tools to do its lifesaving job. Thanks to an extraordinary coalition of advocates, many Americans at least know the outlines of the Darfur tragedy. It erupted in 2003, when rebels in the west rose up against the government demanding rights and resources they had been denied. Khartoum answered with devastation, training and paying Arab tribal militias to burn, rape and kill villagers of African descent. Now 200,000 Darfur civilians are dead, 2.5 million driven from their homes, and 4 million survive on international aid. Far too slowly, the world community has reacted. American evangelical Christians were among the first to raise official awareness. In 2004 the U.S. Congress deemed Darfur a genocide, and the United Nations finally resolved to commit peacekeepers. But international action has been so sluggish and wan that Darfur's crisis now exceeds its original outlines. And it is now far harder to contain. The Darfurian rebel and even the Arab militias by now have atomized and turned on each other. Khartoum for years has made last-minute commitments to end the violence, then reneged on them when international attention strayed elsewhere. It's no different now. The government is obstructing the peacekeepers' deployment and regularly blocks aid workers' movement and security. So far only one-fourth of the peacekeepers have been allowed in by President Omar Hassan al-Bashir. But the world community,

despite well-intentioned statements by British Prime Minister Gordon Brown and French President Nicolas Sarkozy, undermined U.N. potential by not acting decisively. Pressure must be brought to bear on China, a Western trading partner and one of the few countries with leverage on Sudan via its oil trade. Western countries should now consider suspending Sudan's membership in the United Nations; its human rights crimes are undeniable and chronic, and the punishment could vault it into serious peace-making. The United States, overextended and diplomatically feeble because of Iraq, nevertheless this week enacted a law that bans federal contracts with foreign firms that fund Darfur's genocide. But we can do more. It's crucial to give the hybrid force on the ground the tools to do its job. These include — most urgently — the use of 24 helicopters. The United States, embroiled in two wars, may not have these to give. But NATO, in which we're a powerful partner, has 18,000 helicopters and apparently can spare none. Finally, countries such as Ukraine, stocked with heavy equipment from the Cold War, could certainly lease two dozen helicopters at a price. It's a price that the rich, democratic countries of the world, despite their words about Sudan, remain unwilling to pay.

[Egypt sends 1,200 peacekeepers to Darfur](#)

Associated Press – 2 January 2008

President Hosni Mubarak inspected hundreds of Egyptian troops on Wednesday ahead of their deployment in the war-torn Darfur region of neighboring Sudan to join a U.N.-African peacekeeping force. Mubarak, accompanied by Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, urged the 1,200 Egyptian soldiers to remain impartial as they operate in Darfur, where more than 200,000 people have been killed in over four years of fighting between ethnic African rebels and the Arab-dominated Sudanese government. Egyptian spokesman Suleiman Awwad said the troops would head to Sudan in the coming days. "We will be dealing with the sons of Darfur and Sudan equally, as our brothers, without discrimination or prejudice," Mubarak said. On Monday, a new hybrid force of U.N. and African Union peacekeepers took over in Darfur in a long-awaited change intended to be the strongest effort yet to solve the world's worst ongoing humanitarian crisis. Sudan had resisted a United Nations intervention for months before agreeing to a compromise deal for a 26,000-strong mission to deploy, providing it is predominantly African. Egypt, along with Ethiopia, is among the first countries to send a strong contingent to the new force, which is still far from reaching full capacity. Sudan has voiced suspicions that western nations are hostile to the government and that the U.N. mission is biased. "Egypt seeks peace and we don't have a hidden agenda," Mubarak said. "We are only concerned about Sudan's interest and people," he said. More than 2.5 million civilians have fled to refugee camps since fighting broke out in Darfur, and the Sudanese government's counterinsurgency is blamed for widespread atrocities. Several previous peace deals have failed, and refugees along with aid workers continue to face daily insecurity.

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

2008 to be a crucial year for nuclear energy in Turkey, says TAEK's head

Today's Zaman (Turkey) – 28 December 2007

Turkish Atomic Energy Agency (TAEK) head Okay Çakıroğlu has said Turkey's nuclear energy "road map" will become clear in the year 2008. Çakıroğlu presented vital information this week to Parliament commission members on both global warming and the sustainable management of water resources in Turkey. The TAEK head pointed to the growing levels of support for nuclear power as the "only solution," even among more hard-core environmentalist groups such as Greenpeace. He noted that prominent environmentalists are no longer "anti-nuclear" but simply "anti-fossil fuel." Çakıroğlu also touched on recent legislation passed in Turkey which he said gave the government the go-ahead to build and manage a nuclear power plant, a first for Turkey. He stated that Turkey's nuclear road map would be fully clarified next year. Çakıroğlu underscored the importance placed by TAEK on safety in nuclear power. "We will be breathing down their necks," he said. Çakıroğlu pointed to what he said would be "zero tolerance" for mistakes in nuclear power safety and management. In terms of productivity Çakıroğlu touched on the number of working hours per year of a nuclear power plant -- between 8,500 and 8,700 -- noting that these figures were much higher than comparable hours worked by gas, coal, or hydropower plants. In terms of costs and expenditures Çakıroğlu noted that since uranium had been discovered in Turkey, the cost of 1 kilowatt hour (kWh) of energy from the nuclear power plant would be YKr 0.9-YTL 1. Çakıroğlu also asserted that part of the growing support for nuclear power in recent times stems from evidence that it helps lower greenhouse gases accumulating in the environment and that it is a way to obtain cheaper power without damaging the environment. Çakıroğlu also talked about the critical topic of nuclear waste products, noting that it isn't until two years after the setting up and running of a nuclear power plant that the first waste is produced. He said that current speculation that there is enough information about what would be done about nuclear waste in Turkey is not in fact true. Noting that global stances on nuclear waste varied from country to country, Çakıroğlu said: "We need to view these as three different groups -- those who bury, which so far is no one, those who reuse, like Japan, and the third group. A full 98 percent are in the third group. And so is Turkey." Çakıroğlu focused on the Japanese method of dealing with nuclear waste products, noting that they don't send the waste out of the country, but instead use it within the country. "We do not believe in the 'We will give our waste to those who kiss our hands' school of thought." He noted that TAEK is interested in making sure nuclear waste products stay in Turkey. Çakıroğlu said the cost of the construction of a 5,000 megawatt nuclear power plant would be around \$5-10 billion.

['Iran can help Egypt get nuclear energy'](#)

Jerusalem Post – 30 December 2007

Iran is willing to assist Egypt in developing the technology to produce nuclear energy, Ali Larijani, the head of Iran's National Security Council, said on Sunday. Speaking at a press conference in Cairo, Larijani said that such assistance would be given under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Referring to Iran's nuclear program, Larijani said the UN Security Council was wrong in its continued discussion of the issue, and added that the US had no excuse to continue to pursue the subject. America and the West must accept the fact that Iran has achieved nuclear technology, and take a reasonable stance on the issue, he said, stating that Iran and the IAEA had signed binding agreements on nuclear development and Iran remained committed to these agreements. Larijani said that Egypt and Iran had an important role to play in bringing peace and security to the region, calling the two countries' relations warm and strong. He further said that his country was interested in good relations with Arab countries, adding that Teheran was adamant on cooperation with these nations in order to confront the common challenges and dangers faced "by all Muslims." Larijani's statements joined those of French President Nicolas Sarkozy, who on Saturday said his country too would be prepared to help Egypt develop nuclear technology for its energy requirements. The French president told the Egyptian al-Ahram newspaper that it was "natural" for Egypt to draw up plans for building nuclear power plants due to the country's large energy needs. Sarkozy said that France was ready to work together with Egypt on such a program, saying that France had "all the necessary experience and expertise" required.

[E.ON Will Invest \\$7.8 Billion in Sweden, Dagens Industri Says](#)

Bloomberg – 2 January 2008

E.ON AG plans to invest 50 billion Swedish kronor (\$7.8 billion) in Sweden by 2013 as it upgrades capacity and seeks growth opportunities in the country, Dagens Industri reported, citing country manager Haakan Buskhe. About 37 billion kronor will be spent by 2010; half of that will be to modernize existing power production, the newspaper cited Buskhe as saying. A large proportion of the investments will go into nuclear energy, according to the newspaper.

[N.Korea vows to bolster 'war deterrence'](#)

AFP – 4 December 2008

North Korea, which missed a year end deadline to declare its nuclear programmes, vowed Friday to build its 'war deterrence,' accusing the United States of stepping up preparations for an attack. Rodong Sinmun, the mouthpiece of the North's ruling Korean Workers' Party, also denounced as a trick a US statement last month that it was accelerating the scrapping of its own nuclear weapons stockpile. 'The DPRK (North Korea) people, seeing through to the criminal nature of US imperialists, has already been building up their defence capability,' it said in a commentary. 'To cope with the mounting US nuclear war manoeuvres, the DPRK will further strengthen its own war deterrence.' It said the US

announcement on scrapping its own weapons was nothing but a 'trick' to fool the rest of the world. 'The criminal ploy led by US war mongers, who are bringing the world to the brink of a nuclear war by driving for the development and production of new atomic weapons, has not changed at all.' The commentary came as the US State Department said chief envoy Christopher Hill would arrive Monday in Tokyo at the start of a Asian tour which will also take him to Seoul, Beijing and Moscow. The tour is focused on 'how to move the six-party process forward,' State Department spokesman Sean McCormack told reporters. Mr Hill made a rare visit to North Korea last month amid efforts to scrap the reclusive communist state's nuclear programmes under a deal involving the two Koreas, the United States, Japan, China and Russia. However the Pyongyang regime missed a deadline to disable its atomic plants and declare all its nuclear programmes by the end of the year, and is in turn complaining of delays in getting the energy aid it was promised as part of the deal. A suspected uranium enrichment programme - the issue which in 2002 wrecked a previous disarmament deal - is another key hurdle. Washington says it has evidence Pyongyang imported material which could be used for such a programme, even if it is not up and running. The North has never publicly admitted any such operation.