

Saddam to be handed over to Iraqis for trial

According to reports Saddam will be in Iraqi custody by end of month

The US led coalition will hand over Saddam Hussein to Iraqi custody according to the country's prime minister Iyad Ayad. He said that the handover will take place within the next two weeks. The Red Cross said that all POW's must be released or charged before the official end of the occupation of Iraq on 30 June. Iraq's special tribunal on war crimes, is preparing to detain Saddam Hussein and other leaders from the country's former regime.

The US state department said Washington was in the process of talking with the interim Iraqi government about Saddam's handover. "If the Iraqis want him, we're receptive to the idea of transfer," an American official was quoted by

AFP. Hussein has been held in an undisclosed location by the US forces since December 2003, and has been interrogated..

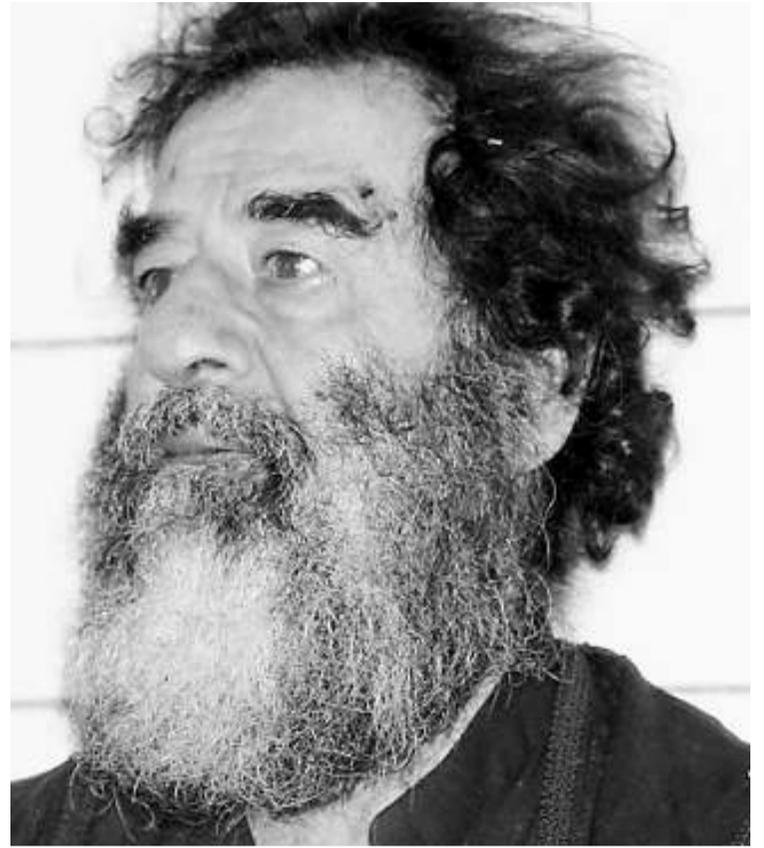
The US commander who is at the centre of the Iraqi prisoner scandal, Brig Gen Janis Karpinski, said she is being made into a scapegoat. She was in charge of the military police unit that ran the Abu Ghraib jail and other prisons. She is currently suspended from duty. She told the BBC that she has no knowledge of the tortures that went on inside the prisons and that questions about the abuses should be asked to senior US Army chiefs such as Gen Ricardo Sanchez.

The British military police are investigating new accusations of

abuses by UK troops in Iraq in response to complaints made by the Red Cross and published yesterday in The Guardian.

Attorney General Peter Goldsmith announced that four soldiers will be tried by a military court for alleged tortures inflicted on Iraqi prisoners, while a fifth soldier is being investigated by Scotland Yard for the killing of an Iraqi citizen.

The accusations of mistreatment do not stop there, because according to The Guardian, the Red Cross complained about the treatment that some Iraqi prisoners received after a fire fight in which some British soldiers participated on Monday in Majar al Kabir, in the south of Iraq.



Saddam pictured shortly after his arrest eight months after his regime fell

SURVEY

Spanish want death penalty for terror offences

A survey has revealed that nearly 45% of Spanish people are in favour of the death penalty for acts of terrorism, but 48% of those quizzed by Gallup were against such a move. The survey of 1015 people during April this year, revealed that 27% were in favour of capital punishment for murder while the vast majority of those quizzed, nearly 63% opposed it. People aged over 65 years were more likely to support the death penalty for murder. However, those aged between 35 and 44 years, university graduates, the middle class and those living in northern Spain, were against the death penalty for people who committed murder.

MARRIAGE

Couples converting to Islam to adopt

More Spanish couples are converting to Islam so that they adopt Moroccan children. The trend follows Morocco's decision seven years ago to allow foreigners to take possession of the 30,000 abandoned children in the country. Under Moroccan law foreigners can obtain care for a child by meeting certain conditions, one of which includes changing faith to Islam. Since 1997 less than a hundred Moroccan children have moved to Spain with their new parents, the majority going to Catalonia. Ironically, a group of Franciscan nuns in the Moroccan capital Rabat help couples with the paperwork and other aspects of the care process. It places the nuns in a certain dilemma, helping fellow Christians to change religion. "The nuns do it for the children, who are seen in Morocco as the children of sin, where they have no future," says a volunteer, who works with the nuns. For the majority of Spanish the conversion to Islam is seen as a formality, so that they can take care of a child.

FOOD CRISIS

Aid for 10 million people under threat

Ten million people face starving as aid workers are unable to get food to them, according to the UN's humanitarian chief. General Jan Egeland said food deliveries in 20 countries were being sabotaged or put at risk due to a lack of funds. He said the worst hit region was Sudan's Darfur area as well as Colombia, Somalia and Afghanistan. He wants the United Nations to act swiftly to protect civilians in armed conflict. He said the fault lay with governments for not providing access and armed groups not giving any security. "A major issue was a lack of security for aid workers," he says. He was angry with the Sudanese government for the Darfur issue, where two million people are in need of food due a conflict between the rebels and Arab militias. Humanitarian workers have not been issued visas and food and equipment is being held up.

CRIME

French police arrest terror suspects

French anti-terrorist police have arrested up to 12 people after a series on suspected Islamist groups across the Paris region, officials have confirmed. Reports indicate that those detained included one Muslim imam and some of his followers and that police seized guns and equipment for making false identity papers. However, a Reuters news agency report says that the items could point only to criminal and not terrorist activity.

We speak your language

Deutsche Bank opened its first Spanish branch in Barcelona over 100 years ago. Since then we have worked towards gaining the trust of the national and the international residents.

We offer a wide range of products tailored to your needs: international account solutions, flexible home financing, innovative investment products and much more. All of these, supported by an international team of advisers.

Discover how your plans for the future can benefit from our unique approach to banking. A worldwide leading provider of financial solutions and a global network stay at your service.

For further information about your nearest branch, contact our international call center at: +93 366 5101 or e-mail us at db-online@db.com

Come in and talk to our advisers at any of our 61 branches in Catalonia:

Lleida, Manresa, Reus, Salou, Tarragona, Figueres, Girona, Ampuriabrava, Palafrugell, Sant Cugat del Valles, Barcelona, Sant Just Desvern

A Passion to Perform. Deutsche Bank

869689/590286P

Deutsche Bank, S.A. España - R.M. de Barcelona. H. 5099. E. 93 366 5101. L. 174. S. 2 - C.I.F. A-08000614