

# Arafat's security forces arrest suspected militants

**INTERNATIONAL**  
JERUSALEM (AP) — Yasser Arafat's security forces arrested 110 suspected Islamic militants, but Israel on Monday dismissed the overnight sweep — the biggest in five years — as a charade aimed at preventing massive Israeli retaliation for weekend suicide bombings and shooting attacks that killed 26 people.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon returned from the United States on Monday morning, after a meeting with President Bush at the White House, and convened a special session of the security Cabinet to decide on Israel's response. Several Cabinet ministers demanded that Israel expel Arafat, and reporters accompanying Sharon said he was weighing the proposal.

There was no indication Bush had sought to persuade the Israeli leader to hold back.

Israeli troops further tightened travel restrictions on Palestinians, blockading towns in the West Bank.

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — The ashes of George Harrison, long a devotee of India's Hindu faith, were to be sprinkled in the holy Ganges River, religious authorities said Monday.

Harrison's widow, Olivia, and his 23-year-old son, Dhani, would be accompanied by two Hare Krishna devotees who performed Hindu rites on Harrison's ashes with the family in London, said Maha Mantra Das, New Delhi spokesman for the International

## ap news capsules

Society of Krishna Consciousness.

The ashes were scheduled to arrive in India on Monday and be scattered in the Ganges River in the northern city of Varnasi, Das said. The ashes would also be sprinkled off Allahabad, where Hindu's three holiest rivers — the Ganges, Yamuna and Saraswati — converge.

His widow asked fans for a minute of meditation as a tribute to the musician. Britain's Press Association reported that Harrison's family was to scatter his ashes in India to coincide with that minute, which would take place 3 a.m. Tuesday in India.

Harrison, 58, died of cancer in Los Angeles on Thursday.

**NATIONAL**  
EAST HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Pratt & Whitney machinists hit the picket lines early Monday, hours after rejecting a contract proposal by the jet-engine maker that included a 10 percent raise over three years and a \$1,000 bonus for each worker.

The strike comes at a difficult time for Pratt & Whitney as it tries to cope with a recession and downturn in the airline industry. A walkout could also harm the company's ability to supply the Air Force as military operations continue in Afghanistan, Pratt spokesman Mark Sullivan said.

He said Pratt planned to open for business Monday morning with nearly

2,000 managers and salaried employees reassigned to union workers' jobs. Union leaders said workers will be on picket lines at plants in East Hartford, Middletown, North Haven and Cheshire.

The proposed contract, which would have covered the union's 5,100 workers, included increased medical and pension benefits and 10 percent raises that would have boosted the current average wage of \$23.27 an hour to \$25.88 by the end of the contract. A \$1,000 bonus would go to each worker if the pact was ratified.

But members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers said the proposal had loopholes in provisions on job security, one of their biggest concerns.

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — New and more sophisticated tests have turned up trace amounts of anthrax at a postal distribution center that sorts mail for a town where a 94-year-old woman died of the disease.

But baffled investigators still have no evidence that Otilie Lundgren, who died Nov. 21 in her Oxford home, contracted inhalation anthrax from the mail.

The anthrax was found on four mail-sorting machines at the Southern Connecticut Processing & Distribution Center in Wallingford, where workers

handle about 3 million pieces of mail daily headed for New Haven, Middlesex and New London counties.

The machines most likely were contaminated when an anthrax-tainted letter destined for an address in Seymour, a few miles from Lundgren's home, passed through the plant on Oct. 11, said Jon Steele, vice president of the Postal Service's Northeast Area Operations. On Friday, officials announced the discovery of that letter, which contained a single spore of anthrax.

NEW YORK (AP) — The nation is finally learning what "IT" actually is. Capping months of rampant speculation about his mysterious and much-ballyhooed invention, Dean Kamen was set to unveil the Segway Human Transporter on Monday, a one-person, battery-powered scooter that supporters say will revolutionize transportation much like the automobile did a century ago.

Kamen and his backers have big hopes for the agile Segway, saying the scooter will displace awkward, polluting cars, leading to a realigned cityscape that is more people-friendly.

The Segway, initially known only as its codenames "IT" and "Ginger," "will be to the car what the car was to the horse and buggy," Kamen told Time magazine for Monday's edition. "Cars are great for going long distances. But it makes no sense at all for people in cities to use a 4,000-pound

piece of metal ..."

Kamen holds roughly 100 U.S. patents. His other inventions include the heart stent used by Vice President Dick Cheney and a wheelchair that can climb stairs.

The two-wheeled Segway, which looks like a cross between an old rotary lawn mower and a Razor scooter, travels at a top speed of about 17 miles per hour.

**WASHINGTON**  
WASHINGTON (AP) — Environmental crews are completing collection of samples for lab tests to confirm the success of weekend use of toxic gas and other means to kill anthrax spores in a dozen senators' offices.

Results were expected by the end of this week from sterile gauze wipes and vacuum samples and from test strips collected earlier. Officials are working to reopen the shuttered Hart Senate Office Building, which provides work space for half the 100-member chamber.

The adjacent Dirksen Senate Office Building, closed as a precaution while chlorine dioxide gas and other decontaminants were spread in the Hart building, was reopening Monday, said Lt. Dan Nichols, spokesman for the Capitol Police.

The Environmental Protection Agency, in charge of the operation, said the gas was safely dissipated from Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle's office suite Sunday.

Potentially lethal anthrax bacteria

escaped Oct. 15 when an aide opened an anthrax-tainted letter.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Investigators are examining similarities between the last three terrorist attacks on Americans, as Attorney General John Ashcroft warns that perpetrators won't be able to hide behind religious or political protections.

"People who hijack a religion and make out of it an implement of war will not be free from our interest," Ashcroft said Sunday.

The Senate's top Democrat said, meanwhile, he might support the narrow use of secret military tribunals to try terrorists.

"Under certain circumstances — very, very restricted circumstances, depending on how it's handled — I'm willing to look at it," said Majority Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota.

The comments offered a preview of a Senate hearing this week at which Ashcroft will address criticism by both liberal Democrats and conservative Republicans.

Meanwhile, law enforcement officials told The Associated Press that investigators have gathered evidence showing similarities among the last three terrorist attacks against Americans by Osama bin Laden's supporters. Those attacks include the Sept. 11 suicide hijackings, the October 2000 bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen and the 1998 bombings of two U.S. embassies in Africa.

# Corporate bankruptcy shakes up energy suppliers

HOUSTON (AP) — In one of the largest corporate bankruptcies in U.S. history, Enron filed for Chapter 11 protection and sued rival Dynegy Inc. for \$10 billion as it tries to reverse a tailspin that has crippled the one-time energy giant.

Dynegy countered today with a suit of its own.

Enron's Sunday filing was largely expected after its credit rating collapsed and Dynegy scuttled the proposed buyout. Enron listed just under \$50 billion in total assets, including those of 13 Enron subsidiaries, and \$31.1 billion in liabilities, according to the filing.

In the lawsuit against Dynegy, Enron asserted that its fellow Houston company breached a merger agreement by

backing out of its Nov. 9 deal to buy Enron. Enron also says Dynegy has no right to exercise an option on its large Northern Natural Gas pipeline in return for a \$1.5 billion investment.

Enron chairman and chief executive Kenneth Lay said the filings, made in Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, will help the company regain lost confidence. He said the company's operations will continue running normally.

Today, Dynegy said it had filed a suit against several Enron subsidiaries not included in the bankruptcy filing. The suit was brought in Harris County District Court in Houston, where both companies are based.

Dynegy chairman and chief executive Chuck Watson called Enron's law-

suit "frivolous and disingenuous," and said Dynegy's suit was to make sure the subsidiaries live up to their contractual obligations to the pipeline.

He said Dynegy expects to acquire the pipeline, one of Enron's most prized assets, and he wants it to remain financially healthy until that happens. But the lawsuits likely will drag that process out, Watson said.

"We have a clear and unambiguous right to Northern Natural Gas," Watson said in a conference call to analysts. "Until we take control of it, we are protected."

Watson said the suit against his company was an example of Enron refusing to take responsibility for its decline.

"The reality is, Enron invited Dynegy to participate in merger nego-

tiations. Dynegy entered those negotiations in good faith and provided \$1.5 billion in cash to Enron. Despite assurances that Enron's liquidity situation had stabilized, the cash was gone in less than three weeks, and Enron has had difficulty providing an accounting as to where it went," Watson said.

Enron would use any proceeds from the Dynegy lawsuit to repay its creditors. In the meantime, the company said an undetermined number of its 21,000 workers, mostly among the 7,500 in Houston, would be laid off.

A laid-off worker in human resources, Joann Matson, said today that 4,000 employees were notified. This comes on top of 1,100 jobs in London that were cut Friday.

"This whole thing, it's a nightmare,"

said Matson, who was one of a number of workers seen carting belongings away in cardboard boxes.

Enron also said it is in "active discussions" with several financial institutions to secure credit for the continued operation of its wholesale energy trading business, and to get additional funding to keep the rest of the company operating.

Morgan Stanley Dean Witter analyst Jim McAuliffe said Enron's ability to win new financing will be crucial to a successful reorganization.

"That's going to be the tricky one," he said.

Several energy companies have stopped making trades with Enron for fear they won't be paid. Some have revealed they have multimillion-dol-

lar exposures to Enron.

Enron said it would ask the court to consider several motions to continue payments for Enron's payroll and health benefits and for vendors.

Shares of Enron plunged to 26 cents Friday on the New York Stock Exchange, down 10 cents from the previous close; by midday today, they were up 11 cents, or 32.3 percent, to 37 cents a share. A year ago, shares were trading at nearly \$85. Dynegy shares were off \$2.04, or 6.7 percent, at \$28.31 today on the NYSE.

Enron's loss of credibility in the market stemmed from revelations in October that its former chief financial officer was running partnerships that allowed the company to keep half a billion dollars in debt off its books.

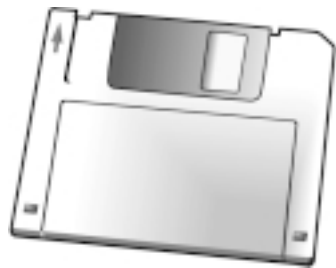
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