

## NATION/WORLD DIGEST

## Bombs Kill 69 In Iraq's Deadliest Day Of Year

BAGHDAD (AP) — The bloodiest day of the year in Iraq left at least 69 people dead in a series of bombs in mainly Shiite areas Friday — concerted attacks seen as demonstrating the resilience of the Sunni-led insurgency after the slaying of two al-Qaida leaders last weekend.

No one has taken responsibility for the blasts, but officials were quick to blame Sunni-led insurgent groups for attacking at a particularly fragile time as Iraq awaits formation of a new government and prepares for U.S. troops to go home by the end of next year.

The protracted political wrangling since contentious March 7 elections has raised fears of sectarian violence akin to that seen at the height of the war.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki lashed out at the bombers in a statement Friday night, saying the insurgents were trying to fight back after Iraqi security forces killed the two al-Qaida Iraq leaders on April 18.

"The cowardly terrorist attacks that occurred today were intending to cover the great success achieved by the security forces through the killing of the leaders of wickedness and terrorism, Abu Omar al-Baghdadi and Abu Ayyub al-Masri," al-Maliki said.

## al-Qaida Leaders Linked To N.Y. Bomb Case

NEW YORK (AP) — Prosecutors say two al-Qaida leaders met with New York terror suspects in Pakistan and ordered them to conduct a suicide bomb attack on city subways.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Knox identified them as senior operative Saleh al-Somali and Rashid Rauf. Both died in strikes in the past year in Pakistan.

Knox made the disclosure in Brooklyn federal court Friday as Zarein Ahmedzay pleaded guilty to the suicide bomb plot last September.

Ahmedzay admitted to conspiracy to use weapons of destruction and providing material support to al-Qaida. He was charged with admitted al-Qaida associate Najibullah Zazi.

Authorities say they and another high school classmate from New York planned the attacks for days after the eighth anniversary of Sept. 11.

## U.S. Demands Iran Release Detained Hikers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration on Friday renewed calls for Iran to immediately release three American hikers detained for nearly nine months and also appealed to the Iranian government to issue their families visas to visit them.

A day after the families said two of the three are in poor health, State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said there was no reason for their continued incarceration. He spoke after getting a report from Swiss diplomats who were allowed to visit the trio in Tehran's notorious Evin prison on Thursday.

"While we welcome this news, we continue to call for their release," said Crowley, who also said the families should get visas. "We are aware of the families' concerns about their children's physical and emotional state of health."

"These three Americans have been in detention for almost nine months without formal charges or access to legal representation," he said. "They were simply innocent tourists in the Iraq Kurdistan region when they were first detained. There is no justification for their ongoing detention. They should be released without further delay."

Thursday's visit by the Swiss, who represent U.S. interests in Iran, was the first since last October and only the third since the three University of California at Berkeley graduates were detained July 31, after apparently straying into Iran while hiking in a scenic part of Iraq. This month, Iran's intelligence minister accused them of having links to U.S. intelligence services, which their families said was absurd.

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## Ariz. Signs Tough Immigration Bill

State Law: Crime To Be In U.S. Illegally; Governor Downplays Profiling

BY JONATHAN J. COOPER  
PAUL DAVENPORT  
Associated Press Writers

PHOENIX — Gov. Jan Brewer ignored criticism from President Barack Obama on Friday and signed into law a bill supporters said would take handcuffs off police in dealing with illegal immigration in Arizona, the nation's busiest gateway for human and drug smuggling from Mexico.

With hundreds of protesters outside the state Capitol shouting that the bill would lead to civil rights abuses, Brewer said critics were "overreacting" and that she wouldn't tolerate racial profiling.

"We in Arizona have been more than patient waiting for Washington to act," Brewer said after signing the law. "But decades of inaction and misguided policy have created a dangerous and unacceptable situation."

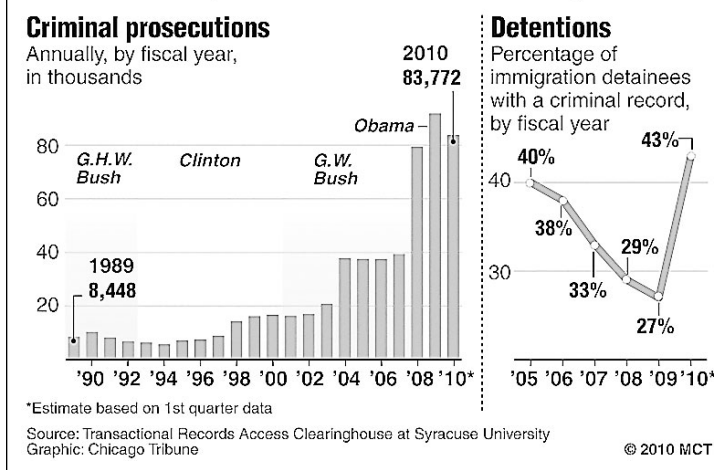
Earlier Friday, Obama called the Arizona bill "misguided" and instructed the Justice Department to examine it to see if it's legal. He also said the federal government must enact immigration reform at the national level — or leave the door open to "irresponsibility by others."

"That includes, for example, the recent efforts in Arizona, which threaten to undermine basic notions of fairness that we cherish as Americans, as well as the trust between police and their communities that is so crucial to keeping us safe," Obama said.

The legislation, sent to the Republican governor by the GOP-

## A heavier hand on criminal immigrants

Trend in the criminal prosecution and detention of U.S. immigrants:



\*Estimate based on 1st quarter data  
Source: Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse at Syracuse University  
Graphic: Chicago Tribune © 2010 MCT

led Legislature, makes it a crime under state law to be in the country illegally. It also requires local police officers to question people about their immigration status if there is reason to suspect they are illegal immigrants; allows lawsuits against government agencies that hinder enforcement of immigration laws; and makes it illegal to hire illegal immigrants for day labor or knowingly transport them.

The law sends "a clear message that Arizona is unfriendly to undocumented aliens," said Peter Spiro, a Temple University law professor and author of the book "Beyond Citizenship: American Identity After Globalization."

Brewer signed the bill in a state auditorium about a mile from the

Capitol complex where some 2,000 demonstrators booted when county Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox announced that "the governor did not listen to our prayers."

"It's going to change our lives," said Emilio Almodovar, a 13-year-old American citizen from Phoenix. "We can't walk to school any more. We can't be in the streets anymore without the pigs thinking we're illegal immigrants."

The Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund said it plans a legal challenge to the law, arguing it "launches Arizona into a spiral of pervasive fear, community distrust, increased crime and costly litigation, with nationwide repercussions."

Mexico has warned the proposal could affect cross-border rela-

tions. On Thursday, Mexico's Senate unanimously passed a resolution urging Brewer to veto the law.

The bill will take effect in late July or early August, and Brewer ordered the state's law enforcement licensing agency to develop a training course on how to implement it without violating civil rights.

"We must enforce the law evenly, and without regard to skin color, accent, or social status," she said. "We must prove the alarmists and the cynics wrong."

Brewer, who faces a tough election battle and growing anger in the state over illegal immigrants, said the law "protects every Arizona citizen."

Anti-immigrant anger has swelled in the past month, after rancher Rob Krenz was found dead on his land north of Douglas, near the Mexico border. Authorities believe he was fatally shot by an illegal immigrant possibly connected to a drug smuggling cartel.

Arizona has an estimated 460,000 illegal immigrants, and its harsh, remote desert serves as the corridor for the majority of illegal immigrants and drugs moving north into the U.S. from Mexico.

U.S. Rep. Raul Grijalva, a Democrat, said he closed his Arizona offices at noon Friday after his staff in Yuma and Tucson were flooded with calls this week, some from people threatening violent acts and shouting racial slurs. He called on businesses and groups looking for convention and meeting locations to boycott Arizona.

## Scouts Ordered To Pay \$18.5M In Sex Abuse Case

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A jury on Friday ordered the Boy Scouts of America to pay \$18.5 million to a man sexually abused by a former assistant Scoutmaster in what is believed to be the largest such award against the national organization.

Lawyers for Kerry Lewis had asked the jury to award at least \$25 million to punish the Boy Scouts for what the jury had already agreed in the first phase of the trial was reckless and outrageous conduct.

They also noted the Boy Scouts had never apologized to Lewis, who said Friday at a news conference that the verdict shows that "big corporations can't be above the law."

Lewis added that an apology "would mean something to me, but I'm not expecting it."

The jury decided on April 13 that the Boy

Scouts were negligent for allowing former assistant Scoutmaster Timur Dykes to associate with Scouts, including Lewis, after Dykes admitted to a Scouts official in 1983 that he had molested 17 boys.

The jury awarded Lewis \$1.4 million in compensatory damages with that verdict and agreed the Boy Scouts were liable for punitive damages to be determined in the second phase of the trial that ended Thursday.

Scouts officials declined to comment on details of the case because other cases are pending, but issued a statement saying it maintains a "rigorous" system to screen Scout leaders.

The verdict came as the Boy Scouts, a congressionally chartered organization, mark their centennial.

The case was the first of six filed against the

Boy Scouts in the same court in Oregon, with at least one other separate case pending. If mediation fails to settle the next cases, they also could go to trial.

The award is also significant, he said, because it is only against the national Boy Scouts organization and is not divided among any of its local councils or other defendants.

During the first phase of the trial, Clark and Mones introduced more than 1,000 files the Scouts kept on suspected child molesters from 1965-85 as evidence the organization should have put a sex abuse prevention program into place decades ago.

The Scouts executive now in charge of those files admitted they had never been evaluated or analyzed to help design or determine the effectiveness of a prevention program that is now in place.

## BRASS

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of inspiration to live lives full of music.

"The students and the community are still buzzing," Bernstiehl said at the end of the week.

The morning after the Monday night concert, the Dallas Brass returned to school and had breakfast with students. From there, three of group's members went on to the local nursing home and serenaded 108-year-old Erma Walker, a veteran Minnesota Twins fan, with the ballclub's theme song.

Levine and the five other musicians arrived Saturday evening from their homes all across the United States, and practiced in the gym on Sunday. Tripp was the start of one of its monthly two-week tours. When the group members left Tuesday, they drove 600 miles to the next of their five other engagements in Wisconsin.

The group gets its name from its roots, since Levine, a Minnesota native, started the Dallas Brass in Dallas in 1983. Only one other member lives in Texas: the newest — and youngest — musician, DeMarcus Walker, 19, who was on his first tour with the group. "We never play in Dallas," commented Levine. "It's our base because I live there, but otherwise we are more of a national group than a Texas group."

The Dallas Brass has yet to play Hawaii, he said, but have played Russia, Italy, Germany, and Japan.

"Mostly we like to play the United States," said Levine, about 100 dates a year, "because we especially like to reach kids — that's our big focus."

About 95 percent of their time is spent in working with schools, "in clinics, rehearsing and letting the kids perform with us," Levine said.

Levine said this is "really what we do — we want to go into a community, but we want to connect with the kids in that community and their families. ... It's really a family show."

"We want to inspire the kids to stay involved in music and to bring their families into it is an

important part of the experience." The situation in Tripp, however, "is the most unique we have ever had anywhere in the country, because they raised so much money that it's unbelievable," Levine said.

In a town of 650 people, 850 were expected at the concert, he said.

Bernstiehl said about \$14,000 was raised in the two months prior to the concert, and after expenses were paid, there will be about \$5,000 left to spend on enriching the music program at Tripp-Delmont.

Bernstiehl and vocal music teacher Shelly Finck worked with a group of community volunteers who made the concert happen.

The profit could go fast, Bernstiehl said, because there always are places to spend it on replacement instruments, sheet music and such, but maybe some can be used as seed money for a band trip. "Tripp-Delmont is one of the few schools that doesn't take a band trip," she said, adding that it would be good to be able to expose students to sights outside of the Midwest.

At 57, Levine doesn't take his mission lightly. There are other musical groups that "work with kids to one degree or another," he said, "but we've really taken it to kind of an extreme." Many times they travel in the morning, work with students in the afternoon and perform at night, he said.

"But we are all band kids ourselves ... and we just want to pass on that inspiration that we got from our teachers and experiences we had," Levine said.

Today, just because students are in band, doesn't mean they are exposed to this kind of music, he added.

"We just don't live in an arts-minded society anymore. It's a

sports-minded society," he said. "I'm not anti-sports, but to the degree it has taken over people's lives, I just think the arts need to be in there somewhere, too."

Between sports, video games and computers in general, he said, "it seems it has taken kids to a whole other place. Where do the arts fit into that?"

Working with those who are already in band, he said, provides a foot in the door to "help fuel that fire."

Levine said that if students experience music in the band room, they may still not connect it to the outside world.

He said when he was in school, what happened in the band room didn't equate to what was happening in his life. A music camp between his junior and senior year changed all that for him, Levine said, so he wants the Dallas Brass to be that pivotal experience, or what Levine called "that 'wow' moment" for the students with whom they work.

"We encourage them to continue playing, and to realize they can play into ... their whole life, and they don't have to become professional musicians to play," he said.

"My favorite analogy is golf: How many millions of people enjoy playing golf, but how many make a living at it? Very, very few."

Staying involved with music for life — even if not making the music, but loving music and taking part in it — is the thrust of the Dallas Brass' message to not only students but also the community.

Music is at everyone's fingertips, Levine noted, with the Internet providing YouTube and iTunes, "but they don't take advantage of it. ... That's why we can motivate and inspire and encourage, just to get the enthusiasm going."

It is apparent that the group

members accomplished their mission in Tripp.

Bernstiehl said it has been "a once-in-a-lifetime experience and I thoroughly appreciate all the support we received from the community."

"They are not only phenome-

nal musicians, but they are also phenomenal people."

"We will never forget Tripp," Levine said, noting all of the effort that went into bringing them there, the money raised from the small community, and the friends that had been made.

"I've been doing this close to 30 years," he said, "and I've never seen anything like this. It's unprecedented, unheard of, illogical."

"It's a miracle," he said.



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