

## The Daily Telegraph

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- COVER STORY: 'Gordon Brown tried to blackmail me, says Blair'

Former Prime Minister Blair's memoir called *A Journey* casts Gordon Brown as a 'manipulative figure who lost a winnable election by abandoning the principles of New Labour' and that Brown blackmailed Blair while in office and orchestrated the 'cash-for-honours' investigation. Blair also discloses his reliance on alcohol due to Brown's pressure on him, his regret over the Iraq War, and his claim that it was Brown's change in tactics that cost Labour the election. ([Link](#))

- 'SAS kills Taliban 'on an industrial scale' P.13

Over 65 senior insurgent commanders or bomb-makers have been killed by the SAS, which has led to a significant drop in British casualties, though senior British officers are cautious about overtouting their success. In addition to SAS action, the floods in Pakistan, recent sandstorms, and the month of Ramadan might be amongst other factors playing a role.

- 'Pakistan shuns military aid as Cameron spat continues' P.13

Deputy PM Nick Clegg's visit to Pakistan has been overshadowed by Pakistan's ISI refusing Britain's offer of military aid for flood victims despite Britain's having already flown RAF aid to Pakistan. It is assumed that this refusal is due to lingering anger over PM Cameron's comments insinuating Pakistan looks both ways on terror issues.

- 'The mood is sombre as US ends its front-line operations in Iraq' P.13

President Obama officially ended front-line operations in Iraq yesterday despite the failure of the war to install a stable government or demolish the threat from al-Qaeda. PM al-Maliki noted that Iraq yesterday became sovereign and independent and that Iraqi troops were ready to take on that responsibility. ([Link](#))

- 'Anger as Indian troops kill boy, 11' P.13

Irshad Ahmad Parray, 11, was amongst a crowd of demonstrators protesting the Indian troops in Kashmir when Indian police opened fire on the crowd. Human rights campaigners are asking for justice from the Indian government for the death of Parray. ([Link](#))

- 'Settlers are shot dead in West Bank as peace talks begin' P.15

On the eve of the first peace talks in almost two years, four Israeli settlers were killed by Hamas' militant Qassam Brigade, seen as an attempt to 'derail negotiations' between Israel and Palestine. The move led Netanyahu to say that Israel could not compromise on its security demands. ([Link](#))

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Dutch prosecutors have been interrogating two men, al-Soofi and al-Murisi, who on a flight from Chicago to Amsterdam were found with suspicious items in their luggage, raising questions about international airline security. ([Link](#))

## The Guardian

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- **COVER STORY: 'I knew Brown premiership would be disaster for Labour'**

Tony Blair reveals today in his long-awaited memoirs that he came to the view that Gordon Brown would be a disaster as prime minister and that Labour could not win the 2010 general election. "It was never going to work," Blair writes of Brown's three years in No 10, arguing the former chancellor had "zero emotional intelligence" and fatally abandoned the New Labour formula. ([Link](#))

- **'Iraq: the nightmare he didn't see coming' P.1**

Tony Blair admits that Britain and the US failed to anticipate, after the invasion of Iraq, "the nightmare that unfolded" as al-Qaida and Iran destabilised the country after the overthrow of Saddam Hussein in 2003. ([Link](#))

- **'Police call Pakistan cricketers in for further questioning' P.10**

Scotland Yard detectives conducting a criminal investigation into allegations of a conspiracy to fix an international cricket match are to reinterview three Pakistan players this week. The news comes as Customs officers said Mazhar Majeed, the agent at the centre of the match-fixing allegations which erupted Sunday, had already been under investigation by UK authorities as part of a money laundering investigation. ([Link](#))

- **'Kurds prevent deportation flights from UK landing in Irbil' P.10**

Home Office deportation flights are being prevented from taking failed asylum seekers directly to northern Iraq because of a diplomatic dispute with the Kurdish regional government. ([Link](#))

- **'Oxfam hit by fatal bomb as Clegg visits troops' P.16**

Oxfam has been forced to suspend operations in a once-peaceful northern province of Afghanistan after three of its staff were killed and two injured by a roadside bomb on Monday. The attack on one of the biggest British aid charities working in Afghanistan came as Nick Clegg claimed there was "discernible progress" in the restive southern Helmand province. ([Link](#))

- **'Obama ends the war. 'Now it's time to turn the page' P.18-19**

Barack Obama formally brought an end to US combat operations in Iraq last night, seven years and 165 days after the invasion began, and declared it was time for America "to turn the page". ([Link](#))

- **'US air security criticised as Dutch quiz Yemeni pair' P.22**

Two men of Yemeni origin who flew from Chicago to Amsterdam on Monday were being held in the Netherlands last night on suspicion of plotting terrorism. The two men, Ahmed Mohamed Nasser al-Soofi and Hezam al-Murisi, took a United Airlines flight to Amsterdam on Monday despite being booked on a different itinerary from Chicago, to Dubai via Washington. ([Link](#))

- **'Four Israelis killed in Hebron shooting' P.23**

Hamas gunmen shot dead four Israeli settlers on the outskirts of the volatile West Bank city of Hebron last night in a move that could jeopardise the first face-to-face talks between Israel and the Palestinians for more than 20 months. ([Link](#))

- **'Stoning case woman 'told she was about to die' P.23**

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Saturday that she was to be hanged at dawn on Sunday, but the sentence was not carried out, it emerged last night. ([Link](#))

- COMMENT - Pankaj Mishra: 'When will those brave critics of Islam decry this mob hate?' P.32

As anti-Muslim hysteria in America reaches a peak, its intellectual accomplices should start to reconsider their actions. ([Link](#))

## The Times

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- COVER STORY: 'BBC whistle blowers £30,000 settlement'

A BBC employee who said that she was bullied after querying a £250,000 redundancy payoff given to a senior manager who was eight months from retirement was given £30,000 after she dropped her claim yesterday.

- 'Palestinian gunman kills four Israelis on eve of peace talks'

Four Israelis were killed last night when their car was sprayed with gunfire near the West Bank city of Hebron— on the eve of renewed, US-brokered peace talks in Washington.

- 'Time to turn page, says Obama as troops leave Iraq'

President Obama declared an end to America's seven-year combat mission in Iraq last night, hailing the milestone as a promise kept to the American people and declaring it "time to turn the page" and focus on rebuilding the shattered economy.

- 'Carla Bruni 'deserves to die' says Iranian newspaper'

An Iranian newspaper said today that Carla Bruni, the wife of the French President, deserved to die for expressing solidarity with a woman sentenced to be stoned to death for adultery.

- 'Men arrested in Amsterdam over terror threat'

Dutch police have arrested two men on a flight from Chicago to Amsterdam who officials fear might have been staging a terror attack "dry run" after box cutters and a mobile phone taped to a soft drink bottle were reportedly found in their luggage.

- OPINION: 'Looking Back on Iraq'

A justifiable invasion could still have been better planned.

- 'Taleban fighters forced to try 'shoot and scoot' tactics in Helmand'

A year ago Helmand saw bloody fighting as British Forces pushed into what was then a Taleban safe haven. Today it is referred to as a "contested area". Whilst insurgent violence is the highest now for 15 or 16 months, the British commander in Helmand said "the nature of that violence is 'shoot and scoot', harassing fire. There is not a lot of co-ordinated activity that would cause me concern."

- 'State seizes bank part-owned by Karzai brother'

A bank part-owned by President Karzai's brother Mahmood has been taken over by Afghanistan's central bank amid fears of a \$1 billion meltdown.

## The Independent

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# UK Muslim Media Network News

- **COVER STORY: 'Journey's End: The long awaited memoirs of the former Prime Minister are finally published'**

Tony Blair has described Gordon Brown as "maddening" and "difficult" when he was his Chancellor but has defended his decision not to sack him or try to stop him becoming Prime Minister. In his memoirs, *A Journey*, to be published today, the former Prime Minister finally breaks his silence on the tension between him and Mr Brown which destabilised his 13 years as Labour leader. ([Link](#))

- **'Betting scam' cricketers miss game to meet Pakistan officials' P.8**

The three Pakistan cricketers at the centre of an alleged betting scam look set to miss tomorrow's friendly against Somerset after a meeting with senior sporting and political figures from their home country scheduled for today has been put back 24 hours. ([Link](#))

- **'Farewell to Iraq, but no talk of mission accomplished' P.19**

Barack Obama last night brought down a curtain on the long, costly and inconclusive war in Iraq, but amid near indifference from a country now worried about the economy to the exclusion of virtually all else. ([Link](#))

- **' Hamas claims drive-by attack ahead of summit' P.19**

Hamas last night claimed responsibility for the killing of four Israelis in a West Bank drive-by shooting attack 24 hours before President Barack Obama hosts a dinner summit to start the first direct peace negotiations for 20 months. ([Link](#))

- **'Opportunity from disaster for a former cricket hero' P.23**

Imran Khan tours his flood-stricken homeland on a relief mission - and tries to make sense of the betting scandal gripping the sport he loves. ([Link](#))

- **'Tehran says Bruni insult 'incorrect' P.24**

Iran sought to distance itself yesterday from harsh remarks by a hardline newspaper, which called France's First Lady a "prostitute" for condemning the stoning sentence against an Iranian woman convicted of adultery. ([Link](#))

- **'Spot-fixing trio head to London for showdown with Board' P.48**

The three players involved in the match-fixing scandal that is currently plaguing cricket have been called down to London for a meeting with Ijaz Butt, chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board, to discuss whether they should play in the Test series against England. ([Link](#))

## Al Jazeera

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- **COVER STORY: 'Obama ends 'combat mission' in Iraq'**

US president Barack Obama has kept his election promise and declared an end to 'Operation Iraqi Freedom', the American war in Iraq, telling the population that his focus would now be on restoring the US economy. ([Link](#))

- **'Four Israelis killed in West Bank'**

The military wing of Hamas has claimed responsibility for the fatal shooting of four Israeli citizens in the city of Hebron in the occupied West Bank. The shooting comes immediately prior to the reopening of peace negotiations between Israeli and Palestinian leaders in Washington. ([Link](#))

- **'Clinton meets Middle East leaders'**

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has held one-on-one meetings with Mahmoud Abbas, the

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Israeli-Palestinian talks in more than 18 months. [\(Link\)](#)

- 'Afghan attacks kill US troops'

NATO has announced that five US soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan in two Taliban-style attacks. The number of Americans to die in Afghanistan during the past four days has climbed to 22. [\(Link\)](#)

- 'US cautions over Amsterdam arrests'

The US Department of Homeland Security has said that people should not jump to conclusions after two Yemenis were arrested by Dutch police after arriving at Schipol on a flight from Chicago. Authorities in Washington said the matter may have been a misunderstanding. [\(Link\)](#)

## **The Daily Mail**

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- LEAD STORY: 'Crocodile tears - and still no apology' P.1

Tony Blair will enrage his opponents today when he releases his much hyped memoirs. The prime minister admits to failing to foresee the nightmare that unfolded in Iraq after the invasion in 2003. [\(Link\)](#)

- 'Riddle of cricket 'fixer' and a blizzard of phone calls linked to big games' P.5

A blizzard of telephone calls to and from the agent at the centre of the cricket match fixing allegations was being examined by investigators last night. Officials were looking at surges in calls made from British tycoon Mazhar Majeed during tournaments featuring Pakistan. [\(Link\)](#)

- 'Why not try a coalition, Clegg tells the Taliban' P.12

Nick Clegg made a secret trip to Afghanistan yesterday and delivered a controversial call for the Taliban to join the country's government.

- 'Yemenis held over plane 'dry run bomb plot' P.20

Two suspected terrorists have been arrested after an apparent attempt to beat the system for a passenger plane bombing. [\(Link\)](#)

## **The Evening Standard (31st)**

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- COVER STORY: 'Cricket scandal: 3 London arrests'

The cricket betting scandal deepened as it emerged that three people had been arrested by Revenue and Customs officials in London. Those detained are cricket agent Mazhar Majeed, the alleged brains behind the illegal betting at the Lord's test between Pakistan and England, a 35 year old woman from Croydon, who is believed to be Majeed's wife, and a 49 year old man from Wembley. [\(Link\)](#)

- 'Angry fans demand refund for remaining Pakistan games, but are told 'no'' P.5

In the wake of the betting scandal, furious English cricket supporters have demanded a refund for the remaining seven matches against Pakistan. Their request has been declined.

- 'Army ordered to reopen hunt for missing Iraqi boy' P.6

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into care by the Army seven years ago. Memmon Salam al-Maliki was 11 when he vanished days after being taken to a military base after being wounded while playing with munitions.

## **The Metro**

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- LEAD STORY: 'Blair: I never imagined horrors of war in Iraq' P.5

Tony Blair has admitted he could never have imagined the horrors that unfolded in Iraq after the invasion in 2003. The prime minister's controversial autobiography is out today. ([Link](#))

- 'Summit to decide future of 3 players' P.7

Three of the Pakistan cricketers accused of corruption will miss their warm-up match against Somerset tomorrow. They include captain Salman Butt and bowlers Mohammad Asif and Mohammad Amir. ([Link](#))

- 'Iraq 'is free' as US ends combat role ' P.14

The last US combat troops have left Iraq, seven years since they led the invasion to topple Saddam Hussein. Vice-president Joe Biden marked the occasion by attending a ceremony in Baghdad. ([Link](#))

- 'Pakistan's poor face a year of flood shortages' P.19

Pakistan faces a year of flood shortages and high prices according to the executive director of the World Food Programme, Josette Sheerer.

## **The Sun**

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- LEAD STORY: 'Clegg: Be brave... Like our boys' P.2

Nick Clegg yesterday urged politicians to show the same courage as British troops to bring peace to Afghanistan. The Deputy PM commended the 'extraordinary bravery' of the troops as he paid them a surprise visit. ([Link](#))

- 'Gunman kills four' P.2

A Palestinian gunman shot four Israelis dead yesterday, overshadowing today's Middle East peace talks in Washington.

- 'Terror 2 at airport' P.4

Two suspects have been arrested at Schipol airport after an American tip-off that they might conduct a test terrorist attack. They were held at the Dutch airport on their way from Chicago to their native Yemen.

- 'Tony Blair: My drinking was at the limit, not excessive, but it had become a prop...' P.7

Ahead of the launch of his autobiography, Tony Blair has admitted that his drinking was heavy during his time as Prime Minister. He also comments on his relationship with Gordon Brown and on Iraq. ([Link](#))

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