

From: Lucia Burga
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To: Martha Lanuez
Subject: FCC REPORTS - ULTIMA HORA NEWS -AUGUST 2005 -PT1

FCC REPORTS - AUGUST 2005 - ULTIMA HORA 11:30PM - PART 1

=====AUGUST 1ST=====

OPERATION COMMUNITY SHIELD

LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

PKG 2:00 Federal authorities arrested 528 alleged gang members over a two-week period, officials said Monday, targeting an

estimated 80 violent groups they say have spawned street crimes across the country. Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff called the gangs "a threat to our homeland security and ... a very urgent law enforcement priority." Investigators picked up most of the offenders between July 16 and July 28 on immigration violations for being in the United States illegally. Seventy-six face criminal charges, ranging from illegal possession of a firearm to holding fraudulent documents.

SECOND SPACEWALK + latest

VO: 25

NASA said Monday it will send out a spacewalking astronaut to fix two worrisome pieces of filler material protruding from Discovery's belly -- a high-stakes operation to repair a problem that could threaten the shuttle during re-entry. Engineers simply do not know enough about the problem and its consequences to leave it unattended, so the fabric strips will be

pulled out or cut Wednesday "to set our minds at rest," said deputy shuttle program manager Wayne Hale.

LATINOS & BLACKS / TENSIONS

JAIME GARCIA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:57

Black and Latino leaders plan to announce today a new coalition intended to help resolve tensions between the two ethnic groups in Los Angeles, organizers said. The Rev. Al Sharpton and Christine Chavez, president of the United Farm

Workers and granddaughter of UFW founder Cesar Chavez, will announce the formation of "The Latino & African American Leadership Alliance" at an 11 a.m. news conference in South Los Angeles. Other leaders expected to take part in the announcement include Oscar Gonzales of the National Hispanic Environmental Council; Marqueece Harris

Dawson of Community Coalition; Hector Marroquin of No guns; Khalid Shah of Stop The Violence Increase The Peace Foundation; and Eric Lee of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

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08/02/05

SHUTTLE NEWS CONF

LOURDES DEL RIO, UNIVISION

PKF 2:05

The shuttle Discovery's crew had misgivings about performing a spacewalk to remove two fabric fillers dangling from the ship's delicate heat shield, astronauts said on Tuesday. However, the more the astronauts who are flying NASA's first mission since the 2003 Columbia

disaster learned about the plan, the more comfortable they became with the unexpected -- and unprecedented -- repair.

CHILDREN IN TRUNK LATEST

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ, CAMDEN, NJ

PKG 1:52

Police failed to follow proper procedures as they searched for three missing boys later found dead, neglecting a national group's recommendations to immediately look in enclosed spaces such as car trunks, a report released Tuesday said. The report also faulted parents of the children for waiting three hours to call police, and for not disclosing during the massive search that one of the boys had previously played in the trunk of the car that was parked in the yard where they had been last seen.

BUSH SIGNS CAFTA /Immigration

LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

PGK 1:50

The crowd spilled into an adjacent hall as a smiling President Bush presided over the ceremony Tuesday in the East Room of the White House, putting his signature on a free trade pact with six Latin American countries. The size of the audience, in the hundreds, and the standing ovation the president received capped what had begun as a congressional debate over a relatively minor agreement and

mushroomed into one the hardest fought political battles of Bush's presidency. Despite the celebratory mood, the narrowness of the victory cast doubt on the future of other trade-opening pacts the administration is negotiating.

NEW REPORT ON HURRICANES

VO: 21

Government experts revised their hurricane forecast upward Tuesday. That's after finding prime conditions for an above-average hurricane count in the Atlantic region as the season continues. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration experts found optimal

conditions for hurricane development, including unusually warm ocean surface temperatures and low wind shear. At a press conference, they announced how many tropical storms and hurricanes they're expecting.

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08/03/05

BIRD ROAD RAPIST

LOURDES DEL RIO, MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:26

After 26 years behind bars, a man has been freed from prison with two of the rape convictions against him thrown out because of D-N-A evidence. And, the new testing is casting doubt on the other cases against the man once known as the "Bird Road Rapist." Luis Diaz, now 67, walked out of a Miami courthouse today a free man. His

response was, "Victory." About 30 supporters in the courtroom applauded after the judge said Diaz was free to go. Diaz, who is married with three children, was convicted of seven sexual assaults and sentenced to life in prison. Prosecutors stopped short of declaring him innocent in all the rape cases, but said it would be difficult to try to pursue new

trials. The group Innocence Project took up the Diaz case, asking that D-N-A evidence be tested.

DISCOVERY REPARATIONS IN SPACE

ENRIQUE TEUTALO, HOUSTON, TEXAS

PKG 2:06

With a gentle tug of his gloved right hand, Discovery astronaut Stephen Robinson removed two worrisome pieces of filler material from the shuttle's belly Wednesday in an unprecedented space repair job that drew a big sigh of relief from NASA. But he may have to go out again to fix yet another trouble spot. Robinson was barely back inside the shuttle and out of his spacesuit when Mission Control informed the crew there was a chance that a fourth spacewalk might be needed Friday to deal with a torn thermal blanket below a cockpit window. The concern is that a 20-inch section of the blanket could rip away during re-entry, whip backward and slam into the shuttle, perhaps causing grave damage. Engineers expect to know by Thursday evening whether the danger is real and whether any blanket trimming

is required.

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08/04/05

AL ZAWAHARI NEW THREAT

LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON D.C.

PKG 1:58

In a videotape broadcast Thursday, al-Qaida deputy leader Ayman al-Zawahri threatened more destruction in London after last month's attacks on the city's transit system. In the tape shown on the pan-Arab satellite channel Al-Jazeera, al-Zawahri also said British Prime Minister Tony Blair was to blame for the capital being targeted. Referring to the Western nations contributing troops to the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq, he said: "As to the nations of the crusader alliance, we have offered you a truce if you leave the land of Islam.

PROFILING IN RANDOM SEARCH

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ, NUEVA YORK

PKG 2:02

Middle Easterners should be targeted for searches on city subways, two elected officials said, contending that police have been wasting time with random checks in efforts to prevent terrorism in the transit system.

The city began examining passengers' bags on subways and buses after the second bomb attack in London two weeks ago. Police Commissioner Ray Kelly and Mayor Michael Bloomberg have said several times that officers will not engage in racial profiling. But over the weekend, state Assemblyman Dov Hikind said police should be focusing on those who fit the "terrorist profile."

"They all look a certain way," said Hikind, a Democrat from Brooklyn. "It's all very nice to be politically correct here, but we're talking about terrorism." The director of the New York chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, Wissam Nasr, said their push for racial profiling is offensive and ignorant. The New York Police Department said in a statement that racial profiling is "illegal, of doubtful effectiveness and against department policy."

DISCOVERY LATEST**ENRIQUE TEUTALO, HOUSTON, TEXAS****PKG 1:55**

On a day when her crew remembered those who died on space shuttle Columbia, Discovery Commander Eileen Collins said Thursday she's confident about returning home safely next week. Deputy shuttle program manager Wayne Hale said overall Discovery is in good shape, but there remains one lingering issue: a hole torn in a thermal blanket near the cockpit window. NASA told space shuttle Discovery's astronauts Thursday that a spacewalk to repair a torn thermal blanket will not be necessary. Mission Control told the crew of seven that the shuttle will be

safe for re-entry with the ripped blanket below the cockpit window. The space agency had been considering sending the astronauts out

to snip away part of the blanket for fear a 13-inch section weighing just under an ounce could tear away during the return to Earth and slam into the shuttle, perhaps causing grave damage.

REHNQUIST HOSPITALIZED**VO :45**

Rehnquist, who has cancer, was taken to Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington, Virginia, for "evaluation," according to a court spokesman. It's the same hospital where Rehnquist underwent observation and tests last month.

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08/05/05**BORDER SHOOTING INVESTIGATION****JAIME GARCIA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA****PKG 2:10**

Defenders of the rights of the immigrants requested yesterday in Los Angeles to open an investigation to clarify the attack of two people who appeared with bullet wound two weeks ago in a place near the camp struck by members of the Minuteman group in the border of California with Mexico. The fact happened the dawn of the 23 of July between the 1:30 and the 3:30 of the dawn in the proximities of the Mexican town Campo, where two men, one of 32 years and the other one of 38, were wounded while each one was to a side different from the dividing strip.

HOUSTON SANCTUARY FOR IMMIGRANTS?**ENRIQUE TEUTALO, HOUSTON, TEXAS****PKG 2:07**

House Majority Leader Tom DeLay criticized the city of Houston's "sanctuary" policy toward illegal immigrants in a speech Thursday night. Speaking to a packed house of Fort Bend County Republican faithful, DeLay said he supported the concept behind legislation introduced by U.S. Rep. Tom Tancredo, R-Colo., that would withhold federal funding from cities such as Houston that refuse to enforce immigration law.

"It greatly concerns me that the police chief in Houston, Texas, has created a sanctuary in Houston by announcing that he is not going to enforce our laws," the Sugar Land Republican said, in response to a question about Tancredo's bill. Since 1992, a Houston Police Department policy has officially forbidden officers from enforcing immigration laws in most cases. Mayor Bill White has said he supports continuing the policy, because he believes immigration is a federal matter and he wants to free police up to protect the city from violent criminals. Police in Katy also have a court-ordered policy forbidding them from enforcing immigration laws. The order came

as the result of a federal lawsuit filed after a 1994 police operation to pick up day laborers.

NOTARIES, NO LAWYERS

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ, NUEVA YORK

PKG 2:02

Harris County family court judges are warning their Spanish-speaking litigants not to use the *notario publico* services in Hispanic neighborhoods for preparing legal documents. For years, some Hispanic notaries public have exploited immigrants who believe *notarios publicos* in the U.S. are like the top-tier attorneys who carry the title in Latin American countries. In this country, a notary is simply someone licensed to formally witness the signing of legal documents. "There's confusion about the status of who these folks are and how they fit in the legal system. A lot of the Hispanic people think the title gives them an aura of credibility. But a lot of the paper being generated by these nonlawyers is just trash," says State District Judge Doug Warne.

When litigants present inadequate pleadings, motions, orders and other documents, they are forced to make repeat appearances until they get it right, he said.

DISNEY WORLD DEATH

VO :45

Medical examiners tried to determine Friday why a 12-year-old girl died after collapsing at a wave pool in a Walt Disney World water park -- the third time in two months a child has died or become critically ill at the resort. Lifeguards noticed Jerra Kirby, of Newport News, Va., on a ledge

of the wave pool at Typhoon Lagoon on Thursday and asked if she was OK, sheriff's officials said. She said she was fine and wanted to

be left alone, but passed out when she stood up, officials said. Lifeguards performed CPR until paramedics arrived and took her to the hospital, where she was pronounced dead. Results of Friday's autopsy could take several weeks if there is no obvious sign of trouble, said Steve Hanson, chief investigator for the Medical Examiner's Office in Orlando. Relatives who were with her said she had no known medical problems.

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08/06/05

SHUTTLE LATEST

ENRIQUE TEUTELLO, HOUSTON, TEXAS

LIVE & PKG 1:35

Discovery departed from the International Space Station on Saturday and glided off on its own in the first step toward the shuttle's risky return to

Earth. Officials at the U.S. space agency were to meet Saturday to look at weather forecasts. If conditions are not optimal, Discovery's return could be delayed. Officials at the U.S. space agency were to meet Saturday to look at weather forecasts. If conditions are not optimal, Discovery's return could be delayed. A specialised NASA airplane, the WB-57, will arrive in Costa Rica as a preparation for the space shuttle's return. The WB-57 - armed with infrared and high definition digital cameras - will be monitoring and studying the space shuttle on its return to earth.

SUBMARINE LATEST

SERGIO URQUIDI, MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:47

The United States, Britain and Japan rushed to rescue seven Russian sailors trapped in a mini-submarine 625 feet below the surface of the Pacific Ocean. A US Air Force plane loaded with 40 submariners, divers and other experts, landed in eastern Russia. Initial reports stated that the sub became stuck on some fishing nets or cable, but later reports say that the sub was fitted with a coastal observation aerial held to the ocean floor by at least one anchor which may have contributed to the sinking. Authorities say it isn't clear whether or not a fishing net is also involved. Russian authorities are maintaining contact with the crew and say they are in "satisfactory" condition.

BORDER PATROL AGENT

VO:45

A U.S. Border Patrol agent is accused of using a fake birth certificate to get hired and then helping to smuggle illegal immigrants through his area. Twenty-eight-year-old Oscar Antonio Ortiz, 28 is charged with falsely claiming to be a U.S. citizen and conspiring to bring illegal immigrants into the United States. Court documents say Ortiz is a Mexican citizen who said he was born in Chicago to get a job with the Border Patrol. Magistrate Judge Anthony Battaglia told Ortiz in a brief court appearance Friday (8/5) that a preliminary hearing would be held August 18th unless a grand jury handed down an indictment. Ortiz did not enter pleas to the charges today.

AMBER ALERT

VO :45

There's an alert out in the Southeast for a woman and two young children who police say were kidnapped yesterday (Fri, 8/5) in South Georgia. Police say German Rodas kidnapped, at gunpoint, his wife Emily and their two children, 2-year-old Mary Elena and 8-month-old Christian. Investigators are on the lookout for a maroon or burgundy Chevrolet with a South Carolina tag that could pass through Atlanta on its way to Rock Hill, South Carolina.

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08/07/05

DISCOVERY LANDING DETAILS

LOURDES DEL RIO-CABO CAÑAVERAL, FLORIDA

PKG 2:02

All systems appear to be go...For the return to earth of the shuttle discovery. The space shuttle is scheduled to return to earth after a two-week docking mission at the international space station. The high-stakes mission is the first since the space shuttle Columbia disaster in 2003. It's set to land in Florida around 4:47 am tomorrow (Monday) Morning.

MINUTEMEN IN CALIFORNIA

VO:20

The operation of border vigilance ended today after conflicts between civilians that wanted to stop illegal immigrants and the border patrol, that says their results are limited.

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08/08/05

NASA DELAYS SHUTTLES'S RETURN TO EARTH

LOURDES DEL RIO, CABO CAÑAVERAL, FLORIDA

LIVE & PKG 2:09

Cloudy skies over its Florida landing site Monday forced NASA to postpone the space shuttle Discovery's return to Earth, prolonging by at

least a day the first shuttle mission since the 2003 Columbia disaster. Flight directors tried twice to bring Discovery back to Earth after 13 days in orbit but decided the weather was too unpredictable to be sure shuttle commander Eileen Collins would have a clear view of the 3-mile, canal-lined runway at the Kennedy Space Center. NASA will only land the shuttle if there is at least 5 miles of visibility for the approach to the runway and no rain, lightning or thunderstorms within 35 miles.

NASA has several chances to land the shuttle Tuesday, including at 5:07 a.m. EDT or 6:43 a.m. EDT in Florida and at 8:12 a.m. EDT and 9:47 a.m. EDT at the primary backup site in California.

ANTI TERRORISM PLANS

LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

PKG 2:00

The U.S. military has devised its first-ever war plans for guarding against and responding to terrorist attacks in the United States, envisioning 15 potential crisis scenarios and anticipating several simultaneous strikes around the country, according to officers who drafted the plans. The classified plans, developed here at Northern Command headquarters, outline a variety of possible roles for quick-reaction forces estimated at as many as 3,000 ground troops per attack, a number that could easily grow depending on the extent of the damage and the abilities of civilian response teams. The possible scenarios range from "low end," relatively modest crowd-control missions to "high-end," full-scale disaster management after catastrophic attacks such as the release of a deadly biological agent or the explosion of a radiological device, several officers said. Some of the worst-case scenarios involve three attacks at the same time, in keeping with a Pentagon directive earlier this year ordering Northcom, as the command is called, to plan for multiple simultaneous attacks.

TRAINS SECURITY INCREASED

VO :45

Police forces along the East Coast are teaming up to protect Amtrak trains traveling between New York and Washington. It's the latest in a series of security measures begun since last month's deadly London transit bombings. Officials say they have no information about a specific threat against the route, which is the most heavily traveled in the Amtrak system. But a New York Police Department spokesman says recent security reviews have raised concerns that a route involving "two high profile cities" might be a target. The increased security -- which starts today -- involves police officers from New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Washington and other jurisdictions.

WAL MART CLASS ACTION

VO: 23

Has Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest private employer, grown too big for the U.S. justice system? That provocative question is the key to Wal-Mart's defense against a lawsuit filed on behalf of 1.6 million former and current women employees. Lawyers pursuing the class action claim Wal-Mart systematically denied raises and promotions to women and paid them less than their male counterparts. Wal-Mart denies any pattern of discrimination and has appealed the decision of U.S. District Judge Martin Jenkins to proceed to

trial, calling the case "gargantuan," "elephantine" and "unprecedented," among other things.

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08/09/05

SHUTTLE LANDING

JAIME GARCIA, EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

PKG & LIVE-ON-TAPE 3:26

The space shuttle Discovery and its seven astronauts glided safely back to Earth Tuesday, successfully completing NASA's troubled

return to human space flight 2 1/2 years after the Columbia disaster that killed all the astronauts on board. NASA officials appeared relieved after the predawn landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California's Mojave Desert. But the mission may be the shuttle's last for some time as recent safety upgrades failed to prevent Discovery from shedding insulating foam at launch, the same problem that doomed

Columbia.

FUTURE OF NASA AND SHUTTLES

LOURDES DEL RIO, CABO CAÑAVERAL, FLORIDA

PKG 2:13

Safely back on Earth, though not quite home. Now the shuttle faces an uncertain future. Signaling its arrival with two thunderous sonic booms, Discovery hurtled out of a black desert sky to a smooth touchdown Tuesday after scrapping four landing attempts at its Florida base because of rain and lightning. The mission exposed how vulnerable the shuttle fleet remains, despite a tremendous amount of money and effort invested in the first U.S. manned space mission in the 2 1/2 years since the Columbia tragedy.

BORDER GADGET

VO: 22

There's a controversial new plan to keep track of foreign visitors. Anyone coming into Washington state from Canada -- who is not a US citizen -- will have to keep a special device in their car. The program started today.

CENSUS MINORITY TEXAS

VO: 21

Texas has now joined Hawaii, New Mexico and California as a majority-minority state, along with the District of Columbia, the U.S. Census Bureau reported today. Five states Maryland, Mississippi, Georgia, New York and Arizona are next in line with minority populations of about 40 percent. (The minority population includes all people except non-Hispanic single-race whites.)

WA WILDFIRE

VO: 17

More than 100 residences are believed to have been destroyed by a 37,000-acre wildfire that whipped through canyons, wheat fields and forests in southeastern Washington. Firebreaks had been established around three sides of the fire,

George Broyles, a spokesman for the interagency team fighting the fire, said late Monday. By early Tuesday, the blaze was considered 20 percent contained.

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08/10/05

BORDER

ENRIQUE TEUTALO, HOUSTON, TEXAS

PKG 2:23

There's been no shortage of ideas to stem the flow of illegal crossings at the U.S.-Mexican border: Build a long wall. Send the Marines. Double the number of federal agents. A Texas congressman has added another: Deputize armed civilians and deploy them as a militia to serve alongside the Border Patrol. His plan to create a Border Protection Corps has drawn support from four dozen House colleagues - and warnings from immigrants' advocates. While Mr. Culberson said that Gov. Rick Perry is looking closely at his proposal, the governor's aides say he's more interested in a "neighborhood watch" approach. In that model, civilians would serve as eyes and ears for law enforcement rather than actively guarding rivers and checkpoints.

FEDERAL APPEAL COURT - ANTI IMMIGRANTS LAW**MARY RABAGO, PHOENIX, ARIZONA****PKG 2:03**

A federal appeals court refused to block part of an Arizona law that denies some public benefits to illegal immigrants, saying the plaintiffs had no right to sue. The voter-approved law appeared on Arizona's November election ballot. The portion at issue bars illegal immigrants from getting certain public benefits and makes it a crime for public employees to fail to report undocumented immigrants who seek the benefits. A separate provision, unaffected by the court challenge, requires people to show proof of citizenship when registering to vote.

RACIAL PROFILING In NY**VO & SOT : 41**

New York City's leading immigrant and civil rights advocates convened at One Police Plaza today to publicly denounce recent calls by State Assemblyman Dov Hikind (D-Brooklyn) and City Council Member James Oddo (R-Staten Island) for legislation that would authorize the New York Police Department (NYPD) to use racial profiling to conduct random bag searches on the City's subways.

While Mayor Bloomberg and NYPD Commissioner Ray Kelly have publicly denounced racial profiling as illegal, ineffective, and against NYPD policy, advocates remain concerned about what steps the City is taking to prevent such profiling as the subway searches could continue indefinitely into the future.

POLL on BIN LADEN**VO :25**

Nearly four years after the Sept. 11 attacks, Americans are less optimistic that Osama bin Laden will be captured or killed and say they believe al-Qaeda will remain a threat even if he is caught. A USA TODAY/CNN/Gallup Poll taken Friday through Sunday also found that more than three-quarters of those surveyed say they believe bin Laden is planning a significant terrorist attack against the United States. A majority, 53%, predict he will succeed.

MORTGAGE for UNDOCUMENTED**VO: 31**

Illegal aliens in Illinois...may soon get access to low-interest home loans...with the help of the state. Following the success of Wisconsin's

illegal alien mortgage program -- administered at banks like this one in Illinois plans a 15 million dollar state program for low-income people who can't get conventional credit... with cellphone and rent records and an IRS tax id number, illegal aliens can use the program.

HISPANICS & ALCOHOL**LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.****PKG 1:48**

MADD will be launching a campaign today focused on urging Hispanic parents not to share alcohol with their children. Hispanic children have been found to drink much earlier than the rest of the population, leading to a higher risk of alcoholism. MADD has compiled an impressive list of statistics, including 1) 34% of high school students who drank before the age of 13 were Hispanic; 2) Alcohol contributes to the three leading causes of death among Hispanics 12 - 20 years old (car crashes, homicide and suicide).

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08/11/05

IMMIGRANT KID MISSING

LOURDES DEL RIO, MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:30

A honduran mother could find out where her missing son were. She paid a coyote to bring her son to the United States. Since she paid to the coyote she didn't know about him. Through a broadcasted report, Belen knew that her son is in a immigrant kids shelter in Chiapas, Mexico; after the coyote let him careless. Belen has been here for five years, and she could bring her children with her, for that reason she decided to pay a coyote to bring two of them, that were in Honduras. Now the little boy will be deported to Honduras, and she say she doesn't know what to do.

BUSH MEETS CONDOLLEZA & RUMSFELD

LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

PKG 1:47

President Bush says pulling U-S troops from Iraq now would send a "terrible signal" to the enemy. The president says he understands and respects the views of anti-war advocates like the woman who's camped outside his Texas ranch to mourn the loss of her son. Says the president: "They are crying." Bush says he's "heard the voices of those who say pull out now," and he's thought about it. But he strongly disagrees, saying it would be a mistake.

The president spoke to reporters on a day when he played host to his administration's top national security, foreign policy and defense advisers.

FBI TO PROBE CHILD'S DEATH IN WATTS

VO :45

In response to community protests, the bureau opens an inquiry into the shooting of a toddler during a police standoff with her father.

By Richard Winton, Times Staff Writer. The FBI has opened a preliminary inquiry into the shooting death of Suzie Marie Peña, the 19-month-old child killed during a police gunfight with her father last month, a bureau spokeswoman said Wednesday. The announcement came as the Los Angeles County coroner released a report showing that the toddler's father, Jose Luis Peña, had significant amounts of cocaine and methamphetamine in his system when he took the child hostage and exchanged gunfire with police during a 2 1/2 -hour standoff.

Peña and his daughter were killed by high-velocity police rifles after Los Angeles Police Department SWAT officers stormed a makeshift office at Peña's Watts auto dealership in an attempt to rescue the toddler, authorities said.

MORTGAGES FOR ILLEGALS

JAIME GARCIA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA,

PKG 1:54

Officials are uncovering a massive, multi-million dollar fraud in the real estate industry involving illegal Aliens. It's a national fraud. Officials say real estate agents all across the country are stealing i-d's and forging documents...To help illegal aliens qualify for low income home mortgages. And when these mortgages go bad...Banks and taxpayers are stuck with the bill.

GAS PRICES GOING UP

VO :45

U.S. drivers, already paying the highest retail gasoline prices on record, should expect further increases at the nations pumps due to skyrocketing costs for crude oil and a flurry of recent refinery problems, the AAA motorists group said Thursday. Prices at the pumps are already zipping along at a record near \$2.40 a gallon on average, up more than a dime from last month, according to the AAA's daily survey of 60,000 stations. But a recent surge in the cost of crude oil to \$66 a barrel, and a spate of problems at the nation's refineries, from California to the Gulf Coast, will mean further steep increases in fuel prices.

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08/12/05

FAMILIES, COLLEAGUES BRACE FOR 9/11 TAPES

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ, NUEVA YORK

PKG 2:19

Families and colleagues of firefighters lost on September 11, 2001, were preparing to revisit the chaos and loss of the day with the release of hours of radio transmissions and thousands of pages of firefighters' oral histories. Compelled by a New York Times lawsuit, the Fire Department of New York planned to make public Friday 15 hours of radio transmissions and more than 500 oral histories recounting the rush to the World Trade Center towers that saved an unknown number of civilians but cost 343 firefighters their lives.

The information may cast additional light on the problems that contributed to the death toll. It's also certain to bring back searing memories, and renew the nation's appreciation of the firefighters' sacrifices, said Peter Gorman, president of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association.

Independent investigations with access to the documents have already described major flaws in the city's response to the terrorist attack. Emergency radios did not function properly. Police and firefighters did not work together. Discipline broke down. Vital messages went unheard.

Some families and other critics of the city's response hope the new documents will help them challenge the conclusion that many firefighters in the north tower heard but heroically chose to ignore an evacuation message issued after the south tower collapsed at 9:59 a.m.

NEW ARIZONA LAW TAKES EFFECT

KARINA CORONEL, PHOENIX, ARIZONA

PKG 2:06

Two local law enforcement agencies have launched special units devoted to fighting migrant smuggling, an unusual move given that immigration has long been the province of the federal government. The squads in the Maricopa County Attorney's and Sheriff's offices were set up, in part, to enforce a new law that creates the state crime of human smuggling. The law, which takes effect Aug. 12, was borne of the frustrations many felt that the federal government wasn't doing enough to confront illegal border-crossings. Some politicians insisted that Arizona, the nation's busiest

illegal immigration corridor, must do what it can to lessen the problem. Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio said his six-person unit will

only target immigrant smugglers, not the people who cross the border illegally merely to work.

GAS PRICES GOING UP

JAIME GARCIA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:07

Oil prices are surging above 66 dollars per barrel and so stocks are slumping in the early going. Reports of new refinery outages in the U-S are rekindling fears that gasoline supplies are going to struggle to meet rising demand. Those glitches, an active hurricane season and concerns over Iran's resumption of its nuclear program, all are weighing on trader's minds, sending oil prices higher. Analysts wouldn't be surprised to see 70-dollar-a-barrel prices, although they say traders do seem to be focusing on bad news. They've so far ignored a favorable report showing less demand by China.

NEW MEXICO BORDER VIOLENCE

VO :45

Gov. Bill Richardson this morning declared a state of emergency for four southern New Mexico counties, citing a dramatic increase in violence and property damage. The action frees up \$1.75 million in state and federal funding to assist local communities along the U.S.-Mexico border. Three of the counties - Doña Ana, Hidalgo and Luna - are on the border, while part of the fourth, Grant County, is about 40 miles from Mexico.

Much of the money is expected to go to additional local and State Police law enforcement in the area. "As governor, I have a responsibility to protect our citizens, property and communities. Recent developments have convinced me that action is necessary, including violence directed at law enforcement, damage to property and livestock, increased drug smuggling and an increase in the number of undocumented immigrants." Richardson today was in Columbus to announce that the state will spend almost \$50,000 on a security fence around the stockyards in that tiny town 3 miles from Mexico.

CALIFORNIA IMMIGRATION FORUM

VO :45

In California ... Republican senator Bill Morrow holds a forum called the "illegal immigration crisis". It was a volatile situation as hundreds lined up to participate in a town hall meeting on illegal immigration, a vocal group of protesters took aim. "They just see the negative.", "yeah, go support the ku klux clan why don't you." those who came to the meeting say they are far from racists. "well we need to stand our ground. We have illegals coming across our borders, why can't we shut that down." More than 200 police officers and sheriff's deputies arrived in full riot gear circled and stood between the two sides. According to law enforcement officials, there were death threats against the panel of speakers.

FUEL TANKERS THREAT

FERNANDO PIZARRO, WASHINGTON, D.C.

PKG 2:01

A group of FBI counterterrorism analysts warned this week of possible terrorist attacks in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago around Sept. 11, but officials cautioned Thursday that they were skeptical about the seriousness of the threat. The warning grew out of intelligence developed from an overseas source indicating that terrorists might seek to steal fuel tanker trucks to inflict "mass casualties" by staging an anniversary attack, officials said. The information led FBI joint terrorism task forces in Los Angeles and Newark, N.J., to alert other government and law-enforcement officials privately this week about the threat, law-enforcement officials said. Several government officials in Washington who were briefed on the threat said it was described as credible and specific enough to warrant attention.

However, other law-enforcement officials in Washington and New York said that while they were aware of the warnings and were concerned about the Sept. 11 anniversary, they remained somewhat skeptical.

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08/13/05

AIRLINE SCREENING

VO :45

The federal agency in charge of aviation security is considering major changes in how it screens airline passengers, including proposals that an official said would lift the ban on carrying razorblades and small knives as well as limit patdown searches. The Transportation Security administration will meet later this month to discuss the plan, which is designed to reduce checkpoint hassles for the nation's 2 million passengers.

ANTI-WAR PROTEST

VO :45

The antiwar protest is growing outside president Bush's ranch in Crawford Texas. They are calling on the president to withdraw US troops from Iraq. Some 200 people gathered in the scorching Texas sun, waving anti Bush signs, singing protest songs, and urging all Americans to join the movement to bring the troops home. The protest was first highlighted by Cindy Sheehan, who lost her son Casey in Iraq.

Dr. Barbara Portia reminded the protestors that weapons of mass destructions have not been found, and no connection to 911 has been

established.

WYOMING TORNADO

VO :45

Residents had just five minutes warning before a tornado tore into a mobile home park, killing two people and destroying dozens of homes.

One person was still listed as missing Saturday, police said. About a dozen people were injured. The twister touched down Friday afternoon in this coal-mining town of 1,500 people and was on the ground an estimated 10 to 15 minutes, destroying 40 to 50 mobile homes, scattering metal siding, insulation, home furnishings and debris throughout the town.

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08/14/05

IRAQ ROUNDUP**LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.**

PKG 1:51

Under strong pressure from the United States, Iraqi leaders held last-minute talks Sunday as they sought to overcome Sunni objections to key issues in a new constitution with a deadline to approve the charter only a day away. Two lawmakers raised the possibility that Monday's deadline may have to be postponed. However, U.S. Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad said the document was on track to be finished on time.

In ongoing violence, five U.S. soldiers were killed in roadside bombings, including one on Sunday, and another was killed in a shooting over the weekend, the military said.

At least six Iraqis were killed in scattered attacks across the country and nearly three dozen bodies were found in Baghdad and Mosul, most in a mass grave in the capital.

GREECE CRASH**SERGIO URQUIDI, MIAMI, FLORIDA****PKG 2:06**

A Cypriot airliner carrying 121 people slammed into a mountainous area north of Athens on Sunday after apparently suffering a loss of cabin pressure or oxygen minutes before it was due to land. Greek TV station Alpha said the pilot had told air traffic controllers the Boeing 737 was experiencing air conditioning problems. Moments later, communications with the plane, flying at 35,000 feet en route from Larnaca in Cyprus to Prague via Athens, were lost. Authorities say 48 children are among the 121 people who died. Most of the victims are Greek Cypriots.

CRAWFORD SHOTS FIRED**VO :45**

Anti-war protesters outside president bush's ranch in texas were startled sunday by gunshots fired by a texas rancher.. frustrated by the group's presence. Bush's neighbor, larry matlag.. told reporters.. he's getting ready for dove season.. when they asked if there was an underlying message to the shots, which he fired harmlessly into the air, he told a reporter, "figure it out for yourself."

MAYFLOWER HOTEL HOAX**VO :45**

The f-b-i went to a washington hotel sunday after a suspicious package was found, but a spokesman for washington's fire and emergency management services department said the package turned out not to be an explosive device. A hotel employee reported discovering the package. The mayflower hotel, a washington landmark located near the white house, was evacuated.

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08/15/05

MINUTEMEN IN TEXAS**VO: 16**

A controversial border watch group was in houston today, training volunteers to document undocumented immigrants. But not everyone is happy the "minute men" are here. For months the minutemen have been gathering volunteers. Their goal, to act as a civil militia, supplementing border patrol in tracking illegal immigrants and those who employ them. Today in Houston, the group was training another 30 members, each interested in securing the border.

WOMAN DAY LABORERS**MIRIAM MASIHY, NUEVA YORK****PKG 1:50**

The women are not noticed by the weekday morning crowds that rush past Eighth Avenue and 37th Street, in the heart of Manhattan's fashion district. They arrive in twos and threes after 8 a.m., shrinking against the buildings on both sides of the avenue, until scores of them are waiting, small, dark-haired Mexicans, Ecuadoreans, Hondurans. Immigrant women gather near a corner in Brooklyn, waiting for day-labor jobs cleaning houses. The group illustrated an overlooked reality: Women make up 44 percent of the nation's low-wage immigrant work force. By noon they have vanished. In swift, discreet sidewalk negotiations, perhaps half have been hired for a day's work at the minimum wage or less in some of the neighborhood's last struggling garment factories. The rest have given up until tomorrow.

There, the work at stake is \$8-an-hour housecleaning, and those vying for a day's scrubbing, mainly for Hasidic

homemakers, stand in a crude ascending hierarchy of employer preference: Mexican and Central American women in their 30's at the back, Polish immigrant women in their 50's and 60's in the middle, and young Polish students with a command of English at the head of the line.

GAS PRICES ANOTHER RECORD HIGH

LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:00

The average retail price of a gallon of gasoline in the United States rose over the past three weeks to record highs, but prices may soon stabilize as the summer driving season winds down, an industry analyst said on Sunday. The national average for self-serve, regular unleaded gas was nearly \$2.5011 a gallon on Aug. 12, up about 20 cents per gallon in the past three weeks, according to the nationwide Lundberg survey of about 7,000 filling stations. At that price, gasoline touched its third record-high this year, unadjusted for inflation. The previous record-high was \$2.3068 a gallon, on July 8.

MOST INFLUENTIAL HISPANICS

JAIME GARCIA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 2:06

In a Time poll of Hispanic adults, 42% said they choose to be called Hispanic, only 17% said Latino and 34% had no particular preference. Such a wide array of opinions and agendas is reflected in Time's list of the nation's 25 most influential Hispanics, who range from celebrities like J. Lo and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to the lesser-known labor activist Pablo Alvarado and art curator Mari Carmen Ramirez. She says her job is to be an evangelist for Latino culture. With these 24 powerful Hispanics at her side, no wonder word is spreading fast.

==END PART ONE==

From: Lucia Burga
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2005 12:43 AM
To: Martha Lanuez
Subject: FCC REPORTS - ULTIMA HORA NEWS - AUGUST 2005 - PART2

FCC REPORTS - AUGUST 2005 - 11:30 ULTIMA HORA NEWS - PART 2

====08-16-05=====

ARIZONA STATE OF EMERGENCY

JULIO CESAR ORTIZ, PHOENIX, ARIZONA

PKG 2:04Gov. Janet Napolitano declared a state of emergency along Arizona's border with Mexico, freeing up \$1.5 million in disaster funds to help border counties combat booming illegal immigration and drug smuggling. Napolitano criticized the federal government for "moving too slow" on border security, evolving into a hot-button, election-year issue in Arizona and across the country. Napolitano's announcement came **three days** after New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson issued a similar declaration, complaining that the federal government has failed to stem growing smuggling-related violence to the east of Arizona, an increasingly popular illegal immigration corridor. Both governors are Democrats.

PEW HISPANIC CENTER POLL

LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

PKG 1:56

A poll finds a big difference between the opinions of foreign-born and U-S-born Hispanics on illegal immigration. The Pew Hispanic Center says six in ten U-S-born Hispanics support banning driver's licenses for illegal immigrants. But two-thirds of those born in another country oppose such bans. Almost nine in ten foreign-born Hispanics also think immigrants strengthen the country, while just two-thirds of those born in the U-S feel that way. The head of the center says a majority of Latinos have a positive view of immigration, but "a significant minority" is worried about the impact of illegal immigration. A Time magazine poll finds three-quarters of Hispanic adults

surveyed think illegal immigrants are taking jobs citizens don't want.

PAINKILLERS AND WOMEN

ENRIQUE TEUTALO, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

PKG 1:55

Women taking daily amounts of non-aspirin painkillers -- such as extra-strength Tylenol -- should monitor their blood pressure, doctors say following a new study suggesting a link between the drugs and hypertension. While many popular over-the-counter painkillers have been linked before to high blood pressure, acetaminophen, sold as Tylenol, has generally been considered relatively free of such risk.

It is the only one that is not a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug or NSAID, a class of medications the federal government just

required to carry stricter warning labels because of the risk for heart-related problems. Those include ibuprofen (sold as Advil and

Motrin) and naproxen (sold as Aleve). Many had turned to those painkillers in the wake of problems with prescription drugs, such

as Vioxx.

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08/17/05

US AND MEXICO FIGHT OVER BORDER ISSUES

EDGAR MUÑOZ, MEXICO CITY

PKG 1:56

Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano says the failure of the federal government's immigration policy is costing lives. Napolitano says the government is leaving border states on their own to deal with a flood of illegal immigrants. She says she declared a state of emergency in four border counties to "shine a spotlight on the urgency" of the problem. And she intends to bill Washington for the money being spent.

The governor says the federal government announces new technology and new border agents, then takes other agents away for a net gain of zero. Asked about building a fence along the border, Napolitano says she's not going to raise state taxes to do that. Last week, New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson declared a state of emergency in four border counties there.

HEAT REGULATIONS

LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

PKG 1:55

New state regulations will guarantee outdoor workers tolling under the blazing California sun a quart of water each hour, training to recognize heat stroke symptoms and shade to escape the heat if they start feeling ill. The measures come as the state's workplace safety board investigates whether the heat led to 10 deaths and four illnesses on the job since July 12. Four of the deaths were in the fields, including Salud Zamudio Rodriguez, who collapsed of heatstroke between rows of bell peppers on a 108-degree day, and Agustin Gudino, who died after working a 10-hour shift picking grapes in similar heat. Four of the other deaths were in construction. One was a moving company employee, and one worked for a utility company.

D.C. TERROR THREATS

VO: 19

It is brazen. It is direct. It is specific, complete with maps of the Metro rail system that runs through Washington, D.C. The watchdog group Site Institute, which monitors terrorist message boards, says one Al Qaeda-affiliated message board posted a note asking readers to carry out an attack on the Metro and even provides maps of the system for guidance. The note on the message board is raising concerns among some people that that terrorists could be planning a potential chemical attack on the city's metro system.

OVERWORKED AIR CONTROLLERS

VO: 22

Overworked air traffic controllers unwittingly let jetliners flying to and from LAX get unacceptably close to other planes twice in the past four days, according to the controllers' union. In stormy weather Friday afternoon, a jet flying from Salt Lake City to LAX came within a mile of a plane bound from Palm Springs to Livermore, the Daily News quoted the union as saying. On Sunday night, a jet flying from LAX to Denver came within three miles of a Burbank-bound Learjet as planes were routed around powerful thunderstorms, according to the union.

SODA IN SCHOOLS REGULATIONS

VO: 26

The beverage industry announces new guidelines to provide students with healthy drink choices at school. The American Beverage Association is asking beverage producers and school districts to implement the following

school vending machine policy: -Only serve bottled water and 100 percent juice in elementary schools -Only nutrititious and/or lower-calorie beverages in middle schools, and no full-calorie soft drinks or full-calorie juice drinks during school hours -No more than 50 percent of soft drinks at high schools The new policy is part of the ABAs commitment to help kids make good nutrition choices at school. ABA members have sponsored educational and fitness programs across the country and created a wide variety of nutritious and lower-calorie products that support healthy lifestyles.

SCHOOLS UNSAFE

ENRIQUE TEUTALO, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

PKG 1:57

Almost half of U.S. high school students feel unsafe in their schools, a survey to be released Wednesday finds. It also reports that students believe their schools care more about athletic achievement than academic excellence. The High School Survey of Student Engagement finds that only 55% of students feel safe in school; those in cities are more likely to feel unsafe than those in rural areas, suburbs and small towns. Survey director Martha McCarthy, a professor of education at Indiana University, calls the results from almost 81,000 students "appalling. Students who do not feel secure are not attending to what we want them to: education." Gerald Tirozzi, executive director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, says national studies show that schools are increasingly safe. Still, he says, if students feel unsafe, "we have to figure out why."

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08/18/05

VIRGINIA IMMIGRANTS

LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

PKG 2:04

The town council in the Washington suburb of Herndon, Virginia, has voted to spend taxpayer money to provide a safe gathering place for day laborers, including illegal immigrants. Wednesday night's five-to-two vote came after a lengthy debate, with the community heavily divided over the issue. Backers see it as a question of public safety, while opponents say it's wrong to spend taxpayer money to help people who are in the country illegally. The cost is put at 170-thousand dollars. Some 150 day workers in Herndon have been congregating in the parking lot of a Seven-Eleven, sparking complaints from customers and nearby businesses and residents.

PHOENIX-TAXES FOR FENCE

VO:23

A state lawmaker believes Arizonans are so frustrated with illegal immigration that they're willing to raise fees - and possibly tax themselves - to build a fence along the state's southern border. Rep. Russell Pearce, R-Mesa, is crafting a measure to ask voters next year to spend the money to erect a climb-proof fence wherever possible from Yuma to east of Douglas. Pearce acknowledged Tuesday he doesn't have a price tag. A similar fence erected by federal officials near San Diego cost about \$1.7 million a mile; the Arizona border stretches for 341 miles. But Pearce said he believes stemming the flow of people crossing the border illegally will end up saving Arizonans far more than what the state spends for health care, education and prison costs on illegal entrants.

TEACHER RACIAL BLUR

VO: 22

A fifth-grade teacher at Sadler Elementary School, accused of making disparaging remarks about Puerto Ricans and immigrants, was removed and suspended without pay Wednesday. Orange County Superintendent Ron Blocker reacted quickly to growing outrage among Hispanic parents and community activists, saying that discriminatory behavior would not be tolerated. It's unclear whether the teacher, Jan P. Hall, wrote the letter that was translated into Spanish and published Wednesday by Puerto Rican newspaper El Nuevo Dia. District officials said Hall, 59, who had taught at the south Orlando school for five years, told her principal that she had written a

letter to an unidentified member of Congress.

BOY MISTREATED AT SCHOOL

VO: 23

A 7-year-old boy was handcuffed and roughed up by police when school administrators "over-reacted" to a disciplinary situation

by calling law enforcement, an attorney charged today. "He was rambunctious and rocking back and forth in his chair," said attorney Luis Carrillo, who represents the child's mother. "Somebody in the school claims the boy was suicidal, which is totally farfetched."

He said officers from both the School Police force and the Los Angeles Police Department were called to Union Avenue Elementary in Westlake yesterday after the incident involving third-grader Javier Arriano. The Los Angeles Unified School District declined to release any details about what happened or give out any personal information about the student.

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08/19/05

VIOX VEREDICT

ENRIQUE TEUTALO, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

PKG 2:06

Breakdown of damages awarded by a Texas jury in the first Vioxx-related lawsuit to go to trial in the country. The \$253.4 million award is likely to be cut to no more than \$26.1 million because Texas law caps punitive damages:

ECONOMIC: \$450,000 -- Past and future lost pay, maintenance, support and household services, such as chores, that Carol Ernst probably would have received from Robert Ernst had he not died in May 2001 after taking Vioxx for eight months to alleviate pain in his hands.

NON-ECONOMIC: \$24 million. --Past and future loss of companionship. --Past and future mental anguish.

PUNITIVE: \$229 million. --That amount is likely to be reduced because state law caps punitive damages at twice the amount of economic damages and up to \$750,000 on top of non-economic damages. Under that formula, \$1.65 million is the maximum punitive damages that Carol Ernst could receive.

CALIFORNIA STATE OF EMERGENCY REQUEST

JAIME GARCIA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:58

Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez (D-Los Angeles) will discuss his upcoming trip to Mexico City to meet with Mexican President Vicente Fox. He also will urge Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to issue a state of emergency to address human services and law enforcement issues in California's two border counties and free up federal and state funds, following the lead of the Democratic governors of Arizona and New Mexico.

ARIZONA GOVERNOR- BORDER MEETING

VO: 13

The governors of Arizona and the Mexican state of Sonora on Friday announced stepped-up plans to combat border-related crime, saying they were prompted to act in part because their respective national governments have been slow to help. Arizona will create a new detail of officers to help target vehicle theft -- a crime often

linked to transporting of illegal immigrants -- and to gather intelligence to identify people taking large amounts of cash from the United States to Mexico, Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano said.

"ICE" NUMBER ON CELLPHONES

LOURDES DEL RIO, MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 2:12

A movement is underway to turn the ubiquitous cell phone into a source of information for paramedics and other emergency personnel responding to accidents, crimes and disasters. Phone users are being encouraged to list their emergency contact under the acronym ICE, shown here. By Leslie Smith Jr., USA TODAY A British paramedic came up with the idea of asking cell phone users to input an entry into their cellular phonebook called ICE for "In case of emergency." Accompanying that acronym would be the name and phone numbers of the person who should be called if something has happened to the owner of the phone. The ICE campaign was launched in Britain in April, but people really started paying attention after the July terrorist bombings in London that killed 56 and injured hundreds.

SAN FRANCISCO EXPLOSION

VO: 15

An explosion in a utility chamber under a downtown shopping district critically burned a woman, sent a manhole cover flying and shattered windows at a Polo Ralph Lauren clothing store, authorities said. The cause was still under investigation hours later, but

authorities ruled out terrorism. Sprinklers doused a flaming awning outside the store as panicked workers were evacuated from skyscrapers, stores and buildings around the Crocker Galleria area, said fire spokesman Peter Howes.

MINORITIES...NO MORE

LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:45

What to call a 'minority' group that isn't? Critics say term should change to match nation's demographic shift. News that Texas is the fourth state in which non-Hispanic whites make up less than 50 percent of residents has renewed discussion about whether the term "minority" has outlived its usefulness; critics include both liberals and conservatives. While some think the complaints are mere nitpicking, others argue the word is increasingly inaccurate, obsolete and even offensive. The majority of residents in Texas, California, New Mexico, Hawaii and Washington, D.C., are some ethnicity other than non-Hispanic whites, according to Census Bureau population estimates released last week. Five other states, including New York and Georgia, could make that shift by 2010.

TRUCK DRIVERS RULLING

FERNANDO PIZARRO, WASHINGTON, D.C.

PKG 2:12

Truck drivers can stay behind the wheel for 11 consecutive hours without taking a rest -- leaving intact a rule that truckers and safety advocates alike say is unsafe. The Bush administration on Friday announced that it had slightly revised a rule governing how long truckers can drive and how long they must be off duty. A federal court threw out the rule more than a year ago. Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration chief Annette Sandberg said the rule was designed to reduce the number of crashes caused by fatigued drivers. "The research shows that this new rule will improve driver health and safety and the safety of our roadways," Sandberg said

during a press conference.

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08/20/05

MISSING PREGNANT WOMAN FOUND**NAYELI CHAVEZ-GELLER, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA****PKG 1:29**

Police discovered the remains of a missing pregnant woman and quickly arrested the father of her unborn child Saturday, ending an exhaustive, monthlong search. District Attorney Lynne M. Abraham said Stephen Poaches would be charged with two counts of murder and related offenses for the deaths of 24-year-old LaToya Figueroa and her fetus. Authorities did not provide a motive or say what led them to suspect Poaches, 25, who police said was wearing a bulletproof vest and carrying a pistol when he was arrested. The remains were recovered in a grassy, partially wooded lot in Chester, 13 miles from Philadelphia. A few dozen members of the Figueroa family and supporters arrived at the scene shortly after daybreak, clustering close to the police tape and embracing each other.

NORTHWEST STRIKE**LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.****PKG 2:06**

Northwest Airlines jets roared into the sky over the heads of striking mechanics Saturday as the nation's fourth-largest carrier turned over its maintenance to replacement workers on Day 1 of the industry's first major walkout in seven years. Northwest's union mechanics walked out rather than take pay cuts and layoffs that would reduce their ranks almost by half. They don't believe replacement workers will be able to maintain the fleet, the oldest among domestic airlines.

BUSH DEFENDS THE WAR IN IRAQ**VO: 45**

With anti-war protesters continuing their vigil outside his Texas ranch, United States President George W. Bush began a five-day campaign on Saturday to persuade Americans why he thinks U.S. troops must continue the fight in Iraq. In his weekly radio address, Bush argued that the war in Iraq will keep Americans safe for generations to come. He will try to drive that point home in coming days with visits to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Convention on Monday in Utah, and a National Guard group in Idaho on Wednesday.

DISCOVERY NO RETURN**VO: 45**

Space shuttle Discovery will have to wait a day to complete the last leg of its trip home. Discovery had been expected to arrive at Kennedy Space Center in Florida today after riding piggyback atop a jumbo jet across the country from California. But NASA delayed the trip for a day because of weather concerns.

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08/21/05

RICHARDSON IMMIGRANTS**VO :45**

Governor Bill Richardson ratified in a tv program today, the emergency situation in New Mexico, and that is necessary to fortify the monitoring in the border with Mexico. Also he added, that the approval of a federal law is important to deal with the illegal immigration. Although, Richardson said that the undocumented people who live in the United States must have certain right, like a program of temporary work for them.

DISCOVERY RETURNS**VO :45**

The piggy-backed orbiter discovery returned to Kennedy Space Center Sunday after giving Brevard County beachgoers a low-altitude fly-over treat. Today's (Sunday) Touchdown came nearly two weeks after its weather-delayed landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California. Discovery and the 7-47 set off from Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana this morning and arrived in Florida just before 10 a.m. local time. Discovery astronaut Steve Robinson flew from Houston aboard a T-38 Talon to welcome home his shuttle.

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08/22/05**IMMIGRANTS DEATH - ARIZONA****ANGELICA ATONDO, TUCSON, ARIZONA****PKG 1:53**

The smell of death floated on a sweltering August breeze near the Mexican border, emanating from an immigrant's corpse. He had expired beneath a mesquite tree on the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation 45 miles southwest of Tucson, apparently trying to escape the Sonoran sun, trying to get to America. John Doe No. 130. That's the name and number given to him by authorities in a year when Arizona has set new records for deaths among undocumented immigrants along the state's 389-mile border with Mexico. With about six weeks remaining in the Border Patrol's fiscal year - and more Border Patrol agents patrolling than ever - 201 men, women and children have succumbed to the elements in Arizona. In Pima County, which includes Tohono O'odham and Tucson, so many corpses are waiting to be identified, autopsied and returned to Mexico that the coroner is storing 60 of them in a refrigerator truck.

MINUTEMAN WILL BE ARMED**VO: 21**

Minutemen will be armed while patrolling Houston. Leaders of the Minuteman Civil Defense Corps of Texas had earlier said volunteers observing Houston's day laborers in October would carry nothing but video cameras. But leaders now say those involved in the operations targeting local illegal immigrants will be allowed to carry arms as long as they comply with all federal and state laws.

In fact, those who have a concealed-weapons permit are being offered a discount on joining the Minuteman Civil Defense Corps. An Arizona-based organization, the Minutemen started out by patrolling the Arizona-Mexico border in April to prevent illegal immigrants from crossing, but the group has announced it will conduct a variety of operations here this fall. Members are normally charged \$50 to join, with the money used to conduct a criminal background check. Those with a valid concealed-weapons permit can have that fee waived, since they already have undergone a background check and met other requirements, such as a handgun course, to get the permit, said George Klages, spokesman for the Minutemen in Houston.

SKIN CELL BREAKTHROUGH**LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA****PKG 1:54**

Harvard scientists announced they've discovered a way to fuse adult skin cells with embryonic stem cells, a promising breakthrough that could lead to the creation of useful stem cells without first having to create and destroy human embryos. The scientists said they were able to show in their early research that the fused cell "was reprogrammed to its embryonic state." Such a breakthrough could have the effect of taming a biting national debate about the ethics of stem-cell research, but not any time soon.

SCHOOL SECURITY- JESSICA LUNSFORD ACT

LOURDES DEL RIO, MIAMI, FLORIDA**PKG 2:42**

The Jessica Lunsford act says anyone who comes on school property and contracts with the school must be fingerprinted. As of September first, anyone who comes on school property from salespeople to construction workers must go through a background check. For some, the law goes too far by requiring more than a check against the sex offender list, and school officials say most districts probably won't meet that deadline.

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08/23/05**GASOLINE PRICES****LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA****PKG 1:50**

Gas stations across Florida and the nation report they're seeing a growing problem with drivers who fill up and take off without paying.

A gas station owner in Alabama was run over and killed when he confronted a driver who did not pay for a tank of gas. The Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association tells its members that losing money during a drive-off is not worth being killed. Spokesman Jim Smith says some gas stations in Florida are losing more than a thousand dollars a month due to drive-offs. He says that's prompting more stations to force drivers to prepay before pumping.

DANGEROUS FOOD**ENRIQUE TEUTALO, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS****PKG 1:40**

Houston is facing a possible outbreak of a serious bacterial illness that can result in miscarriages and babies born with life-threatening infections, a city health official says. The Houston Department of Health and Human Services has detected an upsurge this month of listeriosis, a disease linked with consumption of contaminated ready-to-eat meats, unpasteurized dairy products, and a soft Mexican-style cheese called queso fresco. The Health Department identified six listeria cases this month, all among Hispanics. They include three pregnant women, two newborns and an elderly woman. All were hospitalized, but recovered, officials said. "We (usually) see about eight cases a year. So six cases within a month is certainly an upsurge," said Porfirio Villarreal, Health Department spokesman. "It's very elevated. That's why we would do the investigation."

HOMELAND SECURITY ON BORDER IMMIGRATION-ARIZONA**LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.****PKG 1:59**

Federal authorities have outlined a plan to help Arizona crack down on human smuggling, ease overcrowding in state prisons and increase immigration training for police. The announcement Monday by the Department of Homeland Security came a week after Gov. Janet Napolitano declared an emergency in four border counties because of problems related to illegal immigration and pledged \$1.5 million in state funding to local authorities. Napolitano's order said the federal government's failure to secure the border allowed a flood of illegal immigration that threatened public health and safety.

OBESITY IN THE US**VO: 23**

Obesity rates continued to rise last year in every state but one, and government policies and actions to date offer little hope of countering the trend, according to a new report by Trust for America's Health. Mississippi ranked as the heaviest state, Colorado as the least heavy, and rates stayed the same in Oregon, according to "F as in Fat: How Obesity Policies are Failing in America, 2005." Over 25 percent of adults in 10 states are obese, including in Mississippi, Alabama, West Virginia, Louisiana, Tennessee, Texas, Michigan, Kentucky, Indiana, and South Carolina. Seven of those 10 states are in the Southeastern U.S.

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08/24/05

HOMELAND SECURITY ON BORDER

ENRIQUE TEUTALO, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

PKG 2:02

Acknowledging public frustration over illegal immigrants, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said Tuesday that the federal government's border control efforts must be significantly strengthened.

"We have decided to stand back and take a look at how we address the problem and solve it once and for all," Mr. Chertoff said at a breakfast meeting with reporters. The unusually blunt assessment by the nation's top immigration official follows border-related emergency declarations by the governors of New Mexico and Arizona, who cited a surge in smuggling and violence associated with a steady flow of illegal immigrants. The strategy that Mr. Chertoff said his department was preparing goes far beyond hiring more Border Patrol agents and installing more surveillance cameras, infrared and motion detectors, and fences, initiatives that are already planned or under way.

MILITARY BASE CLOSING

LOURDES MELUZA, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

PKG 1:59

Commissioners weighing the Pentagon's plan to restructure hundreds of U.S. military bases spared a large Army depot in Texas but agreed with proposals to shut down five other major bases elsewhere. The nine-member panel chose to shrink, rather than close, the Red River Army Depot in Texas, which repairs Humvees and Bradley Fighting Vehicles. But, as it began final voting Wednesday with lightning speed, the panel sided with the Pentagon in closing Fort Gillem and Fort McPherson in Georgia, Fort Monroe in Virginia, Army Garrison Selfridge in Michigan and Fort Monmouth in New Jersey.

ID BUSH on MILITARY

VO: 17

President Bush said Wednesday terrorists had converged on Iraq and that pulling U.S. troops out would only embolden them. Bush's speech, coinciding with news that 1,500 more troops were headed to Iraq in coming weeks, was part of an effort to

counter increased anti-war sentiment which has contributed to a sharp decline in the president's approval ratings. Bush pointedly played up the case of a military mother who supported the Iraq war, in contrast to Cindy Sheehan, the mother of a fallen soldier who began a protest outside Bush's Texas ranch and has become a symbol for the anti-war movement.

US ELITE TROOPS TO IRAQ

VO: 21

The United States will send 1,500 airborne troops from North Carolina to Iraq as part of a plan to temporarily increase forces and bolster security for votes in October and December, the Pentagon said Wednesday. The two battalions of troops from the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, are expected to depart later this month on a 120-day deployment to Iraq.

There are currently 138,000 American troops in Iraq. But that number could be temporarily increased to as many as 160,000 ahead of the votes as thousands of soldiers scheduled for rotation home in the coming months are kept in place after

the arrival of their normal replacements, according to defense officials.

KATRINA TROPICAL STORM

LOURDES DEL RIO, MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG 1:58

A hurricane warning was issued for the southeast Florida coast late Wednesday and people were advised to take safety

precautions in advance of a late Thursday strike by a growing Tropical Storm Katrina. Katrina was expected to reach hurricane strength as it moved west from the Bahamas and across the Gulf Stream, said forecasters at the National Hurricane Center.

The forecast path appeared centered on the Miami-Fort Lauderdale area, but forecasters warned that the storm could easily slip more to the north or south before making landfall early Friday.

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08/25/05

HURRICANE KATRINA

LOURDES DEL RIO, HOLLYWOOD BEACH, FLORIDA

PKG 1:56

Katrina is now a hurricane. It's chugging toward an overnight landfall on the state's densely populated southeast coast. Hurricane specialist Lixion Avila with the National Hurricane Center in Miami says that Katrina's maximum sustained wind speeds have increased from 50 to 75 miles-an-hour, making it a weak Category One storm. It's expected to make landfall later today or early tomorrow. Category One storms have maximum sustained winds of 74 to 95 miles-an-hour, and wind damage to secured structures is usually minimal. Weather officials say Katrina is mostly a rain event, with flooding the main concern.

19 ALLEGED GANG MEMBERS INDICTED IN MD. MURDERS

LOURDES MELUZA, MARYLAND

PKG 1:58

Nineteen alleged MS-13 gang members have been indicted on federal racketeering charges in connection with 10 murders and attempted murders in Prince George's and Montgomery counties, the Maryland U.S. attorney's office announced this morning.

The indictment comes at a time of heightened concern about Mara Salvatrucha, known as MS-13, the Latino street gang police say is responsible for stabbing six teens at a Montgomery high school and mall earlier this month.

Eight of the crimes cited in the indictment made public today were in Prince George's County. They include the stabbing death of alleged gang member Randy Calderon in Mount Rainier in 2003, and the fatal beating of Ashley

Antonio Urias at Washington National Cemetery in Suitland in 2004. Prosecutors also blame the gang for the stabbing death of Eliuth Madrigal in Silver Spring in 2003.

U.S. PANEL TO CLOSE HISTORIC ARMY HOSPITAL

VO :45

A military panel voted Thursday to close the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, which for nearly a century has treated U.S. presidents and soldiers in the U.S. capital, including Iraq-war casualties. The Base Realignment and Closure Commission voted 8-0, with one abstention, to close the Walter Reed campus and combine its operations with the nearby Bethesda Naval Medical Center in Maryland. The closure will affect 5,630 jobs, many of which will move to Bethesda and a new community hospital at Fort Belvoir in northern Virginia, and will cost nearly \$1 billion.

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8/26/05

CALIFORNIA FIRES /VO :45

California firefighters are still battling a two thousand acres blaze burning northwest of Lake Tahoe. About 500 firefighters worked through the night with six air tankers and four helicopters. The fire is only about 30 percent contained. No homes or structures are threatened, according to officials. The cause of the fire remains under investigation. SUPERS: Sierraville, CA/Thursday

HURRICANE KATRINA

TIFANI ROBERTS PKG 2:18

Coastal residents jammed freeways and gas

stations Saturday as they rushed to get out of the way of Hurricane Katrina, a vicious storm that is threatening to gain even more strength and make a direct hit on the New Orleans area.

"Ladies and gentlemen, this is not a test. This is the real

deal," New Orleans Mayor C. Ray Nagin said at a news conference.

"Board up your homes, make sure you have enough medicine, make sure the car has enough gas. Do all things you normally do for a hurricane but treat this one differently because it is pointed towards New Orleans." Katrina was a Category 3 storm with 115 mph sustained wind

Saturday, but the National Hurricane Center said it was likely to gain force over the Gulf of Mexico, where the surface water temperature was as high as 90 degrees -- high-octane fuel for Hurricanes. It could become a Category 4 monster with wind of at least 131 mph before reaching land early Monday.

The storm formed in the Bahamas and ripped across South Florida

on Thursday, causing seven deaths, before moving into the Gulf of Mexico.

GREENSPAN VO :45

The red-hot housing market will eventually

cool down, making some people feel less wealthy and less inclined to be big spenders, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan said Saturday.

Greenspan's remarks, wrapping up a two-day economic conference sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, followed up

on a strong warning he sounded one day earlier.

The Fed chief on Friday cautioned Americans against thinking the value of their homes and other investments will only go higher,

saying "history has not dealt kindly" with that kind of optimism.

If house prices were to fall suddenly or if interest rates were to rise rapidly, some local housing markets, homeowners and lenders

could get clobbered. Rising house prices has been a key factor in making many people

feel more wealthy and thus more inclined to spend. Consumer

spending accounts for roughly two-thirds of all economic activity.

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8/27/05

KATRINA HURRICANE

Lourdes del Rio

Pkg 2:52

Mayor Ray Nagin ordered an immediate mandatory evacuation Sunday for all of New Orleans, a city of

485,000 people as Hurricane Katrina bore down on the city with 160

mph wind. Ten refuges of last resort were set up including the

Superdome.

GAS PRICES

VO

:40 SEC

Katrina was "unmitigated bad news" for motorists across the

nation because it shut down offshore production of at least 1

million barrels of oil daily and threatened refinery and import

operations around New Orleans, said oil analyst Peter Beutel. He

predicted crude oil could top \$70 a barrel by Monday or Tuesday.

BULLRUN

VO

:40

Sixty three people were injured on Sunday in an especially bloody Pamplona-style running of the bulls in San Sebastian de los Reyes, a village outside Madrid.

Two of them were reported to be in serious condition and were taken to the hospitals in Madrid to undergo surgery.

During the crowded bull run, people were momentarily trapped in a pileup of bodies at the entrance of the bullring where the run ended.

Some of the bulls then trampled over the mound of people to get into the ring, causing the large number of injuries.

BUSH DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY

VO

:40

President Bush, as he readied the federal government for a massive relief effort, on Sunday urged people in the path of Hurricane Katrina to forget anything but their safety and move to higher ground as instructed.

"We cannot stress enough the danger this hurricane poses to Gulf Coast communities," Bush said as the storm roared across the gulf toward New Orleans and other communities. "I urge all citizens to put their own safety and the safety of their families first by moving to safe ground."

With forecasters warning of a category five storm, the president made sure the federal response would not be delayed by already declaring an emergency in Mississippi just hours after a similar declaration for Louisiana. Such declarations make federal aid available to assist with disaster relief, but they are rarely made before a storm even hits.

Working from his Texas ranch, Bush participated via videoconference in a large meeting of federal, state and local disaster management officials preparing for the storm's onslaught. Separately, he spoke by phone with the governors of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida.

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08/28/05

KATRINA IN MISSISSIPPI & ALABAMA

LOURDES DEL RIO, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

PKG 2:34

Hurricane Katrina has proven deadly more than a hundred miles inland. At least three people have died from the storm in Mississippi. Details are sketchy, but officials say the victims were killed more than 150 miles from the coast. Along with two highway deaths in Alabama, that means at least five people have been killed by the storm after it came ashore in Louisiana.

KATRINA DAMAGES IN LOUISIANA

ENRIQUE TEUTALO, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

PKG & LIVE SHOT 3:04

Hurricane Katrina may be the most expensive hurricane ever to hit the United States, costing insurers up to \$26 billion, storm modelers said Monday. The storm may nevertheless prove less costly than feared because it weakened overnight, and its eye veered slightly east of low-lying New Orleans, by far the most populous city in Katrina's path. Mississippi and Alabama were hard hit on Monday, as was Louisiana.

OIL PRICES DUE TO KATRINA

LUIS MEGID, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

PKG 1:50

Crude oil futures briefly surged above \$70 a barrel for the first time as Hurricane Katrina barreled Monday toward the heart of U.S. oil and refinery operations in the Gulf of Mexico, shutting down an estimated 1 million barrels of refining capacity. The Category 4 storm advanced on an area crucial to the U.S. energy infrastructure -- offshore oil and gas production, import terminals, pipeline networks and numerous refining operations in the southern states of Louisiana and Mississippi. After slamming ashore, it advanced toward low-lying New Orleans with winds of 145 miles per hour and the threat of an extremely dangerous storm surge.

HURRICANE KATRINA FEMA HELP

LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

PKG 1:52

President Bush on Monday pledged extensive federal help for victims of Hurricane Katrina to "get your lives back in order." The government put into effect a massive emergency assistance program that included rushing baby formula, communications equipment, generators, water and ice into hard-hit areas. Bush also was expected to tap into the nation's emergency petroleum stockpiles to help refineries affected by the storm, administration officials said. Final details were being worked out, they said.

S.FCO FERRY/ PILOT PROGRAM

VO: 20

THOUSANDS OF COMMUTERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY BOARD FERRIES EVERYDAY. THE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION AND THE COAST GUARD ARE NOW TESTING A GROUND BREAKING SECURITY PROGRAM THEY HOPE WILL PREVENT AN ATTACK. THE 30 DAY PILOT PROGRAM BEING TRIED OUT IN SAN FRANCISCO REQUIRES PASSENGERS BE SCREENED FOR EXPLOSIVES. NATSOUND UP do you have the brochure they gave you? COMMUTERS BOARDING THE

FERRIES ARE GIVEN SMALL PIECES OF PAPER WHICH CAN DETECT 40 TYPES OF EXPLOSIVE RESIDUE ON THEIR HANDS. OFFICIALS SAY IT TAKES JUST 16 SECONDS TO RUN THE PAPER THROUGH A DETECTION SYSTEMS- KEEPING THE RUSH HOUR COMMUTE MOVING AND GIVING PASSENGERS SOME PIECE OF MIND.

KATRINA TRALLECTORY

MARTIN BERLANGA, MIAMI, FL

PKG 2:12

LOUISIANA: --After hitting Florida last week, Katrina strengthened to a Category 5 storm over the Gulf of Mexico but weakened slightly and came ashore early Monday as a Category 4 storm with wind of 145 mph. -- Evacuations: New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin ordered the entire city of 485,000 to evacuate. For those who couldn't, the city opened 10 shelters, including the Superdome. The mayor estimated that 80 percent of the city's residents had left.

MISSISSIPPI: --Winds hit 135 mph as the storm pounded the Mississippi coast. Gulfport Fire Chief Pat Sullivan called it "a devastating hit." A 22-foot storm surge was recorded in Bay St. Louis. Gulfport Memorial Hospital in Biloxi experienced major damage. -- At least three people were killed by falling trees. --Power outages: Exact numbers were unclear, but more than

200,000 customers from just one utility lost power.

ALABAMA: --The storm hammered Alabama's coast Monday with huge waves and tree-bending winds. Water swirled in the streets of Gulf Shores. -- Two people died in a wreck attributed to heavy rains from the storm. -- Power outages: At least 400,000 homes and businesses were without power.

FLORIDA: --Katrina hit the southern tip of Florida on Thursday as a Category 1 hurricane. --Deaths: 11, according to state tally on South Florida strike. --Damage: Initial computer modeling estimates pegged the insured

wind damage from the first strike at \$600 million to \$2 billion.

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08/29/05

KATRINA RESCUE EFFORTS AND DEATH TOLL

LOURDES DEL RIO, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

PKG 2:33

Members of the military have arrived in New Orleans, Louisiana Tuesday to begin the long process of rescuing people from high waters left by Hurricane Katrina. Thousands of homes, and tens of thousands of people are looking for a new

place to live after their homes were flooded in the aftermath of Katrina. Many are stranded in the attics and roofs of their homes, and are being rescued by the Coast Guard.

RICARDO ARAMBARRI

KATRINA EFFECTS IN NEW ORLEANS

PKG 1:42

With water rising in the streets of New Orleans and conditions rapidly deteriorating, Gov. Kathleen Blanco said Tuesday that the tens of thousands of people now huddled in the Superdome and other rescue centers would have to be evacuated. Because of two levees that broke Tuesday, the city was rapidly filling with water, the governor said. She also said the power could be out for a long time, and the storm broke a major water main,

leaving the city without drinkable water.

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8/30/05

ANCHOR INTERVIEWS KATRINA'S VICTIMS

LIVE INTERVIEW

TRT 1:45

Live interview with to Hispanic victims of the hurricane on their terrible experience.

EVACUEES AND SHELTERS

PATRICIO ESPINOZA, TEXAS

PKG 2:08

--Dozens of people rescued from roofs and attics. Canal Street was literally a canal. Water lapped at the edge of the French Quarter. --Some 370,000 customers estimated without power in southeast Louisiana; number expected to rise. New Orleans water unsafe to

drink without boiling.

US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AID OPERATION

BLANCA ROSA VILCHEZ, NEW YORK

PKG 2:03

--President Bush will cut short his Texas vacation to return to Washington on Wednesday, two days earlier than planned. The Federal Emergency Management Agency sent medical teams, rescue squads and groups prepared to supply food and water into the disaster areas. The American Red Cross has thousands of volunteers mobilized to help victims of Hurricane Katrina. This is the largest single mobilization that the Red Cross has done for any single natural disaster.

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08/31/05

KATRINA AFTERMATH LATEST FROM MISSISSIPPI & ALABAMA

LOURDES DEL RIO, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

PKG 2:07

The death toll has reached at least 110 in Mississippi alone. But the full magnitude of the disaster had been unclear for days --

in part, because some areas in both coastal Mississippi and New Orleans are still unreachable, but also because authorities' first

priority has been the living. In Mississippi, for example, ambulances roamed through the passable streets of devastated places such as Biloxi, Gulfport, Waveland and Bay St. Louis, in some cases speeding past corpses in hopes of saving people trapped in flooded and crumbled buildings.

KATRINA AFTERMATH LATEST FROM LOUISIANA

ENRIQUE TEUTALO, KENNER, LOUISIANA

PKG 1:27

With thousands feared drowned in what could be America's deadliest natural disaster in a century, New Orleans' leaders all but surrendered the streets to floodwaters Wednesday and began turning out the lights on the ruined city -- perhaps for months. Looting spiraled so out of control that Mayor Ray Nagin ordered virtually the entire police force to abandon search-and-rescue efforts and focus on the brazen packs of thieves who have turned increasingly hostile. Nagin also called for an all-out evacuation of the city's remaining residents. Asked how many people died, he said: "Minimum, hundreds. Most likely, thousands."

BUSH SPEECH & RECOVERY EFFORTS

LOURDES MELUZA, WASHINGTON, D.C.

PKG 2:04

President Bush got a look at the damage and flooding from hurricane Katrina today (Wednesday) as he traveled to Washington from his ranch in Crawford, Texas. Air force one flew over new orleans and slidell, louisiana... as well as pascagoula and biloxi, mississippi.

REFUGEES EVACUATION

PEDRO ROJAS, HOUSTON, TEXAS

PKG 1:45

A slow exodus from the smelly and sweltering Superdome began Wednesday as bedraggled refugees boarded giant trucks and then buses for a trip to more comfortable surroundings in the Houston Astrodome. The evacuation was kept almost secret to avoid a stampede. People were taken a few at a time through a garage, then to trucks that plowed through 4 feet of water and delivered them to the buses.

OIL PRICES HIGHER

JAIME GARCIA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG 1:57

Gas prices are surging well past three dollars a gallon in many parts of the country. Fuel supplies have been significantly disrupted by Hurricane Katrina, after the storm crippled refineries and oil rigs that provide one-third of the nation's gas supply. Consumers are feeling the effects. Prices jumped by more than 50 cents a gallon in Ohio, 40 cents a gallon in Georgia and 30 cents a gallon in Maine.

ANCHOR INTERVIEWS SPOKESPERSON OF CHARITY HOSPITAL

SOT 1:37

As floodwaters rose around Charity Hospital, the rescuers needed their own rescuing. Charity's backup generator was running out of diesel fuel. Nurses hand-pumped ventilators for patients who couldn't breathe. Doctors canoed supplies in from three nearby hospitals.

"It's like being in a Third World country. We're trying to work without power. Everyone knows we're all in this together. We're

just trying to stay alive," said Mitch Handrich, a registered nurse manager at the state's biggest public hospital.

MISSISSIPPI COPING WITH KATRINA'S DAMAGE

JORGE RAMOS, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

PKG 2:38

The refugees of Hurricane Katrina, scattered in every kind of motel from tawdry to Best Western, just want to go home. But they are stranded in this swamp-hot purgatory of Southern Mississippi, where nothing runs. Not the tap water, not the toilets, not the ATM machines, not phones of any kind -- and most definitely, not the air conditioning. None of the evacuees know what is left of their homes, or when they'll be allowed to get even close to them. Except the folks from New Orleans. They know that they'll be away even longer.

===END OF REPORT===