

MADRID

# Protestors defend judge



Protesters stand in front of the Audiencia Nacional, a national Spanish court, in support of judge Baltasar Garzón in Madrid. Organizers plan to demonstrate outside the court building, where Garzón's hearings take place, until the ruling is delivered May 22.

BY ALEX FARRIS  
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They're suing the judge.

Spain's central criminal court, the Audiencia Nacional, began hearings in the case against justice Baltasar Garzón Real yesterday. Right-wing groups, led by Manos Limpias ("clean hands"), had filed suits against the judge after he tried to open inquiries against crimes committed by Francisco Franco and members of the Falange party during and after the Spanish Civil War. The crimes included executions, mass graves, forced labor and sudden disappearances.

Garzón's attempted inquiries, the groups argue, overstepped his

judicial bounds. A 1977 amnesty law exonerated those involved in crimes committed on both sides before, during and after the war. The goal, brought to fruition in the constitution of 1978, was to make sure that both sides of the political spectrum would support the new democracy.

Numerous forces inside and outside the country have supported Garzón's actions. An editorial in the New York Times calls the suit against him "a politically driven case that should have been thrown out of court," while supporters in-country include film director Pedro Almodóvar and both the Socialist Workers' Party and the conservative Popular Party. Demonstra-

tors are holding assemblies and rallies in the School of Labor Relations at the Universidad Complutense in Madrid every day until May 22, when the Audiencia Nacional will release its decision.

Garzón has made similar attempts in the past. In 1998, he issued a warrant for the extradition to Spain of former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet, who had reportedly tortured Spaniards along with Chileans. The warrant was eventually denied due to Pinochet's poor health, but it marked the first time that the principle of universal jurisdiction had been used in such a way. This Spanish judicial principle holds that some crimes are

so grave that the world effectively has jurisdiction, not just the place or country the crime was committed.

Garzón has also been active in the crackdown on Eta, a Basque separatist group, and is reported to have been on the group's list of assassination targets.

In 2003, he compiled a 692-page indictment which called for the arrest of 35 men (later increased to 41), including Osama Bin Laden, for their alleged membership in a terrorist group.

In Europe's biggest trial of alleged al-Qaida members, 24 were put on trial in 2005 and 18 found guilty of belonging to an al-Qaida cell and sentenced to long prison terms.

CALCUTTA, INDIA

# Aid arrives after cyclone kills 121

AP REPORTS

Aid workers distributed rice, dried fruit, water and tarpaulins Thursday to victims of a ferocious cyclone that killed at least 121 people in India and demolished ten of thousands of mud huts.

Rescuers cleared hundreds of uprooted trees and electricity poles blocking roads to the devastated areas in Bihar state, said Sharwan Kumar, a state administrator. Telephone services also were restored in most of the region after a 30-hour interruption.

Twelve bodies were found Thursday in Purnea district, raising the Bihar death toll to 82, Kumar said.

Survivors began clearing debris from their homes and repairing fallen roofs in Bihar and neighboring West Bengal state. Hundreds of poor villagers took shelter in government buildings where local officials set up relief centers.

Police and rescue teams recovered another 39 bodies in the worst-hit villages

in West Bengal — Hematabad, Raiganj and Kiran Dighi — since Wednesday, said Ramanuj Chakraborty, a senior local official.

Packing winds of more than 100 mph, the cyclone struck close to midnight Tuesday.

Hundreds of people were injured and thousands left homeless. They were caught unaware as there was no cyclone warning from the weather department, said Devesh Chandra Thakur, Bihar's minister for disaster management.

"Most people were sleeping when the cyclone struck. They ran out of their homes into the open," said M.B. Shajuruddin, a teacher in a West Bengal village.

The storm destroyed most of the village's 500 tin-roofed huts and splintered trees.

"We have so far received no government help," he said. "People are surviving on whatever they are left with."

The cyclone demolished nearly 50,000 mud huts in West Bengal and thousands more in Bihar, officials said.

## Remembering the Polish president in Bloomington

The Polish Studies Center released a book of condolences Wednesday for people to write in commemorating the death of President Lech Kaczynski and other dignitaries.

The book will be at the center, which is open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. It will be sent to the Polish embassy in Washington, D.C., at the end

of the week.

At 5:30 p.m. Friday, a panel in Wylie Hall 015 will present information on the tragedy at Smolensk, including historical context and effects on the current political situation in Poland.

A mass remembering those who died will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at St. Paul's Catholic Center, in both English and Polish

## AROUND THE WORLD

### Russia suspends all adoptions to US families

MOSCOW — Russia suspended all adoptions to U.S. families Thursday until the countries can agree on procedures, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, after a Tennessee woman sent her 7-year-old adopted son back to Russia on a plane alone.

The boy's return — without supervision or explanation aside from a note he carried from his adoptive mother saying he had psychological problems — has incensed Russia and prompted aggressive media coverage of foreign adoptions.

The woman who sent the boy back claimed she had been misled by his Russian orphanage about his condition. Russians have been outraged no charges have been filed against her.

A U.S. delegation will visit Moscow to discuss international adoptions and a possible agreement, ministry spokesman Andrei Nesterenko said.

For years, Russian lawmakers have suggested suspending U.S. adoptions after cases of abuse

and even killings of Russian children adopted in the United States, but no formal measures had been taken until Thursday. More than 1,800 Russian children were adopted by U.S. families in 2009, Russia's Health and Education Ministry said.

### Man gets 2 years for forcing sons to fight

BELFAST, Maine — Pedro Delgado-Bristol, 26, has been sentenced to two years in prison for forcing his sons, 4 and 6, to fight each other while he watched. Delgado-Bristol pled guilty Tuesday to assault and other charges.

The Bangor Daily News said the boys were forced to punch, kick and knee each other Jan. 9 at Delgado-Bristol's home. The boys also told investigators their father hit the younger boy with a sandal when the boy refused to fight any more. The boys' mother saw the injuries and reported the father to authorities.

A judge called Delgado-Bristol's actions "depraved" and barred him from unsupervised contact with either boy.

PHOENIX

# Backers defend crackdown on illegal immigrants

BY JONATHAN J. COOPER  
The Associated Press

Supporters of the nation's toughest crackdown on illegal immigration, on the verge of approval in the Arizona Legislature, said the state law is necessary to help stamp out crime and keep citizens and law enforcement officers safe.

The measure would make it a crime to be in the country illegally and require local police officers to question people about their immigration status if there is reason to suspect they are here illegally.

Immigrants unable to produce documents showing they are allowed to be in the U.S. could be arrested, jailed for up to six months, and fined \$2,500.

Civil rights activists warn Ari-

zona is inviting rampant racial profiling and police-state tactics.

"It's giving police officers a green light to harass anyone who looks or sounds foreign," said Alessandra Soler Meetze, executive director of the Arizona American Civil Liberties Union.

The ACLU and immigrant rights groups are demanding Republican Gov. Jan Brewer veto the measure if it reaches her. She has not announced if she will sign it, but said she is a strong supporter of pragmatic immigration laws. Her predecessor, Democrat Janet Napolitano, vetoed similar proposals.

Current law in most states doesn't require police to ask the immigration status of those they encounter. Many departments prohibit officers from asking for fear

immigrants won't cooperate in other investigations.

The law would also crack down on employment for illegal immigrants by prohibiting people from blocking traffic when they seek or offer day labor on street corners. A judge could fine a city for not enforcing the immigration law vigorously enough.

The new measure would be just the latest crackdown of its kind in Arizona, which has an estimated 460,000 illegal immigrants.

Republican state Sen. Russell Pearce sponsored the law. A former cop who can list local officers killed or wounded by illegal immigrants, Pearce has been the force behind Arizona's new measures, including a law punishing companies caught knowingly hiring ille-

gal immigrants.

Police unions support the new law, denying officers would engage in profiling. It is opposed by police chiefs, who worry it would be too costly, distract them from more serious problems, and sow such distrust among immigrants that they would not cooperate with officers investigating other crimes.

Legal immigrants fear it would give officers easy excuses to stop them, and even U.S. citizens could find themselves detained if they can't prove their legal status.

"When they come up with these things, it doesn't matter if I'm here legally," said Jose Melendez, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Guadalajara, Mexico. "If they see a Mexican face and a Mexican name, they'll ask for papers."

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