



DrumBeat: September 15, 2006

Posted by [threadbot](#) on September 15, 2006 - 9:13am

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

[Update by Leanan on 09/15/06 at 9:27 AM EDT]

[Attacks in Yemen kill 5](#)

Suicide bombers try to hit oil refineries

Suicide bombers tried to strike two oil facilities in Yemen with explosives-packed cars, but authorities foiled the attacks and four bombers and a security guard were killed, the government said Friday.

The attempts came ahead of this week's presidential elections, in which President Ali Abdullah Saleh faces a serious challenge for the first time since he became head of state in 1978.

They also came days after al-Qaeda's No. 2, Ayman al-Zawahri, issued a videotaped threat of attacks on the Persian Gulf and on facilities he blamed for stealing Muslim oil.

[Update by Leanan on 09/15/06 at 10:55 AM EDT]

[West beams security focus on Gulf of Guinea oil](#)

Western experts worried about the security of oil supplies from Africa's Gulf of Guinea have considered several doomsday scenarios, including suicide attacks by determined Islamist militants on offshore oil platforms.

But many analysts say domestic unrest is by far the bigger threat to a region whose oil is growing in strategic importance to the West because of increasing volatility in the Middle East.

[A road map to a Britain without fossil fuels](#)

The first comprehensive account of the measures needed to ensure Britain does its bit to avoid dangerous climate change is published today with a warning that failure to act now will only require more drastic action at a later date.

[BP finds leak at Texas City refinery cracker tower](#)

The refinery, where 15 people died in a blast last year, is in the process of restarting following shutdown ahead of Hurricane Rita last September.

[EnCana eyes U.S. refinery for oil sands crude](#)

[Shell Canada shares fall close to 52-week low after refinery leak](#)

Hydrogen sulphide, or sour gas, started leaking from a valve in a hydrogen cracking unit at the plant in mid morning Tuesday, forcing the evacuation of about 1,400 workers from the refinery and surrounding chemical plants. There were no injuries.

[Ten oil companies may renegotiate drill leases: U.S.](#)

The U.S. Interior Department told Congress on Thursday that about 10 oil companies have shown an interest in renegotiating drilling leases that at present would allow the companies to avoid paying billions of dollars in royalties normally owed on oil and natural gas found in the Gulf of Mexico.

The department mistakenly left out language in drilling contracts signed with energy companies in 1998 and 1999 that would have ended a waiver of royalties when oil and natural gas prices were at certain high levels.

[GM vice chairman wants mass produced hydrogen cars by 2011](#)

[Ford slashes 10,000 more jobs, 2 plants](#)

"The simple fact is that the business model that served us in North America for decades no longer works," Mark Fields, Ford's president of the Americas, said during a morning teleconference.

[Toyota shifts to small cars in U.S.](#)

[Honda achieves breakthrough in technology to produce ethanol from cellulosic biomass](#)

[China Aims to Triple Fuel Ethanol Output By 2010](#)

[Biodiesel to drive up the price of cooking oil](#)

[OPEC: Oil demand weaker than expected in first half of 2006](#)

[Arctic ice melting rapidly, study says](#)



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