

HEFEI, CHINA Millions travel for Lunar New Year season



WUHAN, CHINAYangtze River suffers from a severe drought



STAVROPOL, RUSSIA
65th anniversary of the city's liberation

Washington Memo Terrorists on Trial

HUNDREDS OF "ENEMY COMBATANTS" CONTINUE to be held in U.S. custody at Guantánamo Bay and possibly other secret U.S. prisons over-



seas. Despite a raft of Supreme Court cases designed to obtain the detainees additional legal rights, as many as 100 of them are expected to be tried this spring in military commissions that limit both public disclosure and the latitude

ccorded lawyers in defending them.

That's one reason the Jan. 22 sentencing—in a traditional U.S. courtroom—of Brooklyn, N.Y., native Jose Padilla to more than 17 years in prison for terrorist conspiracy has attracted attention. Soon after Padilla's arrest in 2002, he was designated an enemy combatant and faced years of alleged abuse, including stress positions and extreme sleep deprivation, in the isolation of a Navy brig in Charleston, S.C. Eventually, a legal challenge made the government drop Padilla's enemy-combatant status, and he was permitted to face charges—conspiracy and providing aid to foreign terrorists—in federal court.

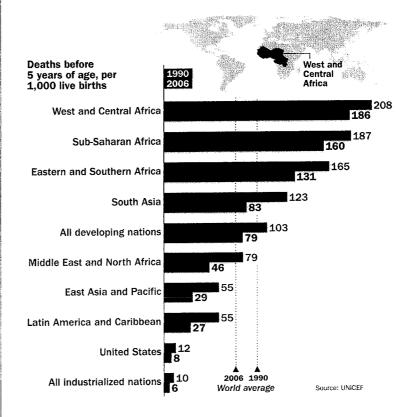
It was a mixed result for prosecutors: they got a conviction, but the Miami judge rejected some of their most important allegations and refused to hand down a life term. As the judge put it, "There is no evidence that [he]... personally maimed, kidnapped or killed anyone."

But the case has also shown that terrorists can be tried and convicted in civilian courts. Now critics are demanding to know why other alleged terrorists held at Guantánamo and elsewhere should not receive similar treatment, instead of languishing in a facility that even President Bush has said he wants to be able to shut down. Allowing hundreds of 'efendants there to enter U.S. courts—and, if onvicted, U.S. prisons—may be the only way to accomplish that. —BY ADAM ZAGORIN

THE MAP

Child Mortality Reaches Record Low

For the first time ever, UNICEF has reported that the number of child deaths for the year has fallen below 10 million. Fifteen of the least developed countries have reduced the under-5 mortality rate 40% or more since 1990, thanks to vaccines, health education, mosquito nets and a little vitamin A. Global progress at a glance:



EXPLAINER

Old Stars Make New Planets

Two stars thought to be at least hundreds of millions of years old could soon generate new planets—a phenomenon astronomers have never seen. Scientists say BP Piscium in the PISCES constellation and TYCHO 4144 329 2 in URSA MAJOR display conditions that suggest they could form new planets. A closer look at the big news from astronomy:

