

# TIME

October 24, 2005

Vol. 166, No. 17

**LETTERS**..... 5

**NOTEBOOK**..... 9

**MILESTONES**..... 13

**10 QUESTIONS:** Veteran diplomat Chris Patten... 14

## ASIA

**CHINA:** The brutal beating of a political activist reveals social unrest in Chinese villages—and the desire for democracy there..... 23

## WORLD

**IRAQ:** An in-depth interview with a recruiter for suicide bombers shows the diversity and sophistication of an insurgency bent on defeating the U.S. at all costs..... 30

## UNITED STATES

**POLITICS:** A controversial Supreme Court nomination is making problems for Bush..... 36

COVER: *Earthquake: Photograph for TIME by Paula Bronstein—Getty Images.*

## ON THE COVER

**Political Quake** The Kashmir temblor ravaged a region already torn apart by strife, and there's little hope that the disaster will help to heal old wounds..... 16

**Redemption** In an exclusive excerpt from his autobiography, accidental defector Charles Robert Jenkins tells how he met his Japanese wife in North Korea—and how they were both rescued from captivity... 24

## GLOBAL BUSINESS

**AUTOMOBILES:** Beseated by international competition, Mercedes looks to reinvent itself... 37

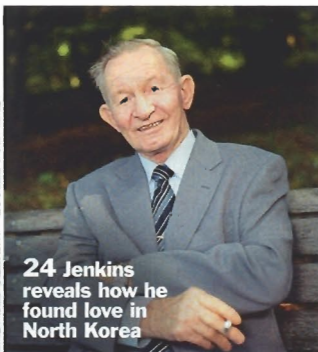
**INVESTING:** A famous fund manager bets against continued high oil prices..... 45

## SCIENCE

**ASTRONOMY:** Scientists are discovering that our solar system is a much more crowded neighborhood than we ever thought..... 46

ANDREAS SEIBERT—LOOKAT FOR TIME

MICHAEL LATZ—AFP/GETTY IMAGES



**24 Jenkins** reveals how he found love in North Korea



**37 ▲ Mercedes-Benz** is trying to restore some lost luster to its three-pronged star

TIME Asia publishes four double issues a year. Each counts as two of 54 issues in an annual subscription. TIME Asia may also publish occasional extra issues. Principal office: Time & Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, N.Y. 10020-1393, U.S. TIME Asia principal editorial and business office: Oxford House 30th floor, Taikoo Place, 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong. © 2005 Time Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. TIME and the Red Border Design are protected through trademark registration in the U.S. and in the countries where TIME magazine circulates. Subscribers: if the postal services alert us that your magazine is undeliverable, we have no further obligation unless we receive a corrected address within two years. Customer service and subscriptions: for 24-7 service, please use our website [timeasia.com/customer\\_service](http://timeasia.com/customer_service). You may also contact our Customer Services Center at (852) 3128-5688 or e-mail [enquiries@timeinc.com](mailto:enquiries@timeinc.com) or write Oxford House 30th floor, Taikoo Place, 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong. (In Japan enquiries can be made to 0120-666-236 or Customer Services Center at Roppongi Hills P.O. Box 58, Minato-ku Tokyo 106-6134.) Mailing list: we make a portion of our mailing list available to reputable firms. If you would prefer that we not include your name, please contact our Customer Services Center. TIME Asia is edited in Hong Kong and printed in Singapore. Singapore MITA (P) No. 213/10/2004. Malaysia KDN permit PP(s) 676/11/2005. Worldwide publisher: Ed McCarrick.