to-face simulations alike, you may use online tools, such as the simulation website, the social network, and e-mail. In addition, you can distribute it on paper to the heads of teams as the face-to-face simulation starts and screen it up front as the world politics round begins.

The opening scenario enables you to shape the direction of events before each world politics round you conduct. But what if you want to direct activities that take place during the rounds? The best way to intervene without disrupting the ongoing flow of interactions is by introducing ad-hoc events, which are like mini scenarios that you had prepared in advance for insertion when deadlock or agreement are imminent or when you want to change the course of events.

Ad-Hoc Events

Planning ad-hoc events for world politics rounds can help you manage the pace and direction of ongoing interactions among teams. By an ad-hoc event we mean a new development that is presented to participants after the publication of the opening scenario. The introduction of ad-hoc events during negotiations is especially useful in case of deadlock, when the new information creates a common theme for talks and brings about new offers and fresh initiatives. Alternatively, when teams are ready to compromise everything simply in order to quickly reach an agreement, an ad-hoc event, especially a hostile action, can force participants to reconsider their offers and willingness to compromise.

It is preferable to frame ad-hoc events as news flashes to mask your direct intervention in activities among teams. Most of our simulations on current world politics in Middle East region contained some of the ad-hoc events presented in figure 6.5.

We presented these news flashes at different points of the world politics rounds to challenge the sincerity of the talks that were taking place and to test the attention span of the leaders who were deeply involved in strenuous negotiations. In times of stalemate, ad-hoc events accelerated the pace of interactions among teams by the introduction of new topics. However, when intensive talks were taking place, teams often ignored most news flashes, with the exception of extreme ones like those on chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons. This means that during negotiations teams chose which events require immediate reaction and set the unimportant ones aside.

Ad-hoc events can also be used to direct negotiators toward specific issues, such as refugees, weapons, borders, internal instability, and other topics relevant to your cur-

Gaza: Iranian intelligence reports indicate that non-conventional warheads have been smuggled from Sinai to Islamic Jihad militants, Hamas rivals, located near Rafah.

Cairo: Last night security forces in Egypt arrested five major opposition leaders, their whereabouts are unknown.

Jerusalem: A noon explosion in an open air market in the capital has left ten people dead and thirty severely injured. Israeli police have arrested two Arab at the scene.

Jerusalem: the Israeli secret service arrested ten Israeli Arabs, alleged members of a Muslim Brotherhood terror network in Nazareth.

The West Bank: According to Palestinian sources, an Israeli was kidnapped early this morning, but as of now Israeli still remains silent on the issue.

Moscow: A Russian delegation of nuclear scientists has arrived this morning in Tehran for an unscheduled visit.

Washington: On a nationwide broadcast at 11:00 PM US President Obama announced that he will offer a ‘New Deal’ to Iran in exchange for a freeze in their nuclear program.

Washington: A White House spokesman confirmed that in ten minutes President Obama will present his new ‘Roadmap for Palestine’ at the UN general assembly.

Amman: Upon his arrival in the Jordanian capital, for security and counter-terrorism talks with King Abdal- lah, Prime Minister Netanyahu’s car was fired upon by unknown assailants. The car raced to a nearby military compound with a Jordanian army escort; casualties, if any, are unknown.

Damascus: Alleged CIA agents were brought to court this morning on charges of smuggling weapons and equipment to anti-government rebels and training them to use advanced transmission methods.

Beirut: Future Party sources claim that an unmarked convoy of non-conventional weapons crossed the border between Lebanon and Syria just before sunrise.

Riyadh: The Saudi Arabian radio announced the arrest of ten foreign reporters on charges of espionage.

Fig. 6.5. Ad-hoc news flashes