



WORLD BRIEFS

Security Council agrees to Iraqi document deal

UNITED NATIONS — Moving to defuse the latest standoff with Saddam Hussein, the Security Council Thursday accepted an Iraqi proposal aimed at ending the three-day detention of U.N. weapons inspectors in Baghdad.

The inspectors have been held in a Baghdad parking lot since they uncovered documents describing Iraq's secret nuclear weapons program.

Under the proposed plan, diplomats said, the documents, photographs and videotapes would stay in the possession of the inspectors while they and Iraqi authorities prepare a catalog of them.

Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. Special Commission charged with disposing of Iraq's mass-destruction weapons, estimated less than 24 hours would be needed to catalog all the documents, film and videotape. However, it was not certain when the inspectors might be freed.

Soviet Union to move to all-volunteer army

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union soon will have a civilian defense minister and will move to an all-volunteer army, the chief of staff told foreign military attaches in a briefing Thursday on

planned sweeping reforms. Nuclear weapons will be controlled by the Kremlin, said Gen. Vladimir Lobov, the No. 2 man in the Soviet Defense Ministry, but the republics will have much greater say than before over virtually every other military question, including the budget.

The military, Lobov said, will meet its responsibilities under recently signed — but still not ratified — treaties slashing nuclear and conventional forces. The Soviet military likely will start moving to an all-volunteer force next year.

South African students try to close university

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — Black students at one of the nation's most prestigious universities disrupted classes and set up burning barricades Thursday to support striking maintenance workers.

But the protesters at the predominantly white University of Cape Town were unable to close down the school as they did had done Wednesday.

The dean of the Arts Faculty, John Cartwright, suffered slight leg burns when his pants caught fire as he kicked a flaming tire away from a barricade.

About 300 university workers, mostly maintenance personnel, went on strike Tuesday after rejecting a 13.5-percent pay increase.

—The Associated Press

WORLD AND NATION
Inspectors' detention angers world leaders

By Anna Griffin
Staff Writer

Once again, it appears Saddam Hussein may have pushed George Bush too far.

The detention of 44 United Nations inspectors Monday by Iraqi officials did nothing to alleviate tensions in the Persian Gulf and led President Bush to send more than 1,300 additional troops and 100 Patriot defense missiles to Saudi Arabia Wednesday.

Iraqi officials stopped the inspection team Monday and threatened to seize documents which may detail Hussein's nuclear capabilities. Interference with the inspection team is against the U.N. cease-fire resolution calling for destruction of any Iraqi biological, chemical and nuclear weapons.

Although Hussein pledged Tuesday not to impede helicopter searches by the U.N. inspectors, the standoff continued through Wednesday with both sides refusing to compromise.

Thursday afternoon, the U.N. Security Council agreed to an Iraqi demand that the documents and photographs collected by the inspection team be catalogued by U.N. and Iraqi officials.

Iraq had initially demanded that the inspectors turn over the documents to their captors.

Despite the conciliatory movement by the Security Council, the inspectors were still being held in a Baghdad parking lot Thursday evening.

The movement of troops, planes and Patriot missiles to Saudi Arabia does not automatically mean a resumption of

Analysis

the fighting, said Cmdr. James Hartman, Department of Defense spokesman.

"You have to realize that the Patriot system is meant for defensive efforts only," he said. "We are doing what we have to do to protect U.S. forces in the region and our allies over there."

In a meeting with Lebanese President Ilyas Harawi Tuesday, Bush denied Iraqi claims that the U.N. team contains CIA spies.

More conflict could arise next week when the detained inspection teams try to move to their next assignment — inspecting western Iraq for Scud missiles. Scuds must be destroyed under the U.N. resolution.

The troop movement and several tough statements by Bush and Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, have led to speculation that further resistance by Hussein could lead to another round of fighting.

In addition to deploying troops and missiles, Bush recently authorized sending more war planes to the gulf region.

Since the cease-fire, Hussein has continuously tested U.S. patience, said

William Leuchtenburg, UNC Kenan professor of history.

"He is pushing to the limits to see how far he can go," Leuchtenburg said. "He certainly has been exasperating."

"The incarceration of the inspecting team suggests that in no way has he been humbled by his previous experience," Leuchtenburg said.

Bush is not likely to get involved in another military engagement if it can be helped, Leuchtenburg said. The president has too much to lose politically to let Hussein entice him into unnecessary fighting, he said.

"I doubt very much that Bush looks forward to another engagement of this sort," Leuchtenburg said. "That's what Saddam's counting on."

"It will be difficult for Bush to elicit the same type of enthusiasm both in this country and abroad. There will be considerable questioning of why, if Saddam was such a menace, the job wasn't completed the first time."

Despite the recent troop movement, U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf are only 6 or 7 percent the size of those stationed in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm, Hartman said.

Confusion over the fate of the inspectors continues. Although it appears

that Hussein will soon release the team, his demands will no doubt break the U.N. resolution, said Adm. Eugene Carroll, a former naval official who now works at the Center for Defense Information in Washington, D.C.

"Hussein is going to push and push because he knows he can," Carroll said. "He (Bush) certainly isn't going to get the world's support if he goes after Hussein now just because he is being a nuisance."

"The president is going to pay politically if he attacks over nothing. All of those nations who supported him last year are going to think twice this time," Carroll said.

The prospects of war are there, Carroll said, but Bush probably won't make the first move.

"You have to look at our reason for being there now," Carroll said. "We are supposedly supporting a U.N. inspection team. There is no reason for us to attack unless that team is killed. Hussein isn't that stupid."

But Bush would attack if Hussein made some military move, Carroll said.

"Don't think the president wouldn't love to have a reason to attack," Carroll said. "You can bet he regrets not getting to Hussein in Desert Storm."

Unemployment figures show recovery

By West Lockhart
Staff Writer

Unemployment statistics show North Carolina making marked economic

improvement compared to other states that are still waiting for the current recession to loosen its grip on their pocketbooks.

The Tar Heel state took some steps both privately and publicly before the recession, moves which have helped keep its economy sound, said Juliann Tenney, executive director of the Southern Growth Policies Board.

A certain amount of foresight and patience is necessary for moving forward during difficult economic times, Tenney said. The rapid growth of Research Triangle Park shows how effective planning, hard work and preparation for future trends can result in a thriving economic community, he said.

Compared to other states, August unemployment statistics show North Carolina surviving well economically, said Charlotte Ramz, public information director at the Employment Security Commission in Raleigh.

The national unemployment rate for August was 6.8 percent, and in North Carolina it was 5.9 percent.

During the same month, Massachusetts registered 9.2 percent unemployment, and Michigan reported 9.1 percent, Ramz said.

The national economy seems to be making a gradual recovery based on a comparison of July to August, said Ray Partin, a research analyst for the commission.

It is too early to tell whether this improvement signals a sustained period of growth, Partin said.

Manufacturing is one sector of the N.C. economy that is faring well, Tenney said. North Carolinians are not losing their manufacturing jobs because they have found markets for their products both nationally and globally.

Travel and tourism throughout the state have provided a big boost to the N.C. economy, representing approximately 6.7 percent of the state's gross product, Tenney said.

Because of tourism "(the state) will benefit disproportionately to some areas (of the country)," he said. "A few may outdo us but not many."

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