

A&M defense expert recommends U.S. forces remain in Middle East

SUZANNE CALDERON
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Even if a settlement is negotiated in the current Persian Gulf crisis, American forces should be prepared for a long stay in the Middle East, said Dr. Ronald Hatchett, deputy director of programs for the Moshier Institute for Defense Studies at A&M and a lecturer in geography. The United States has some very important national interests in the Middle East that need to continue to be protected, said Hatchett, a former Middle East desk officer in the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and former political appointee for the Reagan administration.

"In my opinion the foremost of these (interests) is the fact that the Middle East holds 65 percent of the world's known oil reserves," Hatchett said.

The oil market in the world operates as a closed system, he said. There are a limited number of buyers and a limited number of sellers, with the Middle East being one of

the biggest sellers, it is important to assure that their supply of oil continues to be available to meet the world's oil needs, Hatchett said. "If something happened and 65% of the world's oil supply was cut-off,

"... We cannot allow the possibility of Saddam Hussein moving into Saudi Arabia because then he would have absolute control over the price and the volume of oil produced."

— Dr. Ronald Hatchett, Moshier Institute for Defense Studies

then it is going to cause ripples and bad effects here in the United States," he said. "There is no escaping the fact that the Persian Gulf is the pre-eminent location for the crit-

ical oil supplies of the world...given that situation it is a pre-eminent interest that we have, and we have to assure that supply of oil continues to move to the world."

A secondary interest that the United States has in the Middle East is America's continued strong support of Israel, he said.

"Despite the fact that only three percent of American people are Jewish," he said, "there are many more who are fundamentalist Christians and strong Christians who believe in support of Israel."

Another reason for continued American involvement in the Middle East is the rise of what Hatchett calls "Pan-Arab nationalism." This is a feeling shared by the majority of Arabs, including Saddam Hussein, he said.

"Most of the 140 million (Arabs) share a common concept, and that is a great pride in their culture and in their past achievements, and they also share a feeling that they have been misused and humiliated by Western culture and Western

powers," Hatchett said. "Therefore, most of these Arabs share the belief that they need to keep the outsiders out of their area."

Beginning in the 1920's and 30's there was a growth of Pan-Arab nationalism, he said. Hatchett said this ideology states that the Arab people are "one people" with a great culture who have contributed great things to the world in the past, but are being kept artificially bound by the legacy of their colonial period, where these "one people" were split into 21 different states by colonial powers.

He said the Pan-Arab nationalist view, which Saddam Hussein shares, is that these boundaries have no real significance and they should be swept away. This view includes the oil wealth, which they feel should be used to benefit only the Arab nations, he said.

In order to accomplish this goal, he said, the Arab nationalists want a

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Assault on Iraq unlikely

Strategists outline Persian Gulf targets

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. military's first strike will be against remote air bases, missile sites and chemical weapons installations if the Persian Gulf standoff turns into a shooting war, experts on the Middle East and national security say.

An attack on the presidential palace in crowded Baghdad is also seen as a possibility.

American officials in Saudi Arabia say an all-out assault on Iraq is highly unlikely unless the Iraqis fire first. They have discussed contingency plans, but Pentagon ground rules forbid disclosure of specific targets.

Experts here also were reluctant to pinpoint exact locations they thought might be targeted, but indicated the initial focus would be on Iraq's air force and missiles.

"To destroy the Iraqi air force on the ground will be the No. 1

priority, and to prevent them from firing missiles," said Barry Rubin, senior fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a private research group.

Other targets, Rubin predicted, would be supply depots and supply lines and places that produce chemical weapons.

Asked to be specific, he said: "I don't think it would be useful to go into that. But we know where the chemical installations are, and satellites take very nice pictures."

William B. Quandt, a National Security Council official in the Nixon and Carter administrations who is a senior fellow with the Brookings Institution, listed much the same priorities.

"I think their first concern would be to neutralize surface-to-surface missile capability and then to establish air superiority without any question," Quandt said.

H2O hits the spot



Photo by Fredrick D. Joe

Richard Reynolds, 10, and his father Mike don't mind playing in the heat Wednesday at

the A&M Golf Course, but they make sure to drink enough water.

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Grad student organizes support groups for Aggies Programs try to solve problems

By ELIZABETH TISCH
Of The Battalion Staff

Rosie Munguia has a foolproof remedy for all new Texas A&M students experiencing bouts of homesickness.

Munguia, a graduate student in industrial engineering, organized a support group so students can discuss feelings about college with their peers.

College students making the transition from home to school for the first time often find the adjustment leads to loneliness and homesickness, she said.

"People with these feelings could be helped by just talking them out with others in the same situation," she said.

Additionally, Munguia has organized other support groups offered to students from broken homes or with alcoholic parents and specifically to international students who find transition difficult.

Munguia got the idea for the various support groups after reading a poll taken by a newspaper revealing the effectiveness of support groups. She asked members of the Chris-

tian Fellowship Association at Texas A&M for support immediately after this.

As a result, the committees were designed so students could resolve problems by talking to other students rather than to professional counselors.

However, more help is offered by the Christian Fellowship Association if needed.

"We can recommend pastors and staff members of the Christian Fellowship Association if students want advice or to ask questions," she said. "But the organization's main goal is to provide a time where students can share thoughts and feelings with friends."

She said young adults today have a harder time sharing fears than students did 30 years ago.

One of the reasons is the large number of broken families and the increasing number of alcohol-related problems within families in today's world, she said.

The group sessions, which start next week, are offered in 10-week periods.

More information can be obtained about the support groups by calling 361-4407.

Students can plan ahead for tickets

By BILL HETHCOCK
Of The Battalion Staff

With Aggie football and volleyball seasons approaching, it's time to start thinking about getting tickets to A&M sporting events.

For students who purchased an all-sports pass or a football pass, student tickets for football games at Kyle Field are distributed using a computerized system based on the encoded magnetic strip on the back of A&M identification cards.

Tickets are distributed by classification beginning five school days before each home game, at the ticket windows of G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Graduate students and seniors can draw their tickets on the Monday before the game, juniors draw tickets on Tuesday, sophomores on Wednesday, freshmen on Thursday, and all classes on Friday.

The deadline for getting tickets from the ticket office is kickoff time on game day.

Distribution within a classification is random, except for the second deck on senior and graduate student day.

On this day, second deck tickets between the forty yard lines are issued starting at 7 a.m., then other second deck tickets are issued randomly after the tickets between the forties have all been distributed.

One student is allowed to get a maximum of ten tickets by presenting a student I.D. card for each person who wants a ticket. At least half of the I.D.'s must be of a high enough classification to draw tickets on that day.

All people with student tickets must have their ticket and a current A&M I.D. to be admitted on game day.

For students who did not choose the football or all-sports pass option, student tickets are available by showing a student I.D. card with proof of classification, and purchasing tickets for half the price of regular tickets. Regular ticket prices vary from \$17 to \$20, depending on the opponent.

A limited number of guest tickets are available for people without a current A&M I.D. who want to stand in the student sections. Guest tickets can be obtained by buying a guest ticket, or by purchasing a guest label and attaching it to a student ticket. Guest labels are half the price of a guest ticket.

Student tickets for out-of-town football games can be purchased at the athletic ticket office in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Prices for these tickets are \$18 for the LSU game, \$25 for the University of Houston game, \$17 for the SMU game, \$20 for the Arkansas game and \$25 for the Texas game.

To get into Aggie volleyball games, students should bring their I.D. card to G. Rollie White Coliseum before the game, and they will be let in if the all-sports pass option is encoded on their card.

If the all-sports pass option is not chosen, student tickets sell for \$3, and armchair seats sell for \$5.

Former student killed in crash remembered

Maj. Richard M. Price, class of '74, was remembered with a "silent chow" during dinner Wednesday by the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets.

The pilot from San Antonio was among nine reservists killed when a C-53 cargo plane crashed at Ramstein Air Base in West Germany at 5:30 p.m. CDT Tuesday.

Price is the first A&M graduate to die since the U.S. military began its buildup in the Middle East.

Corps commander Jonathan Whittles, a senior wildlife and fisheries sciences major, said he called for "silent chow" for the Corps after he learned that the band would observe a quiet dinner to honor Price, who was a friend of marching and concert band director Maj. Jay Brewer.

The Corps observes "silent chow" for Silver Taps, Muster or other solemn occasions, Whittles said.

"During silent chow, nobody in Duncan (dining hall) talked for the 20 or 30 minutes it took all 2,000 of us to eat — not even to say howdy," Whittles said.

"Silent Chow" was preceded by a prayer for Price's family and the families of other servicemen killed in the crash, as well as the U.S. troops in the Middle East.

Friday is final day to add new courses

Friday is the last day for Texas A&M students to add new courses for the Fall 1990 semester.

Classes may be dropped without penalty through Sept. 11. Undergraduate students can Q-drop, or quit a class, between Sept. 12 and 28 with approval from the dean of their college.

Officials predict Hussein will give Kuwaitis self-rule to ease tension

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) — President Saddam Hussein of Iraq is expected to declare federated self-rule for Kuwait in a bid to ease the gulf crisis and allow the United States to withdraw in partial victory, senior Arab military officials said Wednesday.

The idea, already floated to the Soviet Union and the United States, the sources said, may figure in talks Thursday between Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in Amman.

The officials, who spoke on the understanding that neither they nor their countries be identified, said Saddam was likely to announce the move before the end of September.

Under a plan being considered, they said, Kuwait might have autonomy — perhaps with a bloc of parliament seats and positions in the Iraqi national Cabinet. Saddam would accept a timetable and conditions to protect U.S. interests in the Persian Gulf, the sources said.

Such a plan would have little appeal to the Kuwaiti government now in exile in Saudi Arabia. Saddam's centralized government is not likely to allow much political or economic leeway.

According to the officials' analysis, neither Saddam nor President Bush can withdraw from the lines they have drawn in the desert sand. Both are buying time until some flexibility can be found.

Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2. Six days later, Saddam annexed Kuwait despite universal condemnation and an American military buildup in Saudi Arabia. On Aug. 28, he declared Kuwait as Iraq's 19th province.

The officials said Iraq was still working on the details of its federation plan which, presumably, would provide a different statute for Kuwait.

The idea was passed to Soviet officials who, in turn, relayed it to Washington, the Arab sources said. Perez de Cuellar is expected to sound out Aziz and report to Washington.

"Iraq's move will take some time," one official said. "But there should be a surprise from Baghdad in three to four weeks."

Bush has repeatedly rejected out of hand any solution but the withdrawal of Iraqi forces and restoration of the Kuwaiti government. U.S. offi-

cial have made no public acknowledgement of flexibility.

But the Arab sources said that privately the Americans are looking for some compromise which would make their point, assure stability in the gulf oilfields and allow an honorable disengagement.

"The Americans must bear in mind that Iraq will never let go of Kuwait," one official said.

If no solution could be negotiated, the others agreed, Kuwait would have to be retaken by force.

The officials considered the next three weeks to be crucial to Washington. U.S. forces can wait until late September when desert temperatures cool; when more units and heavy weapons, particularly tanks, arrive; and when troops are acclimated to the terrain.

But after that, Saddam's message of Arab unity, along with his linking of Kuwait to the Israeli-occupied territories, will bolster his support in the Arab world. Facing off a superpower would impress the undecided in the Arab world.

Miss TAMU to sing anthem in Hawaii

By LIBBY KURTZ
Of The Battalion Staff

Rhonda Jo Horn knew she would perform many duties as Miss Texas A&M, but she never thought she'd sing the national anthem at A&M's opening football game Saturday in Hawaii.

Horn, a senior speech communications major from Seymour, said this is one of the first times a Miss TAMU will travel out of state for such an event.

"My manager, Carrie Jett, has

been working on this since June," she said. "After a lot of hard work and patience, plans were finalized last month for me to go."

Horn said inadequate funding prevented Miss TAMU from participating in such events in the past.

Penny Ditton, adviser to the Miss TAMU pageant, said the MSC is financing Horn's trip to Hawaii.

"We're happy that Rhonda Jo is going to Hawaii," Ditton said. "She has a lovely voice. There's a chance she may be able to sing another song along with the national anthem."

Horn said she is looking forward to representing the University and hopes the A&M football team will return home with a victory.

"The trip has a double purpose," she said. "It's a wonderful opportunity for me and it will give A&M more exposure. It's important for everyone in Hawaii to know about A&M."

Although Horn said she's a little nervous about her performance, she promises she won't sound like Roseanne Barr.

