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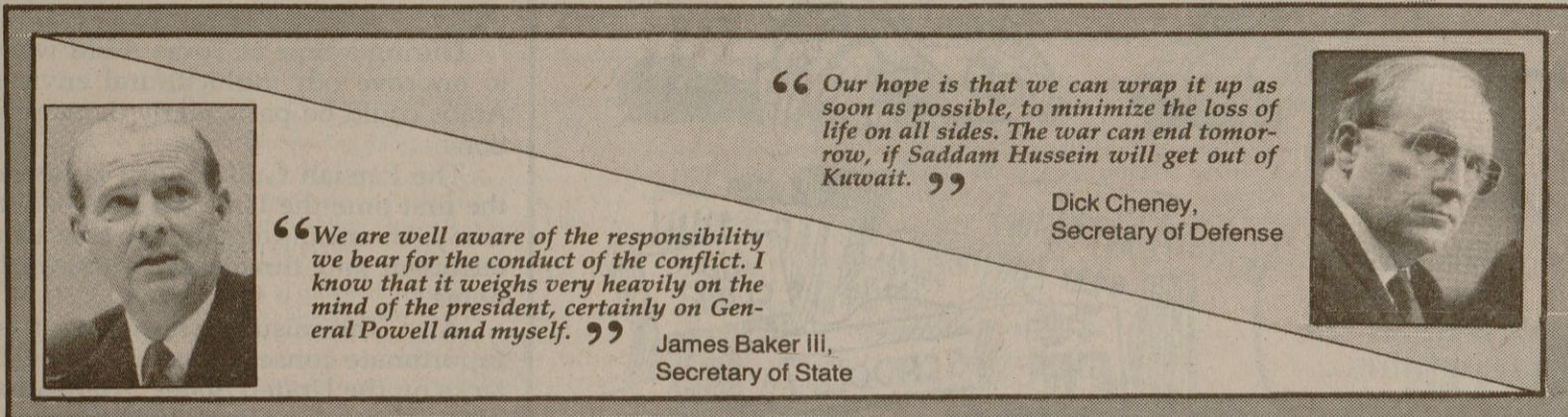
Cheney, Powell travel to front

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's top military officials, heading for the war front, said Thursday they would seek battlefield advice on whether the time is right to begin a ground attack against Iraq's powerful army.

Defense Secretary Dick Cheney said the administration is "not eager to do something foolish but there are a whole series of considerations."

Cheney and Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, were to arrive in Saudi Arabia on Friday for three days of discussions with Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of allied forces, and other military leaders on the next stage of the Persian Gulf war.

"Our hope is that we can wrap it up as soon as possible, to minimize the loss of life on all sides," the defense secretary told the House Armed Services Committee before he left. "The war can end tomorrow,



if Saddam Hussein will get out of Kuwait."

Cheney and Powell are to return Sunday to brief President Bush, who will make the final decision on a ground war.

As allied bombing and artillery attacks continued, the United States held out the prospect of postwar reconstruction aid for Iraq, particularly if Saddam Hussein is gone. Secretary of State James A. Baker

III said the Middle East deserves "the same spirit of multilateral commitment to reconstruction and development" that the world's developed nations have shown in such areas as Europe and Latin America.

However, Baker said, "There is no suggestion on our part that the rebuilding of Iraq could proceed, if the current leadership of Iraq remained in power, to the same extent and degree that it could otherwise."

Testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the secretary said that if Saddam remained in power, "we might very well be adopting different measures" regarding economic embargoes and weapons controls than if the Iraqi president were gone.

Baker said, "The time of reconstruction and recovery should not be the occasion for vengeful actions against a nation forced to war by a dictator's ambition. The secure and prosperous future everyone hopes to see in the gulf must include Iraq."

Across the Capitol, Cheney and Powell explained their fact-finding mission to Saudi Arabia to the House Armed Services Committee.

"Our mission ... is specifically to go spend time with General Schwarzkopf, our commander, and his staff, to review the overall course of the war, to see what steps should come next and to report back to the

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Tan & Read



KEVIN IVY/The Battalion

Sammi Constable, a sophomore general studies major, takes a break from classes outside Wells Hall to get a head start on her tan for Spring Break down at Padre Island. Temperatures should reach the high 60s today and around 70 degrees on Saturday.

Hobby calls increase in tuition unlikely, predicts income tax

By Iselle McAllister
Of The Battalion Staff

Former Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby said Thursday he expects a state income tax to be established within the next year to continue services presently offered by the state.

Texas must raise its budget by \$4.25 billion to keep up its education, human services, transportation and criminal justice programs, Hobby said during a lecture titled "The Problems Facing the New Administration in Austin" in Rudder Forum.

"An income tax has to come," Hobby said. "Where else can 14 and a quarter billion dollars come from?" Although more than half the budget goes to education, the state cannot cut education expenditures because it would decrease money allotted for higher education by 20 percent, he said.

An increase in college tuition is "unlikely, but not impossible."



KARL STOLLEIS/The Battalion

Bill Hobby

Hobby said.

If cuts were made in elementary and secondary school levels, the state would have to increase each class size from 22 to 35 students and lower

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Board limits growth of A&M, UT systems

By Mike Luman
Of The Battalion Staff

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board decided last week to limit the growth of the Texas A&M and University of Texas systems because the state's two largest universities are "squeezing out smaller institutions."

Coordinating Board Chairman Larry Jenkins said unorganized growth of the two systems also compromises quality of education at the A&M and UT main campuses.

Adding satellite institutions to the systems in a "helter skelter" way diffuses money that otherwise would go to main campuses and risks the prestige of the universities, he said.

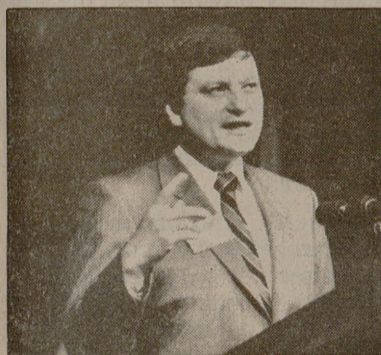
"You can't halt growth, so you had better manage it," Jenkins said of the Coordinating Board's goal. "Growth really should be done by plan, not happenstance."

Acting on this policy, Coordinating Board members opposed the merger of A&M and West Texas State University last September.

The merger was approved last summer by the state Legislature, the WTSU Board of Regents and the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents.

William A. McKenzie, chairman of the Board, said growth of

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KARL STOLLEIS/The Battalion

Dr. Stephen Cooney

Expert stresses stability of European economies

By Greg Mt.Joy
Of The Battalion Staff

The United States should not fear an economic "fortress Europe" in 1992 and instead realize the well-being of the European Community is directly tied to the United States, an international investment expert said.

Dr. Stephen Cooney, director of International Investment of the Na-

tional Association of Manufacturers, said Americans often overlook the economic side of European stability and only consider the military side.

Cooney, speaking Tuesday to the Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA) in Rudder Theater, said the focus is too often on NATO and not on the stability of European

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Committee highlights Black history

By Twila Waddy
Of The Battalion Staff

Events meant to entertain as well as to educate will highlight one Texas A&M group's activities during Black History Month.

Denise Osei, adviser for the Com-

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Specialist offers war views through Israelis' eyes

Editor's Note: The Battalion's two-part series on the Arab-Israeli perspective in the Persian Gulf war today focuses on Israel and its perceptions on the war as linked to the Palestinian question.

By Julie Myers
Of The Battalion Staff

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein tried to use Israel's own military policy to shatter the U.N. coalition, but his tactics have not succeeded, says a Texas A&M professor of political science and an expert on Middle Eastern security issues.

Dr. Alex Mintz, an Israeli, says he does not like to present personal views, but prefers interpreting events as Israelis would view them.

Since the establishment of Israel in 1948, Mintz says Israel's national security doctrine has been based on the following assumptions:

- Deterrence by denial. By using preemptive strikes, commando raids or other military operations, Israel will reduce, deny or eliminate any threats to its national security;

The Divided Gulf



□ The Arab perspective
■ The Israeli perspective

- Deterrence by punishment, which means that any attack on Israel will result in massive retaliations against the enemy;
- Self-reliance. Israel will not allow other countries to fight for it.

Knowing Israel's military doctrine, Hussein attacked Israel with Scud missiles, expecting the Jewish state to follow its doctrine of massive retaliation.

Mintz says the Israelis changed their strategy during the first week of the war and outsmarted Hussein by not counterattacking. He says Israel is suddenly the good guy of the Middle East.

Mintz calls this a paradox of power. "In certain situations, less power may actually lead to more political and military gains," Mintz says. "Israel was able to gain more politically and economically by resisting than by retaliating."

Another paradox is the failure of Hussein to effectively link the Palestinian issue and Iraqi situation.

"At least in the short run, Hussein has not helped the Palestinians, but actually damaged their cause," Mintz says.

Mintz says the world now is more aware that Israel has a security problem.

The attacks also encouraged sympathy for the Israelis and made the Palestinians enemies of the coalition forces.

"Hawks" — conservative Israelis who support the occupation of the West Bank —

also have received increased support, Mintz says.

Support for the Palestinians, however, has dwindled.

Oil rich countries, like Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, which transferred millions of dollars to the Palestinians, also have stopped supporting the pro-Hussein Palestinians, Mintz says. This considerably reduces the standard of living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

In addition, thousands of Palestinians left Kuwait when it was invaded by Iraq and escaped to the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Mintz says.

These two areas are at the center of the Palestinian conflict.

From 1948 to 1967, the West Bank and East Jerusalem belonged to Jordan, and Egypt controlled the Gaza Strip. These countries had the opportunity to establish a Palestinian state with these lands.

Mintz says political rivalry and efforts to exploit the Palestinian issue for sympathy resulted in the failure of Arabs to officially designate these areas as a homeland.

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Weather Outlook

Sat	Sun	Mon
Sunny	Sunny	Cloudy

Black History Month