

Monday, February 25, 1991

The Battalion



Sweeping on the job

FREDERICK D. JOE/The Battalion

Julie Ungerecht, sophomore petroleum engineering major, and James Waggoner, a freshman building construction major, soak up some sun outside the Chicken Oil Co. Sunday

Desert Storm wives pray as U.S. invasion heats up

FORT BLISS (AP) — Wives and families of Texas soldiers heeded President Bush's appeal for prayer as U.S. troops launched an all-out ground offensive to drive Iraqi forces from Kuwait Sunday.

"Many men are going to die," said Debra Franks, "and I hope and pray my husband is not one of them."

Franks said she listened to the president's Sunday night televised address to the nation with her three young children.

"We sat and we said a prayer," she said. "My husband (Sgt. Richard Franks) is 3rd Cav and from what you hear on the news, 3rd Cav is on the front lines."

Franks' husband is a tank commander with B-Troop in the first battalion. The nearly 4,500-member 3rd Cav, Fort Bliss' oldest unit, is

considered one of the Army's elite desert fighting units.

News that the ground war had begun was devastating, said Franks.

"It is the worst of it. It's the worst possible thing," she said. "It knocks the air out of you really bad."

The unit, armed with M1-Abrams tanks, Bradley fighting vehicles and some Apache and Huey helicopters, usually acts as a flank or scout for armored divisions.

Several soldiers' wives said despite their fears the start of the ground war was good news because "now the end is actually, hopefully, on the way," said Rise Foster-Brooder, whose husband, 1st Lt. John Brooder, is in intelligence. "Now, maybe soon, he'll be home."

Margie Brandon said she worked in her yard Saturday to keep from

thinking about the ground war and the possibility of chemical warfare. Her husband, Mark, teaches soldiers how to protect themselves from the deadly gases.

"That's the one thing that worries me. If I didn't know what we have in the way of NBC (nuclear, biological, chemical weapons), I think I would be better off if I was naive," she said.

Military officials have been concerned since the war's beginning that Iraqi president Saddam Hussein, who has been accused of using biological weapons against Kurds in that country, might turn them against allied forces.

"Knowing the nerve chemicals we have, it's horrible, horrible," said Brandon. "War is hell anyway, but when you start using the chemical stuff... It's horrible."

Texas congressmen call for removal of Hussein

WASHINGTON (AP) — Texas congressmen called Sunday for the removal of Saddam Hussein from power as U.S. forces continued their push into Iraq and occupied Kuwait.

Several Texans in Congress said they supported President Bush's decision to launch a ground war and were hopeful the fight would be over by the end of the week.

"We all hope that victory is sure and casualties are light and that peace returns to the Middle East," Rep. Lamar Smith, R-San Antonio, said.

Smith said Bush had no choice but to launch a ground war after Saddam refused to begin moving his troops out of Kuwait by noon Saturday.

"By rejecting the deadline, by allowing his soldiers to massacre innocent Kuwaiti citizens and by continued missile attacks on Israel, Hussein basically threw sand in the president's face," Smith said Sunday. "I think one of our goals now has to be the removal of Saddam Hussein from power."

Allowing Saddam to remain in power would be akin to having allowed Hitler to stay in power in Germany after World War II, Smith said.

Rep. Jim Chapman, D-Sulphur Springs, agreed Bush did what he had to do. Chapman said he too hopes the ground fighting is over in three to four days.

It is "very clear" that Saddam cannot be allowed to stay in power, Chapman said.

"I don't mean kill him, I mean de-throne him," he said.

Rep. Jack Fields, R-Humble, said that if Saddam happens to be in a command and control structure hit by the allies, "Not one tear would be shed in my district."

Fields said that by demolishing Saddam's military might that he would effectively lose his power in

the Middle East.

"He lives in a very dangerous neighborhood with Turkey, Iran and Syria and with a significant degrading of his force he becomes a non-entity," Fields said. "We're in the process but we're not there yet."

Rep. Ralph Hall, D-Rockwall, said the decision-making needs to be left to the military commanders, not the politicians.

"Of course, I'm all for the decisions made by our top commanders and our commander-in-chief, and it's a war that our military has to fight," Hall said. "Hopefully we learned from Vietnam to let our field commanders fight the war, not

"Hussein basically threw sand in the president's face. I think one of our goals now has to be the removal of Saddam Hussein from power."

— Rep. Lamar Smith, R-San Antonio

the politicians."

And, added Hall, "We would do well to get this thing over with now, so we don't have to go back again in two, three years."

Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, said he spoke Saturday with National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft and was advised of Bush's preparations to move into a ground war.

"I told him I was very supportive of that action and I'm very encouraged that by the end of February we'll have driven the Iraqis out of Kuwait, and I say that knowing February is the shortest month of the year and this is not leap year."

Police charge teen connected with shooting

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A Bexar County sheriff's deputy investigating reports of gang activity was critically wounded Sunday in a gun battle that also wounded a teen-ager, authorities said.

Deputy Leo G. Gomez, 35, was in critical condition Sunday afternoon at the Wilford Hall Air Force Medical Center's intensive care unit, said Tech. Sgt. Charles Soule.

Seventeen-year-old Enrique C. Lopez was at Wilford Hall in fair condition, the hospital spokesman said. The sheriff's department said Lopez was booked by proxy and charged with attempted capital murder.

Sheriff Harlon Copeland issued a brief statement on the 2:30 a.m. shootings, which he said occurred as Gomez investigated reports of gang-related activity on the county's west side. Gomez, who was in a marked sheriff's car, is assigned to the department's gang unit.

The statement said Gomez radioed a sheriff's department dispatcher to say he was questioning a young man who appeared intoxicated. Several minutes later, Gomez radioed that he had been shot, Copeland said in the statement.

"Deputies arriving at the scene discovered Gomez lying on the street next to the patrol unit bleeding from gunshot wounds to the upper body," the statement said.

Sheriff's officers said Gomez shot Lopez, who was found lying on the street several feet away from him suffering from gunshot wounds to the legs and elbow.

Price: Jail will not silence me

LUBBOCK (AP) — Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price, an outspoken minority rights advocate who was sentenced to jail for damaging a windshield wiper during a protest of a television station's minority hiring practices, said jail time "will not silence me."

Price made the comments Saturday at a meeting of the Lubbock Black Chamber of Entrepreneurs.

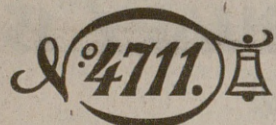
He was sentenced Friday to 75 days in jail and fined \$1,000 for a misdemeanor criminal mischief conviction of damaging a van's wind-

shield wiper during a Dec. 7 protest outside the Dallas offices of KXAS-TV. Damage was estimated at \$102.

During his trial last week, Price contended he held onto the wiper to avoid being run over by a woman, who nudged him 47 feet with the van.

"I catch more and more students 4711-ing in broad daylight."

—Anonymous campus security guard



A STIMULATING EXPERIENCE.

(If you've never 4711'd, come to JCPenney and learn how. While supplies last, get a free T-shirt with any 4711 purchase.)

TREK USA

One of the largest inventories of Trek Bicycles in Texas!

VALLEY



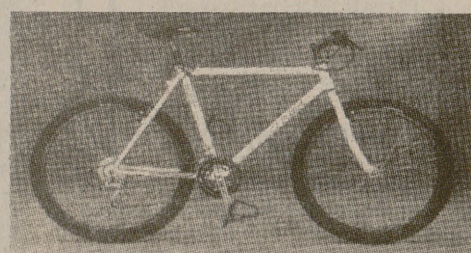
764-2000

3122 S. Texas

CYCLERY

We have a Trek Bike and Price that's right for you!

Hundreds and Hundreds of Close-Out Models Save \$50-\$200



filing * week

Feb. 25 - Mar. 7 '91

Class Councils '92, '93, '94, RHA, Yell Leaders, OCA, Graduate Student Council, Student Senate, Student Body President

\$5 filing fee Pavilion 9 am. - 5pm. Rm 214