

# Iraq's neighbors fear effects of potential attack

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) — Countries that border Iraq fear they would be the victims of economic and political fallout from an American attack aimed at forcing Saddam Hussein to cooperate with U.N. weapons inspectors.

Jordan, Turkey and Iran again may have to deal with huge waves of refugees, as they did — with almost no international help — during the 1990 Persian Gulf crisis and 1991 Gulf War.

Along with Syria, they have important trade links with Iraq.

And all are watching with dismay as foreign tourists cancel reservations for what had been expected to be a lucrative spring season.

Only Kuwait, which has not forgiven Saddam for his 1990 invasion of the country, has offered to support an American-led military campaign.

Neighboring Saudi Arabia, which participated with the U.S.-led coalition that ended Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, will not even allow its military bases to be used this time. Neither will Jordan or Turkey.

None wants to get dragged into a conflict that most certainly would spread if Iraq retaliates by firing Scuds or other missiles at Israel — and Israel, as promised, responds with greater force.

"We all lived the burden of the (Gulf) War," Turkey's prime minister, Mesut Yilmaz, said earlier this month. "And we don't want to live it again."

Labib Kamhawi, a political science professor at Jordan University, told The Associated Press on Sunday that, in the short run, striking Iraq "will have a devastating economic impact that could trigger instability in the neighboring countries."

Jordan is almost entirely dependent on Iraq for oil, and Iraq is the main market for Jordanian-made products.

Turkey complains it has lost \$35 billion in trade with Iraq since the Gulf War and encourages a daily procession of Turkish trucks to carry food and textiles across the border to Iraq and return with oil.

Syria recently signed its first contracts to sell food and soap to Iraq under a U.N.-approved program.

Iran, though it fought a devastating war with Iraq in the 1980s, is selling more and more products to Baghdad. It also apparently is turning a blind eye to what Iraqi opposition groups say is the extensive smuggling of Iraqi oil through Iran's Gulf ports.

Many Arab leaders also must deal with their citizens' concerns that seven years of punishing U.N. sanctions have pauperized Iraq's 22 million people.

Already there have been pro-Iraq — and anti-American — demonstrations in Egypt, Sudan, Jordan, Yemen and the Palestinian territories, despite government bans aimed at keeping emotions in check.

Jordanian opposition leader Leith Shubeilat, who has led two pro-Iraq rallies here and is planning a third, foresees repercussions of the crisis "not only for Jordan but for the whole region."

He predicted that if Arab governments do not heed growing public sympathy for the Iraqis "there is going to be a divorce between the people and their governments. ... Certainly we will be sit-

ting on a powder keg."

Worries that a U.S.-led strike could lead to a partitioning of Iraq — a major concern during the Gulf War — again are being discussed.

It was no surprise that Turkish Foreign Minister Ismail Cem, a mediator dispatched to Baghdad earlier this month, called for a regional security plan that would meet Saddam's "concerns for Iraq's territorial integrity."

Turkey, Syria and Iran would look askance at a partitioning that creates an autonomous Kurdish region in northern Iraq, fearing it would embolden their own substantial Kurdish minorities to rise up.

Autonomy for the Shiite Muslim majority in southern Iraq could have repercussions in Iran, where Shiite Muslims also are a majority, and in Saudi Arabia, where Shiites predominate in the oil-rich Eastern Province.

Iran still is caring for thousands of Iraqi Shiites who fled their homeland after Saddam, a Sunni Muslim, put down a Shiite uprising following the Gulf War.

## Hidden weapons

The U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM), charged with inspecting and eliminating Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, gave a figure in October 1997 of the number of weapons still unaccounted for.

CHEMICAL AGENTS	Quantity reported* (in tons)	FINDINGS
Precursor chemicals produced and procured	20,000+	4,000 tons not verified
Chemical warfare agents	3,650	Cannot be established
Chemical warfare agents consumed from 1981 to 1988	2,870	Verification required
Chemical warfare agents destroyed under UNSCOM supervision	690	Quantities verified
Chemical warfare agents discarded during production, or destroyed during aerial bombardment in 1991	290	No supporting documentation provided for 19
*Provided by Iraq in 1996		
MUNITIONS	Quantity reported*	FINDINGS
Empty munitions	247,283	107,500 not verified
Munitions filled with chemical warfare	152,119	Cannot be established
Filled munitions consumed from 1981 to 1988	101,080	Verification required
Filled and empty munitions destroyed unilaterally by Iraq	29,172	15,620 not verified
Filled and empty munitions destroyed under UNSCOM supervision	38,537	Declared quantities verified
Filled and empty munitions destroyed by Iraq or destroyed during aerial bombardment in 1991	78,264	No supporting documentation provided for 143
*Margin of error in accounting presented by Iraq is 20%		

Source: U.N. Special Commission Report to the Security Council

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<p><b>INTRAMURALS</b></p> <p>Eight Ball Feb. 9 - 17 Free Throw Contest Feb. 9 - 17 Handball Feb. 16 - 24 Badminton Feb. 16 - 24 Pickleball Feb. 16 - 24</p> <p><b>Officials Needed:</b> Become a Rec Sports Intramural Official. Applications will be taken at the following meeting: 4-on-4 Flag Football Feb. 23 7pm The meeting will be in room 281 of the Rec Center.</p> <p>Check out our Flyers for more Details on our Exciting Programs or <b>REC SPORTS</b> For Information Call 845-7826 Or Visit Our Homepage at <a href="http://recsports.tamu.edu">http://recsports.tamu.edu</a></p>	<p><b>AQUATICS</b></p> <p>• CPR for the Professional Rescuer Feb. 11 Jan. 20-Feb. 9 • Adult Learn to Swim March 2-5, 9-12 Feb. 9-26 • Intro to Platform Diving March 2-5, 9-12 Feb. 9-26 Register at Rec Center Member Services Desk</p> <p><b>FEATURE PROGRAMS</b></p> <p>Beginning in January and February, Register or inquire at the Rec Center Member Services Desk.</p> <p>• Yoga • Fresh Start Total Wellness • Start Smart • Body Basics</p> <p><b>SPORT CLUBS</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>DATE</th> <th>TIME</th> <th>PLACE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Feb. 21</td> <td>7am-midnight</td> <td>Rec Center</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb. 21</td> <td>TBA</td> <td>Simpson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb. 21</td> <td>TBA</td> <td>Polo</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb. 22</td> <td>noon-2pm</td> <td>Zachary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb. 22</td> <td>TBA</td> <td>Simpson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feb. 22</td> <td>TBA</td> <td>Polo</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>For more information, please call Paula Opal at 845-3076.</p>	DATE	TIME	PLACE	Feb. 21	7am-midnight	Rec Center	Feb. 21	TBA	Simpson	Feb. 21	TBA	Polo	Feb. 22	noon-2pm	Zachary	Feb. 22	TBA	Simpson	Feb. 22	TBA	Polo	<p><b>ULTIMATE ADVENTURES WITH TAMU OUTDOORS</b></p> <p><b>2ND ANNUAL OUTDOOR JAMBOREE</b></p> <p>TAMU Outdoors is holding the 2nd Annual Outdoor Jamboree on February 28 in the Rec Center. Come SCUBA dive, kayak, canoe, and rock climb for FREE! Other exhibits will have information on Texas parks in our area, outdoor cooking, camping and backpacking basics, outdoor photography and much more. Events are free for the public from 10am - 4pm.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Registration</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Hiking Day Trip</td> <td>Feb. 21</td> <td>Feb. 2 - 17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Intro to Rock Climbing Clinic</td> <td>Feb. 28</td> <td>Feb. 9 - 24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Horseback/Hiking Day Trips</td> <td>March 7</td> <td>Feb. 16-Mar. 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Backpacking Trip</td> <td>March 7-8</td> <td>Feb. 16-Mar. 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rock Climbing Day Trip</td> <td>March 8</td> <td>Feb. 16-Mar. 3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>SPRING BREAK TRIPS</b> Priced from \$362.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Registration</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Rocky Mountain Adventure, Colorado</td> <td>Mar. 14-22</td> <td>Jan. 26-Mar. 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Horsepack the Texas Frontier, Big Bend</td> <td>Mar. 18-22</td> <td>Jan. 26-Mar. 2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>MAY BREAK TRIPS</b> Priced from \$289.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Registration</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sail/SCUBA the Bahamas</td> <td>May 23 - 29</td> <td>Jan. 20 - Mar. 23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Backpack the Grand Canyon</td> <td>May 23-31</td> <td>Feb. 9-May 1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Activity	Date	Registration	Hiking Day Trip	Feb. 21	Feb. 2 - 17	Intro to Rock Climbing Clinic	Feb. 28	Feb. 9 - 24	Horseback/Hiking Day Trips	March 7	Feb. 16-Mar. 3	Backpacking Trip	March 7-8	Feb. 16-Mar. 3	Rock Climbing Day Trip	March 8	Feb. 16-Mar. 3	Activity	Date	Registration	Rocky Mountain Adventure, Colorado	Mar. 14-22	Jan. 26-Mar. 4	Horsepack the Texas Frontier, Big Bend	Mar. 18-22	Jan. 26-Mar. 2	Activity	Date	Registration	Sail/SCUBA the Bahamas	May 23 - 29	Jan. 20 - Mar. 23	Backpack the Grand Canyon	May 23-31	Feb. 9-May 1	<p><b>AEROBICS AT THE REC CENTER</b></p> <p><b>Rec Cycling:</b> REC Cycle takes all the boredom out of traditional stationary cycling and all the road blocks of outdoor cycling for an effective, enjoyable, and dynamic workout.</p> <p>*Sign up now through March 15, for <b>FRESH Start</b>, a wellness program. Learn techniques to help you live a healthier and happier lifestyle. Fitness, recreation, education and stress management are the focus of the program, to help you make better, healthier lifestyle choices.</p> <p>*Are prime time classes too crowded? Try our morning/afternoon classes. We offer classes all day long for your convenience. Pick up a schedule and find one that's right for you.</p> <p><b>Personal Training</b></p> <p>Personal Training is now available at the Rec Center. Sign up today at the Member Services Desk.</p> <p><b>Tai Chi Instructors and Certified Personal Trainers</b> are needed. Please contact DeAun Woosley at 862-3991</p>
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