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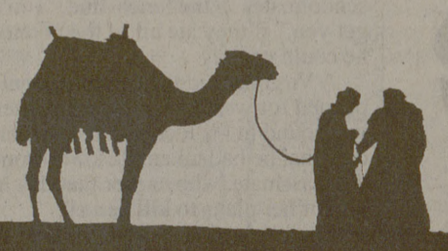

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# Powell asks Israel to lift constraint

## *Secretary of state, Yassar Arafat seek economic relief for Palestinia*

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Endorsing a Palestinian demand, Secretary of State Colin Powell urged Israel Sunday to lift an economic "siege" of the West Bank and Gaza as soon as possible.

POWELL

The constraints, which include a ban on Palestinian workers going to their jobs in Israel and the withholding of tax revenues, do nothing to improve the security situation, Powell said after a two-hour meeting with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat at his headquarters.

"If people are not able to get to their jobs, they become more frustrated," Powell said later Sunday as he flew to Kuwait from Jordan. "Frustration leads to anger and then anger to violence."

Israel, in an effort to stem attacks on its soldiers and civilians, is using economic pressure as well as firepower. Peace talks have been shelved, and Powell said it will be a long time before they resume.

"We discussed how it is necessary for all sides to move away from violence and incitement and how it is necessary to lift the siege as soon as possible so that economic activity can begin again in the region," Powell said of his meeting with Arafat.

Before seeing Arafat, Powell met Israel prime minister-electAriel Sharon in Jerusalem but evidently was unable to persuade Israel's incoming prime minister to ease that pressure. Still, Powell said the Bush administration's commitment to Israeli security was "rock-hard."

Powell said he was disturbed by an outline of Israel's security problems that he received Saturday night from Israel's military chief, Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz.

"This is the time to bring calm to the region," Powell said at a news conference with Sharon. "It is a very dangerous situation."

Before landing in Kuwait, where he participated in a 10th anniversary celebration of Kuwait's liberation from Iraq, Powell said Israelis and Palestinians are in touch with each other on security issues. "Whether that will bear fruit, I don't know."

On peacemaking, he described Sharon and Arafat as leaders looking down a long hallway, with a settlement at the end. "They have the keys," Powell said.

But, he said, "it's going to take some time before they get back to negotiations."

In Ramallah, Powell blamed both sides for the violence that has plagued the region for five months, and promised that President Bush would play a leadership role in peacemaking once the outbreak subsides.

Arafat declared, "Peace is in the interest of the Palestinians, the Israelis, the Arabs and the international community at large" and that the Palestinians had made "the strategic choice" to pursue to it.

Arafat insisted peacemaking must begin where it broke off last month. Israel's outgoing prime minister, Ehud Barak, had offered the Palestinians most of the West Bank and control over parts of east Jerusalem.

Arafat rejected the offer and Barak called it dead after his landslide loss to Sharon ear month. Arafat said "no government can b erase the moves of previous governors."

But Sharon ruled out any negotiations terror and violence," although he said he tained "pipelines" to the Palestinian Auth send messages.

In continued West Bank violence Su Palestinian motorist was shot dead by Israeli and two Israeli motorists were shot and wo

Powell, on the second day of a six-coun day trek, went from the West Bank to Jorda he discussed Middle East peace and U.N. s against Iraqi sanctions with King Abdulla

Jordanian leaders have "a clear under Iraq's program of weapons of mass destru to be dealt with," Powell said en route to "They are solidly in line with what the been doing, so I had a receptive answer."

Jordan's foreign minister, Abdul-Illah said the king urged "fairness in dealing w and that "demands for implementing U.N tions be clear, just and take into considera Iraq has complied with as well as the diffi ditions" that Iraqi people face.

Abdullah urged the resumption of pea the foreign minister said, adding that Po vited the king to Washington in April.

Powell was behind the wheel as he dr the king to the airport. Abdullah, a caree who flies anything from jet fighters to atta copters, then piloted a helicopter and e Powell's plane to Kuwait.

## News in Brief

### President Mubarak seeks solutions to poverty problem

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak declared war on poverty Sunday as he and leaders of seven other developing countries met to discuss ways to strengthen their economies.

"Poverty needs a new international agenda to overcome it," Mubarak said, opening a one-day summit of a predominantly Islamic bloc of countries known as the D-8, or developing eight nations of Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey.

"Although (poverty) is one of the oldest human phenomena, the developments of the past century, especially those of the last decades, have brought to it such levels that are hardly acceptable politically, economically and even morally," Mubarak said.

The Egyptian leader offered no new proposals, saying the remedies have been discussed again and again at international meetings. He cited last year's U.N. Millennium Summit, where world leaders pledged to reduce poverty by 50 percent by the year 2015.

### Death toll in Yemen rises to 23 people

SAN'A, Yemen (AP) — Violence that broke out after municipal elections in Yemen this week claimed another five lives Saturday, bringing the death toll to 23, security officials said.

Four people were killed vote-counting disputes i southern city of Taiz, and fo diers were injured in cross tween supporters of the General People's Congress the opposition Islah party cials said.

At least 23 people have reported killed since Tuesday a municipal vote and referen on constitutional reform.

But Alawi al-Attaf, head Supreme Elections Comm said there have been on deaths.

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**TAMU OUTDOORS**

| | Event Date | Registration |
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| *Rock Climbing Day Trip* | March 3 | Jan. 29–Feb. 28 |
| *Hiking/Orienteering Day Trip* | March 4 | Jan. 29–Feb. 28 |

• **FREE Rock Wall Clinic!**—Pick up some helpful "Grip Techniques," Tuesday, February 27th from 7–9:00 p.m. at the Rec Rock Wall.
• **Bargins! 11–2p.m.**—Used Equipment Sale, Saturday, March 3.
*We are located behind the Rec Center, across from Olsen Field off of Olsen Drive.*

**GET IN THE ACTION WITH SPORT CLUBS**

**Upcoming Events**—Visit us online for individual sport club links.

| | |
|---|---|
| *Archery Indoor Nationals* | March 2–4 |
| *Racquetball Spring Tournament* | March 2–4 |
| Men's Rugby | March 3 |

**Get connected! Visit us online for everything you need to know about Rec Sports. For information call 845-7826 or pick up a convenient flyer in the lobby.**

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| Faculty/Staff/Alumni/Retiree | $14 | $17 |
| Guests | $17 | $20 |

**Check this ad weekly for specials. For more information visit our website or call the Pro Shop at 845-1723. Prices subject to change.**

**GET FIT WITH REC FITNESS & CLASSES**

• **CONGRATULATIONS Rec Runners!**—Twenty–seven Rec Runners completed the 26 mile Austin Motorolla Marathon this past Sunday, February 18th in Austin, TX. Susan Haven–Head Coach, Grant Irons–Assistant Coach!
• **FIT–Fitness Instructor Training**—This 18 hour training program is designed to prepare individuals to lead multi–format group exercise classes. Training will be March 6–April 19, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7–8:30 p.m. Cost is $50 for Rec Members, $60 for A&M Affiliates without membership, and $70 for the general public. *Register at Member services by March 5th.*
• **Healthy Living Lectures**—These free lectures are held in room 281 at 5:30 p.m. - there is no admittance after this time.
*–Relax, Breath, Unwind With Yoga*—Wednesday, February 28, join a certified Yoga instructor, for an interactive yoga experience. Arrive early, doors will close for space limitations.
*–Do It Yourself Minor Injury Treatment*—Join us Wednesday, March 7 to learn the difference between a serious and minor injury.

http://recsports.tamu.edu

**GET INVOLVED WITH INTRAMURALS**

• **Running fanatics!**—Grab a running buddy and register today Kyle Field Ramp Romp X at Member Services.

| | |
|---|---|
| Kyle Field Ramp Romp (early registration) | February 5–Februar |
| 4–on–4 Flag Football | February 19–Februar |
| Squash | February 19–Februar |
| Handball | February 26–Marc |
| Swim Meet | March 26–Ap |
| Penberthy CoRec Softball Tournament | March 26–Ap |
| Horseshoes | March 26–Ap |
| Golf | March 26–Ap |

*Intramural•sports registration closes at 6:00pm on closing date.*
*For a complete listing of fall Intramurals, please visit our flyer kiosk our website in addition to this ad weekly for upcoming registration d*

**GET WET WITH AQUATICS**

• **Upcoming Events @ the Rec Center Natatorium**

| | |
|---|---|
| NCAA Zone Diving Championships | March 9 |
| NCAA Men's Swimming and Diving Championships | March 20 |
| US Synchronized Swimming Championships | Ma |

• **Advanced Learn To Swim**—Register March 1–23, classes held M 26–April 5, Mondays through Thursdays.This course is designed those students who want to strengthen skills and aquatic safety.
• **Advanced Competitive Diving**—Mark your calendar to register March 12–30, classes will be held April 2–12, Mondays through Thursdays.

75 REC SPORTS