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an informational meeting on Monday, March 4 at 5:30 pm in Rudder Tower, room 510. Life Sciences and Veterinary Medicine graduates and undergraduates who will be available for full time employment in 2002 are encouraged to attend.

Lexicon Genetics Incorporated is a bio-pharmaceutical company located in The Woodlands, Texas. Through the combination of Lexicon's novel in vivo validated drug targets, and the innovative drug discovery chemistry at Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, we have established a superior position from which to rapidly implement an integrated gene-to-lead drug discovery platform.

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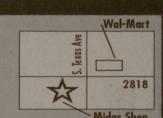
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Monday, March 4, 2002

U.S. and Afghan troop attack Taliban, al-Qaid

GARDEZ, Afghanistan (AP) the snowy, mountainous terrain, In the biggest known U.S.- the U.S. military's Central led ground operation of the war, U.S. and Afghan troops backed by U.S. jets Saturday attacked Taliban and al-Qaida forces eastern Afghanistan. One American was killed and a number were injured, the Pentagon said.

On Sunday morning, at least nine powerful bombs blasted the Shah-e-Kot mountain range for a third day of strikes, shaking the ground in the foothills 18 miles away and sending up thick black plumes of smoke. B-52s raced across the sky in a constant stream.

Three U.S.-allied Afghan fighters also were killed Saturday, the Pentagon added. Saturday's ground attack, which began at dawn, made little headway in dislodging Taliban and al-Qaida fighters who fought back with artillery, mortars and heavy machine guns, Afghan officials said.

A U.S. defense official said a U.S.-led force of 1,500 Afghan allies, U.S. special forces and troops from the Army's 101st Airborne assault troops assembled for a battle. Canadian troops also participated, but not in large numbers, Canadian military spokesperson Lt. Navy Luc Charron said. Afghan fighters interviewed here said the Americans told them there were about 4,000 al-Qaida and Taliban warriors holed up in the moun-

More than 80 bombs were dropped Friday and Saturday in

Command in Florida said. For the first time, warplanes dropped newly developed bombs designed to send suffocating blasts through cave complexes military officials said. The "thermobaric" bombs were tested in December and officials said in January that they would be

rushed to the region for the war. U.S. forces dropped pamphlets written in Afghanistan's Pashto and Dari languages on the arid plains near the mountain site of the assault, warning that the days of al-Qaida and the Taliban were numbered and urging residents not to support them.

"Stop resisting. End your fight. Otherwise you are finished," the pamphlets declared. They urged residents to inform coalition forces about regrouping al-Qaida and Taliban troops and featured a picture of a Taliban fighter armed with a Kalashnikov sitting on a truck.

Afghan forces broke off the attack in early afternoon and withdrew, possibly to allow U.S. bombers to soften up Taliban al-Qaida positions overnight. Heavy bombers could be heard flying toward the area late Saturday and B-52 bombers were flying over the area Sunday morning. The Central Command said fighting continued into Saturday night.

Pakistan closed its border to prevent escape by any fleeing al-Qaida or Taliban members. Associated Press reporters saw U.S. military helicopters rush-

The state of Israel

knows how to

defend the people

of Israel, and

will do so.

Major U.S.-le offensive

The largest reported ground offensive bega Saturday against Talib al-Qaida strongholds eastern Afghan province

AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN

ing Saturday toward the mountains where the bal

Ubaidullah Khan, ares the nearby Pakistani bor of Miran Shah, said the was launched after al-Qui ers rebuffed a summ from local Afghan official

"We have surrounde Qaida and Taliban," Saif Ullah, a membe local governing co Paktia province's Gat

Palestinian shooter opens fi at Israeli army checkpoint

JERUSALEM (AP) - Palestinian gunmen siles at Palestinian Authority headquarte opened fire Sunday on Israeli soldiers and civilian cars at an army checkpoint in the West Bank, killing nine people and wounding two seriously, a paramedic on the scene said.

The dead included seven soldiers and two civil-

ians, the paramedic, Hezi Tsur, told Israel radio. The attack came just 12 hours after a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up in a crowded ultra-Orthodox Jewish

neighborhood of Jerusalem late Saturday, killing nine Israelis, including several children, and wounding more than 30. The Al Aqsa Brigades, a militia

linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility for Saturday's bombing. Israel radio said the militia also claimed responsibility for Sunday's shooting attack.

The militia has said it would take revenge for Israel's assault last week on the West Bank refugee camps of Balata and Jenin, in which 23

Palestinians were killed over a three-day period. Sunday's attack took place at an Israeli army roadblock near the Palestinian village of Silwad

and the Jewish settlement of Ofra. Motorist Eli Barashi said he was about 300

yards from the checkpoint at the time. "I heard shooting and I saw the soldiers firing back to the east. As I stood there somebody was hit

and fell and shouted for a medic. He was about five yards from me. One man who came out of a building was also hit. I couldn't be of any use so I turned round and left to get help," Barashi told Israel Radio.

Elsewhere, three soldiers were wounded in a Palestinian shooting attack near the Gaza Strip Sunday morning, the army said.

Israel radio said there were four wounded sol-

diers. However, a spokesperson for a settlers group said one was killed and three wounded. The radio said the shooting was on the road

that runs along the Israeli side of the fence between the Gaza Strip and southern Israel. Early Sunday, Israeli helicopters fired four missmall factory in Bethlehem. The Israeli mil the strike was retaliation for the Jerusaler

The thunderous blast from the suicide shook downtown Jerusalem and sent flat ing into the air from a car that caught fin splattered the stone wall in front of the Israel seminary, where up to 1,000 less every Saturday evening.

The bomber entered Shearim neighborhood Jerusalem, "approached of people (and detonated explosive on his body C113

Jerusalem police chief Besides the bomber, ple were killed, including year-old child and seven

— Dore Gold children, police said. "This has nothing to \$\omega\$. governm Israeli government spokesperson warfare, this has nothing to orism, said national liberation, this has at the Ur

with the murder of innocendents Mon said government spokesperson Dore Goli Reactionar state of Israel knows how to defend the paln addition Israel, and will do so.' Palestinian militants had vowed to attactroversial

refugee camps over the past three days. Is "no more 23 Palestinians — including gunmen, polism — the and civilians — have been killed in the poses — t since Thursday. Israeli troops spent three days search governme

militants and weapons in the Balata isen said. camp on the edge of Nablus in the Wes "Without e They pulled out before daybreak Sund the world military said.

Palestinian security sources signorant. V Jerusalem bomber was Mohammed DisJensen said 20, a member of the Al Aqsa Martyrs Bi on America They said he came from the Dheisheh camp near Bethlehem.

At the entrance to Dheisheh camp, hunding Palestinians staged an impromptu celet chanting, "revenge, revenge," and firm into the air.

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