

THE BATTALION

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U.N. inspectors haggle with Iraqis over details of return

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Staking out a tough position, U.N. weapons inspectors opened talks Monday with Iraq over a return to Baghdad by holding Saddam Hussein to his pledge of unfettered access to suspect sites.

Chief inspector Hans Blix told reporters at the Vienna headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency that the talks would operate under the assumption that nothing in Iraq will be off-limits to inspectors hunting for nuclear, biological and chemical weaponry.

and when inspections come about, we will not have clashes inside" over what the inspectors will do, Blix said. "We'd rather go through these things outside in advance."

Both sides will discuss "practical arrangements" with the Iraqis for inspections, he said, such as where the inspectors would be based, their accommodations and security, and how samples would be taken out of the country for analysis. Blix said he would report back to the U.N. Security Council on Thursday.

Briefing journalists 2 1/2 hours into

Monday's talks, chief IAEA spokesman Mark Gwozdecky called the atmosphere "businesslike" and said the discussions were "very thorough."

"We're moving along nicely," he said. "They're all aware of the importance that there be no misunderstandings."

IAEA spokeswoman Melissa Fleming said the success of a new weapons inspection mission would hinge on Saddam's promise of full cooperation.

On Saturday, Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan rejected any

changes in the inspections regime.

"Our position on the inspectors has been decided and any additional procedure is meant to hurt Iraq and is unacceptable," Ramadan said.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair has signaled, meanwhile, that he might be open to a strategy of using two, rather than just one, U.N. resolutions to establish a new international legal framework for disarming Saddam.

Blair, who is the United States' staunchest backer for stern measures against Iraq and who has served as an intermediary with less-supportive

European governments, made his comments in a BBC television interview Sunday.

"We can leave that open for the moment. The most important thing is to get a very clear determination from the United Nations Security Council saying ... these chemical, biological, potentially nuclear weapons pose a real danger to the world," Blair said.

London and Washington have drafted a U.N. resolution that would force Baghdad to move quickly on supplying

See **Inspectors** on page 2

Sharon criticized after troops leave Arafat's compound

JERUSALEM (AP) — Critics from all sides decried Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on Monday for his handling of the siege of Yasser Arafat's headquarters, after U.S. pressure forced him to pull back Israeli troops and end the 10-day standoff.

Meanwhile, violence flared in the West Bank city of Nablus, where Israeli troops killed two Palestinian boys, ages 10 and 11, Palestinian officials said. Israeli soldiers enforcing a curfew in the city and a neighboring refugee camp clashed first with stone-throwing youths, then with Palestinian gunmen, witnesses said.

Sharon was in Moscow on Monday as the criticism swirled over the decision the day before to pull troops out of Palestinian leader Arafat's compound in the West Bank town of Ramallah. Some said Sharon and his government had underestimated Washington's determination to keep the Israeli-Palestinian conflict from undermining the campaign against Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

"Sharon is leaving behind a colossal failure, the most notable failure since the begin-

ning of his term in office," commentator Hemi Shalev wrote in the newspaper *Maariv*.

A new threat to his coalition emerged at a convention of his senior partner, the moderate Labor Party, over a domestic issue — the state budget. Sharon has said that if the budget is not passed by the end of October, he will call an election.

Labor members of the Cabinet had already decided to support the budget — and thus stay in the government — partly because of the possibility of a U.S. war with Iraq makes it an awkward time to display political divisions. However, party delegates on Monday voted to force their ministers to convene another convention to report on the budget negotiations before the vote in parliament, challenging the authority of the party leader, Binyamin Ben-Eliezer.

Outbursts of violence continued in Palestinian areas.

Gunfire broke out Monday in downtown Nablus on the West Bank. Witnesses said Palestinian gunmen apparently fired on soldiers and the Israelis fired back. Black smoke rose

See **Sharon** on page 2

All laced up



JOHN C. LIVAS • THE BATTALION

Jason Kendrick, a senior recreation and parks tourism major and member of Company N-1 of the Corps of Cadets, laces up a senior boot Monday afternoon at Holick's. Kendrick has been an employee of Holick's for just less than a year.

Continental brings jet service to Easterwood Airport



JP BEATO III • THE BATTALION

Mamie Kelly, a resident of College Station and the first passenger of Continental Express, waits to board the 50 passenger commercial jet out of Easterwood Airport to Houston. Kelly also cut the ribbon for yesterday's inaugural flight.

By Jeremy Osborne
THE BATTALION

Residents of Bryan-College Station, once faced with the daunting task of driving to Bush Intercontinental Airport, can now fly on Embraer ERJ-145 jets from Easterwood Airport to Houston.

At a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Tuesday, University and community officials celebrated the first flight.

"This is going to be really important to the community and the passengers that fly in and out of the community," said Ron Silvia, College Station mayor.

Chuck Sippial, vice president for administration, said the new jet service "opens up the world to us."

"To be able to jump on an airline here and be in Houston in 20 minutes — its a great thing," Sippial said. "There's so many places you can go from Houston."

Happ said Easterwood was chosen to

receive the jet service a year early.

"We're one of six airports to get RJs this early," said John Happ, aviation director for Texas A&M. "We planned air bridges for the airport, and we have good passenger service. This was an obvious place for the RJs to start their service."

Initially, Continental will offer one flight a day on the Embraer jet, which seats 50 passengers. Later, the airline will increase the number of flights.

"Continental announced last week that they hope to have all flights swapped out by March if not sooner. We're hoping sooner," Happ said.

Many believe the jet service will be beneficial to the local economy.

"I think it will help it a lot. It sends a signal that the Bryan-College Station community is growing," said James Massey, College Station mayor pro-temp.

Happ said the jet service will attract new businesses.

"Hopefully it will also entice

development. People who know we have jet service won't mind bringing their companies here," Happ said.

Officials say the new service might lead to more jets and destinations at Easterwood.

"Hopefully, eventually it will offer flexibility to destinations other than Houston. That's our goal," Happ said.

Happ said future destinations would depend on customer needs, but the airlines will make that decision.

"We hope American Airlines will become the second carrier to offer jet service at Easterwood," Sippial said.

Passengers are also excited about the new service.

Vergil and Mary Sue Stover were passengers on yesterday's inaugural flight and said they will both make extensive use of the jet service.

"We did not know (about the jet service) until yesterday when we read yesterday's paper. That's neat. It won't be quite so crowded," Mary Sue Stover said.

Young women unaware of breast cancer risks

By Melissa Sullivan
THE BATTALION

A recent study conducted by the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer

Breast Cancer Survey



- Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths among women 20-39 years old
- 50% of women do not perform monthly breast self-exams
- 60% of young women don't feel at risk for breast cancer

Source: Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation

TRAVIS SWENSON • THE BATTALION

Foundation found that 60 percent of young women do not believe they are at risk for breast cancer.

"If they have a mom or even an aunt who has had breast cancer, they need to let their health care provider

know because they are at a higher risk," said Margaret Griffith, health education coordinator at A.P. Beutel Health Center.

Griffith said two methods can be used besides mammograms to check for lumps: a monthly self exam and an annual exam administered by a health care provider.

Fifty percent of young women do not perform monthly breast self-examinations, according to the survey.

The Komen survey says most women are not aware that breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in women ages 20-39.

"You can prevent yourself from getting cancer by remembering to stay healthy," said Beth Tymrak,

director of the American Cancer Society in Bryan. "If you are in a physical activity and watch how many alcoholic drinks you consume, then it decreases the risk of getting cancer."

Though the risk for breast cancer increases with age, it is possible for women in their 20s to get the disease. That means it is important to get checked out, Griffith said.

Not all lumps found may be of concern.

Some lumps may lead to a disease called Fibrocystic Breast Disease. In this condition women respond to changes in hormones and

See **Cancer** on page 2

SILVER TAPS

Russell Bruce Ward
History Major

April Lorraine Van Hecke
Psychology Major

10:30 p.m.
ACADEMIC
PLAZA