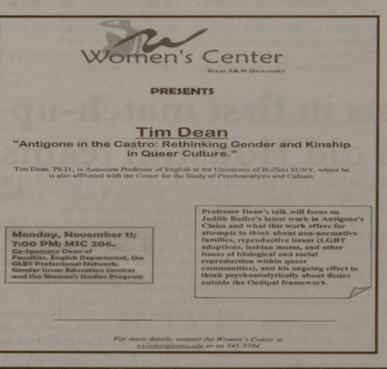
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Monday, November 11, 2002

Foreign ministers urge Hussein to accept inspection resolution

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) - Arab foreign peacefully in preparation for the lifting of ance to the Revolutionary ministers urged Saddam Hussein on Sunday to accept the U.N. Security Council resolution ordering new, tougher weapons inspections and demanded that Arab arms experts be included on the U.N. teams.

The ministers adopted the eight-point statement shortly after the Iraqi leader ordered his nation's parliament to meet to recommend a response to the U.N. resolution, which was adopted Friday and gives Baghdad a seven-day deadline for acceptance.

The United Nations is not obliged to heed the Arab ministers' demand on weapons inspectors, adopted at the end of a two-day meeting of the 22-member Arab League in Cairo.

Arab foreign ministers, including Iraqi minister Naji Sabri, worked into the evening on a final communique that demanded Iraq and the United Nations work together and called on the United States to commit to pledges Syrian said it was given that the resolution would not be used to justify military action.

The Arab ministers "called on the permanent Security Council members who presented Syria with assurances to commit to what they presented, that the resolution is not used as an excuse to wage war on Iraq and does not constitute automatic military action," the statement said.

The Arab League document did not specify how many Arab experts it wants on inspection teams or say which countries they should represent.

However, Mohamed ElBaradei, director of the International Atomic Energy Agency, is an Egyptian, and would be on the advance team of inspectors headed to Iraq if Saddam accepts the resolution. ElBaradei's agency is in charge of looking for clandestine nuclear arms programs.

A spokesman for the U.N. inspection operation said a list of inspectors and their country of origin was not immediately available.

The Arab League document also demanded "the continuation of U.N.-Iraq cooperation to solve all standing issues

sanctions and the end of the (U.N.) embargo Council, led by Saddam, he would as well as the suffering of the Iraqi people.

It put forward a united Arab position of 'absolute rejection" of any military action against Iraq, saying it represents a threat to the security of all Arab nations.

In addition, it called on the Security Council to require Israel to rid itself of weapons of mass destruction because they "constitute a serious threat to Arab and international peace and security.'

Saddam Hussein is an absolute dictator and tyrant ... I'm surprised he's even bothering to go through this ploy.

> Condolezza Rice National Security Advisor

Arab foreign ministers have said they fully expect Iraq to accept the U.N. resolution. However, Iraqi state-run media, which reported Saddam's order convening parliament did not say when the session would be held, making uncertain when official acceptance would come.

In Washington, President Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, dismissed the prospect of Saddam seeking parliament's advice as "ludicrous.

'Saddam Hussein is an absolute dictator and tyrant, and the idea that somehow he expects the Iraqi parliament to debate this they've never debated anything else," Rice said Sunday on the ABC network's "This Week" program. "I'm surprised he's even bothering to go through this ploy.'

Iraq's parliament is stacked with Saddam's allies. Should parliament recommend accept-

some cover for retreating from p objections to any new language in a new tion governing weapons inspections.

In brief remarks to journalis Sunday, Sabri said only that the Arabi tion is firm in rejecting any U.S. useo itary force. He said Saturday that "no sion has been taken" by Baghdad on erating with the resolution. But if Sa fails to follow through, U.S. officials said a Pentagon plan calls for more to 200,000 troops to invade Iraq.

Britain sent similar signals, Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon telling News on Sunday that his country is pared for possible military action ag Iraq should diplomatic efforts to di Saddam fail.

Earlier Sunday, Egyptian For-Minister Ahmed Maher said he expects positive response from Iraq, and Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisals indicated Iraq would agree to the resolu

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa said he received a letter Secretary of State Colin Powell "in which he stressed that there is nothing in them lution to allow it to be used as a prete launch a war on Iraq and that if the administration had any intention of its ing to military action, this reso wouldn't have taken seven weeks."

Syria, now holding one of the mu seats on the U.N. Security Council taken on the task of selling Iraq and it Arab nations on the resolution.

Syria sided with the United State allow the Iraq resolution to pass un mously on a 15-0 vote, but al-Sharaa it will work to ensure Iraq's conce aren't overlooked.

Syria, he said, will try to persuak U.N. Security Council to appoint some inspectors "because the decision of war be based on what the inspectors say,



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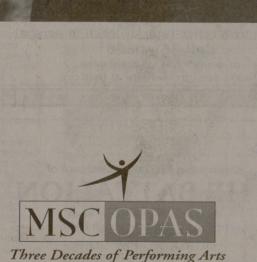
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Twenty-nine arrested when protest turns violent in Brussels

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) -Twenty-nine people were arrested Sunday after dozens of demonstrators clashed with riot police and attacked American businesses during a march to protest possible war in Iraq.

There were no reported injuries. Police said up as many as a hundred youths, many of them of Arab origin, broke away from the main body of the march through the city center. Masked, stone-throwing youths broke windows at a McDonald's, a Marriott hotel, and a temporary employment agency.

They hurled stones at businesses and police, who responded with baton charges. They also targeted photographers and TV cameramen.

Witnesses said some of the march organizers tried to stop others from attacking the shops Police said many of those

arrested were charged with damaging private property and rioting. They said 1,500 people took part in the rally. Organizers said 5,000 people took part.

Pro-Palestinian and anti-capitalist groups joined the demonstration led by a banner reading "Stop USA."

"We are against President Bush's policies in Afghanistan and Iraq," said Han Soete, one of the march organizers. "We don't want another war."

Storms bring rain to Western states

DENVER (AP) - Those in droughtstricken Western states were rejoicing after a wave of storms dumped needed precipitation.

Some areas in California and Colorado got more than 4 feet of snow last week and more was falling Sunday. Other areas that had seen little rain for months reported up to 6 inches.

California farmers and ranchers said the rain would provide new grass for cattle and improve harvests of oranges and Christmas trees.

Three ski resorts opened in California and five opened in Colorado. Last year, most didn't open until nearly Thanksgiving because of balmy weather.

The drought is severe to extreme in 80 percent of the West, and the worst since the Dust Bowl of the mid-1930s

Butler Burrell's W says Diana gall gifts from guilt

LONDON (AP) - Most of the items found in the homed mer royal butler Paul B and used by police to c him with theft were guilt from Princess Diana, Bull wife was quoted as saying Sunday.

Maria Burrell said D showered her with present clothes, accessories and shi in an attempt to make up her dependence on Burrell - a reliance that of took the butler away from

"She tried to make up for to ing Paul's time by being ge ous. ... She gave us presents gave her Paul. That's how tried to make it up to us, it is payback," Maria Burrell, 48, 1 quoted as saying in the Sund

Alabama's election dispute for governo not unprecedented

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (Al The last time a congres became Alabama's gove the election dispute drag on so long, the public nessed two swearing-in monies on inauguration Historians still question wh that 1894 vote tally was co

More than a century Alabama is in a similar tion, with Democratic Gov Siegelman and Republican Bob Riley both claiming to won Tuesday's election, Siegelman demanding a re of the unofficial tally that sh Riley leading by 3,117 votes

"Governors have behaved way before," said Mark Armbrester, co-author of book "Alabama Governors In the past, only one Alaba

congressman succeeded Decoming governor: William Oates, in 1894.

In that year's election, led Reuben Kolb 111,875 83,292, but allegations of tion corruption flew. Armbres book concludes Oates' V "was partly the result of stuballot boxes in the Black Bell

This year, Siegelman is tioning the revised vote tall coastal Baldwin County that P Riley ahead.

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