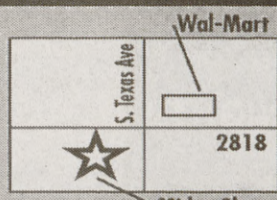


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U.S. prepared for war in Iraq

By Robert Burns
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — U.S. military forces in the Persian Gulf region are prepared now for a war against Iraq but could wait for months at a high state of readiness if necessary, the military's top officer said Wednesday.

"We're ready now. The Iraqi regime should have no doubt," said Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Myers said the troops could stay ready for several months if necessary. The Pentagon could rotate fresh forces in to replace those who arrived first, if that were needed to maintain their fighting edge, he said.

Also Wednesday, the Pentagon reported that more than 20,000 additional members of the National Guard and Reserve were called to active duty over the past week, pushing the total number mobilized to 78,906.

The Navy said Monday it is doubling the number of aircraft carrier battle groups within striking distance of Iraq, and aides to Rumsfeld said he is contemplating sending still more troops.

The USS Constellation battle group already is operating in the northern Persian Gulf and the USS Harry S. Truman is in the Mediterranean. They will be joined by the USS Abraham Lincoln, originally scheduled to return this month to its home port at Everett, Wash., and the Norfolk, Va.-based USS Theodore Roosevelt, which is undergoing training exercises off the coast of Puerto Rico in preparation for deployment.

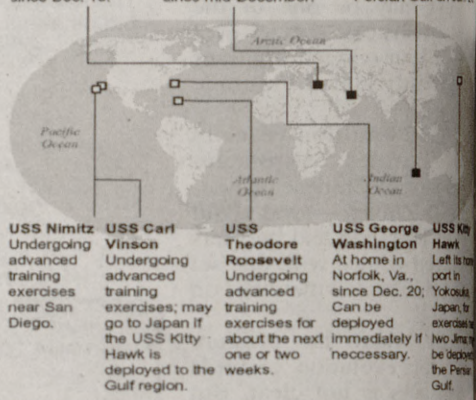
The Lincoln has been in port at Perth, Australia, for repairs but departed Monday after receiving its new deployment order, said Lt. Cmdr. Jeff Bender, a public affairs officer aboard the carrier. The Lincoln had been operating in the Gulf and was headed home when it was told to hold up in Australia pending new instructions.

Officials said Tuesday that Rumsfeld is consider-

U.S. carriers span the globe

A look at the status of eight carrier battle groups. Four others are undergoing long-term maintenance.

■ Deployed □ Preparing to deploy/just returned from deployment



SOURCES: GlobalSecurity.org; Associated Press

ing other deployments, including the possible patch of still more carrier battle groups to the region. The USS Kitty Hawk, for example, may go from its home port in Japan, and the Bremerton, Wash.-based USS Carl Vinson could replace the Kitty Hawk in the Pacific.

Also available for near-term tours in the Gulf region are the USS Nimitz in San Diego and the USS George Washington in Norfolk, Va.

Each carrier has an air wing comprising 70-100 aircraft, including F/A-18 Hornet and F-16 Tomcat fighters, as well as surveillance, electronic warfare, search-and-rescue and command-and-control aircraft. A battle group also includes surface ships capable of firing Tomahawk cruise missiles and at least one submarine.

The additional naval air power is part of a broader buildup of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf. More than 60,000 troops are already there, to be joined by about 120,000 more during the next few weeks.

Study: Crashes spike after Super Bowl ends

By The Associated Press

Automobile crashes climb more than 40 percent in the hours after the Super Bowl, with the surge highest in the losing team's territory, researchers say.

In the first study to quantify the problem, researchers at the University of Toronto in Canada examined U.S. accident data from the last 27 Super Bowls.

They found both fatal and nonfatal crashes increase after the football game, causing an average of seven additional deaths and 600 extra injuries.

The researchers theorized that drinking during the game, driver fatigue because of the late hour, and distraction and disappointment among drivers whose team lost all contribute to the rise in accidents.

"We think that it may be alcohol and fatigue and inattention, and in particular the sort of what-if conjec-

tures and Monday morning quarterbacking that occurs" after one's team loses, said Dr. Donald A. Redelmeier, a professor of medicine who also works at Canada's largest trauma center.

Redelmeier and one of his graduate students, football fan Craig Stewart, reviewed accident data from the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration from 1975 through 2001 for the Sundays when the Super Bowl was played, as well as the previous and subsequent Sundays.

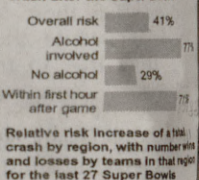
Compared with the adjacent Sundays, when weather and other conditions would presumably be the same, there was about a 41 percent increase in fatal accidents in the four hours or more after the game.

In states with the losing team, the number of crashes increased 68 percent after the telecast ended, while accidents rose only 6 percent in the winner's state. Accidents climbed 46 percent in the "neutral" states.

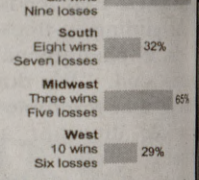
Super Bowl crashes

The chances of having a fatal car crash are much higher in the hours after the Super Bowl end with an average of seven additional fatalities and 600 extra injuries, according to a new study of the last 27 Super Bowls.

Relative risk increase of a fatal crash after the Super Bowl



Relative risk increase of fatal crash by region, with number of deaths and injuries by teams in that region for the last 27 Super Bowls



NOTE: Relative risk is measured against a control group, which is the case in previous and subsequent Sundays to the game.

SOURCE: New England Journal

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The Ultimate Retreat
Is your organization planning its annual retreat; is your leadership tired of the same old retreat location and activities? Join us and discover how to plan the ultimate retreat. This presentation will cover all the various places available to host retreats, suggest team-building activities, aid in the development of agendas that will help your leadership development and much, much more!
January 27, 2003 at 5:00-6:30pm & 7:00-8:30pm, MSC 228
April 14, 2003 at 6:00-8:00p.m., MSC 228

How to Get Sued
During this short seminar, participants will learn about the basics of tort law, the elements of negligence, and how they can take proactive measures to help protect themselves and their organizations.
February 6, 2003 at 11:30-1:00pm, 228 MSC

The Ultimate Travel Experience
Most student organizations travel each semester to organizational retreats or conferences and many are unaware of system policies and university resources. Come learn how to travel safely and learn about the resources available to you when traveling for your organization.
March 3, 2003 at 5:00-6:30pm & 7:00-8:30pm, 707 Rudder

The Ultimate Service Project
How to do meaningful service and connect your service experience to your everyday life in order to continue making a difference every day!!
February 19, 2:00-3:00pm, 144 Koldus
February 19, 5:30-6:30p or 7:00-8:00p, 146 Koldus

Campus Resources/Renting Vehicles
Discover how to tap into the various resources available to students at Texas A&M University. This presentation provides students with a rare opportunity to learn about the significant number of resources on campus that can be utilized when planning meetings, events, philanthropies, and trips. Also, become familiar with the process of renting vehicles.
February 10, 2003 at 6:00-7:30pm, 228 MSC

The Ultimate Event
The Ultimate Event is a high-energy, interactive program focused on expanding student knowledge about planning a successful student organization event.
February 25, 11:00-1:30pm, 507 Rudder

For Advisors
February 27, 6:00-8:00pm, 231 MSC, For Students

Fundraising
Does your organization have to limit its activities and membership because you simply do not have enough funds? This seminar is designed to instruct students on how to raise more money to host or attend events. This interactive session will help you expand your fundraising and collection ideas.
January 30, 2003 at 6:00-8:00pm, MSC 228

Enhance Your Organization by Assessment
Professionals from the Department of Student Life Studies will provide resources and strategies for effectively using assessment in your student organization.
April 24, 2003 at 6:00-8:00pm, 228 MSC

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Kin

Track

By Marcus THE BATT

After an impressive earlier this week at Track Classic, the men's and women's field teams face to on as they travel to Houston Indoor Op Last week, the selected eight gold saw strong performance of A&M athlete Ellison Collins. Walters accounted the Aggies' eight putting up dominating in the men's high j

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