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Weapons inspectors convene

Diplomats discuss possible resolution condemning Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Preparing for a crucial report on the work of his inspectors in Iraq, Hans Blix said Thursday his teams are gaining access to sites but Baghdad still isn't fully cooperating with the inspectors. In the meantime, diplomats said there was talk of formulating a second resolution condemning Iraq but stopping short of explicitly authorizing military action.

Secretary of State Colin Powell said the United States was open to the idea of a second resolution but the French ambassador, who is currently the president of the Security Council, said a majority of the council wouldn't support it now. Blix told The Associated Press Thursday that his assessment of Iraq's compliance over the past two months will be presented Monday to the Security Council as a speech, rather than a formal report, and won't include samples taken during searches for weapons in Iraq.

The report will be crucial for any U.S. decision to press the Security Council for military action against Iraq. Under U.N. Security Council Resolution 1441, crafted by Washington, Iraq could be found in "material breach" — diplomatic language which could open the door to war — if it fails to cooperate with inspectors and disarm.

According to the resolution the council is required to hold consultations over the inspectors' report. But the United States believes it doesn't need Security Council approval to launch an attack if Iraq is failing to disarm.

Other countries disagree, including France, Germany, Russia and China, which all believe a second resolution would be needed to authorize force. At this stage, all four countries are against military intervention in Iraq and want inspectors to be given more time.

Several diplomats said there was discussion about bringing a second resolution to the council which would condemn Iraq for failing to comply with inspectors but stop short of authorizing military action.

Such a resolution could be seen as a compromise between the United States and allies who are unwilling to strike at Iraq in absence of concrete evidence that it is rearming.

In Washington, Powell addressed the possibility of a second resolution for the first time in two months, saying it was "an open question right now."

"I think we have always held a position that there is probably sufficient authority in earlier resolutions or in 1441, but we know that many of our colleagues in the Security Council would prefer to see a second resolution if it comes to the use of military force."

But French ambassador Jean-Marc de La Sabliere, speaking at the United Nations Thursday, said: "I'm not sure that a majority of the Security Council is ready to adopt such a resolution. We see no need to another resolution for the time being."

Gennady Gatilov, Russia's deputy ambassador, said Moscow wasn't ready to throw its support behind a second resolution, whether it authorized force or simply condemned Iraq again.

Blix said his speech isn't written yet but that it will build on an assessment he presented to the council on Jan. 9 in which he criticized Iraq for failing to provide pro-active cooperation and fresh responses to hundreds of questions inspectors have on the fate of Iraq's former biological, chemical and nuclear programs. At the time Blix said inspectors hadn't found any "smoking gun," in Iraq.

Since then, his teams have uncovered 16 warheads which

Views differ on use of force in Iraq

Secretary of State Colin Powell said Thursday that many nations would fight alongside American forces if the United States goes to war in Iraq without U.N. Security Council approval.

Five permanent members with veto power

- United States** Iraq is failing to cooperate with inspectors; says it already has Security Council authorization to use military force
- Russia** Iraq is cooperating with inspectors; council must authorize any use of force
- China** Wants inspectors to have more time; believes council must authorize use of force
- Britain** Prefers a second resolution authorizing force, but has not ruled out joining U.S.-led action without one
- France** Says inspections are starting to work; hinted it might use its veto to block authorization for military action

The 10 members elected members without veto power

- Angola** Waiting for Jan. 27 report before announcing position
- Bulgaria** Backs ongoing inspections; could support U.S.-led intervention without authorization
- Cameron** Supports continued inspection; no position regarding military action
- Chile** Waiting for Jan. 27 report before announcing position
- Germany** Will not participate in military intervention, even if it is authorized
- Guinea** Supports continued inspections; no position regarding military action
- Mexico** Supports continued inspections; might support military intervention if authorized
- Pakistan** Supports continued inspections and diplomatic resolution
- Spain** Supports Bush administration position; military intervention could start without council authorization
- Syria** Says Iraq is cooperating and sanctions should be lifted

SOURCE: Associated Press

he said Iraq didn't adequately account for in its 12,000-page arms declaration. Inspectors also uncovered some 3,000 pages of documents at the home of an Iraqi scientist, some of which Blix said should have been mentioned in the weapons declaration as well.

Blix said tests were still being conducted on some of the warheads. None of the results however will be detailed in Blix's report to the council Monday.

"This is far too technical a

matter to bring up unless we find something sensational in a sample but I have not had such a report yet," Blix said.

Blix criticized Iraq for blocking his teams from using an American U-2 spy plane to search for Baghdad's weapons.

"There are areas where we are not satisfied and the U-2 is one of them," Blix said.

U-2 flights were a mainstay of the first hunt for Iraq's weapons of mass destruction from 1991-1998. American pilots flew them.

Fee

Continued from page 1

facilities, Corrington said the increase will help improve the look of the Rec Center.

Corrington said he does not want the fee increase to be a burden on future Aggies and proposed different options to ease the problem.

Corrington said if it does pass there will be several consequences, including a decrease in staffing and operating hours and the inability to replace broken equipment.

All improvements are set to be completed by 2006.

In other business, senators cleared up confusion regarding the privacy of social security numbers.

"People could actually copy by the records office get the name secured so people can ask for their information," Renfrow said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

South Korea agrees to peaceable solution

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea agreed Friday to work with South Korea to peacefully resolve the international standoff over Pyongyang's nuclear programs.

The South Korean government acknowledged that the agreement fell short of commitments it sought from the North during the Cabinet-level talks.

In the declaration, the two sides said they had "sufficiently exchanged" positions on the nuclear issue.

Class of 2006 Council is now accepting applications for the office of Class Vice President

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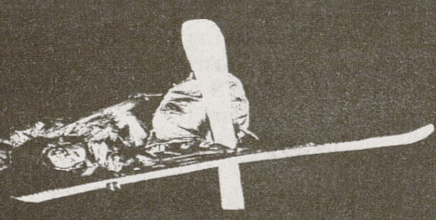
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