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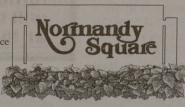
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HURGH!





By I.FLORES

Troops Continued from page 1

the attackers were coordinating

their efforts. "These

localized, are decentralized attacks by those who were part of the old regime. I don't see a national effort across Iraq," McKiernan said Wednesday. "I don't see any pattern of centralized command and control over these

He said the spate of attacks signifies a last-ditch effort by Saddam's supporters — not a gathering resistance movement.

"I see it as the completion of the removal of Saddam Hussein's regime," McKiernan said at a news conference in Baghdad. "They don't want a democratic Iraq to succeed because they don't have a role in it."

In Fallujah and the neighboring cities of Ramadi and Habaniyah, the streets were quiet Wednesday as soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division went on patrol. Residents went about their business, passing American forces without incident.

The road between Baghdad and Fallujah was crowded with U.S. Army trucks moving west.

Continued from page 1

at the end of his presidency.

expect him to dismantle them.'

notably the collapse of an initiative by Bill Clinton

said. "We accomplished what I hoped we'd

Mideast peacemaking, revived optimism in a

region seething with suspicion and skepticism

peace plan in principle despite deep reservations,

and Abbas already had pledged to crack down on

that "we will immediately begin to remove unau-

Bush welcomed Sharon's public commitment

The issue of Israeli outposts and settlements is

aggravated by the U.S.-led war against Iraq.

'I'm the master of low expectations," Bush

The summit, marking Bush's biggest step into

Sharon's government already had accepted the

Mideast

violence.

Anger in Fallujah grew in late April, when confrontations between residents and American forces left 18 Iraqis dead and at least 78 wounded. Residents accuse U.S. troops of using excessive force and of not respecting Islamic practices.

As troops moved into Fallujah, other American infantrymen immediately began setting up shop at Habaniyah Air Base, built by the British in the early 1950s.

66 I see it as the completion of the removal of Saddam Hussein's regime.

> — David McKiernan commander of U.S. ground troops in Iraq

Habaniyah grew up around the air base, where abandoned Soviet fighter jets and cargo planes still sit on the runway, slowly deteriorating. Uniforms left at the base have the insignia of Republican Guard troops, and hundreds of gas masks litter the barracks.

An Iraqi special forces base

was located northeast of Fallujah, and many military-age men in the cities, some in very good physical condition, have scowled or made obscene gestures toward U.S. troops. "You can tell who used to be

in the military," said Capt. Chris Carter, commander of A Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, which is occupying the air base. At dawn Wednesday, the 2nd

Brigade loaded 88 Abrams tanks and 44 Bradley Fighting Vehicles onto cargo trucks and dropped them off outside the two cities. The soldiers then drove the combat vehicles to their new positions and began establishing their bases.

There wasn't much to work with.

Most of the buildings had been looted after Iraqi troops abandoned the base, with almost everything that could be removed — including light switches and door frames stolen.

The troops were greeted by curious shepherds, grazing sheep and goats on the base grounds. The soldiers began cleaning the old tin-roofed barracks to use themselves.

"It won't be that bad, once we get some fans blowing through here," Carter said.

one of the most divisive points between Israel and

more than 750 Israelis have died, including about

350 from suicide bombings. During the same peri-

od, more than 2,350 Palestinians have been killed.

at the hands of Israel but went on to say, "We do

Abbas spoke of the suffering of the Palestinians

to do before this meeting.'

Traffic

Continued from page

patrolman, said he's interest safe driving in Bryan-Col Station because the traffic unique here.

Bryan-College Station mixture of advanced drivers beginning drivers," he said.

He said younger dri should be more of aware of o drivers, because they often their reactions on what

think is going to happen. Since 1936, state laws that you must signal 100 fee front of an intersection. In ern traffic that's hardly ever case, he said.

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"It's imperative to signal a more in advance so other peo can base their reactions on w you're doing," Pitts said.

Pitts taught defensive driv in the Memorial Student Ce from 1991 to 1994.

Lt. Rodney Sigler, Col Station Police Department lic information officer, said department uses education enforcement to curtail bad d ing habits.

Sigler said CSPD sends ature to Fish Camp each sum to warn incoming freshman breaking traffic laws.

"Drivers need to obey the and stop for red lights," Si said. "Slow down and d speed."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Senate to hear FCC testimony on media

WASHINGTON Lawmakers want the Fed Communications Commission justify its decision to broadly decades-old media owners restrictions, particularly a change that allows companies to o television stations reaching ne half the nation's viewers.

The Republican-controlled voted on Monday to ease to lations governing how m newspapers and TV and III stations a company can and in what combinations

The party-line vote allowed individual companie own more TV stations in si cities and largely ended a bit on one company owning newspaper and a broadcasts tion in a community.

House may pass ban on partial abortions

the Palestinians. As for whether Sharon's promise WASHINGTON (AP) Culminating an eight-year stru said, "It's a good start. It will show to the gle, congressional opponents Palestinian people and to the world that Israel is an abortion procedure they prepared to do things that they were not prepared partial birth abortion are ont verge of passing a law barris Without their government's approval, Israeli doctors from using it. settlers have placed trailers or tents on hilltops,

The House on Wednesday some next to existing settlements, in Palestinian expected to approve the band areas. The unauthorized outposts intensified the a comfortable margin. A Palestinians' conflict with Israel during which minor differences with a Senat passed bill are worked out, the legislation would go President George W. Bush, wh is ready to sign it into law.

not ignore the suffering of the Jews throughout Abortion rights groups they would immediately go court to challenge the which would be the first to pl hibit a certain abortion pro dure since the 1973 Supre Court decision establishing right to choose an abortion

THE BATTALION

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history. It is time to bring all this suffering to an thorized outposts," a painful step for the prime minister since he is an architect of Jewish settle-"Some amazing things were said," Bush ment expansion in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. remarked later. "The prime minister of the The president, flying to Qatar later, told reporters, "He said he would dismantle them. We now

Palestinian Authority talked about the suffering of the Jewish people. The prime minister of Israel talked about a Palestinian state.'



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