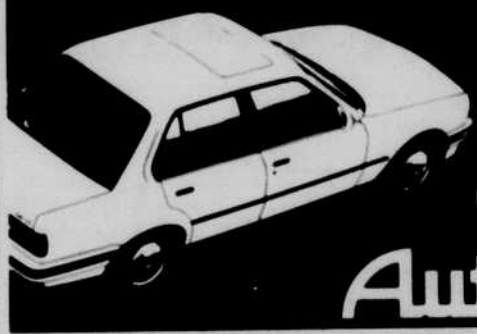


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INTERNATIONAL

Baker ready for Iraqi peace talks; Saddam preparing for likely war

(AP) — Saddam Hussein told Iraqis on Sunday to prepare for a long war against the "tyranny represented by the United States," and he again ruled out an unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait.

In a national television address three days before the first direct U.S.-Iraqi talks, Hussein again linked any pullout to an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories — a stand Washington has repeatedly rejected.

In Washington, Secretary of State James A. Baker III repeated that stand, saying, "We will not agree to anything that would constitute linkage."

Baker left Washington and arrived in London late Sunday, ahead of his scheduled talks Wednesday with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz in Geneva. If that meeting fails, he said, "I am closing the door" to further talks. He spoke in a TV interview.

While en route, Baker also rejected a French overture to Iraq that would link a pullout from Kuwait to an eventual Mideast peace conference. "We find it impossible to sign on to it," Baker said.

President Francois Mitter-

rand of France has proposed offering Iraq some incentive to withdraw. With strong German and Italian support, he has suggested holding a Mideast peace conference after Iraq agrees to pull out of Kuwait. During the conference, Palestinian complaints against Israel would be heard.

During his session with Aziz, Baker said he will hand over a letter from President Bush to deliver to Hussein. "There really is nothing to negotiate," Baker said. "There are some things to communicate."

The foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Syria backed the U.S. stand, calling the Baker-Aziz meeting the last chance to peacefully resolve the 5-month-old gulf crisis. The ministers met Sunday in Saudi Arabia.

In other developments Sunday:

- Forty-two German, Belgian and Italian air force jets flew to Turkey to help defend its frontier with Iraq if war breaks out. They made up a NATO air team requested by Turkey, whose border with Iraq is a possible second front in a Persian Gulf war.

- Iran and the European Community made new efforts to try to avert a gulf war. Iran urged the 46-nation Organization of the Islamic Conference to consider a peace initiative, and the EC repeated an invitation to Aziz to meet for talks. Aziz rejected the original European offer on Saturday.

"Things could change in the coming days," French Foreign Ministry spokesman Daniel Bernard said in explaining the new invitation. He did not elaborate, nor comment on Iraq's suggestion that EC officials could go to Baghdad.

- In Saudi Arabia, King Fahd urged Hussein to avoid "the catastrophe of war," and pledged to support a settlement of Iraq's territorial dispute with Kuwait if Baghdad pulls out.

In his first meeting with Western media in the 5-month-old gulf crisis, Fahd also said there is no need for outside forces on Saudi soil once the crisis is solved, countering past U.S. government statements that a Western military presence might be necessary in the area for some time after an Iraqi withdrawal.

- Four international airlines suspended flights to Israel, citing steeper insurance rates. The suspensions were announced by the Scandinavian company

SAS, Polish Lot Airlines, Cyprus Airways and South African Airlines. Last week Pan Am also announced a suspension of flights to Israel, while British Airways and KLM cut back the number of weekly flights.

Hussein's television address came nine days before the Jan. 15 U.N. deadline for Iraq to pull out of Kuwait or face possible attack.

Martial music preceded his speech, which marked the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Iraqi army.

Dressed in his customary olive green military fatigues and dark beret, Hussein opened the 25-minute address with a verse from the Koran, Islam's holy book, which said that war is moral when the cause is just.

Hussein praised his soldiers for "the return of Kuwait to its Iraqi motherland," where it would remain "for the present and future times."

"The battle against the tyranny represented by the United States and the slogans of hegemony it is raising ... is not expected to be a short one," he said in calm, measured tones.

The message was apparently aimed at building morale in a nation suffering increasingly from a global U.N. trade embargo.

"A battle of such scope requires great sacrifices both in quantity and quality, irrespective of the foreseen and unforeseen consequences which will no doubt please the friend and anger the enemy."

A traditional Army Day military parade was canceled in Baghdad. No official explanation was provided.

Most of Hussein's million-strong army is tied up in war preparations. He has an estimated 530,000 men in occupied Kuwait and along the southern Iraqi border shared with Saudi Arabia.

They face a 580,000-strong U.S.-led multinational force, which has been growing since Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

In his speech, Hussein boasted that his army now has the strength "to accomplish all its goals and take on the enemy."

"It is indeed a source of great pride to accomplish more than one goal in a single show-down," he said, linking his struggle to the liberation of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
January 4, 1991

Dear Students, Staff, and Faculty:

As in prior years, the University of Oregon will use Martin Luther King, Jr. Day for programs that permit us to celebrate and re-dedicate ourselves to the principles of social justice, freedom, and racial equality so effectively and eloquently championed by Dr. King. A special campus task force has planned a full week of activities starting Tuesday, January 15, culminating with special programs on Monday, January 21. I invite you to participate in as many of these scheduled activities as you can.

Beginning this year, an academic holiday in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. has been declared. While Dr. King's birthday has been an official state holiday for classified staff and management service employees in recent years, this is the first time that we have interrupted the academic schedule to provide opportunities for all staff, faculty and students to share in the holiday celebration.

By celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on January 21 as an academic holiday, we honor a great individual. However, it is what we can gain from honoring Dr. King that led us to establish this academic holiday. Around the world and in this country, Dr. King's vision of social justice and racial equality is far from achieved. Through special events and the recognition we accord Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the University of Oregon is unequivocally re-emphasizing its commitment to racial equality and its intolerance of bigotry in any form.

To be clear, January 21 is a paid holiday for classified, management service and academic employees. Classes will not be held on that day and offices, except those providing essential services, will be closed. Selected university facilities will remain open to accommodate the special events planned for the day. Consult your dean or department head if you have questions about the holiday work schedule for your department.

I strongly urge all members of the University community to join in the special events planned for the week of January 15 and on January 21.

Sincerely,
Myles Brand
Myles Brand
President

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