## PERSIAN GULF WAR

# Scud missile hits U.S. barracks

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia (AP) — In the worst Scud attack of the Gulf War, an Iraqi missile on Monday demolished a barracks housing about 100 American soldiers. The U.S. military said 27 servicemen were killed, 98 wounded and 40 unaccounted for.

Baghdad radio hailed the attack, saying the missile struck "the coward traitors who mortgage the sacred places of the nation ... and turn Arab youth into shields of flesh."

Saddam Hussein's troops have hurled dozens of missiles at Israel and Saudi Arabia since the Gulf War began Jan. 17, but most have been knocked out by U.S.-supplied Patriot defense missiles.

It was not immediately clear if a Patriot was fired to intercept the Scud on Monday.

One reporter said he saw a Patriot explode in the sky over Dhahran. Also, several law-makers who were briefed at the Pentagon, including House Speaker Thomas Foley, D-Wash., and Republican leader Bob Michel of Illinois, said they believed a Patriot was fired.

But there were some television reports quoting U.S. officials saying a Patriot was not fired because the Scud was breaking up in flight. The report could not be immediately verified.

The Central Command also said it appeared the Scud may have broken up in flight, scattering debris that hit the barracks. The explosion at the barracks suggested it was hit by the Scud's warhead. The command did not indicate if a Patriot was fired.

George Manes, Middle East bureau chief for the military newspaper Stars & Stripes, said an air raid siren gave scant warning of the approaching Scud.

Manes, basing his account on military eyewitnesses, wrote that a large piece of the missile that apparently contained the warhead plunged straight down into the barracks, creating an orange fireball on impact.

The barracks was located in an industrial area about three miles from the huge military air base at Dhahran. A singed sign at the entrance marked it as the home of the 475th Quartermaster Group, a reserve unit from Farrell, Pa.

The attack came at about 8:30 p.m., while some of the soldiers were eating dinner and after others had apparently gone to bed or were relaxing. Many

survivors were in civilian clothes — some in sweatsuits or gym shorts.

Hours later, the U.S. military brought in lights, a backhoe and a team of engineers to clear the rubble.

Two trucks carrying about 25 members of a miners' company arrived. The workers donned leather gloves to search through the rubble, and some carried picks and shovels as they trudged down the road toward the building, still surrounded by many of its surviving residents.

The search lasted most of the night, but appeared to be over by about 4 a.m., when bright searchlights were dimmed and only a few security guards could be seen standing around the wreckage.

After the blast, a chaplain moved among the survivors, consoling them. Some soldiers appeared to be in shock; others embraced each other in anguish. Many were in tears.

In the rubble, four pairs of boots poked out from under blankets. Sleeping bags and military uniform belts were scattered about on the charred floor. There was little left of the building but its steel girder frame.

# Bush: Surrender only way to end war now

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush isn't about to accept Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait in any guise short of outright surrender — and the price of peace went up when an enemy missile exploded into an American barracks in Saudi Arabia.

The president's new terms are explicit: Reparations for Kuwait, and an announcement of unconditional withdrawal from Saddam Hussein personally.

Hussein's imperiled forces are not going to get an easy cease fire, no matter the withdrawal order broadcast by Baghdad Radio

"There's no way you're going to have him (Hussein) get out of Kuwait and have a cease fire if he's still shooting (Scuds) at Israel and Saudi Arabia," said Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

Sen. Chris Dodd. D-Conn., said Hussein "is trying to retrieve whatever he can in the face of defeat. It's a last-minute oloy at best and ought to be flatly rejected," he said.

Six weeks ago, the Radio Baghdad withdrawal order might have averted the Persian Gulf War. One week ago, it probably would have ended the conflict without a ground assault.

Not now, at least until Iraqi forces have retreated under U.S. and allied fire past the borders of Kuwait, or surrendered themselves as prisoners of war. It's fair to say there is no trust of any Iraqi announcement here. Fitzwater recalled Khafji: Iraqi tanks approached with their turrets pointed backward — the signal of surrender — then opened fire.

"This could be a massive trick," a senior Pentagon official said. "We'll treat them as hostile, until they prove otherwise."

#### IRAQ

Continued from Page 1

Gorbachev tried to broker a peace plan last week that called for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait over a three-week period. Iraq accepted the terms, but the U.S-led allies rejected them. President Bush then countered with an ultimatum for a seven-day withdrawal that Iraq turned down.

The Soviets had presented a new proposal to the U.N. Security Council on Monday, a few hours before the Baghdad announcement. It wasn't clear if Iraq was referring to that plan or last week's plan when it said its withdrawal would be in line with the Soviet proposal.

Baghdad radio said the Iraqi leadership asked that the Soviet Union "exert efforts at the U.N. Security Council to achieve a ceasefire and put an end to the criminal behavior of the United States and its allies." The radio attributed the statement to an unidentified official spokesman.

The announcement said the leadership "had stressed its acceptance to withdraw in accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 660 when it agreed to the Soviet peace proposal."

"In compliance with this decision," it continued, "orders were issued to the armed forces for an organized withdrawal to the positions in which they were before the 1st of August 1990."

Resolution 660, passed on Aug. 2, the day Iraq invaded Kuwait. "demands that Iraq withdraw immediately and unconditionally all its forces to the positions in which they were located on 1 August 1990."

The resolution also called on Iraq and Kuwait to immediately negotiate their differences.

The Baghdad radio statement suggested that Iraq would withdraw regardless of whether the allies stopped attacking them. The allies have reported great success in the first two days of their huge ground invasion.

"Our forces, which have proved their fighting and steadfastness ability, will confront any attempt to attack them while implementing the withdrawal order," the radio said.

"They will fight with force and courage to make their withdrawal organized and honorable."

The announcement followed a radio commentary that described Bush as "the criminal of all times."

The Baghdad report appeared to take the White House by surprise.

"We've heard the radio reports," Fitzwater said.
"There's been no contact with our government. No authoritative contact with the U.N. that we're aware of, so that really we don't consider there being anything to respond to."

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