

Clinton weakness on Iraq will imperil peace

Facing poverty, crime and a restive army at home, Saddam Hussein is again amassing a substantial troop presence near the Iraqi border with Kuwait. With most of his elite Republican Guard left intact after the Gulf War, the buildup presents a threat not only to Kuwait, but to the stability of the Middle East peace process.

The domestic strife permeating every aspect of Iraqi society after four years of sanctions imposed by the United Nations has loosened Hussein's once tenacious grip on power. A recent coup attempt and large-scale daily desertions from the Iraqi armed forces add to Hussein's already mounting problems. Just as in 1990, Hussein may again take on the world to improve a fractured domestic image and consolidate his fragile power base.

President Clinton warned Hussein of America's resolve to protect Kuwait. But Hussein may be counting on Clinton's inability to successfully field recent international curve balls — Bosnia and Haiti in particular. Clinton's alienation of Western leaders over the quagmire in Bosnia suggests coalition building like that accomplished by the Bush Administration in 1990 will be much more difficult in the event of another Iraqi invasion. Clinton's waffling policy on Haiti sends a clear message to Hussein that the current U.S. president is uncomfortable playing on the world stage.

Maybe Hussein is expecting Jimmy Carter to show up in Basra and remake him in the image of Raoul Cedras — a man who went from criminal thug to honorable humanitarian in the space of 24 hours.

Some may blame Bush for not destroying the Iraqi army four years ago, thus allowing Hussein an opportunity to repeat his ill-conceived colonial designs. But that was never the intention of Operation Desert Storm. Such an action would have left a power vacuum in the Middle East, an invitation for Iran or Syria to become the biggest bullies on the block.

The U.S. is in an increasingly precocious position this time around. Moving additional military assets to the Persian Gulf to strengthen existing forces is a prudent precaution. Clinton should stand ready to decimate Hussein's forces should they step foot inside Kuwait.

But another Gulf War at this point in time could derail the negotiations between Israel and its restless neighbors in Jordan and Syria. If the U.S. were to become embroiled in a battle with Iraq, its role as principal mediator would be placed in jeopardy.

Hussein is hoping veiled threats and troop shuffling will pressure the U.N. to lift the constricting sanctions now strangling Iraq. Any weakness on Clinton's part will only act as the provocation Hussein needs to launch an attack.

The best solution in light of Iraq's recent actions is to maintain a highly visible military presence in the area and for Clinton to show stronger resolve than in the Haiti and Bosnia situations. Hussein is depending on a lackluster and ill-defined policy concerning Iraq. This may very well be the case, considering Clinton's track record.



The new GOP think tank

TOLES UNIVERSAL PRESS SYND. NO COPY THE BUFFALO NEWS

FROM ONE EMPTY TRUNK TO ANOTHER

LETTERS

No on 15

Have you seen the commercial on television supporting Measure 15? It states that Measure 15 will continue full funding of current services for K-12 and community colleges, without any tax increase. Do you know what is missing? Higher education. The state budget for higher education will be cut 25 percent if Measure 15 passes! To compensate for this loss of funding, the University will be forced to consider raising tuition as much as 30 percent per year for the next two years. This would shut the door on people who cannot afford to pay the outrageous tuition, even though they may be qualified to attend the University. What should we do about people who will be priced or shut out by this so-called kids first measure? I agree steps need to be taken to fund education in Oregon. However, the steps we take must be fair and focused on long term solutions.

Vote no on Measure 15. Education cannot stop when maturing minds are just beginning to open.

Steve Thoennes
Psychology

due to their sexual orientation. She said she knew all about it and opposed the OCA, but wondered why she, a native-born Oregonian, hadn't heard about the measure.

We speculated that the 18 measures on the ballot diluted the impact of our visibility, or that the media had lost interest once the novelty diminished. But for whatever reason, it is a serious mistake to underestimate the OCA. Although the OCA is dangerous zealots, it is also well-funded, technologically on-line and for the time being, politically potent.

It is a political truism that increased repression creates either a more determined response or capitulation. My appeal to the University community is this: don't lapse into complacency. The voter registration deadline is two weeks away, Tuesday, Oct. 18. Register and vote no on measure 13.

Guy Burton
Psychology

Injustice

The irony and injustice of the Amazon housing replacement decision has been graphically illustrated in the Sept. 28 issue of *The Eugene Weekly* by juxtaposing pictures of a University freshman and some of the Amazon units scheduled for demolition. The entering freshman is currently living in a motel room where he has been placed by the University housing office until other space is found for him. Where will Amazon tenants live when their housing is gone?

Amazon provides low-cost family housing for a comparatively small number of students, all of whom qualify for public assistance. Those who cannot

get into the limited family housing are given little help by the University, and certainly no lodging in motels. If the planned demolition of the 244 Amazon units proceeds, the current residents will be evicted. According to Mike Eyster, housing office spokesman, it is "expected" that these students and their families will be accommodated at the other University low-cost facility, Westmoreland. The waiting list there is always long, so Eyster's solution for Amazon residents to be housed there "by attrition" offers scant hope and no assurance.

There is bitter irony in the fact that University President Dave Frohnmayer, who often seemed compassionate, has apparently made his decision on the fate of Amazon without consideration of the practical and sound proposal made by the Amazon Board. Frohnmayer visited the site and examined many of the units that have been left vacant over the past year. But he did not speak to any of the current residents nor did he inspect their units where maintenance has been done.

As a concerned alumna who was among those who had no housing problem years ago, I urge President Frohnmayer to fulfill his obligation to those students for whom the demolition of Amazon will jeopardize their college work or end it completely. We must ask whether Frohnmayer and the Oregon State System of Higher Education are concerned only with the more fortunate students or whether they truly care for those less-advantaged students whose housing problems endanger their opportunity to complete their education.

Florence K. Douglas
Eugene

Remain vigilant

Two October's ago, I wouldn't have believed it of someone had asked me to explain the meaning of Ballot Measure 9. During that campaign, propaganda targeting gays and lesbians was everywhere, thanks in part to fundamentalist Christian Pat Robertson's heavy donations to the Oregon Citizens Alliance. The grassroots campaign to oppose the OCA was overwhelming and the anti-gay measure was soundly defeated.

Last week, during the Street Faire, when a hip-looking student asked me what my button said, I masked my surprise and explained that Measure 13 was the "Son of 9," that is, it was the OCA's latest attempt to legalize discrimination against people

LETTERS POLICY

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* will attempt to print all letters containing comments on topics of interest to the University community.

The *Emerald* reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style.

Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. BOX 3156 EUGENE OREGON 97403

The *Oregon Daily Emerald* is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year and Tuesday and Thursday during the summer by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co., Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

The *Emerald* operates independently of the University with offices at Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.

The *Emerald* is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

Editor-in-Chief: Kaly Soto
Managing Editor: David Thorn
Editorial Editor: Joe Harwood
Graphics Editor: Jeff Paslay
Freelance Editor: Alaina Baum
In-Depth Editor: Ed Klopfenstein
News Editor: Rebecca Merritt
Sports Editor: Chris Metz
Photo Editor: Michael Shindler
Supplements Editor: Trista Noel
Night Editor: Amy Columbo

Associate Editors: Friederich von Carp, Student Government/Activities; Marcelene Edwards, Community; Tiffany Smith, Higher Education/Administration

News Staff: Lori Bettineski, Wilson Chan, Amy Columbo, Tasha Eichenseher, Abe Estimada, Primo Fontana, Gayle Forman, Christopher Fox, Matt Garton, Gary Grass, Sarah Henderson, Kris Henry, Trevor Kearney, Adam Kincher, Mark McTyre, Ben Moebius, Anne Moser-Kornfeld, Sherry Rainey, Robbie Reeves, Lia Salicocchia, Paul Van Sickle, Kim Weiss, Daniel West, Brian Wornack

General Manager: Judy Riedl
Advertising Director: Mark Walter
Production Manager: Michele Ross

Advertising: Marco Ching, Tony Fox, Erin Hersher, Nicole Herzmark, Jeremy Mason, Michael Millette, Sarah Mitchell, Tom Mittelstaedt, Kelsey Weikel

Classified: Becky Merchant, Manager; Sim Tze Teck
Distribution: John Long, Ferenc Rakoczi, Regina Zsupnik

Business: Kathy Carbone, Supervisor; Judy Connolly
Production: Dehila McCobb, Production Coordinator; Shawna Abele, Greg Desmond, Tara Gaultney, Brad Joss, Jennifer Roland, Natt Thangvijit, Clayton Yee

Newsroom: 346-5511
Business Office: 346-5512

Display Advertising: 346-3712
Classified Advertising: 346-4343