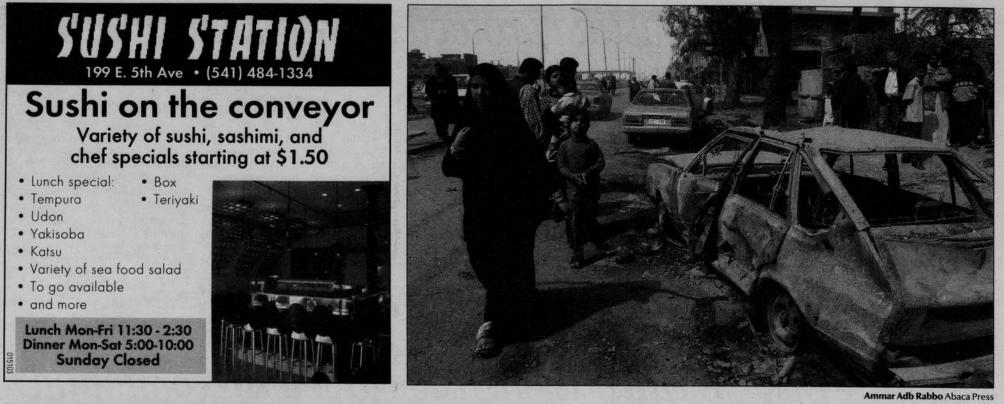
4 - Monday, March 31, 2003 - Oregon Daily Emerald



Iraqi civilians walk through damage to a market in Baghdad, Iraq, March 29. Iraqis said an air raid on a Baghdad market on Friday evening killed dozens of civilians.

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War

continued from page 1

Franks called the facility used by the militant group Ansar al-Islam "massive" and said ground forces were searching it Sunday. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said it comprised dozens of sites, including tunnels and bunkers.

"We have destroyed a major portion of it. We've killed a large number of terrorists," Rumsfeld said on the Fox New Sunday program.

"We know that ... they were developing toxins and poisons in that area. We know that al-Qaida was connected to it ... We're not certain what we'll find, but we should know more in the next three days, three or four days.'

Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said on CNN that he believed the camp was used to develop a biological toxin, ricin, traces of which were discovered earlier this year in London.

In another troubling sign that Iraq might be preparing to use chemical weapons, Marines raided a building used by Iraq's 11th Infantry Division inside An Nasiriyah and found more than 300 chemical suits and gas masks, as well as injectors of the nerve gas antidote atropine, the U.S. Central Command said Sunday.

Marines also seized more than 800 rocket-propelled grenades, 300 mortar shells and more than 17,000 rounds for rifles and machine guns.

In the besieged southern Iraqi city of Basra, British Royal Marine commandos killed a Republican Guard colonel whom they suspect

was sent to Basra to invigorate pro-Saddam forces there, according to British Group Capt. Al Lockwood.

Initially, the British military reported that it also had captured an Iraqi general in Basra, but later Sunday British military spokesman Will MacKinlay told BBC television that the report was wrong, attributing the mistake to "the fog of war."

Elsewhere, Britain's 16th Air Assault Brigade captured the Baath Party's number two official for the Rumaila region.

Three U.S. Marines were killed Sunday when their UH-1 Huey helicopter crashed at a forward supply and refueling site in Southern Iraq. Two others also were killed Sunday, one struck by a Humvee during a firefight, the other drowned when his Humvee rolled into a canal.

At Camp Udari in Kuwait, a man in civilian clothes driving a stolen white pickup truck plowed through throngs of soldiers as they waited in line at a post store, injuring 15. He was shot and critically wounded when he ignored orders from military police to stop.

The driver was identified only as a third-party national, meaning he is neither American nor Kuwaiti.

We heard his engine revving and he veered to the left and luckily I went right," said Maj. Lora Elliott, an historian with the 101st Airborne Division. "He was fishtailing, he accelerated so hard.'

The incident came just a day after a suicide bomber killed himself and four Americans in Iraq, and amid threats of a wave of such attacks in

"He was fishtailing, he accelerated so hard"

Maj. Lora Elliott 101st Airborne Division

Iraq and in the United States.

Sunday night the Defense Department identified the four U.S. soldiers killed in the Saturday suicide bomb attack as:

· Pfc. Michael Russell Creighton Weldon, 20, of Conyers, Ga.

· Spc. Michael Edward Curtin, 23, of South Plains, N.J.

• Pfc. Diego Fernando Rincon, 19, of Conyers, Ga.

· Sgt. Eugene Williams, 24, of Highland, N.Y.

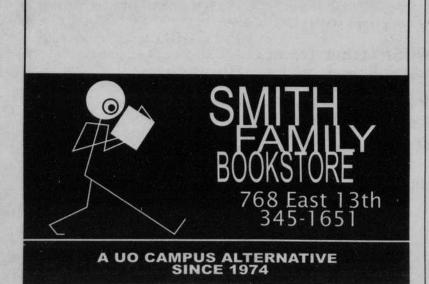
All four were assigned to the 27th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Ga.

Iraqi television reported that Hussein posthumously honored the Saturday bomber and that his family has been awarded \$34,000.

This is just the beginning," said Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan. "The day will come when a single martyrdom operation will kill 5,000 enemies.'

© 2003, Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services. Smolowitz reported from U.S. Central Command Headquarters in Qatar; Thomma anchored from Washington. Knight **Ridder Newspapers correspondents** Jessica Guynn at the Pentagon, John Sullivan at Camp Udari in Kuwait, Juan O. Tamayo at Marine Headquarters in Iraq, and Jeff Wilkinson in Kuwait contributed to this report.





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