

Long Guerrilla War Seen Between Kurds and Iraqi Government

By DONALD MAY
United Press International
 In the northern plains and rugged mountains of Iraq, the Iraqi army is fighting a little known war against tough Kurdish tribesmen demanding autonomy. Each side has accused the other of broken promises and treachery.

The Kurds accuse the Kurds of attempting to set up an independent state banned to the Iraqi army and government officials even as negotiations toward setting up a Kurdish willaya or district within the framework of Iraq were proceeding in Baghdad.

The Kurds on their side accuse the Iraqi government of jailing Kurdish negotiators and of refusing to carry out an agreement for an exchange of prisoners.

Accuse Iraqi Army
 The Kurds also accuse the Iraqi army of using napalm against old people and women and children clustered in Kurdish villages.

Giving at least lukewarm support to the Kurds is the Soviet Union which from time to time has demanded establishment of an independent Kurdistan and which for 13 years gave shelter to the present Kurdish leader, Mulla Mustafa Barzani.

The present struggle goes back about 20 years, but for 3,000 years the Kurds have been fighting off assimilation by governments and empires.

They are a rugged people, living in Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Iran and the Soviet Union, generally in mountainous areas where borders meet.

No one is quite sure how many there are. Most estimates agree there are about 1.5 million in Iraq. U. S. sources put the grand total at from three to six million.

A Tribal People
 They are a tribal people whose own fierce independence has prevented any great degree of unity among them.

Barzani is the leader of the Barzani clan, which is among the largest, and Iraqi sources estimate he can call upon 3,000 warriors.

But these same Iraqi sources claim that Barzani's cruelties have alienated other Kurds in Iraq and as proof point to the fact that two Kurds remain in the central government cabinet and that the Iraqi army contains many Kurds.

They also claim that the Soviet Union itself contains more Kurds than all the other nations together and that, if Russia is so interested in an independent Kurdistan she might take the first step by giving up some of her own territory.

Reports Are Conflicting
 Reports on the progress of the fighting are conflicting.

Arab sources say the rebellion should be put down in a matter of weeks.

Kurdish sources claim that the Iraqi army so far has been able to operate only in the plains, and that attempts to drive it to the mountains have been turned back with heavy Iraqi casualties.

Kurdish units are known to have attacked into the Kirkuk region, site of the important installations of the British - controlled Iraq petroleum company.

Barzani has warned foreign embassies in Baghdad that he will not hesitate to attack the installations in a move to cut off government oil revenues.

Interest Is Hot, Cold
 Soviet interest in the Kurdish fight for autonomy has blown hot and cold.

In 1954 the Russians tried to annex northern Iran. A Kurdish area around the Iranian town of Mahabad became a sort of no man's land between Russian and British troops. The Soviets, who previously had shown little interest in the Kurds, infiltrated the Mahabad area and set up a local judge as head of a "Mahabad Republic," whose officials were taken, without knowing where they were going, to Baku on the Caspian sea for political indoctrination. Then they were returned.

At the same time the warlike Barzani clan of Kurds in Iraq were driven out of their home by British - led Iraqi forces. One or two thousand of them, headed by the Mulla Mustafa Barzani, turned up destitute in Mahabad, and the Russians ordered the Mahabad Kurds to feed them.

Republic Collapses
 But the Mahabad Republic collapsed and the Mulla Barzani fled with his men to the Soviet Union where he disappeared from western eyes for 13 years.

In 1958 leftist Arabs under Gen. Abdul Karim Kassim murdered Iraq's King Feisal and took over the government. Kassim brought Barzani and his men back from Russia, and they had a brief period of cooperation. Iraq's Communist party came out of hiding. The Russians gave Kassim substantial aid.

But Barzani fell out with Kassim and to some extent with Russia. Communist and non-communist Kurds in Iraq began to join ranks to demand autonomy. Barzani

appears to have tried to reduce Communist influence in his Democratic Party of Iraq Kurdistan (DPIK) while at the same time trying to keep useful ties with Russia.

Movement Is Ditched
 The Kremlin, which pinned its hope, in the Middle East on Kassim, progressively ditched the Kurdish movement.

But then Kassim himself began to fall out with Moscow. He dissolved Iraq's Communist party and set up a new Communist party under his

own control. In 1961 the Kurds began an armed rebellion. Kassim's forces strafed Kurdish villages with Soviet-built MIGs.

The events put Moscow in a quandary. But the Kremlin did not take the step of withdrawing support from Kassim and backing the Kurds. It continued military aid to Kassim. Eventually Barzani's forces beat off Kassim's.

Last February Kassim was overthrown by the Baath Arab group. The new Iraqi government, now in power,

clamped down on local Communists. Moscow suddenly became friendly with the Kurds.

Moscow still appears in a dilemma. As the leader of Marxism its loyalties should be with the Kurds, because Lenin decreed support of such independence movements. But as the Russian state, in a world of power politics, the Kremlin has broader interests in Iraq and the Middle East as a whole, and in this the Kurds are small potatoes.

The public Soviet press still

tempers its support for the Kurds, speaking not of "independence" for them but of a rather vague "equal rights."

A recent article in Pravda supported Barzani against the "reactionary sheiks" but added that this movement was not a "separatist one."

Beneath the counter, however, a clandestine communist radio in East Germany broadcasts almost daily to the Kurds of Iran urging them to revolt.

Last June 8 the Kurds and the Iraq government seemed

on the verge of negotiating agreement on a series of Kurdish demands, including the right to use their own language in schools and to have part of oil revenues spent in their area.

Delegation Heads North
 A Kurdish delegation headed north from Baghdad to convey the terms to Barzani for his approval.

No one seems to know whether the delegation got there. On June 9 Baghdad radio announced martial law in the Kurdish areas. The result

has been renewed fighting, only sketchy details of which have been reaching Washington.

All U. S. diplomatic missions in northern Iraq and one U. S. information agency mission there were ousted in 1958 when the Iraqi government accused them of stirring up the Kurds.

The Iraqis have been charging that the Kurds are secretly receiving military supplies from the Russians. The Kurds undeniably have Soviet weapons. But U. S. of-

ficials think they probably got them from the Iraqi army through defections and guerrilla raids. They doubt that Russia could be supplying the Kurds over the mountain borders through Iran or Turkey.

They do not believe Iraq can beat the Kurds, for no one ever has. Nor do they believe the Kurds, at the moment, can cause the Iraqi government to fall. They therefore see the prospect of a long guerrilla war, unless the two sides cool off enough for another round of negotiations.

New Crop Frozen Sliced Strawberries \$6⁹⁹
 Home Jam or Freezer Pack
 30-LB. CAN

Peter Piper Whole Sweet Pickles 99¢
 48-OZ. JAR

Voit Poly Foam Ski Belt \$1⁹⁹
 Sizes Small, Large
 Regular \$3.00

Voit Slalom Water Ski \$12⁸⁸
 Wish Bone Rudder
 Regular \$19.95

FAB DETERGENT Heavy Duty Formula Giant Pkg. 59¢
BANQUET FROZEN CREAM PIES Lemon, Banana, Strawberry, Butterscotch, Choc., Coconut 14-Oz. 3/99¢

ESKIMO PORTABLE AIR COOLER
 • Filters the Air
 • 2-Speed • Water Level
 Reg. \$39.95 **\$24⁹⁹**

3-DRAWER JIFFY CABINET
 • For Home or Travel
 • Holds Jewelry, Supplies, etc.
 Reg. \$1.19 **88¢**

ZERO 8-INCH TABLE FAN
 • Tip-Proof Base
 Reg. \$6.98 **\$3⁹⁹**

WELCH'S GRAPE WELCHADE 32 oz. Can 4 for 99¢

ROYAL GELATIN DESSERT All Flavors 6-oz. Family size Pkg. 2 for 33¢

ORE IDA FROZEN POTATOES GOLDEN FRIES Heat & Serve 2 lb. Bag 44¢

SWEETSTAKES MACKEREL 15 1/2 oz. Can 6 for 99¢

ALL PURE CANNED MILK (Case of 48-\$5.89) Tall Cans 8 for 99¢

JIFFY ALL PURPOSE BISCUIT MIX 40 oz. Pkg. 29¢

BETTY CROCKER'S BISQUICK 40 oz. Pkg. 39¢ 60 oz. Pkg. 57¢

WELLMAN'S CHOICE COFFEE Drip or Regular 2 lb. Can 89¢ 2 lb. Jar 89¢

DELIRICH SALAD OIL All Purpose 24 oz. Bottle 33¢

DUCKY POWDERED DETERGENT Giant Pkg. 59¢

STARK'S INSTANT POWDERED MILK 14 Qt. Pkg. 99¢

Barbecue Liter
 UL Approved Reg. \$3.98 **\$1⁹⁹**

EVERAIN 3-ARM LAWN SPRINKLER
 • Revolving Type
 • Covers Up to 35 Ft. in Diam.
 Reg. \$1.98 **\$1³⁷**

ENDEN SHAMPOO
 • Plus Free 45c Size
 • For Regular or Dry Hair
 \$1.34 Val. Both for **79¢**

LEE RUGGED TWILL BOYS' JEANS
 • Tailored Lean & Clean • 6-12
 • Beige or Blue Jean
 Reg. \$3.95 Pair **\$2⁹⁹**

94% RAYON-6% NYLON BLANKET
 • 72 In x 90 In. • Solid Colors
 • Machine Washable
 Reg. \$5.95 **\$3⁹⁹**

LADIES' THONGS
 • For Play, Beach or Shower
 • Assorted Colors-Reg. 39¢
3 PAIR \$1⁰⁰

WATERMELONS
 U.S. No. 1
3⁰⁰ lb.



Red Ripe Tomatoes lb. 19¢

Santa Rosa Plums Sweet and Juicy 2 lbs. 29¢

Onions Dry U.S. No. 1 Yellow or red-your choice lb. 9¢

Cucumbers Large Crisp Slicers 3 for 25¢

Green Peppers U.S. No. 1. At their peak for salads or stuffing lb. 17¢

Fresh Orange Juice Mist A Gold Quart Bottle 49¢ No dep.

REG. \$2.19-200 TABLETS ANACIN \$1.88

100 TABLETS BAYER ASPIRIN 49¢

REG. \$2.00 FOAM STYRENE SURF BUOY \$1.39

REG. 98c CHEF-KING BARBEQUE BASE 69¢

RCA RADIO & TV TUBES Less 40% At Cashier's Booth

REG. \$2.98-2-PIECE Dish Drainer & Mat \$1.88

DELUXE PLASTIC WOVEN Bread Basket 19¢

100 TABLETS Bufferin 88¢ Reg. \$1.29

REG. \$1.35 Noxema 10-Oz. Jar 77¢ For Skin Beauty

CASHIER WINDOW SERVICES
 • FILM DEVELOPING
 • YEAR AROUND LAY-AWAY PLAN
 • Free Gift Wrapping & Greeting Cards for all occasions
 • Mounting and Fishing
 • Checks Cashed
 • Money Orders
 • Postage Stamps
 • Bottle Return
 • Phico TV & Radio Tubes at 40% Discount
 • G.E. Floor Polisher & Water Rental 77¢ a Day

REG. \$1.29 BLACK FLAG HOUSE & GARDEN BOMB 99¢

VALUES TO \$1.99 SEAMLESS NYLONS 2 Pr. 99¢

REG. 20c KENT FLASHLIGHT BATTERIES Leakproof 2 for 19¢

LIQUID 13 OZ. CAN SIMILAC Can 23¢ Case of 24 \$4.99

REG. \$3.95 "AAA" MEN'S T-Shirts or Briefs \$2.49

ALUMINUM Hamburger Mold 49¢

REG. \$1.39-20 FT. HEAVY DUTY Extension Cord 97¢

HAIR STYLIST Hair Spray 88¢ Reg. \$1.29 tax incl.

Subscribers
 To report improper or non-delivery of the Mail Tribune in Medford, phone 772-4141; Ashland call at 416 Bridge St., or phone 482-3022; Yreka, phone 926-2200. Delivery after 6:45 p.m. daily and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. If regular delivery arrives shortly after you call please notify office, thus eliminating special messenger service.

Thunderbird Discount MARKET
 CORNER JACKSONVILLE HIWAY AND LOZIER LANE

