

U.S. military may be deployed indefinitely

WASHINGTON - President Bush, reporting to Congress and the nation on the Persian Gulf crisis, vowed Tuesday night that "Saddam Hussein will fail" in his conquest of Kuwait. He said the Iraqi dictator could not persevere in the face of "a new partnership of nations."

Bush also acknowledged the U.S. military could be deployed in the Saudi Arabian desert indefinitely.

"I cannot predict just how long it will take to convince Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait," Bush said in a nationally broadcast address before a joint session of Congress.

He said U.N.-approved sanctions would take time to squeeze Iraq and that the United States would continue reviewing options with allies. "But let it be clear: we will not let this aggression stand," Bush said.

Fresh from his summit with Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev, Bush said "a new partnership of nations" stands aligned against

Iraq's aggression and that the superpowers are working together on this crisis.

"Clearly, no longer can a dictator count on East-West confrontation to stymie concerted U.N. action against aggression," the president said.

"The crisis in the Persian Gulf, as grave as it is, also offers a rare opportunity to move toward an historic period of cooperation," Bush said.

Bush said "a new world order" may emerge from the crisis in which the world is "freer from the threat of terror, stronger in the pursuit of justice and more secure in the quest for peace -- an era in which the nations of the world, East and West, North and South, can prosper and live in harmony."

Bush offered no new initiatives to resolve the gulf crisis, and repeated many of his past declarations condemning Saddam.

But the point of the speech was to bring

Americans up to date on the crisis, and call for them to stand united as the stalemate lingers on.

"If ever there was a time to put country before self and patriotism before party, that time is now," Bush said.

And Bush called on Congress to pass legislation yet this month to spur domestic energy production and foster conservation.

In particular, Bush cited tax incentives for domestic oil and gas exploration, fuel-switching and acceleration of oil drilling in Alaska "without damage to the wildlife."

Bush said that if the United States had not reacted swiftly to Iraq's invasion, it would have been "a signal to actual and potential despots around the world . . . America must stand up to aggression, and we will," he said.

"And one thing more -- in pursuit of these goals, America will not be intimidated," Bush said. "Vital issues of principle are at stake. Saddam Hussein is literally trying to wipe a

country off the face of the Earth. We do not exaggerate.

"Nor do we exaggerate when we say, Saddam Hussein will fail."

Bush used the speech to explain anew the high stakes for the United States in the oil-rich Middle East.

He said Iraq, by itself, controlled 10 percent of the world's petroleum reserves and doubled its holdings by invading Kuwait.

"We cannot permit a resource so vital to be dominated by one so ruthless. And we won't," the president said.

He said there was an unprecedented level of world cooperation against Iraq, with armed forces from many countries united to deter any attack on Saudi Arabia.

"Muslims and non-Muslims, Arabs and non-Arabs, soldiers from many nations, stand shoulder-to-shoulder, resolute against Saddam Hussein's ambitions," Bush said.

Gorbachev favors radical plan

MOSCOW - Russia's parliament voted overwhelmingly Tuesday for a radical economic reform program, and Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev said he favored it over a moderate plan proposed by his prime minister.

Gorbachev's surprise statement undercut the authority of Prime Minister Nikolai I. Ryzhkov, and added momentum to calls for Ryzhkov's resignation.

It also increased the chances that the radical plan, drafted largely by economist Stanislav Shatalin, will go into effect throughout the Soviet Union.

Shatalin's plan calls for transferring most economic authority from the national government to the country's 15 constituent republics. The republics could then move rapidly to free prices, privatize government industries, legalize private ownership of land and take other steps toward a market-based economy.

The national Supreme Soviet legislature and the parliament of Russia, the largest of the 15 republics, met separately Tuesday to consider the competing proposals.

Ryzhkov addressed the national legislature in a cavernous marble hall at the Kremlin, the centuries-old walled fortress that is the seat of communist power.

He charged that the Shatalin plan would lower living standards by 30 percent, force one out of every four collective farms into bankruptcy, and cause rapid inflation by decontrolling prices on about 75 percent of basic consumer products.

Ryzhkov called for retaining central control over the economy and making a much slower transition to a market-based system. He recommended keeping price controls on most food and household products while raising the cost of some major items, such as televisions, radios and refrigerators.

He also said imports of consumer goods and medicines would have to be cut by one-third because of a shortage of hard currency, and he warned that the government budget would have to be cut to prevent the \$96 billion deficit from ballooning.

Ryzhkov's speech caused commo-

tion in the hall as some delegates, led by Anatoly Sobchak, the reformist mayor of Leningrad, demanded copies of the Shatalin plan and the opportunity to adopt it.

"If you ask me, I like the Shatalin plan better," Gorbachev told the delegates in an animated, 15-minute speech about the need to stabilize the Soviet economy, which is plagued by shortages of bread, meat, paper, gasoline, tobacco and other ordinary goods.

"If there is a real plan to stabilize finances, money circulation, the ruble and the market, then we should adopt the Shatalin idea," Gorbachev said.

Pounding the back of his hand on the lectern, the 59-year-old Soviet leader defended the concept of a free market, which is little understood and much feared by ordinary Soviet citizens.

When price controls are gradually lifted, he said, "we'll have real prices that will estimate who is worth what. Then powerful stimuli will be released for structural changes."

"Of course these will be painful changes. But so be it," he said.

Boyd protester plans hunger strike

SPENCER - Gov. Kay Orr is concerned about an opponent of a five-state, low-level radioactive waste warehouse proposed for Boyd County who plans a hunger strike, an aide to the governor said Tuesday.

In a letter to the governor, Lowell Fisher of Spencer said he would stop eating until Orr acts on a pledge not to allow construction in an area that lacks community consent.

"At 1 p.m. on Sept. 17, I will discontinue eating food with the intention of consuming zero calories until you determine the time has come to right a terrible wrong," Lowell Fisher of Spencer wrote to Orr on Monday.

Fisher is the former head of Save Boyd County, an organization that opposes the waste site.

"The governor has great respect for Lowell Fisher. He has handled himself very professionally and

admirably through this whole process. She's concerned about Lowell, but she recognizes his right to choose his form of protest," said Bud Cuca, Orr's legal counsel.

US Ecology, the developer chosen by a five-state waste compact commission to develop the waste site, has applied for state permission to build the waste warehouse near Butte in Boyd County. The site near the South Dakota border would hold waste from Nebraska, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Kansas.

"Governor, my petition is a simple one. I ask for the sake of Boyd County and Nebraska: Make your word good," Fisher wrote.

"It is never easy for a citizen to do something that requires interruption of our comfortable American lifestyle or take a stand that will bring about ridicule," he wrote. "This situation calls for someone to drive a

stake and say: enough."

Jim Neal, a US Ecology spokesman, said he didn't know what would be accomplished by refusing to eat.

"I recognize he (Fisher) has been put in the position of having to show some responsibility and is trying to set himself apart from some of the tactics used to oppose the project in the past," Neal said. "I don't know what will be accomplished by this particular method."

Fisher referred to 1988 votes against the construction by the McCulley Township board and the Boyd County board of commissioners as indications of a lack of community consent.

He said community consent should be determined by a vote of school districts within 10 miles of the site. The vote should be called by Orr and be scheduled for the Nov. 6 general election, he wrote.

Doe loyalists bomb executive mansion

MONROVIA, Liberia - Troops loyal to slain President Samuel Doe bombarded rebels from atop the executive mansion Tuesday, and a West African leader said Doe's death would make it more difficult to end the war.

Two days after rebels led by Prince Johnson attacked Doe and his entourage at the headquarters of the West African task force, the late president's men used heavy cannons to beat back insurgents.

In the rest of Monrovia, shells exploded and gunfire crackled as Prince Johnson's fighters scoured the city for Doe loyalists.

Survivors from Doe's elite presidential guard turned heavy artillery,

placed on the roof of the seaside executive mansion, onto the rebels and the war-ravaged city. The guns normally face out toward the Atlantic Ocean.

Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara said Doe's men had asked the five-nation West African force to help them evacuate the capital. Jawara said aid would be offered on humanitarian grounds.

The Community ordered a 3,000-member task force into Liberia last month to help quell the 8 1/2-month-old civil war, often marked by tribal fighting. The soldiers are from Nigeria, Ghana, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Gambia.

Jawara, who was visiting Zimbabwe, said that rather than speeding the war's end, Doe's death Monday likely would increase bloodshed.

Witnesses said Doe's mutilated body was on display at Johnson's headquarters outside the city. Johnson had said Doe would be court-martialed, but within a day of his capture Sunday he was reported dead, apparently of gunshot wounds.

Doe's fate was the same as Johnson's former mentor, Brig. Gen. Thomas Quiwonkpa, whose mutilated body was put on display on a car that toured the city of Monrovia after a failed coup attempt against Doe in October 1985.

Commission recommends against art restrictions

WASHINGTON - A bipartisan study commission Tuesday urged Congress not to impose new anti-obscenity restrictions on the National Endowment for the Arts, declaring that Americans must "put up with much we do not like" to preserve freedom of artistic expression.

The 12-member panel also urged NEA chairman John E. Frohnmayer to scrap a controversial requirement that grant recipients sign a pledge that they will not use federal money to produce works that might be deemed obscene.

Frohnmayer has repeatedly resisted demands that he eliminate the pledge, which has created a furor in the arts community, until federal courts rule on lawsuits challenging its constitutionality. He refused comment on the commission's report.

At the same time, the commission proposed a major overhaul of the endowment's grant-making procedures to ensure that the NEA serves the interests of the American public and not a narrow constituency of artists.

The panel concluded that "the endowment is not, in setting policy and making grants, adequately meeting its public responsibilities at the present time" as steward of taxpayer funds.

It proposed that the NEA chairman be given sole, explicit authority to make final grant decisions and that the growing power of "peer review panels" that select grant applications for approval be diminished to an advisory role.

The 94-page report of the commission, established by Congress last fall, drew mixed reviews from lawmakers trying to negotiate a compromise bill that would extend the endowment's life beyond Sept. 30, when its statutory authority expires.

Rep. Tom Coleman, R-Mo., applauded the report as a possible framework for a compromise, but criticized the panel for rejecting

his proposal to shift as much as 60 percent of federal grant money to the control of state arts agencies.

Coleman also served notice that the House probably will ignore the commission's plea and approve some sort of ban on federal subsidies for pornographic or blasphemous art, even if it only embraces the Supreme Court's guidelines on obscenity.

The commission, appointed by President Bush and the House and Senate leadership, said it unanimously opposed legislative curbs on the content of works financed by the arts endowment.

"Content restrictions may raise serious constitutional issues, would be inherently ambiguous and would almost certainly involve the endowment and the Department of Justice in costly and unproductive lawsuits," the panel said.

Instead, it suggested that Congress approve a "preamble" to the NEA reauthorization bill declaring simply that the endowment "serves all of the people" and "reflects the high place the nation accords to the fostering of mutual respect for the disparate beliefs and values among us."

The commission added: "Maintaining the principle of an open society requires all of us, at times, to put up with much we do not like, but the bargain has proved in the long run a good one."

The independent panel was created in October to examine NEA operations. At the same time, at the urging of Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., Congress amended the endowment's \$171 million budget to prohibit using federal funds for works that "may be considered obscene."

Conservative lawmakers and religious fundamentalists were angered by NEA grants for exhibitions of works by photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, which contained sexually graphic images, and by artist Andres Serrano, which they denounced as sacrilegious.

Daily Nebraskan

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