

Bush administration calls up reserves from 4 states

Gorbachev warns of punishment

Mikhail Gorbachev warned Saddam Hussein on Monday that his aggression against Kuwait would be punished, and vowed that the alliance against Iraq would not be broken.

As Gorbachev addressed the Supreme Soviet parliament, the Bush administration called up combat reserve troops from four states.

The United States also consulted with the other four permanent U.N. Security Council members in an attempt to agree on final wording of a resolution authorizing force to drive Iraq from Kuwait.

Oil prices jumped \$2 a barrel amid speculation about war in the Persian Gulf.

Saddam, meanwhile, promised to free at least two Americans held hostage in Iraq. And diplomats in Baghdad reported more than 100 foreign hostages were moved from Kuwait to Iraq overnight.

Gorbachev and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz in the Kremlin to demand that Iraq withdraw its troops from Kuwait.

Answering questions from legisla-

tors in Moscow, Gorbachev said the gulf crisis was a test of the new post-Cold War cooperation.

"Our position remains based on principles and it includes the following: Aggression is inadmissible. It should be punished, and the pre-aggression state should be restored," Gorbachev said.

He said Saddam could not break

“ Aggression is inadmissible. It should be punished, and the pre-aggression state should be restored. ”

Gorbachev
Soviet President

the alliance assembled against Iraq since its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait and that Iraq's aggression could not be allowed to prevail "because we are just moving away from the Cold War, when everything was decided from a position of force."

At the United Nations, the United States continued to woo international support for a resolution authorizing force to liberate Kuwait.

The resolution proposed by the United States would refer to force against Iraq indirectly by saying that if Iraq did not pull its forces out of Kuwait, "all necessary means" would be used to get them out.

The measure apparently has enough votes on the 15-member Security Council to ensure passage. It needs at least nine votes, including those of all

five permanent members to win approval.

The United States is president of the Security Council for November, and U.S. officials want to secure a resolution on the use of force before turning the presidency over to Yemen on Saturday. Council presidents have the power to bring issues forward for votes or to suppress debate.

In the Iraqi capital, American and

British diplomats said more than 100 Americans, Britons and Europeans held in Kuwait had been brought to Baghdad's Mansour Melia hotel. The group included at least 10 Americans and 60 Britons.

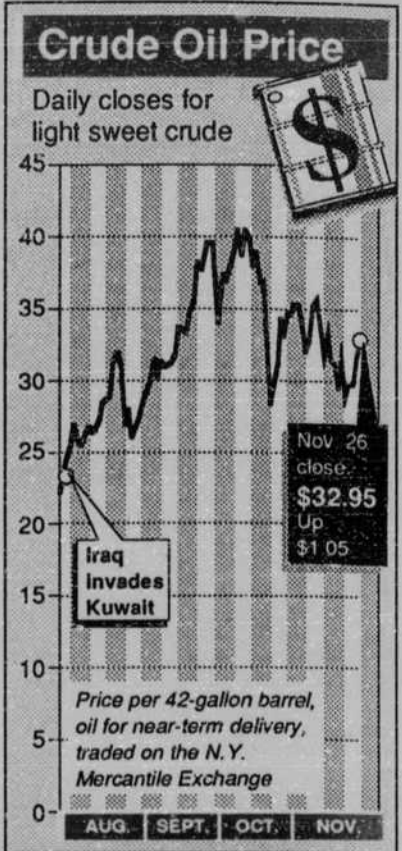
The diplomats said they were unsure if the new arrivals would be used to replace Germans allowed to leave strategic sites in Iraq or were being brought to Baghdad to be released.

They also said Iraq had not allowed any Iraqis to enter Kuwait for a week and had been urging those in the country to go home.

The Swedish Embassy said nearly 60 Swedes, the last remaining Swedish citizens in Iraq, will be allowed to leave.

However, the Soviet Union complained Iraq reneged on a promise to free 1,000 more Soviet citizens this month.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Vitaly Churkin said Iraq's actions were "totally abnormal and unacceptable." The official Soviet news agency Tass said Aziz attributed the Soviets' delayed departures to a "bureaucratic accident."



Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets AP

Thatcher backs treasury chief

LONDON - Three candidates to succeed Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher lobbied for support in the House of Commons Monday, hoping victory was a day away. One of the contenders, John Major, won the support of Mrs. Thatcher.

The outgoing prime minister let it be known that she would vote today for Major, the 47-year-old treasury chief.

But supporters of Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and of former Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine argued that their candidates would be better able to lead Britain if war broke out in the Persian Gulf.

Major and Heseltine both claimed to be edging closer to the necessary 187 votes going into the ballot by the 372 Conservative lawmakers in the

House of Commons. Hurd said he was in second place.

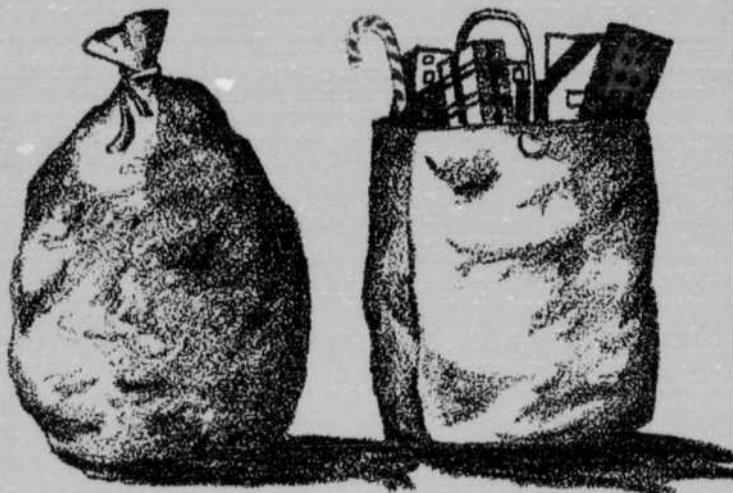
"If you add up the number of pledges, they come to over the number of members of Parliament," said Tory lawmaker Emma Nicholson.

If there is a winner today, Mrs. Thatcher is expected to go to Queen Elizabeth II on Wednesday and resign, and the winner would be called as prime minister.

If the vote is inconclusive, a third and final ballot would be held on Thursday.

If the election goes to a third ballot, lawmakers will vote for their first and second choices. If no one wins a majority of the first-choice votes, then the third-place finisher would be eliminated and his second-choice votes distributed to determine a winner.

Which one are you bringing home for the holidays?



A. Laundry

B. Presents

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