

Hussein hiding Scud missiles, inspectors say

AMMAN, Jordan — Saddam Hussein is moving scores of Scud missiles around Iraq on camouflaged trucks so U.N. weapons inspectors can't find them and has buried an unknown number of rocket boosters, Western officials and other sources say.

One intelligence operative described it as a "real game" of hide-and-seek.

U.N. weapons inspection teams over the past 18 months have tracked down and dismantled much of Iraq's nuclear, chemical and biological weapons programs as well as its surface-to-surface missiles with a range of 90 miles or more under terms of the 1991 Gulf War cease-fire agreement.

American and U.N. officials suspect that Saddam has stashed away some of the 819 Scud-B missiles he acquired from the Soviet Union during the 1980-88 war with Iran, or longer-range al-Hussein and al-Abbas variants Iraq developed.

Tim Trevan, spokesman for the U.N. Special Commission charged with dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, said 151 ballistic missiles have been destroyed by the inspectors or the Iraqis, or are awaiting destruction.

U.N. officials believe Saddam still has around 100 missiles hidden away. The CIA believes the figure is closer to 200.

In March 1991, Iraq admitted it had 52 ballistic missiles. Under intense diplomatic pressure, Baghdad later confessed it had another 92.

U.N. inspectors believe at least 487 of the Soviet Scuds were fired during the Iran-Iraq war or in tests.

It's not known how many Scuds were provided by Syria, Libya or North Korea, or how many were cannibalized to produce the al-Hussein and al-Abbas variants.

The Western operatives, based in Amman to monitor Iraq, said Saddam can't bury his missiles because they would deteriorate and become useless.

Bush imposes new European tariffs

Punitive action could escalate into trade war

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration, seeking to force trade concessions for American soybean farmers, announced Thursday that it was imposing punitive tariffs on \$300 million worth of European imports.

The move would effectively triple the import price of a bottle of European white wine, and it threatened to set off a full-scale trade war between the United States and the 12-nation European Community.

U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills announced that effective Dec. 5, the tariffs on a 750-milliliter bottle of white wine from Europe would rise from seven cents to 200 percent of the prices paid by importers.

American consumers would not likely feel the effects of the higher tariffs until January because many importers have stockpiled shipments in anticipation of such a move.

Several importers said that if the tariffs take effect virtually all European white wines would disappear from American store shelves because the importers would cut off orders, rather than risk being caught with expensive inventories they can't unload at triple the current price.

U.S. officials released a two-page list of 240 wines that would be hit with the higher tariffs. The United States imported \$270 million worth of white wine from Europe last year, with France supplying \$125 million of that amount. Other big suppliers were Italy, \$98 million, and Germany, \$35 million.

Wines from Spain, Portugal and Greece were also targeted for the

new 200 percent tariffs.

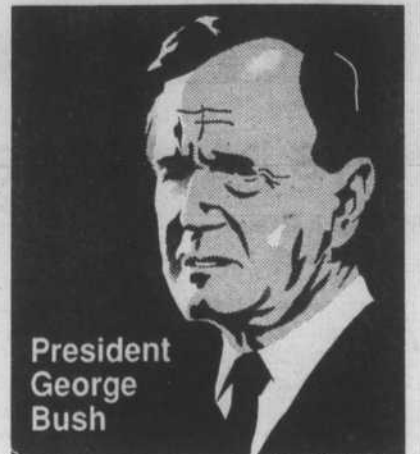
In an addition to \$270 million in white wine imports, Hills also announced that 200 percent tariffs would be imposed on \$30 million in imports of wheat gluten, primarily used as a binder in pet food, and in rapeseed oil, a cooking oil. Germany is the principal European exporter of wheat gluten and rapeseed oil to the U.S. market.

Hills said that she was delaying the effective date for the new tariffs to allow negotiators time for one last-ditch effort to resolve the underlying trade dispute involving American soybean sales to Europe.

"We have demonstrated extraordinary patience, and we are open to further negotiations in the 30 days before the duties become effective," Hills told reporters.

The administration claims the unfair subsidies cost American producers \$1 billion a year in lost sales.

Hills expressed the hope that



President George Bush

Brian Sheltor/DN

talks over the next month would succeed but also issued a new target list of \$1.7 billion worth of other European products. She said the administration would broaden the tariff targets beyond the original \$300 million unless the negotiations succeed.

Minorities gain ground in new Congress

WASHINGTON — The faces may be new, but the resumé's look familiar. The 121 new members of the 103rd Congress are a lot like the incumbents they will join: attorneys, businessmen, state and local officeholders, party activists. Fewer than a dozen come without political experience.

A few will stand out, like Chicago Alderman and former Black Panther Leader Bobby Rush, a Democrat elected to a House seat, or Elizabeth Furse, an Oregon Democrat, peace activist and co-owner of a vineyard, whose House election was her first foray into politics.

But far more common are those like Russell Feingold, a lawyer and 10-year veteran of the Wisconsin state Senate, who defeated incumbent GOP

Sen. Robert Kasten Jr. Or like James Talent, a St. Louis lawyer and minority leader of the Missouri state House, who defeated Democratic Rep. Joan Kelly Horn for a House seat.

The biggest differences in the congressional class of 1992 lie in their racial and gender diversity. The group will include 23 women and 16 men who consider themselves minorities. That will mean a total of 47 women, 38 blacks and 17 Hispanics in the new House, all record numbers that represent a quantum leap in representation of those groups.

But for the most part, the so-called "Year of the Outsider" in politics has produced a crop of new lawmakers who will blend in well with the insiders they join.

Nearly half are lawyers, about the same proportion as make up the current House and Senate. About one-third have a background in business, also about the same as the current Congress. Teachers, government workers and journalists are the next most common occupations among the new group — again a reflection of the current House and Senate makeup.

One new House member, Republican Michael Castle of Delaware, is coming off two terms as his state's governor. Several have been chairmen of their state political parties. All but about 10 have held or run for elected office previously, many in state legislatures.

Some are turning to politics after establishing themselves in business. Michael Huffington earned fame dur-

ing the campaign for spending more than \$4 million to get elected, most of it his own money. A Republican from Santa Barbara, Calif., he is chairman of Crest Films, a film production company.

Martin Hoke, who defeated Democratic Rep. Mary Rose Oakar in Cleveland and its suburbs, built a successful cellular telephone enterprise. Jay Kim of California, also a Republican, is president of an engineering design firm and is the first Korean-American ever elected to Congress.

For some, this won't be their first tenure on Capitol Hill. Blanche Lambert, a Democrat from Arkansas, once worked as a receptionist for Rep. Bill Alexander, the incumbent she beat in the primary. John Mica, a Republican from Florida, is the brother of former Democratic Rep. Dan Mica and once was chief of staff for former Sen. Paula Hawkins, R-Fla.



No time to rest

Smooth move from Little Rock to White House important, experts warn

WASHINGTON — Memo to the president-elect: Don't be fooled by the 11-week wait before you can move into the White House. Your administration has already begun.

That's the essence of advice offered by former officials who've helped past presidents take office.

It is during this transition period, from the election to the inauguration Jan. 20, that decisions are made which in many ways will decide the course of Bill Clinton's presidency.

Key jobs are filled and objectives are set that will become the guideposts for four years.

"You can lose the grip on your presidency and take a large step toward losing the next race for president before you're even sworn in if you don't put the right people in place," Stuart Eizenstat said. He was director of policy development in Jimmy Carter's transition and, later, his domestic adviser.

The last time the Democrats won the White

The smoothness of the transition will be an indicator of how the administration will proceed.

— Abramson think tank executive director

House, internal feuding between two of Carter's top lieutenants, Jack H. Watson Jr., and Hamilton Jordan, dominated the transition but continued into the administration.

Four years later, when Ronald Reagan came into office, hostility between Michael Deaver and Edwin Meese resulted in the White House "troika" of top aides to the president, with James Baker as chief of staff.

"The smoothness of the transition will be an indicator of how the administration will proceed," Mark A. Abramson said. He is executive director of the Council for Excellence in Gov-

ernment, a bipartisan think tank.

Every recent president-elect has provided for some planning even before election day. Clinton has had a small planning group in Little Rock for two months.

Whether the advance work proves helpful is another matter.

Martin Anderson was domestic adviser for Richard Nixon when he was elected in 1968, and later had the same role in Reagan's transition and White House. Anderson said that, shortly after the election, they discovered their pre-election transition plans were virtually

worthless, recommending for jobs many people with no loyalty to Nixon or the Republican Party.

Nixon's team threw those plans out and started from scratch, operating out of a New York hotel.

"It was a disaster," Anderson said. "He lost the presidency on it, I contend."

"Maybe we can be faulted for our view, but we did have a common plan," Richard Allen said. He was in charge of Reagan's foreign policy transition and became his national security adviser.

The first task is to fill the key jobs: the White House staff, the Cabinet secretaries and the economic advisers.

"Your first obligation is to make sure all the job seekers who want to reach you don't reach you, because you can't take time to talk to all of them," Allen, who held a similar role in Nixon's transition, said.

Despite positive economic reports, recovery plagued by unemployment

WASHINGTON — The number of first-time claims for unemployment insurance fell in late October to the lowest level in more than two years, and Americans' productivity improved in the third quarter, the government said Thursday in two upbeat economic reports.

Separately, many major retail chains reported sales increases last month, raising hopes of store owners for the first good Christmas season since 1988.

Economists were encouraged by

the positive news but cautioned that economic growth, while showing signs of improvement, would fail to take off anytime soon.

"The economy is beginning to grow more rapidly, but we still won't have the kind of recovery that has followed past recessions," Bruce Steinberg, an economist with Merrill Lynch in New York, said. "Under those conditions, it's going to take a while to get the unemployment rate down."

New claims for unemployment benefits in the week ending Oct. 24

totaled 360,000, down from 376,000 the week before, the Labor Department said. It was the lowest level since the week ending Aug. 4, 1990, soon after the recession began.

Economists said declining benefit claims were a definite sign of an improving labor market. However, they cautioned that the reduction might not translate immediately into a reduction in the unemployment rate, which was 7.5 percent in September, down from an eight-year high of 7.8 percent in June.

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