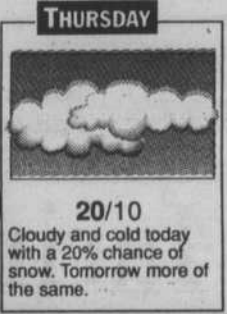


Daily Nebraskan

January 14, 1993

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 92 No. 81



Allied planes strike missile sites in Iraq

British, French join Americans in nighttime raid

WASHINGTON (AP) — American and allied warplanes raided southern Iraq and bombed anti-aircraft missile sites Wednesday in a fiery showdown with Saddam Hussein two years after the Persian Gulf War and a mere week before President Bush leaves office.

The 30-minute, nighttime strike by warplanes from the United States, France and Britain was accompanied by an order from Bush dispatching about 1,300 American troops to Kuwait to stand as a tripwire against any incursion from neighboring Iraq. The bombing fleet included 80 strike planes and 30 support aircraft.

President-elect Bill Clinton, who

was telephoned by Bush as the attack was getting under way, said, "I think it was the right decision, done in the right way."

Clinton said through a spokesman that he "supports President Bush in every action he has taken" and would "do whatever it takes" to ensure Hussein's compliance with U.N. demands.

"Preliminary information indicates the mission was accomplished," presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said at the White House. "All of our planes have returned to their bases."

The United States had accused Iraq of a lengthy series of provocations, including deployment of missile batteries in a "no-fly zone," the firing of a missile from an Iraqi plane at an American aircraft and illegal border crossings into Kuwait.

Iraq condemned the attack as "very uncivilized" but offered to halt cross-border raids into Kuwait.



Source: U.S. Pentagon AP
Hussein, appearing on Iraqi television in military uniform, said, "The

criminals have come back, carrying their hatred and their evil with them."

The allied bombing represented a limited action, confined to military targets and posing no direct threat to the safety of Hussein, hundreds of miles away in Baghdad. The United States said the strike was designed to spare civilian casualties.

Bush said the strike demonstrated "we are serious" in demanding that Hussein comply with U.N. resolutions that set terms at the end of the Gulf War. "You've got to do what you have to do."

Bush said it didn't matter that the bombing came just one week before he left office.

"I'm president until the 20th and I will run the foreign policy and make these kind of decisions as long as I'm president," he said.

In London, Prime Minister John Major said the world was growing increasingly intolerant of Hussein's

defiance.

"I hope this will put an end to the infringements," Major said. "We've hoped that before and it hasn't. If he infringes again, he must expect us to retaliate again and we have made it entirely clear to him that we will certainly do that."

Fitzwater said, "We stand ready to take additional forceful actions."

The military said about 1,300 soldiers from the 1st Cavalry Division, based at Fort Hood, Texas, would fly to Kuwait and join 300 special operations forces already taking part in a military exercise there.

Fitzwater said the bombing was in retaliation for repeated provocations by Iraq.

He said the attack provided "a very strong warning and message to Saddam Hussein that we are prepared to enforce the resolutions, that we

See IRAQ on 3

Governor outlines 1994 budget cuts

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Reporter

Nebraska faces another year of budget shortfalls, but the deficits can be solved without raising sales and income taxes, Gov. Ben Nelson said Wednesday. During his annual state-of-the-state and budget address, Nelson detailed his 1994 budget proposal, which was \$4.3 million less than this year's budget.

"Step one has been to put the brakes on state spending," he said, "but Washington's heavy foot is still on the gas pedal."

Health care, education and the environment topped Nelson's priority list for the 93rd session. The University of Nebraska was not mentioned for cuts in the address, but Sen. Scott Moore of Seward said the university might not be off the hook yet.

Moore said Nelson didn't make enough specific cuts and the Legislature might have to look deeper for bigger cuts.

"The Legislature has to cut a lot more to make it work," he said. "He didn't do as much as I hoped. I'm going to have to be the bad guy."

Moore, chairman of the appropriations committee, said he was disappointed with some of the governor's proposals. The budget is a \$68 million problem, he said.

The income tax system needs to be fixed, Nelson said, and he is proposing a tax cut for 400,000 Nebraska families — about 80 percent of the

state's taxpayers.

Moore said he wasn't sure tax cuts were appropriate in this budget year. "I'd rather raise the (sales and income) taxes than steal from property taxes," he said.

Medicaid is at the top of the health-care agenda, Nelson said. Costs have grown 48 percent over the past two years, and will account for over \$72 million of all new expenditures in the next two years.

"Health care continues to be a major concern across the country," he said. "Costs are escalating beyond the rate of inflation."

Sen. Don Wesely of Lincoln, chairman of the health and human services committee, said the address was uplifting and filled with good news, but might not be realistic.

"In most everything we look at, we have somebody getting hurt," he said. "There will be opposition — none of the ideas have smooth sailing."

Wesely said he was glad no across-the-board cuts were recommended by the governor, and that the highway trust fund was an option where funds could be taken from.

Sen. Ron Withem of Papillion also was pleased not to see any budget cuts across-the-board. He said the health-care dilemma controlled the entire budget.

Withem, chairman of the education committee, said the governor's proposals to not cut university funds were realistic if the Medicaid problem could be solved.



Staci McKee/DN

Gov. Ben Nelson delivers his state-of-the-state address to the Nebraska Legislature Wednesday morning at the state capitol in Lincoln.

Senator encourages environmental knowledge

Change occurs by investment, Kerrey says

By Doug Kouma
Staff Reporter

Nebraskans must have a deep and abiding respect of the land to better understand their environment, Sen. Bob Kerrey said Wednesday in a speech at the East Campus Union.

Speaking to nearly 200 UNL students, faculty members and other participants at the first session of the 1993 Water Resources Seminar Series, Kerrey said, "If you act without knowing about the place you live, it's apt to be that you're going to make some mistakes."

Kerrey urged the participants to look at Nebraska as a larger geographical region, not as a political state. Because Nebraska makes up most of the Missouri River Basin, Kerrey said, residents must live differently from people in neighboring states.

Before government policies on environmental issues can be reformed, Kerrey said, people must extend their view of the land where they live beyond political boundaries and begin to see the region as an intricate water drainage system comprised of many different rivers.

"I believe the presence of these rivers in the state of Nebraska makes this place unique," Kerrey said.

Kerrey stressed that people must be willing to make an investment in the future.

"We're missing a vision and a willingness to build that vision," he

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I believe the presence of these rivers in the state of Nebraska makes this place unique

--Kerrey
Nebraska Senator

said. In addition, people must be willing to adjust their actions to meet changing environmental standards.

Kerrey said that of all his accomplishments as governor, he was most proud of the state parks and recreation areas he helped to create.

"These places can enrich our lives in a way that I consider to be very important," he said.

Future lectures in the seminar series will feature speakers from around the world and deal with topics such as "Global Climate Change," "Interna-

tional River Management" and "Water, Agriculture and the Environment."

The seminar series is co-sponsored by the University of Nebraska Water Center and Environmental Programs and the "Environment and Politics" program of the UNL Departments of Civil Engineering and Political Science.

Focusing on global perspectives of environmental and water-related issues, the lectures will be presented every Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. at the Nebraska East Union.

The lectures are open to the public.

Professors: bombing justified

By Michelle Leary
Senior Reporter

The bombing of Iraqi missile sites was a justifiable move by the United States, two University of Nebraska-Lincoln professors said. Bill Avery, a political science professor, said Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein gave the United States numerous reasons to strike.

U.S., French and British aircraft bombed targets in Iraq Wednesday in retaliation for weeks of provocations by Hussein, which allied officials contended violated agreements ending the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

"Hussein's cheat-and-retreat strategy warranted a response from the U.S.," Avery said. "The U.S. is not going to take that kind of behavior."

The attack was a limited one, confined to the southern part of Iraq and directed at surface-to-air missile batteries and supporting equipment.

"Hussein goaded the U.S. into attacking Iraq, but the U.S. is not going to go beyond United Nations-sponsored resolutions," Avery said.

John Hibbing, also a political science professor, agreed with Avery, saying he wasn't opposed to the move.

"I wish it was a move we didn't have to make, but Hussein just continued to ignore the U.N. guidelines," he said. "I hope Hussein will start taking the international community more seriously, because the U.S. is not going to take his antics anymore."

"It was probably a tactical mistake on our (the United States) part not to have removed Hussein from presidency after the war," Avery said, "because each time he engages in a violation against the agreement, he gains a slight advantage."

Avery said there was still a possibility that the Iraqis themselves might remove Hussein from office, "but the opportunity was greater after the war than it is now."