

# News Digest

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## Senators: UN deal in Iraq won't work

WASHINGTON (AP) — Several members of Congress said on Sunday that the UN-brokered agreement on weapons inspections in Iraq won't work. The only solution to getting weapons of mass destruction out of Iraq is to drive Saddam Hussein from power.

Some of the lawmakers said on Sunday news programs that the Iraqi president should be tried as an international war criminal to show the United States is right to bring about his downfall.

"It is our goal to remove him from power because it's patently obvious to all observers that as long as he's there, we're faced with this enormous challenge," Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Echoed Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Neb., on the same program: "We've got to change the objective in Iraq and say that we're going to try to replace this dictatorship with a democracy."

Sandy Berger, President Bill Clinton's national security adviser, agreed Sunday in a Washington Post opinion column that the United States should support Iraqi opposition groups.

He cautioned that past efforts to overthrow a government by proxy, at Hungary in 1956 or the Bay of Pigs in 1961, failed: "Before we embrace lofty goals we must be sure this time that we are prepared for the ride."

The deal worked out a week ago between UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and Hussein on opening up Iraq's presidential sites to weapons inspectors to avert what appeared to be imminent U.S. military action has been met in Washington with suspicion and, particularly among Republicans, derision.

The 15-member Security Council meets today to consider a U.S.-backed resolution, submitted by Britain and Japan, endorsing the Annan agreement.

Critics contend Hussein has no intention of revealing his chemical and biological weapons programs and will likely move weapons before inspectors arrive.

Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations, Nizar Hamdoun, said Iraq would give full access to the

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**BOB KERREY**  
senator, D-Neb.

inspectors as promised. "We will be sticking to our word," he told CNN's "Late Edition."

And Annan, in an interview in the Time magazine edition published today, said the Iraqis are fully aware after his trip to Baghdad that if they break the agreement, "the attitude on the Security Council will be quite different, and ... it may be much easier for the U.S. to get a consensus to strike."

He said he bluntly told Hussein that his support around the world is limited. Asked if that surprised Hussein, Annan said, "It's difficult to know, because he shows no emotion on his face."

Chief weapons inspector Richard Butler supported Annan's view of the agreement. On both CNN and ABC's "This Week with Sam Donaldson and Cokie Roberts," Butler said the agreement should keep inspectors firmly in control. "If they keep their promise, our access will actually be improved," Butler said.

Lawmakers said trying Hussein at the war-crimes tribunal in the Hague, Netherlands, should be one means, along with supporting a democratic opposition, of forcing the Iraqi leader from power.

"If we were to make efforts to topple him," Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., said on CBS's "Face the Nation," "we would certainly be within our rights in a much broader way since he (would have) been declared a war criminal and perhaps through a trial tried in absentia."

Specter introduced a Senate resolution today urging such a trial.

## Texas school of law challenges ranking

Daily Texan  
University of Texas at Austin

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN, Texas — After plummeting in the U.S. News and World Report rankings released this month, the UT School of Law is aggressively tracking down former students to improve its employment statistics for future rankings.

Law school officials held a symposium Thursday to discredit the drop from 18<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> in this year's ranking.

"We are taking a whole series of aggressive steps to counteract this outrageous treatment from U.S. News," said Brian Leiter, a UT professor of law.

The magazine attributed the drop to the law school's failure to track employment status after graduation. The law school reported the status of 61 former students was unknown. Of those, the magazine classified 75 percent as unemployed.

The law school is going to debunk those numbers, said Leiter, adding that the Career Services Office is working to track down for-

mer students.

"We are going to get on the phone and get on the Internet, and use whatever data sources we can find," Leiter said.

The numbers are needed by next Monday for another magazine survey, so school administrators will work through the weekend if necessary, he said.

After compiling new numbers, the law school will have a better idea of the true unemployment rate and demand U.S. News revise its rankings, he said.

"If they decline to do so, we'll publicize that fact as well," Leiter said.

Leiter also encouraged students to keep the school informed about their employment upon graduation.

Law school deans from across the country have criticized the magazine's rankings and challenged the accuracy of the rating methods.

He added other publications gave the law school a higher ranking.

"U.S. News doesn't have it all," Leiter said. "The Gorman Report, which ranks us No. 12, has now

been adopted by the Princeton Review. Every bookstore that I've been in has a Princeton Review Gorman Report on the shelf."

The law school's career services office has sent several letters to UT law students and law firms criticizing the rankings and explaining why the UT School of Law didn't score well this year, he said.

But some law students said Thursday the Career Services Office doesn't do enough to help students outside of the top 25 percent of the class find jobs.

Others said the lower rankings won't hurt them in the job market.

"I personally don't think this is going to affect me," said first-year law student Patrick Ryan. "I'm more interested in maintaining the high standards of the school."

Student support is important, Leiter said.

"You've got to know the facts about what U.S. News did ... you've got to be willing to share it with your friends at law schools elsewhere and your friends who are undergraduates thinking about law school."

## Teens sue tobacco industry

The Daily Universe  
Brigham Young University

(U-WIRE) PROVO, Utah — Two local lawyers are representing a group of some 30,000 minors who are suing tobacco companies for just over \$2 billion.

B. Seth Bailey and his father H. Deloyd Bailey filed a class action lawsuit last month on behalf of two eighteen-year-olds and a seventeen-year-old. The suit asks for damages to be paid by 19 major tobacco companies of up to \$75,000 for each of the 30,000 plaintiffs.

"The suit is based on five specific causes of action, or reasons, behind the suit. The plaintiffs will be suing for battery, negligent misrepresentation, fraud, negligence and strict product liability," H. Deloyd Bailey said.

The plaintiffs got the idea to sue when new research came out on how the tobacco industry specifically targets minors in their advertising.

"They got upset and now they're

going to try to give the tobacco industry what it deserves," B. Seth Bailey said.

According to H. Deloyd Bailey, there are currently 19 similar suits filed across the country, so it is not a new thing.

"The thing that is different about this one is that the plaintiffs in this case are all minors. They all feel that they have been affected by the tobacco industries advertising, whether it be them personally or their friends and family," he said.

H. Deloyd Bailey said that questions will come up as to whether or not advertising is the cause of these kids' problems.

"People think that kids just do it to be cool, which might be the case," he said. "What these kids are saying is not that it wasn't their fault; to them it is a question of ethics. What these companies did was unethical and wrong and that's why they're suing."

A class action lawsuit is when a few named people represent a much larger group of people who are all wanting to sue for the same thing, H. Deloyd Bailey

said.

"It is a difficult thing to coordinate because there are so many people, so the coordination is what we're working on right now," he said.

According to John Guynn, an attorney in Salt Lake City, Utah, the tobacco companies are going to do all they can to keep this case from going to court at the state level.

"If they can get it to go to the federal courts they will have a much better chance of winning," Guynn said.

H. Deloyd Bailey agreed and said that he will do all he can to keep the case in the state courts.

"If it goes federal, it will be a lot harder for us, but I still think we'll win. We don't need a smoking gun to win this one, but we've got one. The new research that came out is all we need," he said.

H. Deloyd Bailey said that what he wants to accomplish through all of this is to alter the way that people behave and the way that minors and the tobacco companies see smoking.

## Reagan was in decline, biographer says

WASHINGTON — Twelve years after receiving unprecedented access to a president at work, historian Edmund Morris is offering a glimpse into what he thinks about Ronald Reagan.

Morris sees the 40<sup>th</sup> president as an aging, declining leader who was not up to handling the greatest crisis of his presidency, the Iran-Contra affair.

Morris, whose book on the Reagan presidency is expected later this year, offered the view that Reagan's decline started after Reagan was shot and seriously wounded on March 30, 1981, in the third month of his presidency.

"His thoughts became slower, his speech became slower, he deliberated more, he hesitated more when he spoke," Morris said last week. "He lost his quickness.

And for the rest of his presidency it was a very, very slow and steady mental and physical decline."

Initially, he said, Reagan was fully engaged with the paperwork that came his way, constantly checking off points and writing comments in the margins.

"But as the years proceed, you see he is less and less interested," Morris said. "He was saving his facilities, as old men do, for the really important, vital events."

Morris' insights are of interest because during much of Reagan's second term, the historian was given what no other presidential biographer ever had — a "fly-on-the-wall" opportunity to observe history as it occurred in the White House.

With the former president silenced by Alzheimer's disease

and unable to offer any accounts of his own, Reagan followers have been eagerly awaiting the Morris book. The book was originally planned for 1991. The publisher, Random House, said it will come out in the fall. Morris is the author of a Pulitzer Prize-winning biography of Theodore Roosevelt.

After the disclosure about the sale of arms for hostages to Iran and the unlawful transfer of the proceeds to the anticommunist Contra forces in Nicaragua, Morris said, Reagan was at sea, incapable of coping.

"That was the first time I got the feeling that he was not able to handle anything that came at him again," Morris said. "He wasn't quite up to handling a crisis of that dimension."

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