

# News Digest

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1998

PAGE 2



## Sniper, police officer shot, killed in St. Joseph

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. (AP) — A sniper opened fire downtown Tuesday night, killing a police officer and wounding at least three others before authorities fatally shot the gunman.

Witnesses told police the man began firing while walking up the street, shooting randomly at people as he walked toward the Calvary Baptist Church, Lt. Jim Connors said.

The first officer to respond to the scene was shot as soon as he got out of his car, authorities said.

The officer was pronounced dead soon after he arrived at Heartland Regional Medical Center, hospital spokeswoman Kelly Stuck said. One bystander was in stable condition, and another was in surgery Tuesday night, Stuck said.

The sniper was shot and killed by police at the scene, Connors said.

Connors said police shot the gunman after cornering him behind the church. The gunman had continued firing at them, he said.

Michael Boone, a grocery store night manager, said he saw the sniper walking toward his store.

"We just heard all kinds of gun fire, and people were running inside the store for cover," Boone said. "We tried to move them all into the back where there could be safe, but people were really scared."

"There were a lot of bodies lying in the street."

## Vietnam Memorial wall to appear on Internet site

WASHINGTON (AP) — The 58,196 names etched on the Vietnam Memorial wall will be posted on the Internet together with the spoken memories of their families, Vice President Al Gore said Tuesday.

Users will be able to visit the Web site, <http://www.thevirtualwall.org>, click on a deceased veteran's name and in many cases hear audio remembrances from family members or friends.

In January, Web site visitors will be able to experience a "virtual wall," a recreation of the look of the Vietnam Memorial wall at its location near the national mall.

## More warships sent to Persian Gulf

### Defense Secretary Cohen warns that Iraq has been put on notice.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon stepped up the movement of warships to the Persian Gulf on Tuesday, and the Clinton administration swept aside the idea of negotiations with Iraq over U.N. weapons inspections.

Defense Secretary William Cohen warned that if Saddam Hussein continues to refuse the U.N. inspections, he risks strikes that would cause a "significant degradation" of his military strength.

"Iraq is on notice," Cohen said. "The military option is still on the table."

President Clinton met for 90 minutes with his top national security advisers, reviewing military and diplomatic options. He also worked the phones, conferring with leaders in Britain and Israel.

State Department spokesman James P. Rubin said there were limits to diplomacy.

"What is not needed, and there is no plan for it, is negotiations with Saddam Hussein," Rubin said. "We have no doubt many governments are conveying that message."

With inspections suspended, "he will be able to reconstitute his weapons in a matter of months, not

years," he said.

"This cannot go on indefinitely. Saddam Hussein is not an abstract threat."

The latest standoff began after Iraq announced Oct. 31 it was halting cooperation with the U.N. Special Commission, which is responsible for overseeing the destruction of Iraq's chemical and biological weapons and long-range missiles.

Iraq must get rid of its weapons of mass destruction before the Security Council will lift the sanctions that were imposed on its sale of oil following the Gulf War.

Cohen, speaking at a Pentagon photo session with Singapore's defense minister, Tony Tan, said he has decided to hasten the movement of the USS Enterprise aircraft carrier and a group of Marine warships into the region in case the United States chooses military action.

Asked what airstrikes might achieve, Cohen said the goal would be to make sure Iraq, in the absence of U.N. inspections, was not reconstituting its weaponry.

"We'd consider the possibility of degrading his capability of manufacturing the weapons of mass destruction, or the means of delivering them, of posing a threat to the region. ... It would be a significant degradation of his capacity," Cohen said, adding that he hoped it would not be necessary to take such steps.

## Iraq hopes for support from other Arab nations

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq is reaching out for Arab support in its dispute with U.N. weapons inspectors in hopes of leaving the United States isolated in its campaign to rally backing for the use of force against the Iraqis.

Iraq's foreign minister, Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf, chose an Arab television station — Qatar's Al-Jazeera — for his first interview on the dispute.

Al-Sahhaf warned that "any use of military force against Iraq would lead to destabilizing the region."

In mobilizing support for Iraq, the country's trade minister, Mohammed Mehdi Saleh, said Tuesday that America "will lose from any strike that takes place, and Iraq will gain."

Asked how, Saleh said "politically." It reflected Iraq's thinking that sympathy for the Iraqis — especially in Arab nations — would leave the United States isolated in its

campaign against the Baghdad regime.

Saleh made his comments at the closing ceremony of a 10-day trade fair in Baghdad that drew delegations from 30 countries, 17 of them Arab or predominantly Muslim.

There already are hints Iraq is prepared to go further in spite of U.S. and British threats of military action.

Al-Thawra, a newspaper published by Saddam's ruling Baath Party, said in an editorial Monday that "the language of threats will make it legitimate for Iraq to review everything concerning its relations with UNSCOM and the Security Council."

Western diplomats said this implied that Iraq could reject long-term U.N. monitoring of its weaponry or payments of war reparations, as required under U.N. resolutions.

At present, there are 23,500 U.S. troops, 23 ships and 173 aircraft in the Gulf region. Eight of the ships are loaded with long-range

Tomahawk cruise missiles, believed to be a top choice for hitting potential Iraqi targets, should a strike be ordered.

## Netanyahu prepared to ratify peace accord

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced Tuesday he would convene his Cabinet to ratify the Mideast peace accord signed in Washington last month, indicating he is now satisfied with Palestinian security assurances.

Netanyahu has postponed the Cabinet debate three times, saying he needed more clarifications from the Palestinians about their campaign against Islamic militants.

Last Friday, the ministers had just begun their second day of debate when the militant Islamic Jihad group carried out a suicide bombing in Jerusalem's market, killing the two bombers and wounding 21 Israelis.

In response, Netanyahu broke off the Cabinet meeting and said he would not reconvene the ministers until the Palestinian Authority outlined how it would prevent attacks against Israelis.

On Tuesday he said new guarantees led him to believe that Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority would take "practical steps" against Islamic militants.

The Cabinet was scheduled to meet in Jerusalem today.

Both the United States and the Palestinians welcomed the announcement.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had urged Netanyahu to stick to the original 12-week timetable of the accord under which Israel is to withdraw from 13 percent of the West Bank by the end of January, in exchange for a Palestinian anti-terror campaign.

If the Cabinet ratifies the agreement, Israel might still be able to meet its first commitment Nov. 16, an initial troop pullback from 2 percent of the West Bank.

"I hope that the agreement will be ratified tomorrow and that they will begin to make up for lost time," said senior Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat. He said the delays have already held up, among other things, the opening of the Palestinian airport and the establishment of several committees stipulated in the accord.

The Wye agreement, signed in Washington on Oct. 23, says the Palestine National Council and other Palestinian organizations will meet in mid-December to "reaffirm" a January letter by Arafat to President Clinton that lists the PLO charter clauses considered annulled.

## Storm strikes Nebraska; power out, roads blocked

The Associated Press

It was supposed to be a practice winter storm drill for Nebraska weather officials Tuesday, but that was postponed. Instead, they had to deal with the real thing.

The first major storm of the fall-winter season smacked Nebraska with relatively light snow totals but with blizzard-force winds and subzero wind chills. There were reports of scattered power outages, downed trees and traffic problems so treacherous that highways were closed or travel restricted on roads from central Nebraska into the northeast.

Many motorists were stranded, schools closed or class starts delayed, businesses shut down, and some residents were left in the dark.

Wind chills dipped to 20 below in northwest Nebraska early Tuesday in the aftermath of the storm that hit the area with snow and blowing snow late Monday afternoon.

Northeast and north-central Nebraska received a shot Tuesday after heavy rainfall late Monday night turned into ice and snow. Snowfall totals of 3 to 4 inches were reported in the Norfolk area. Three inches fell in Brewster and 2 in Anselmo, Eustis and Hyannis.

The problem, however, was the wind.

The National Weather Service reported winds gusting over 50 mph in Omaha, Fremont, O'Neill, Ainsworth, Ogallala, Columbus, Tekamah, Ord and Aurora at midmorning. O'Neill had a gust that hit 62 mph and Tekamah officials said gusts hit 61 mph there. That left single-digit wind chills above and below zero from one end of the state to the other.

Workers at the Nebraska Public Power District were busy Tuesday

“There was a string of cars at least two miles long in front of me. I never saw the front end of it.”

LES MANN  
stranded motorist

morning repairing power lines affected by the storm.

Beth Boesch, NPPD regional manager in Norfolk, said employees started working at 2 a.m. to restore power lost by an estimated 1,000 customers in an 18-county area.

"We had crews responding from Valentine all the way to Dakota City and Ponca," Boesch said.

The outages, she said, were due to strong winds and ice on power lines. Also having an impact were leaves still left on the trees, which made the ice-laden branches heavier and caused some to snap, taking power lines with them.

Les Mann of rural Wayne said he was stuck on U.S. Highway 275 for two hours on his drive to work at Norfolk before he decided to turn back home.

"There was a string of cars at least two miles long in front of me," he said. "I never saw the front end of it."

Mann said he drove by at least 50 westbound vehicles that were blocked by the incident, and he expected Highway 275 to be blocked most of Tuesday morning.

## Daily Nebraskan

Editor: Erin Gibson  
Managing Editor: Chad Lorenz  
Associate News Editor: Bryce Glenn  
Associate News Editor: Brad Davis  
Assignment Editor: Kasey Kerber  
Opinion Editor: Cliff Hicks  
Sports Editor: Sam McKewon  
A&E Editor: Bret Schulte  
Copy Desk Chief: Diane Broderick  
Photo Chief: Matt Miller  
Design Chief: Nancy Christensen  
Art Director: Matt Haney  
Online Editor: Gregg Stearns  
Diversions Editor: Jeff Randall

Questions? Comments?  
Ask for the appropriate section editor at  
(402) 472-2588  
or e-mail [dn@unl.edu](mailto:dn@unl.edu).

General Manager: Dan Shattil  
Publications Board: Jessica Hofmann, (402) 466-8404  
Chairwoman: Don Walton, (402) 473-7248  
Professional Adviser: Nick Patsch, (402) 472-2589  
Advertising Manager: Andrea Oeltjen  
Asst. Ad Manager: Marni Speck  
Classified Ad Manager:

Fax number: (402) 472-1761

World Wide Web: [www.unl.edu/DailyNeb](http://www.unl.edu/DailyNeb)

The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448, Monday through Friday during the academic year; weekly during the summer sessions. The public has access to the Publications Board. Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by calling (402) 472-2588.

Subscriptions are \$55 for one year.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Periodical postage paid at Lincoln, NE.

ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT 1998  
THE DAILY NEBRASKAN