



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

16 MARCH 2002

U.S. PRESIDENT SAYS 'WE ARE GOING TO DEAL' WITH SADDAM

Mar 14, 2002 Reuters reports: "President Bush said...that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is a problem and 'we are going to deal with him.' 'I am deeply concerned about Iraq,' Bush told a White House news conference. 'This is a nation run by a man who is willing to kill his own people ... a man who won't let inspectors into the country ... He is a problem and we're going to deal with him.'

Bush said U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney was traveling in the Middle East 'reminding people about this danger and that we need to work in concert to confront this danger.' As he has in the past, Bush said the United States will consult with its allies. 'We will share our views of how to make the world more safe with regards to Iraq.'..."



Iraq

SADDAM HUSSEIN TAUNTS U.S. & BRITAIN

Mar 14, 2002 The Mirror UK reports: "Saddam Hussein yesterday defied US threats to strike at Iraq, declaring: 'They don't scare us.' The tyrant spoke out as Foreign Secretary Jack Straw told MPs that Iraq posed a 'severe' threat to security - but military action was a 'last resort'.

Mocking war plans by President Bush and Tony Blair, Saddam told supporters in Baghdad: 'Recent futile threats will not scare your country. It has reached such a level that threats will not intimidate it.' He denounced US Vice President Dick Cheney's 11-nation Middle East tour to win support for military action against Iraq as 'wicked'.

And on a bloody day in which 38 died in the West Bank and Gaza, he showed his contempt for the West by doubling to £15,000 the cash he gives the families of Palestinian suicide bombers..."

DICK CHENEY PICKS UP EGYPTIAN SUPPORT ON IRAQ

Mar 14, 2002 Reuters reports: "Vice President Dick Cheney gained valuable Arab support Wednesday for the U.S. pressure campaign against Iraq, with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak saying Egypt would push Iraq to accept international arms inspectors.

'We'll try hard with Saddam Hussein to accept the U.N. inspectors to go there,' Mubarak told reporters at a joint news conference with Cheney. 'We are going to meet to some of his special envoys and tell them that this is a must.'

Asked whether Saddam should be toppled if he did not admit inspectors, Mubarak left the door open to further action, saying: 'If there is nothing happening, we'll find out what could be done in that direction.'..."

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U.S. PREPARES FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE NUKE ATTACK IN MIDDLE EAST

Mar 13, 2002 The Middle East Newsline reports: "The Bush administration has ordered contingency plans for a U.S. nuclear attack on Middle East states that are developing nonconventional weapons.

The states that could come under attack from U.S. tactical nuclear weapons include Iraq, Iran, Libya and Syria, a classified Defense Department report said. None of these states are believed to yet have nuclear weapons.

'All have long-standing hostility towards the United States and its security partners,' the report said. 'All sponsor or harbor terrorists, and have active WMD [weapons of mass destruction] and missile programs.'

The Pentagon report, which has been confirmed by Bush administration officials and relayed to Congress, envisioned a U.S. nuclear attack on a range of Middle East rogue states. The scenarios include retaliation for a nonconventional attack on Israel, a chemical or biological weapons strike on U.S. troops or interests and the U.S. destruction of underground nonconventional facilities in the Middle East..."

IRAQI TROOPS SAID DEPLOYED ALONG JORDANIAN BORDER

Mar 13, 2002 *The Middle East Newsline* reports: "Iraqi troops are said to have been ordered to the Jordanian border. Iraqi opposition sources said an undetermined number of Iraqi troops have arrived at the Jordanian border from their positions in northern Iraq. The sources said the redeployment began over the weekend.

The London-based Al Hayat daily said the Iraqi forces had been stationed near the Kurdish autonomous zone in northern Iraq. Al Hayat said the troops have dug bunkers in the desert frontier between Iraq and Jordan.

The report in the Saudi-owned newspaper appeared on Tuesday hours before the arrival of U.S. Vice President Richard Cheney to Jordan, where he is to meet King Abdullah. The newspaper quoted Kurdish sources based in Damascus.

Jordan has expressed opposition to any U.S. attack against the regime of President Saddam Hussein. On Monday, Iraqi Vice President Izzedin Ibrahim ended a weekend visit to Jordan..."

BLAIR FACES THREAT OF RESIGNATIONS OVER IRAQ

Mar 9, 2002 *Financial Times* reports: "Tony Blair faces the threat of ministerial resignations - including at least one cabinet member - if he backs any US military action against Iraq, government insiders said yesterday.

The warning comes as the prime minister is under growing pressure from ministers who say the government is drifting and failing to seize the domestic agenda. On the eve of a special political session of the cabinet at Chequers to discuss next month's Budget, the spending round and public services, ministers said the government was failing to get a coherent message across.

Doubts about military action in Iraq surfaced at the cabinet's regular weekly meeting on Wednesday, when some ministers expressed reservations about committing British forces without clear political support and an exit plan..."

SOME ONE CAN TRACK YOU BY YOUR CELL PHONE

Mar 11, 2002 *ZDNet* reports: "The nation's cell phone service providers will soon know exactly where every one of their customers is, at all times, and privacy rights groups are asking what they plan to do with the information.

All U.S. carriers are under Federal Communications Commission orders to make it possible for police to locate cell phones calling 911, something police can't do now. Carriers plan to use the same systems to sell services like helping stranded motorists even if they don't know their location, or finding the closest restaurant.

Because people with cell phone generally always carry their phone with them, the FCC regulations give the thriving market for personal information something its never had a chance to get: the exact locations at all times of more than 140 million people..."

