

Millions Stage Anti-War Protests Worldwide

--People around the world protest war in Iraq.--

BACKGROUND:

Every country has a different opinion about President Bush's push towards a war with Iraq. Do we go to war? Do we wait for more inspections? Is Iraq in compliance? Do we support military action without Security Council authorization? Every country has a slightly different answer. Fifteen countries' answers are in the spotlight because of their membership to the United Nations' Security Council.

Permanent Members:

The United States: Iraq is developing weapons of mass destruction, is failing to cooperate with weapons inspectors and is violating its obligations under U.N. resolutions. Washington says it already has Security Council authorization to use military force to disarm Iraq.

Britain: Prefers a second Security Council resolution authorizing any military action, but is expected to join U.S.-led action without one. Says Iraq is not cooperating or disarming and that time is running out for it to do so through weapons inspections.

Russia: Iraq is cooperating with inspectors and there is no evidence it is rearming. Russia wants economic sanctions, imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, to eventually be lifted and says the council must authorize any use of force.

China: Supports continued inspections.

France: Says inspections are starting to work and sees no justification for military action now. Paris has hinted it could use its veto to block council authorization for military action at this stage.

Elected Members:

Germany: Insists Iraq must be disarmed peacefully and has said it will not participate in

any military intervention, even if the Security Council authorizes such action.

Spain: Supports the Bush administration's stance on Iraq. Believes military intervention could proceed without Security Council authorization.

Pakistan: Supports continued weapons inspections and a diplomatic resolution of the conflict.

Syria: Damascus says Iraq is cooperating with its obligations under U.N. resolutions and has called for U.N. sanctions to be lifted.

Mexico: Supports continued weapons inspections and could support military intervention authorized by the Security Council.

Cameroon: Supports continued inspections and has not taken a position regarding military action.

Chile: Supports continued inspections and has not taken a position regarding military action.

Angola: Supports continued inspections in Iraq.

Bulgaria: Indicated it would support U.S.-led military intervention without a Security Council authorization.

Guinea: Supports continued inspections and has not taken a position regarding military action.

The next interim report from U.N. inspectors is on Feb. 28.

(For more information about the Security Council and Iraq, please see The Weekly Report: November 11, 2002, December 2, 2002, and January 20, 2003).

STORY:

More than four million protesters took to the streets around the globe on Saturday to send a message to President Bush not to attack Iraq and to give peace a chance. In a huge wave of demonstrations not seen since the Vietnam War, anti-war marchers in more than 600 towns and cities from Canberra to Cape Town and Chicago called on Bush to back off his hawkish stance

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toward Iraq, which his administration accuses of hiding weapons of mass destruction that pose a global threat.

In London, at least half a million people marched in the biggest peace demonstration in British history. The New York protest was believed to be the largest single anti-war protest in the US, calling on Bush not to invade Iraq.

Smaller protests were held in Chicago, where some 3,000 people turned out, and Philadelphia, where about 5,000 demonstrators showed up carrying signs such as "Let the rich fight their own war," and "Saddam is bad. War is worse." In California, tens of thousands of protesters were expected to join demonstrations in Los Angeles, San Diego, San Jose and the state capital in Sacramento.

The largest rallies in Europe were in those countries whose leaders have vocally supported Bush's position. The French Interior Ministry estimated at least 300,000 people turned out to protest across the country. France's opposition to military action against Iraq is supported in Europe by Berlin, where some 500,000 people attended a rally. It was the biggest protest in Germany since the end of World War II.



In Barcelona nearly 1.3 million people turned out in the city's biggest protest ever and hundreds of thousands rallied in Madrid, paralyzing the city center. In Rome about a million people marched through the ancient streets under a sea of rainbow peace banners. In Slovenia, demonstrators gathered in the capital Ljubljana and in the city of Maribor, many burning candles.

About 600 people marched in Tel Aviv to protest at the U.S. push for military action against Iraq. Israel's right-wing government and most of its population favor a war to remove Saddam Hussein, regarding him as a key financial and

moral supporter of a 28-month-old Palestinian militant uprising.

In Washington, a White House spokeswoman said Bush still hoped to find a peaceful solution to the Iraq problem.

"The president views force as a last resort. He still hopes for a peaceful resolution and that is up to Saddam Hussein. The president is a strong advocate for freedom and democracy, and one of the democratic values that he holds dear is the right of people to peacefully assemble and express their views," said spokeswoman Jeanie Mamo.

There were also demonstrations in Ukraine, Bosnia, Cyprus, Ireland, the Netherlands, Austria, Spain, Greece, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Japan, India, Bangladesh, Hungary, South Korea, Australia, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Thailand. Many of the rallies were organized by peace groups around the world, with the Internet playing a key role in the coordination.

SIGNIFICANCE:

British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the strongest U.S. ally in Europe, needs a second U.N. resolution to swing around a population largely opposed to war. Blair received a boost Sunday when senior ministers urged the divided governing Labor Party to back the premier.

For the EU, the dispute over Iraq masks a more vital debate over its future identity and global role. France and Germany want a common foreign policy which, under their direction, will counter the United States on the world stage.

But many EU members refuse to give up control of their foreign policy and are determined to retain strong ties with the United States, which they see as essential to their security. A number of eastern European states preparing to join the EU were excluded from attending Monday's meeting because of their strong pro-U.S. stance. France and Germany, which have long dominated the EU,

are anxious to cement their claim to pre-eminence before the expansion of the union to 25 nations.

Also Sunday, Turkey appeared to take a step back from its already lukewarm backing of the United States, with the government saying a Tuesday vote was likely to be delayed on allowing U.S. troops to base in Turkey for war with Iraq. The announcement came after the foreign minister returned from Washington where he was unable to successfully negotiate an aid package for Ankara against likely economic disruptions.

The Year of the Ram

--Chinese New Year Celebrations pushed back the peace protests in San Francisco.--

BACKGROUND:

Of all the traditional Chinese festivals, the new Year was perhaps the most elaborate, colorful, and important. This was a time for the Chinese to congratulate each other and themselves on having passed through another year, a time to finish out the old, and to welcome in the new year. Common expressions heard at this time are: GUONIAN to have made it through the old year, and BAINIAN to congratulate the new year.

The Chinese New year is celebrated on the first day of the First Moon of the *lunar calendar*. The corresponding date in the solar calendar varies from as early as January 21st to as late as February 19th. Chinese New Year, as the Western new Year, signified turning over a new leaf. Socially, it was a time for family reunions, and for visiting friends and relatives. This holiday, more than any other Chinese holiday, stressed the importance of family ties. The Chinese New year's Eve dinner gathering was among the most important family occasions of the year.

Preparations for the Chinese New Year in old China started well in advance of the New Year's Day. The 20th of the

Twelfth Moon was set aside for the annual housecleaning, or the "*sweeping of the grounds*". Every corner of the house must be swept and cleaned in preparation for the new year. *Spring Couplets*, written in black ink on large vertical scrolls of red paper, were put on the walls or on the sides of the gate-ways. These couplets, short poems written in Classical Chinese, were expressions of good wishes for the family in the coming year. In addition, symbolic flowers and fruits decorated the house, and colorful new year pictures were placed on the walls.

After the house was cleaned it was time to bid farewell to the Kitchen God, or Zaowang. In traditional China, the Kitchen God was regarded as the guardian of the family hearth. He was identified as the inventor of fire, which was necessary for cooking and was also the censor of household morals. By tradition, the Kitchen God left the house on the 23rd of the last month to report to heaven on the family's behavior. At this time, the family did everything possible to obtain a favorable report from the Kitchen God. On the evening of the 23rd, the family would give the Him a ritualistic farewell dinner with sweet foods and honey. Some said it was a bribe, others said it sealed his mouth from saying bad things.

Free from the every-watchful eyes of the Kitchen God, who was supposed to return on the first day of the New Year, the family now prepared for the upcoming celebrations. In old China, stores closed shop on the last two or three days of the year and remained closed for the first week of the New Year. Consequently, families were busy in the last week of the old year stocking up on foods and gifts. Chinese New Year presents are similar in spirit to Christmas presents, although the Chinese tended more often to give food items, such as fruits and tea. The last days of the old year was also the time to settle accumulated debts.

On the last day of the old year, everyone was busy either in preparing food for the next two days, or in going to the barbers and getting tidied up for New Year's Day. Tradition stipulated that

all food be pre-pared before New Year's Day, so that all sharp instruments, such as knives and scissors, could be put away to avoid cutting the "luck" of the New Year. The kitchen and well were not to be disturbed on the first day.

The New Year's Eve and New Year's Day celebrations were strictly family affairs. All members of the family would gather for the important family meal on the evening of the New year's Eve. Even if a family member could not attend, an empty seat would be kept to symbolize that person's presence at the banquet. At midnight following the banquet, the younger members of the family would bow and pay their respects to their parents and elders.

On New Year's Day, the children were given Red *Lai-See Envelopes*, good luck money wrapped in little red envelopes. On New Year's day, everyone had on new clothes, and would put on his best behavior. It was considered improper to tell a lie, raise one's voice, use indecent language, or break anything on this first day.

Starting from the second day, people began going out to visit friends and relatives, taking with them gifts and *Lai-See* for the children. Visitors would be greeted with traditional New year delicacies, such as melon seeds, flowers, fruits, tray of togetherness, and New Year cakes.

The entire first week was a time for socializing and amusement. On the streets, the stores were closed and an air of gaiety prevailed. There were numerous lion dances, acrobats, theatrical shows, and other diversions. Firecrackers, which symbolized driving away evil spirits, were heard throughout the first two weeks of the New year. The Seventh Day of the New Year was called "everybody's birthday" as everyone was considered one year older as of that date. (In traditional China, individual birthdays were not considered as important as the New Year's date. Everyone added a year to his age at New Year's time rather than at his birthday.)

The New Year celebrations ended on the 15th of the First Moon with the Lantern Festival. On the evening of that day, people carried lanterns

into the streets to take part in a great parade. Young men would highlight the parade with a dragon dance. The dragon was made of bamboo, silk, and paper, and might stretch for more than hundred feet in length. The bobbing and weaving of the dragon was an impressive sight, and formed a fitting finish to the New Year festival.

The rotating cycle of twelve animal signs was a folk method for naming the years in traditional China. The animal signs for one another in an established order, and are repeated every twelve years. The animals include the dragon, snake, monkey and ram.

STORY:

The "Year of the Ram" was ushered in by thousands of people who crowded into San Francisco's Chinatown for the annual New Year's parade. Despite the rain, they lined the parade route to view the lion dancers, floats and acrobats.

Plans for the parade included floats featuring everything from giant China dolls to a life-size Elvis Presley, and a 200-foot-long Golden Dragon carried by 100 people. One of the highlights was made by a local artist. He created a dragon banner for the Great Wall of China. It's a six mile banner created it for the 2008 Olympics; however, only a few segments were brought to San Francisco.

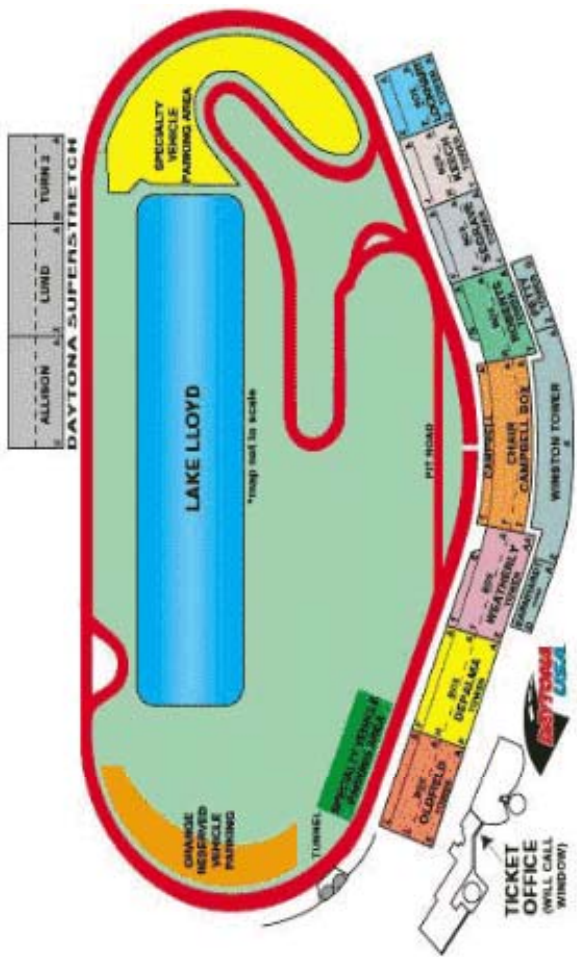
SIGNIFICANCE:

While other major cities around the world held peace rallies Saturday, a demonstration planned in San Francisco was held back a day to make way for the city's traditional Chinese New Year's parade. Revelers braved an evening drizzle to watch the parade, with some planning to return for the protest on Sunday.

War protest organizers said they were happy to make an accommodation. The one-day delay was not expected to diminish the anti-war demonstration. A protest in January drew around 150,000 people, according to police estimates, and organizers expected even more Sunday. Speakers included actor Danny Glover, author Alice Walker and singer-songwriter Joan Baez.

SPORTS:

Daytona International Speedway is the home of "The Great American Race" -- the Daytona 500. The season-opening NASCAR Winston Cup event garners most of the attention -- as well as the largest audience in motorsports. The enormous 480-acre motorsports complex boasts the most diverse schedule of racing on the globe, thus earning it the title of "World Center of Racing."



WALTRIP raced past leader Jimmie Johnson after a restart on lap 106 Sunday to win the rain-shortened, called at lap 109, Daytona 500 for the second time in three years. Counting last year's Pepsi 400, Waltrip has three victories in the last five races at Daytona International Speedway--those are the only ones in his 535 career starts.

ENTERTAINMENT:

Fashion Revisits Past on New York Runways



Pick your favorite fashion decade of late and designers will have a look for you to wear this fall.

Clothes unveiled on the runways of roughly 100 shows this past week, where designers displayed

what they hope to sell for fall, ranged from glamorous 1950s silhouettes to mod 1960s minis, 1970s fringe and patchwork, and even 1980s style leggings and oversized denim jackets.

With everything from designer Carolina Herrera's Hollywood glamour of pairing shimmering, wide-labeled satin blouses with thin, high-waisted pinstripe wool skirts and showing sophisticated, mostly satin, velvet and chiffon evening gowns in platinum and shining black, to Michael Kors' look at the era of pop art king Andy Warhol, showing clingy micro minis in leather and jersey, distressed mink and sable vests, studded belts and tiny skirts of suede fringe, feathers and chains, to the models of Matthew Williamson who could have stepped off the cover of the Beatles' 1967 Sgt. Pepper album, in embroidered shearling jackets, dyed fur vests in pale pink and lavender, a hot pink embroidered sweater minidress and a pink poncho-like top decorated with snowflakes and tassels, every part of American culture was represented.

Bits of fur were everywhere. Hemlines were up, with minis in nearly every show, and the color of the season was black, dominating looks by Kors, Cole, Valvo and Klein, who went monochromatic matching black blouses with black skirts, black trousers and black jackets.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY:**February 17, 1800****DEADLOCK OVER
ELECTION ENDS**

After one tie vote in the Electoral College and 35 indecisive ballot votes in the House of Representatives, Vice President Thomas Jefferson is elected the third president over his running mate, Aaron Burr. The confusing election, which ended just 15 days before a new president was to be inaugurated, exposed major problems in the presidential electoral process set forth by the framers of the U.S. Constitution (see feature).

In the election of 1800, Jefferson and Burr took on Adams and Pinckney. At this time, America's political tide was sweeping away from Adam's conservative Federalists to Jefferson's more democratic party. On November 4, the national election was held. When the electoral votes were counted, the Democratic-Federalists emerged with a decisive victory, with Jefferson and Burr each earning 73 votes to Adams' 65 votes and Pinckney's 64 votes. Attempting to name both a President and a Vice President from their own party, they cast a tie vote between Jefferson and Burr.

The election went to the House of Representatives, which began voting on the issue on February 11, 1801. What at first seemed but an electoral technicality--handing Jefferson victory over his running mate--developed into a major constitutional crisis when Federalists in the lame-duck Congress threw their support behind Burr. Jefferson needed a majority of nine states to win, but in the first ballot had only eight states, with Burr winning six states and Maryland and Virginia. Finally, on February 17, a small group of Federalists reasoned that the peaceful transfer of power required that the majority party have its choice as president and voted in Jefferson's favor. The 35th ballot gave Jefferson victory with 10 votes. Burr received four votes and two states voted blank. Jefferson became the 3rd president.

WHO YOU NEED TO KNOW:*Thomas Jefferson*

Jefferson was born in 1743 in Albermarle County, Virginia, inheriting from his father, a planter and surveyor, some 5,000 acres of land, and from his mother, a Randolph, high social standing. He studied at the College of William and Mary, then read law. In 1772, he married Martha Wayles Skelton, a widow, and took her to live in his home, Monticello.

Freckled and sandy-haired, rather tall and awkward, Jefferson was an eloquent writer, but he was no public speaker. As the "silent member" of the Congress, Jefferson, at 33, drafted the Declaration of Independence. In years following he labored to make its words a reality in Virginia. Most notably, he wrote a bill establishing religious freedom, enacted in 1786. He succeeded Franklin as minister to France in 1785.

In 1800, Jefferson assumed the Presidency. The crisis in France had passed. He slashed Army and Navy expenditures, cut the budget, eliminated the tax on whiskey so unpopular in the West, yet reduced the national debt by a third. He also sent a naval squadron to fight the Barbary pirates, who were harassing American commerce in the Mediterranean. Further, although the Constitution made no provision for the acquisition of new land, Jefferson suppressed his qualms over constitutionality when he bought the Louisiana Territory from Napoleon in 1803.

During Jefferson's second term, he was preoccupied with keeping out of the Napoleonic wars, though both England and France interfered with the neutral rights of American merchants. Jefferson's attempted solution, an embargo on shipping, was unsuccessful and unpopular.

Jefferson retired to Monticello to ponder such projects as his grand designs for the University of Virginia. He also invented such items as the swivel chair, the spherical sundial, and the cipher wheel. He died on July 4, 1826.

FEATURE:**Early US Elections**

As dictated by Article Two of the Constitution, presidents and vice presidents are elected by "electors," a group of voters chosen by each state in a manner specified by that state's legislature. The total number of electors from each state is equal to the number of senators and representatives that state is entitled to in Congress. In the first few presidential elections, these electors were chosen by popular vote, legislative appointment, or a combination of both (by the 1820s, almost all states adopted the practice of choosing electors by popular vote). Each elector voted for two people; at least one of who did not live in their state. The individual receiving the greatest number of votes would be elected president, and the next in line, vice president.

A majority of electors was needed to win election, thus ensuring consensus across states. Because each elector voted twice, it was possible for as many as three candidates to tie with a majority--in which case the House of Representatives was to vote a winner from among the tied candidates. If no majority was achieved in the initial electoral vote, the House was to decide the winner from the top five candidates. In both cases, representatives would not vote individually but by state groups. Each state, no matter what its number of representatives, would be entitled to just one vote, and a majority of these votes was needed to elect a candidate president.

In the nation's first presidential election, in 1789, George Washington was unanimously elected, and John Adams--his unofficial running mate--came in second in electoral votes, making him vice president. Both men were conservative and favored a strong federal government as established by the Constitution. To balance his Cabinet with a liberal, and thus maintain the widest possible support for the new American government, Washington chose Thomas Jefferson--the idealistic drafter of the Declaration of Independence--as secretary of state.

During Washington's first administration, Jefferson often came into conflict with Alexander Hamilton, the secretary of the treasury. Jefferson objected to Hamilton's efforts to strengthen the national government at the expense of the states, and the two men also differed significantly on foreign policy, with Hamilton advocating improved relations with conservative England and Jefferson calling for closer ties with Revolutionary France. Although Washington detested the factional fighting, the disagreements gave rise to the nation's first political parties: Jefferson's Democratic-Republicans (the forerunner of the Democratic Party) and Hamilton's Federalists.

In 1792, Washington was unanimously re-elected president, and Adams was re-elected vice president. Jefferson, his relations with Hamilton greatly deteriorated, resigned as secretary of state in 1793.

In 1796, Jefferson ran for president as the candidate of the Democratic-Republicans, and Adams, as the Federalist candidate. When the results of the election were tallied, it became clear that the nation's forefathers had failed to properly anticipate the rise of political parties. Adams won the election with 71 votes, but his Federalist running mate, Thomas Pinckney, received only 59 votes, nine less than Thomas Jefferson, who was elected vice president.

Thomas Jefferson was inaugurated the third president of the United States on March 4, with a House of Representative vote after a tie with Aaron Burr. Three years later, the 12th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, providing for the separate election of presidents and vice presidents, was ratified and adopted. Presidents and Vice Presidents now ran on the same ticket. The problem of having two different parties with two different political philosophies was avoided.

NOTE: Thomas Jefferson and John Adams both died on July 4, 1826--the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Adams' last words were "Thomas Jefferson still survives," though his old political adversary had died a few hours before.

Quote of the Week:

I have sworn upon the altar of God eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man. *-Thomas Jefferson*

Fact of the Week:

Thomas Jefferson and Samuel Adams died on the same day—July 4, 1826.

Word of the Week:

Lai-See Envelopes, good luck money wrapped in little red envelopes.

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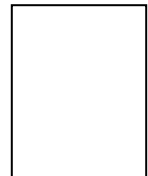
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