September 16, 2002 THE WEEKLY REPORT Vol. 1 Iss. 12

Bush to UN: 'Show Some Backbone'

--Bush addresses the United Nations on the Iraqi situation.--

BACKGROUND:

By the Charter of the United Nations, the Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. It meets continuously through the year, and a representative of each of its members must be present at all times at United Nations Headquarters. On January 31, 1992, the first ever Summit Meeting of the Council was convened at Headquarters, attended by Heads of State and Government of 13 of its 15 members and by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the remaining two. The Council may meet elsewhere than at Headquarters; in 1972, it held a session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and the following year in Panama City, Panama.

When a complaint concerning a threat to peace is brought before it, the Council's first action is usually to recommend to the parties to try to reach agreement by peaceful means. In some cases, the Council itself undertakes investigation and mediation. It may appoint special representatives or request the Secretary-General to do so or to use his good offices. It may set forth principles for a peaceful settlement.

When a dispute leads to fighting, the Council's first concern is to bring it to an end as soon as possible. On many occasions, the Council has issued cease-fire directives which try to prevent wider hostilities. It also sends United Nations peace-keeping forces to help reduce tensions in troubled areas, keep opposing forces apart and create conditions of calm in which peaceful settlements may be sought. The Council may decide on enforcement measures, economic sanctions (such as trade embargoes) or collective military action.

A Member State against which preventive or enforcement action has been taken by the Security Council may be suspended from the exercise of the rights and privileges of membership by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council. A Member State which has persistently violated the principles of the Charter may be expelled from the United Nations by the Assembly on the Council's recommendation.

A State which is a Member of the United Nations but not of the Security Council may participate, without a vote, in its discussions when the Council considers that that country's interests are affected. Both Members of the United Nations and non-members, if they are parties to a dispute being considered by the Council, are invited to take part, without a vote, in the Council's discussions; the Council sets the conditions for participation by a non-member State.

The presidency of the Council rotates monthly, according to the English alphabetical listing of its member States.

The Council has 15 members-- five permanent members and 10 elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms. The five permanent members are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Each Council member has one vote. Decisions on procedural matters are made by an affirmative vote of at least nine of the 15 members. Decisions on substantive matters require nine votes, including the concurring votes of all five permanent members. This is the rule of "great Power unanimity", often referred to as the "veto" power.

Under the Charter, all Members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the

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decisions of the Security Council. While other organs of the United Nations make recommendations to Governments, the Council alone has the power to take decisions which Member States are obligated under the Charter to carry out. Under the Charter, the functions and powers of the Security Council are:

* to maintain international peace and security in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations
* to investigate any dispute or situation which might lead to international friction;
* to recommend methods of adjusting such disputes or the terms of settlement;
* to formulate plans for the establishment of a system to regulate armaments;
* to determine the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression and to recommend what action should be taken;
* to call on Members to apply economic sanctions and other measures not involving the use of force to prevent or stop aggression;
* to take military action against an aggressor;
* to recommend the admission of new Members; to exercise the trusteeship functions of the United Nations in "strategic areas";
* to recommend to the General Assembly the appointment of the Secretary-General and, together with the Assembly, to elect the Judges of the International Court of Justice.

STORY:

There was a huge sigh of relief on Thursday when President Bush, in a blunt speech to the 190-nation General Assembly, asked for the support of the United Nations in seeking some sort of resolution with Iraq. Bush has been very outspoken at home and abroad about the need to take drastic action against Iraq based on years of defiling UN sanctions and the theory that Hussein is amassing nuclear weapons and building military sites. Many believed that Bush would not seek UN support and act on his own. Relieved to learn that the United States was not launching war on Iraq immediately, world leaders have welcomed Bush's call for the United Nations to force Baghdad to comply with its will.

Bush said unspecified action against Iraq would be inevitable unless the world body forced Baghdad to eliminate weapons of mass destruction. He did not promise to wait for UN approval for any military action, but said he would work with the Security Council for the "necessary resolutions" to support US plans.

In response, Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz rejected the unconditional return of the inspectors, saying the move would not avert US military designs on Baghdad. Then Saturday he said Baghdad would only let UN weapons inspectors return under a comprehensive deal that would prevent a US attack and lift crippling 12-year-old UN sanctions.

"If there is a solution which maintains Iraq's sovereignty, dignity and legitimate rights and prevents aggression, we are ready," Aziz said. But he said Iraq would prevent inspectors returning if "there is no honest, balanced and credible formula that will take us to the truth."

What is being said (that Iraq should allow the inspectors back) is not a solution," he added. He accused Washington and London of blocking efforts to resolve the weapons inspections issue. Aziz said he feared if the inspectors were readmitted, a crisis over their activities could soon arise that the United States would exploit as a pretext to attack. He cited the U.S.-British bombing campaign in December 1998 as an example. Washington and London attacked Iraq for four days during that month for Iraq's alleged failure to cooperate with UN arms experts. Aziz also refuted Bush's charges that Baghdad was developing weapons of mass destruction, harboring terrorist groups and posing threats to its neighbors.

Bush made it plain that the United States is willing to take Iraq on alone if the United Nations fails to "show some backbone" by confronting Saddam Hussein. "Enough is enough," Bush said.

"The UN will either be able to function as a peacekeeping body as we head into the 21st century, or it will be irrelevant. And that's what we're about to find out," Bush said Saturday. He added: "Make no mistake about it. If we have to deal with the problem, we'll deal with it."

Vice President Dick Cheney echoed Bush. "We'd prefer to do this on an international basis

with the approval and cooperation and support of other nations," he said in a CNN interview. "This is deemed to be such an important issue and such an important problem that we will address (it) by ourselves if we have to."

Bush spoke alongside Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi, the second foreign leader in two weeks to visit Bush at Camp David for strategy sessions on Iraq. Berlusconi, who has laid out a case in support of ousting the Iraqi president, has insisted that any action be taken with the UN's approval.

He joined Bush in warning that the UN's credibility was on the line. "The United Nations cannot continue to see its image undermined and its resolutions flouted," Berlusconi said through a translator. Italy will play a key role through its ties to European Union countries and through its "special friendship" with Russia, he said. Repeating the case he outlined at the United Nations on Thursday, Bush said Saddam had "stiffed the world 16 times" by defying UN resolutions on Iraq's weapons programs.

The administration is seeking a new UN resolution giving Iraq a firm deadline, just weeks way, to disarm or face dire, but thus far unspecified, consequences. Discussions at the United Nations continue into this week on a range of issues, chiefly what action to take if Saddam continues to reject such an arrangement.

**See Newsletters/Sep9.pdf **

SIGNIFICANCE:

The United States is seeking a new UN resolution, which sets a deadline for Iraqi compliance and sets out consequences for failure. But it also thinks that ousting Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is the best solution.
Eyes will be on the other four permanent council members with veto power -- Russia, Britain, France and China – to determine if they will support US ultimatums and if they will agree to military action. It seems that more nations are putting pressure on Iraq to allow arms inspectors into the country, but it is not certain if those same nations will support military action if the arms inspectors are not allowed in.

The UN will be putting a resolution to Iraq, but the question remains as to when. Also, there are discussions as to whether there should be one or two resolutions. Some, like the US, want one resolution that states what the UN wants Iraq to do, as well as what the UN will do if Iraq doesn't meet the demands. They feel this will be a more meaningful threat to Iraq and will cut out weeks of delay and arguments if Iraq doesn't comply. Others want to make two resolutions. One now saying what Iraq should do, and one later for consequences if and when Iraq doesn't comply. They do not want to commit to military action before they know how Iraq will react.

Hottest Summer Since 1934

--Third hottest summer since recorded temperatures.--

BACKGROUND:

"And then the dispossessed were drawn west- from Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico; from Nevada and Arkansas, families, tribes, dusted out, tractored out. Car-loads, caravans, homeless and hungry; twenty thousand and fifty thousand and a hundred thousand and two hundred thousand. They streamed over the mountains, hungry and restless - restless as ants, scurrying to find work to do - to lift, to push, to pull, to pick, to cut - anything, any burden to bear, for food. The kids are hungry. We got no place to live. Like ants scurrying for work, for food, and most of all for land."

- **John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath*, 1939**

The Dust Bowl was an ecological and human disaster that took place in the southwestern Great Plains region, including Oklahoma, in the 1930's. It was caused by misuse of land and years of sustained drought. Millions of hectares of farmland became useless, and hundreds of thousands of people were forced to leave their homes --many migrated to California. As the land dried up, great clouds of dust and sand, carried by

the wind, covered everything and the word "Dust Bowl" was coined. In the photo on the left, the sky is obscured by the dust; below, two images of abandoned farms.

The Dust Bowl lasted about a decade. Much was learned about cultivation in dryland ecosystems. New cultivation methods, such as dry farming, have reduced the impact of subsequent droughts in this region.

When the drought and dust storms showed no signs of letting up, many people abandoned their land. Others would have stayed but were forced out when they lost their land in bank foreclosures. In all, one-quarter of the population left, packing everything they owned into their cars and trucks, and headed west toward California. Although overall three out of four farmers stayed on their land, the mass exodus depleted the population drastically in certain areas. In the rural area outside Boise City, Oklahoma, the population dropped forty percent, with 1,642 small farmers and their families pulling up stake. The Dust

STORY:

With nearly half the country reeling from a blistering drought, this summer is the hottest since the depression-stricken "Dust Bowl" era of the 1930s, U.S. government weather experts said on Friday. The summer's scorching temperatures have sparked raging forest fires in the West, wilted crops in the Midwest and parched pastures in the Plains.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said the average temperature for the contiguous United States from June through August was 73.9 degrees, the third hottest summer since records began in 1895. Summer officially ends on Sept. 22. The only summers warmer were 1936 and 1934, when vast numbers of farmers were driven from their land by drought.

"It's very extraordinary to have the warmest summer since the 1930s Dust Bowl days," said Douglas LeComte, drought specialist for NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. Although the U.S. economy is no longer as dependent on agriculture as it was in the 1930s, a major drought two years ago caused damage worth $4 billion and claimed 140 lives nationwide. That summer in 2000 was only the 12th warmest on record.

"Although the total costs of this year's drought are not presently known, the drought-diminished water supplies ... and contributed to an active wildfire season and extremely difficult farming conditions," NOAA said.

Moderate to extreme drought covers more than 45 percent of the United States.

The Democratic-led U.S. Senate on Tuesday voted overwhelmingly to provide drought relief of $6 billion to farmers and ranchers despite objections from the Bush administration.

The most extensive national drought in the past 100 years was in 1934 when it hit 80 percent of the country. Studying tree ring records, NOAA researchers said the severity of the 1930s drought was likely surpassed only in the 1570s and 1580s.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The fall outlook — through the end of November — calls for dry conditions in Washington, Oregon and the northern edge of California, southern New England, southern New York state, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, West Virginia, southeastern Ohio and eastern Kentucky and Tennessee. Warmer than normal conditions are expected in south Florida, southern California, Arizona and southwest New Mexico.

The winter outlook — December through February — includes:

-Below-normal precipitation in the Northwest including Washington, northeast Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, western parts of North Dakota and northwest South Dakota.

-Below normal precipitation in the Ohio Valley states.

-In the southern parts of the United States, stretching from central/southern California to the Carolinas, above normal precipitation.

-Temperatures above normal across the northwestern, midwestern and northeastern states of the continental United States.

-Temperatures above normal over southeastern parts of Alaska.

-Below-normal temperatures and precipitation in Hawaii.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY:
September 16, 1620

MAYFLOWER DEPARTS ENGLAND

The Mayflower sails from Plymouth, England bound the New World with 102 passengers. The ship was headed for Virginia, where the colonists--religious dissenters and entrepreneurs--had been authorized to settle by the British crown. However, stormy weather and navigational errors forced the Mayflower off course, so on November 21 the "Pilgrims" reached Mass., where they founded the first permanent European settlement in late December.

Thirty-five of the Pilgrims were members of the radical English Separatist Church, who traveled to America to escape the jurisdiction of the Church of England, which they found corrupt. Ten years earlier, English persecution had led a group of Separatists to flee to Holland in search of religious freedom. However, many were dissatisfied with economic opportunities in the Netherlands, and under the direction of William Bradford they decided to immigrate to Virginia, where an English colony had been founded at Jamestown in 1607.

The Separatists won financial backing from a group of investors called the London Adventurers, who were promised a sizable share of the colony's profits. They were joined by about 70 entrepreneurs--enlisted by the London stock company to ensure the success of the enterprise. In August 1620, the Mayflower left Southampton with a smaller vessel--the Speedwell--but the latter proved unseaworthy and twice was forced to return to port. On September 16, the Mayflower left for America alone from Plymouth.

The term "Pilgrim" was not used to describe the Plymouth colonists until the early 19th century and was derived from a manuscript in which Governor Bradford spoke of the "saints" who left Holland as "pilgrimes." The orator Daniel Webster spoke of "Pilgrim Fathers" at a bicentennial celebration of Plymouth's founding in 1820, and thereafter the term entered common usage.

WHO YOU NEED TO KNOW:

WILLIAM BRADFORD

(1590-1657)

Born of substantial yeomen in Yorkshire, England, Bradford expressed his nonconformist religious sensibilities in his early teens and joined the famed Separatist church in Scrooby at the age of seventeen. In 1609 he immigrated with the congregation, led by John Robinson, to the Netherlands. For the next eleven years he and his fellow religious dissenters lived in Leyden until their fear of assimilation into Dutch culture prompted them to embark on the Mayflower for the voyage to North America. Before disembarking, the congregation drew up the first New World social contract, the Mayflower Compact, which all the male settlers signed.

Bradford served thirty one-year terms as governor of the fledgling colony between 1622 and 1656. He enjoyed remarkable discretionary powers as chief magistrate, acting as high and treasurer as well as presiding over the deliberations of the General Court, the of the community. In 1636 he helped draft the colony's legal code.

In 1627 he and four others assumed the colony's debt to the merchant adventurers who had helped finance their immigration in return for a monopoly of the fur trading and fishing industries. Owing to some malfeasance on the part of their English mercantile factors and the decline of the

fur trade, Bradford and his colleagues were unable to retire this debt until 1648, and then only at great personal expense.

Around 1630 Bradford began to compile his two-volume Of Plymouth Plantation, 1620-1647, one of the most important early chronicles of the settlement of New England. Bradford's history was singular in its tendency to separate religious from secular concerns.

SPORTS:

Notre Dame, Penn State USC help reshuffle Top 25

Trying to return to its glory days, Notre Dame nearly returned to the Top 10. With a 25-23 victory over Michigan, the Fighting Irish (3-0) climbed eight spots to No. 12 in the latest Associated Press Top 25 poll released Sunday.

The Irish, under new coach Tyrone Willingham, last cracked the AP's Top 10 at No. 10 in the 2000 final regular season poll. Then came the 41-9 Fiesta Bowl loss to Oregon State, and Notre Dame finished No. 15.

While the top six teams remained unchanged from last week -- Miami was a near unanimous choice at No. 1 -- the Irish led a reshuffling of the rest of the Top 25.

Southern California (2-0) defeated Colorado 40-3 on Saturday and moved up six places to No. 11. Penn State, a 40-7 winner over Nebraska, jumped back into the poll at No. 15. There were quite a few tumbles, too. Michigan, No. 7 last week, dropped to No. 14; Nebraska, eighth a week ago, fell to No. 18.

Miami received 68 of the 74 first-place votes and 1,844 points from the sports writers and broadcasters on the AP panel. Oklahoma was No. 2, followed by Texas, Tennessee, Florida State and Ohio State.

The USA Today/ESPN coaches poll also ranked Notre Dame 12th, with Miami still No. 1.

GO IRISH!

ENTERTAINMENT:

"Clones" Attacking Imax

Those nature documentaries at your Imax are a thing of the past, as the fishies and avalanches are soon to be replaced by killer clones and fight scenes. Imax Corporation and director George Lucas have announced they're joining forces to re-release Star Wars: Episode II--Attack of the Clones to really big screens everywhere.

Set for Imax theaters November 1, the prequel will be digitally remastered to take advantage of the superior audio and video of the large-screen format. It will be the first time the Imax treatment has been given to a movie that was originally shot using digital cameras.

Imax has been trying to move beyond its bread-and-butter science-themed offerings like T-Rex: Back in the Cretaceous in Imax 3-D and Space Station in Imax 3-D, and become a showcase for Hollywood blockbusters. Hollywood, however, has been slow to embrace the format because of limitations with the equipment: For example, traditional 35mm films don't have the same sharpness on an Imax screen as at the multiplex. But Imax's digital remastering process has finally swayed the studios.

Capturing Clones was a major coup for the company, which is based in Canada. And Star Wars fans will be able to see their favorite characters, environments, and droids in a setting that is up to eight stories high and over 100 feet.

Clones isn't the first feature to play on Imax screens. The early Imax pioneers included The Rolling Stones at the Max and Jean-Jacques Annaud's 40-minute adventure Wings of Courage.

Imax is also hooking up with Universal and Imagine Entertainment to release director Ron Howard's drama Apollo 13 in the coming weeks.

Around the same time, Lucafilm will also be releasing a special edition two-disc DVD set.

FEATURE:

To Tell the Truth

Police in Randor, Penn, interrogated a suspect by placing a metal colander on this head and connecting it with metal wire to a photocopy machine. The message "He's lying," was placed in the copier and the police pressed the copy button each time they believed the suspect wasn't telling the truth. Believing the "lie detector" the suspect confessed.

OTHER ANCIENT METHODS:

- The Bedouins of the Arabian Peninsula forced suspected liars to lick red-hot pokers with their tongues, on the assumption that liars would burn their tongues and truth tellers wouldn't. The method was primitive and barbaric—but it may have been accurate, since the procedure measures the moisture content in the mouth—and dry mouths are often associated with nervousness caused by lying.
- The ancient Chinese forced suspected liars to chew a mouthful rice powder and spit it out; if the rice was still dry, the suspect was deemed guilty.
- The old British used a similar trick: they fed suspects a large 'trial slice' of bread and cheese, and watched to see if the suspect could swallow it or not. If the suspect's mouth was too dry to swallow, he was declared a liar and punished.
- The preferred method of India was to send the suspects into a dark room and have them pull on the tail of a sacred donkey, which was supposed to bray if the person was dishonest…at least that is what the suspects thought. The way the system really worked was that the investigators dusted the donkey's tail with black powder (which was impossible to see in the unlit room). Innocent people wouldn't hesitate to pull the tail and would be marked. Guilty people would only pretend to pull the tail and be clean handed.

MODERN METHOD

The first modern lie detector was invented by Cesare Lombroso, and Italian criminologist, in 1895. His device measured changes in pulse and blood pressure. Then in 1914, another researcher named Vittorio Benussi invented a machine that measured the changes in breathing rate. But it wasn't until 1921 that John A. Larson, a medical student and the University of California, invented a machine that measured pulse, blood pressure, and breathing rate simultaneously. His machine became known as the polygraph, because it measured three types of physiological changes. Today's polygraphs use these methods as well as more sophisticated measurements.

THE QUESTIONS:

The most common questioning method is called the Control Question Test, in which the polygraph operator asks three types of questions: neutral questions, key questions, and control questions.

- Neutral questions: like "What kind of car do you drive?" are designed to measure the suspect's general level of nervousness, because nearly anyone who takes a polygraph test is going to be nervous.
- Key, or guilty, questions: quiz the suspect for information that only the guilty person would know. (For example: If the person taking the test were suspected of murdering someone with a knife, then questions about knives would be considered key questions.)
- Control, or "innocent," questions: would be indistinguishable for key questions by someone who did not have knowledge of the crime—but the guilty person would know. (Questions about weapons not used in a murder would be considered control questions)

Now you know, but still stay out of trouble!

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Quote of the Week:
You must look into people as well as at them.
-Lord Chesterfield

Fact of the Week:
On average, baby blue whales gain 200 pounds a day.

Word of the Week:
yeomen (yo'*men) n. Officer of a royal household.

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