Chronology: 16 November 1990-15 February 1991
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16 NOVEMBER 1990—15 FEBRUARY 1991

This section is part twenty-nine of a chronology begun in *Journal* no. 51 (Spring 1984). Chronology dates reflect Eastern Standard Time. Thus while the Gulf war began on 17 January in Iraq, it began on 16 January in Washington, D.C., and therefore is found under 16 January in the Chronology.

**16 NOVEMBER**

In Brussels for international economic meetings, Sec. of State Baker rejects Soviet envoy Yevgeny Primakov's suggestion that solution to Gulf crisis be linked to Palestine question [LAT 11/17].

Soviet envoy Alexander Belonogov meets in Cairo with Pres. Mubarak to discuss Gulf crisis; Belonogov then leaves for Saudi Arabia [MENA 11/16, CDS 11/17 in FBIS 11/20].

Ultra-Orthodox Agudat Israel party joins P.M. Shamir's ruling coalition; belated agreement increases Likud majority from 62 Knesset seats out of 120, to 66 seats [JDS 11/16 in FBIS 11/16; NYT, LAT 11/17; CSM, MEM 11/19; JPI 11/24; MET 11/27].

Arab and nonaligned nations introduce Sec. Council resolution calling for UN observer force in occupied territories (o.t.) and for conference of 164 signatories of Fourth Geneva Convention [LAT 11/17; MEM 11/19].

Iran and Iraq announce agreement on series of steps to end major disputes lingering from 8-year war; Iranian F.M. Velayati says he detects willingness by Iraq to end crisis by withdrawing from Kuwait [NYT 11/17].

700 members of U.S. Council of Jewish Federations pass without dissent resolution backing Bush admin. policy in Gulf, but say they will fight U.S. plans to sell weapons to Saudia Arabia [NYT 11/17].

IDF bars Gaza Strip and West Bank residents from Jerusalem as preventive measure against anticipated protests following prayers on Haram al-Sharif [NYT 11/19].

Israeli Immigration Minister Yitzhak Peretz ignites political row by calling for curbs on Soviet immigration, saying 4 of 10 newcomers are not Jewish [MEM 11/19].

**17 NOVEMBER**

Citing American, British, and Israeli intelligence experts, New York Times reports Iraq has acquired nuclear weapons capacity that could enable it to begin manufacturing and using nuclear weapons within 10 years [NYT 11/18; CSM 11/19].

King Hussein opens Jordanian parliament with bleak assessment of Jordan's prospects in wake of Gulf crisis and attacks "blatant and shameless" hypocrisy of nations involved in military buildup in Saudia Arabia (cf. 11/19) [NYT 11/18].

Through meetings with 3 African F.M.s, Sec. Baker reportedly wins support of Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, and Zaire for UN Sec. Council resolution authorizing use of force against Iraq [NYT, WP 11/18; CSM 11/19].

Quoting Palestinian sources, Tunisian newspaper reports that Libya has recently expelled Abu Nidal [MEM 11/17 in FBIS
11/20],
Curfew imposed on o.t. on 11/15 to prevent demonstrations on 2d anniversary of Palestinian declaration of independence is lifted in West Bank, most of Gaza Strip remains under curfew [JDS 11/17 in FBIS 11/21].

18 NOVEMBER

Iraq announces it will release all foreign hostages over 3 months starting Christmas Day "if nothing happens to disturb the atmosphere of peace." U.S. calls offer "cynical manipulation" [BADS 11/18 in FBIS 11/19; LAT, NYT, WT, WP, MEM 11/19; CSM 11/20; MET 11/27].

In Rome for audience with Pope John Paul II, Soviet Pres. Gorbachev says he is "convinced" Gulf crisis could be solved without war [NYT 11/19].

In Tel Aviv address, P.M. Shamir speaks of the need "to keep the land of Israel from the sea to the Jordan for the generations to come . . . " [cf. 11/19, 11/20, 11/21, 11/26] [JDS 11/18 in FBIS 11/19; WT, MEM 11/19; CSM 11/20; FJ 11/26].

After meeting with King Fahd in Jeddah, Soviet envoy Belonogov arrives in Damascus for unscheduled talks with Pres. Asad [TASS 11/18 in FBIS 11/19; AFP 11/18 in FBIS 11/20; WT 11/19; MET 11/27].


Israeli cabinet announces establishment of interministerial committee for Jerusalem, to be headed by P.M. Shamir. The committee, which must be approved by full Knesset, will replace just-established interministerial panel on "Temple Mount," which was advocated by Zamir Commission inquiry into 10/8 killings [MEM 11/19].

19 NOVEMBER

Iraqi gvt.'s orders 250,000 additional troops and reservists to Kuwait and decrees U.S. criticism of its plan to release foreign hostages. Troops will join estimated 430,000 already stationed in Kuwait [cf. 11/20] [BADS 11/19 in FBIS 11/19; LAT, NYT, WT, WP, MEM 11/20; CSM 11/21; MET 11/27].


Arab countries at UN say they will end efforts made since 1982 to expel Israel from UN, but in return want Gen. Assembly to declare that Israel does not represent territories occupied after 1967 war [WP 11/20; NYT 11/21].

Housing Min. Ariel Sharon says special effort is being made to build housing in E. Jerusalem, indicating that of 17,000 new units planned, 15,000 will be built over green line [cf. 11/21] [JDS 11/20 in FBIS 11/20].

More than 100 W. Bank Palestinians are issued green ID cards, barring them from working is Israel; D.M. Moshe Arens has agreed to issue 2,400 new green IDs, bringing number of barred Palestinians to 10,000 [JPD 11/20 in FBIS 11/21; MEM 11/20; FJ 11/26].

U.S. officials say P.M. Shamir's 11/18 "sea to river" remark will hurt chances for Arab-Israeli peace, ask for clarification; comment also draws criticism from Israeli Labor party officials [WT, WP, MEM 11/20; JPI 12/1].

Morocco's King Hassan suggests that obstacles to proposed Arab summit on Gulf crisis might be removed by first convening smaller gathering of key Arab heads of state [MEM 11/20].

20 NOVEMBER

45 Democratic lawmakers file suit in Washington to try to force Pres. Bush to seek authority from Congress before ordering U.S. military attack in Gulf [LAT, NYT, MEM 11/21].

New York Times/CBS News poll finds 47% of respondents are increasingly worried Pres. Bush has been too quick to commit troops to Gulf, 51% expect U.S. to go to war, and 51% say Pres. has not explained clearly enough why troops are in Gulf [NYT 11/20].

In Paris, Sec. Baker meets with Soviet F.M. Shevardnadze, U.S. and USSR agree further UN action is needed to force Iraq out of Kuwait, but disagree on exact steps [NYT, WT, WP 11/21].

Israeli F.M. David Levy informs UN Sec.-Gen. Javier Perez de Cuellar that Israel will receive UN envoy Jean-Claude Aime if Amie's mission is not connected to 10/8 Hiram al-Sharif killings [JDS 11/20 in FBIS 11/20; WT 11/21].

Israeli officer and 4 Palestinian guerrillas are killed in 8-hour firefight in S. Lebanon after Israelis ambush guerrilla squad [JDS

General strike called for by UNLU is observed throughout o.t. [MEM 11/20; FJ 11/26, MET 12/4].

Iraqi gov't. announces it will free all German hostages, acknowledging that move is meant to divide international coalition against Baghdad [BADS 11/20 in FBIS 11/20; NYT, WT, WP, CSM 11/21].

Chrmn. of Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Colin Powell says Iraq's decision to send 250,000 additional troops to Kuwait might create "new vulnerabilities" for Baghdad "rather than added strength" [NYT, WT, WP 11/21].

New York grand jury indicts Sayyid Nosair, Egyptian-born maintenance worker, on charges of assassinating Meir Kahane on 11/5 [WP 11/21].

21 NOVEMBER


Media report Iraq has defaulted on at least $2.5 billion in loans guaranteed by U.S. gov't. and taxpayers will have to pick up Baghdad's debts [LAT, WT 11/22].

IDF announces it has set up 90 military outposts along roads in o.t. during past 6 months at cost of NIS 200,000 ($100,000 each) [JDS 11/21 in FBIS 11/21].

PLO Exec. Committee issues statement criticizing Israeli P.M. Shamir's 11/18 remark [BVP 11/22 in FBIS 11/23]; Arab League also condemns Shamir statement [TDS 11/21 in FBIS 11/27]; PLO sends 2 memorandums to UN Sec.-Gen., one concerning Shamir's remark, the other regarding Ariel Sharon's 11/19 announcement on housing in E. Jerusalem [TDS 11/21 in FBIS 11/23].

B'Tselem report says Israeli military authorities are again stepping up punitive house demolitions in o.t. [MEM 11/22; MET 12/4].

Draft 1991 budget from Israeli Finance Ministry allocates $6.5 billion for resettling Soviet Jewish immigrants, nearly 4 times the 1990 allocation. Only $6.1 billion is earmarked for defense. Knesset is to begin budget debate on 11/25 [MEM 11/22].

Kuwaiti gov't.-in-exile sets up 35-member advisory council made up of Kuwaiti citizens; Kuwait becomes 3d GCC nation, after Saudi Arabia and Oman, this month to declare itself in favor of broadening popular participation in state affairs [MEM 11/22].

New York-based Middle East Watch issues 3d report on conditions in Kuwait since 8/2, accusing Iraqi forces of summary executions, torture, and collective punishment [MEM 11/22].

Iraqi F.M. Aziz makes surprise visit to Oman, 1st by Iraqi official to Gulf state since 8/2 [MEM 11/22].

22 NOVEMBER

Beset by challenges from within Conservative party, British P.M. Margaret Thatcher announces her resignation [NYT, LAT, WP 11/23; MEM 11/26].

Pres. Bush visits U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia, says they may have to face "some pain now to avoid even worse pain later," then flies to Cairo [NYT, LAT, WP 11/23; MEM 12/4].

D.M. Tom King says Britain will send 14,000 more troops and additional tanks, aircraft, and ships to the Gulf by the end of the year, bringing total number of British troops there to more than 30,000 [NYT, LAT, MEM 11/23].

Visiting Sanaa, Yemen, Sec. Baker is rebuffed in efforts to persuade Yemeni, only Arab country on UN Sec. Council, to support resolution authorizing use of force against Iraq. Pres. Saleh criticizes buildup of foreign forces in Gulf [SDS 11/22 in FBIS 11/23; SDS 11/23 in FBIS 11/26; LAT, NYT, WP, MEM 11/23; Baker then flies to Jeddah [SPA 11/22 in FBIS 11/23].

PLO leader Yasir Arafat arrives in Baghdad, says he strongly supports Saddam Hussein's assertions that Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait must be tied to overall settlement of conflicts in region; adds there is no alternative to negotiations between Iraq and U.S. [BVP 11/22 in FBIS 11/27; NYT 11/26].

D.M. Moshe Arens instructs IDF to expand enlistment of Bedouins into its ranks [MAA 11/23 in FBIS 11/23].

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek and E. Jerusalem Arabs praise Jerusalem district planning committee's decision to build 7,500 new apartments for Palestinians northwards from French Hill junction towards Ramallah [JPD 11/23 in FBIS 11/23; MEM 11/23; JPI 12/1].

Kuwaiti gov't.-in-exile extends $550 million medium-term loan to the Soviet Union on favorable terms; "observers" point to "political aspect" of loan [MEM 11/23].
Soviet Union and Israel sign agreement on scientific cooperation and exchanges of scientific information [TASS 11/22 in FBIS 11/28].

23 NOVEMBER


More than 4,000 Jordanians march through Amman's main marketplace denouncing Pres. Bush's visit to Gulf region [NYT 11/24].

Chinese and Soviet F.M.s meet in Beijing, issue statement on Gulf crisis urging world to seek peaceful solution [NYT 11/24].

Iraq begins calling up battle-experienced reservists in their 30s for deployment in Kuwait [BADS 11/23 in FBIS 11/26; LAT 11/24].

Israeli soldiers shoot dead Druze Arab, capture another trying to cross from Golan Heights into Syria [LAT 11/24; JPI 12/1].

Israeli Chamber of Commerce opens Moscow office [TASS 11/23 in FBIS 11/26].

24 NOVEMBER

In Bogota, Sec. Baker appears to win qualified support from Colombia for UN resolution authorizing use of force against Iraq [NYT 11/23; MEM 11/26].

Saddam Hussein announces that as a demonstration of his "human feeling" he will release 11 Britons whose wives and children had traveled to Iraq to see them [IRI 11/24 in FBIS 11/26; NYT, WP 11/25].

Israeli navy sinks small boat carrying 5 PFLP-GC fighters off coast of S. Lebanon, killing all 5 [QUD, JDS 11/25 in FBIS 11/26; NYT, MEM 11/26; JPI 12/1; FJ 12/3; MET 12/4].

25 NOVEMBER

Bush admin. says it has enough support to gain approval of UN Sec. Council resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq; U.S. would like UN to set 1 Jan. as deadline for Iraq to leave Kuwait or face military response (cf. 11/26, 11/27, 11/29) [NYT, WT, WP 11/26; CSM 11/27].

Defense Sec. Dick Cheney says that an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait would not solve Gulf crisis, because it is "only a matter of time" before Saddam acquires ability to threaten world with nuclear and biological weapons [LAT 11/26].

Teen-aged girl runs at Israeli troops in S. Lebanon "security zone." detonates explosive she had strapped to her body, killing herself and wounding 2 soldiers. National Syrian Socialist Party, a Lebanese group, claims responsibility [JDS 11/25 in FBIS 11/26; NYT, MEM 11/26; JPI 12/1; FJ 12/3; MET 12/4].

Man believed to be an Egyptian border policeman crosses into Israel, opens fire on passing vehicles, killing 4 Israelis and injuring more than 24; wounded by security officer, assailant flees back towards border [QUD, RMC, AFP, CDS, JDS 11/25 in FBIS 11/26; NYT, LAT, WT, WP, CSM, MEM 11/26; JPI 12/1; FJ 12/3; MET 12/4].

As part of several new military appointments, Israel announces that Maj. Gen. Ehud Baraq will become next IDF chief of staff as of 1 April 1991, replacing Lt. Gen. Dan Shomron [IDF 11/25 in FBIS 11/28; JPD 11/30 in FBIS 11/30; MEM 11/26; JPI 12/8; LAT 1/1].

26 NOVEMBER

Iraqi F.M. Tarik Aziz arrives in Moscow and meets with Pres. Gorbachev and F.M. Shevardnadze; Soviet Union demands that Iraq release more than 3,000 Soviet citizens stranded there, charging for 1st time that Baghdad was preventing them from leaving [FNS, MEM 11/26; TASS 11/26 in FBIS 11/26; PRA 11/27 in FBIS 11/27, NYT, WT, WP 11/27]; Pres. Gorbachev warns Saddam Hussein that "time is running out" and that USSR will agree to tougher UN action if Iraq does not leave Kuwait [LAT 11/27].

Saddam orders release of 3 American hostages; National Assembly votes to free all 58 Swedish hostages [BADS, AFP 11/26 in FBIS 11/27; LAT 11/27; MET 12/4].

U.S. army orders 10,667 more reservists into active duty in Gulf [LAT 11/27].

Israeli police report number and gravity of "terrorist" incidents perpetrated by Negev Bedouin have risen sharply since 10/8 Hamas al-Sharif killings [DAV 11/27 in FBIS 11/27]. Police also report the arrest of 3 Meir Kahane followers for attacking Jewish shops that employ Palestinians [WT 11/27; MET 12/4; JPI 12/8].

P.M. Shamir's gov't. survives 2 no-confi-
dence motions in Knesset brought about by Shamir's 11/18 "sea to Jordan" remark [JDS 11/26 in FBIS 11/28; MET 12/4].

22-year-old Egyptian police conscript is arrested in Suez and charged with 11/25 shooting deaths in Israel [MEM 11/27].

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27 NOVEMBER

John Major is selected as next prime minister of Britain [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 11/28; CSM 11/29].

Bush admin. announces that Chinese F.M. Qian has been invited to Washington for talks with Sec. Baker, in what appears to be compensation to Beijing for its support for draft UN resolution authorizing force against Iraq [NYT, WT, WT 11/28].

Saddam Hussein tells reporters that Iraq does not have nuclear weapons; International Atomic Energy Agency reports Iraq's small stock of highly enriched reactor fuel has not been diverted to build nuclear weapons [NYT, WT, WP, MEM 11/28].

2 PFLP fighters and 5 Israeli soldiers are killed, 6th is wounded during firefight near Shabaa, S. Lebanon. Hours later, Israeli air force bombs PFLP and DFLP bases east of Sidon, and Israeli long-range artillery hits villages north of "security zone" [AFP, IDF, BDS, JDS 11/27 in FBIS 11/27; MEM 11/27; NYT, LAT, WT, WP 11/28; CSM 11/29; JPJ 12/8; MET 12/11].

Rear Adm. Gene La Rocque (Ret.) tells congressional committee that 6-month Gulf war would result in deaths of 10,000 U.S. soldiers, wounding of 35,000 others, and cost $80 billion [LAT 11/28].

In Tunis, Yasir Arafat confers separately with ambassadors of the 5 permanent members of UN Sec. Council, discussing Gulf crisis and situation in o.t.; Arafat tells ambassadors to demand Sec. Council issue same ultimatum to Israel that it intends to address to Iraq [MEM 11/28, MAP 11/28 in FBIS 11/29].

Saudi official says his country's gratitude toward USSR for its support in Gulf crisis has motivated Saudi Arabia to lend Moscow as much as $1 billion as part of GCC "financial cooperation program" [MEM 11/27, 11/29; WP 11/29].

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28 NOVEMBER

 Appearing before Senate Armed Services Committee, 2 former chrmn. of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. William Crowe and Gen. David Jones, urge Bush admin. to postpone military action against Iraq and to give sanctions a year or more to work [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 11/29; CSM 11/30].

Britain and Syria restore diplomatic relations, severed 4 years ago when Britain accused Syria of sponsoring terrorism. Communiqué from Damascus confirms resumption of ties, renounces terrorism, but adds "Syria does not consider resistance against Israeli occupation as terrorism" [MEM 11/28; NYT, WP 11/29].

UN Sec. Council passes res. 677 condemning Iraq's attempts to change Kuwait's demographic composition [MEM 11/29].

 Israeli Cabinet votes to raise personal income taxes by 5% and to raise national sales tax from 16% to 18% in order to help pay for resettlement of Soviet Jewish immigrants. Measures take effect in 1991 pending Knesset approval (cf. 12/2) [MEM 11/28; NYT 11/29; MET 12/11].

Hard-line statement by King Fahd serves warning to Iraq that "no other solution will be accepted" than unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait [NYT 11/29].

Iraqi govt.'s statement lashes out at U.S. for sponsoring UN resolution authorizing use of force, says it would ignore any deadline set by UN; in separate statement Saddam Hussein accuses UN of double standard in dealing with Middle East issues, particularly dealings with Israel [NYT, LAT 11/29].

Two IDF reservists who refuse to serve in o.t. are sentenced to 2 and 4 weeks in prison; since beginning of intifada 128 reservists have refused to serve in o.t. (cf. 12/1) [JDS 11/28 in FBIS 11/29].

Al-Fiqr poll of 550 Nablus residents finds 34% believe war is inevitable and that 54% believe Iraq would triumph over coalition forces in the war [FJ 11/28].


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29 NOVEMBER

UN Sec. Council passes resolution 678 by vote of 12-2, with 1 abstention, to authorize "all necessary means" to force Iraq to leave Kuwait; setting 1/15 as deadline after which Iraq faces possible military response. (See doc. A1) [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 11/30; INA 11/30, BADS 12/1 in FBIS 12/3].

House Republican and Democratic leaders advise Pres. Bush not to call for special session of Congress to authorize use of force against Iraq, as they could not guarantee
strong bipartisan support for such a resolution [NYT, WP 11/30].

Pentagon orders 300 additional warplanes to Gulf region, increasing U.S. total there to 1,200 [LAT 11/30; NYT 12/1].

Jerusalem magistrate court convicts army reserve Lt. Col. Yair Klein of illegally exporting military weapons and expertise to Colombia. Klein reportedly sold arms and provided training to members of drug cartel (cf. 1/3) [NYT, WT 11/30; JPI 12/8, MET 12/11].

UN Committee for the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People celebrates “international solidarity day with Palestinian people”; letters from Yasar Arafat and Pres. Mubarak are read to committee [AVP, MENA 11/29 in FBIS 11/30].

General strike is observed throughout o.t. on occasion of 43d anniversary of UN resolution to partition Palestine [FJ 12/3; MET 12/11].

Ryan Crocker, new U.S. ambassador to Lebanon, presents his credentials to Pres. Hrawi; U.S. embassy had been closed since 9/89 [NYT 11/30].

30 NOVEMBER

Pres. Bush says he has invited Iraqi F.M. Aziz to Washington and is ready to send Sec. Baker to Baghdad in an attempt to find peaceful solution to Gulf crisis. (See doc. D1) [NYT, LAT, WP 12/1; CSM 12/3].


PLO statement condemns 11/29 UN resolution; another statement “welcomes the U.S. inclination toward negotiation and dialogue” after Pres. Bush offers to send Sec. Baker to Iraq (See doc. B1) (cf. 12/1) [AFP, AVP 12/1 in FBIS 12/3; CDS 11/30 in FBIS 12/4].

UNLU call no. 64, “the call of pledge and continuity,” asks for international protection for Palestinians and heralds beginning of intifada’s 4th year [BVP 12/3 in FBIS 12/5].

Iraqi troops deliver fruit, vegetables, and cigarettes to the U.S. embassy in Kuwait, promise American diplomats they would return with more food and medical supplies; Pres. Bush says “this could be a positive sign” [NYT, LAT, WP 12/1].

Former U.S. def. secretaries Harold Brown and Robert McNamara urge Bush admin. to allow time for sanctions to work in Iraq before resorting to military action [NYT 12/3].

Israeli military order renews closure of 4 Palestinian universities in o.t. for additional 3 months [MEM 11/30; FJ 12/3].

UN Sec. Council unanimously approves 6-month renewal, until 31 May 1991, of UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) as buffer between Syrian and Israeli armies in Golan Heights [MEM 12/3].

Official Saudi source says Saudia Arabia has cancelled debts owed to it by Egypt; debts estimated at $4 billion [MEM 12/3].

Jerusalem Report magazine poll taken between 11/19 and 11/29 of 1,200 Israeli Jews finds 42% have become more hawkish toward Palestinians in o.t. in the past 3 years. Only 6% say intifada has brought about more dovish attitude, while 2 out of 3 Israeli Jews say they want to bar Palestinians from working in Israel. (Poll is not published until 12 December) [WT 12/7; MEM 12/13].

1 DECEMBER

Iraq’s Revolutionary Command Council agrees to Bush-Aziz and Saddam-Baker meetings intended to avert war; U.S. admin. officials rebuff Iraqi suggestion that talks deal also with Palestine question [NYT, WP 12/2; BDS 12/1, PAT 12/2 in FBIS 12/3; MEM 12/3; MET 12/11].

Israeli air force planes bomb Palestinian Popular Struggle Front base in S. Lebanon, wounding at least 5 people [NYT, WP 12/2; BDS 12/1 in FBIS 12/3; JDS 12/1 in FBIS 12/4].

Egypt, PLO, and Gulf states welcome Pres. Bush’s overture toward Iraq. PLO’s Yasir Abd Rabbo calls it “a step in the right direction” [MENA 12/1, WAKH, RTS 12/2 in FBIS 12/3; NYT 12/2; MEM 12/3].

Israeli police shoot dead middle-aged Palestinian woman after she tries to stab Jerusalem policeman; policeman is not hurt [NYT 12/2].

Def. Sec. Richard Cheney signs order raising to 189,250 the maximum number of military reservists who can be ordered to active duty in Gulf; previous limit was 125,000 [NYT, LAT 12/4].

129th Israeli reservist is jailed for refusing to serve in o.t. [JPD 12/2 in FBIS 12/3].

In Boston, estimated 8,000 to 10,000 people protest against U.S. military involvement in Gulf [MEM 12/3].

2 DECEMBER

Israeli is killed, at least 3 others wounded when 3 Arabs stab Israeli passengers on bus in Ramat Gan [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 12/3;
IDF, JDS 12/2 in FBIS 12/3; JPI 12/8; MET 12/11.

Israel’s national trade union, Histadrut, all but shuts down the country with general strike protesting govt.’s plan to increase taxes to pay for settling Soviet Jewish immigrants [NYT, LAT, CSM 12/3; JPI 12/8; MET 12/11].

UNLU leaflet no. 65 calls for making the 4th year of intifada a year of Palestinian self-reliance [HAA 12/3 in FBIS 12/4; AVP 12/3 in FBIS 12/5; MEM 12/3].

U.S. Marines begin 4-day amphibious exercise in Gulf [LAT 12/3].

Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Boutros Ghali tells reporters that as soon as Gulf crisis is over, Egypt will seek to mobilize international pressure on Israel for complete withdrawal from W. Bank, Gaza, and Golan [MEM 12/3].

3 DECEMBER

Two-day tripartite meeting of foreign ministers of Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia begins in Cairo; this is 3rd meeting since Gulf crisis began [MENA, RMC 12/3 in FBIS 12/4; MET 12/11].

Greater Beirut officially comes under control of Lebanese Army after Lebanese Forces militia vacate positions [MEM 12/3; NYT, WT, WP, CSM 12/4; BDS, BVL, RFL 12/3 in FBIS 12/4; MET 12/11].

Def. Sec. Cheney tells Senate Armed Services Committee that military action rather than economic sanctions is only sure way of forcing Iraq out of Kuwait [NYT, WT, WP, MEM 12/4; CSM 12/5].

Soviet television reports that 1,000 of the 3,000 Soviet citizens still held in Iraq will be allowed to return to USSR within next 3 weeks [NYT, WT, WP 12/4].

In separate statements before English-speaking or American audiences, Israeli D.M. Moshe Arens, Housing Min. Ariel Sharon, Deputy F.M. Benjamin Netanyahu, and several MKs offer sharp warnings that Iraq should not be left with its army and weapons intact after Gulf crisis [NYT 12/4; WP 12/6]; Sharon compares Sec. Baker’s proposed Baghdad trip to Neville Chamberlain in World War II [JDS 12/3 in FBIS 12/4].

Israeli military court sentences to 30 years each of 12 Arabs apprehended in PLF’s May 1990 attempted attack on Tel Aviv beach [IDF 12/3 in FBIS 12/5; LAT 12/4; MEM 12/4; MET 12/11].

Quoting B’Tselem data, Ha’aretz reports that Palestinians are prohibited from building on 68% of West Bank’s 5.5 million dunums [HAA 12/3 in FBIS 12/5].

Israeli air force and navy confront “fishing vessel that appeared suspicious” off coast of Gaza; force it ashore and shoot dead 1 crew member who tries to flee; five others are detained [JDS 12/4 in FBIS 12/4; MEM 12/4]. At least 10 “anti-Israeli combatants” are killed in 2 incidents of fighting with IDF, SLA troops in S. Lebanon [IDF, AFP 12/3 in FBIS 12/4].

4 DECEMBER

Iraq’s Revolutionary Command Council issues statement allowing all Soviet citizens to leave Iraq providing Soviet gov’t. assumes responsibility for breaching worker contracts [MEM 12/4; NYT, LAT, WT, WP, CSM 12/5; INA 12/4 in FBIS 12/4].

After meeting in Cairo with Saudi and Syrian F.M.s, Pres. Mubarak urges creation of new Arab alliance grouping Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Syria as a “foundation to serve the Arab people.” Tripartite statement is also issued. King Hussein of Jordan and Vice Pres. al-Beedh of Yemen fly to Baghdad to meet with Saddam Hussein and Yasar Arafat [MENA 12/4 in FBIS 12/5; NYT, LAT, MEM 12/5; WP 12/6; AVP 12/6 in FBIS 12/7; MET 12/18].

Kuwait’s ambassador to U.S. says Bush admin. has assured his gov’t.-in-exile that U.S. would make “absolutely no concessions” when it meets with Iraqi officials [NYT 12/5].

New York Newsday reports Kach party members mailed to a television reporter a “hit list,” threatening lives of at least 8 supporters of Palestinian rights, including M.T. Mehdi, Arthur Hertzberg, Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said, and Anthony Lewis. Threats are aimed at avenging assassination of Kach founder Meir Kahane [WT, WP, MEM 12/5].

In Brussels, 12-country EC agrees that Italy, current holder of EC presidency, could hold talks with Iraqi F.M. Aziz if Aziz first meets with Pres. Bush [MEM 12/5].

Responding to growing fear over rash of Palestinian knife attacks on Israelis, police broaden surveillance of Arab workers in Israel with spot check searches and new roadblocks along W. Bank [NYT, MEM 12/5].

5 DECEMBER

In testimony to House Armed Services Committee, CIA Dir. William Webster says Iraq’s military could maintain its current
UAE, until ing WP encion cil, of lages gov't., for CSM calls PLO currently release to 12/8].

6 DECEMBER

Saddam Hussein says he has decided to release all foreigners held hostage in Iraq and Kuwait; Bush admin. welcomes move, but reiterates that no concessions will be made and that Iraq must leave Kuwait [BADS 12/6 in FBIS 12/6; MEM 12/6; NYT, LAT, WT, WP, CSM 12/7; MET 12/18].

In Brussels Sec. Cheney asks NATO allies for additional troops, weapons, and money for Gulf buildup [LAT, WP 12/7; NYT 12/8].

General strike called for by Islamic Jihad is observed in o.t., selected Palestinian villages are placed under curfew in anticipation of intifada anniversary (cf. 12/7) [F] 12/10].

7 DECEMBER

U.S. postpones meeting of UN Sec. Council, trying to press for changes in draft resolution on Middle East [NYT 12/8, 12/9, LAT, WP 12/8].

State Dept. says it will not schedule meeting between Iraqi F.M. Aziz and Pres. Bush until Baghdad agrees on date for meeting between Saddam Hussein and Sec. Baker [LAT 12/8].

Egypt Defense Ministry says it will increase its military forces in Saudi Arabia and UAE, bringing its total to 27,000 men [LAT 12/8].

Los Angeles Times reports increased pressure on PLO to allow intifada activists to use firearms against occupation authorities [LAT 12/8].

Israel widens curfews to include nearly all towns and refugee camps in o.t. to prevent unrest and demonstrations ahead of 3d anniversary of intifada on 12/9 [JDS 12/7 in FBIS 12/10, LAT 12/8, FJ 12/10, MET 12/18].

P.M. Shamir flies to London for meetings with British P.M. John Major [JDS 12/7 in FBIS 12/10].

8 DECEMBER

New York Times reports that, with enough Soviet Jews to elect an MK arriving every 6 weeks, political parties are competing for large new voter pool; that immigrants may dramatically reshape Israeli politics in near future [NYT 12/9].

PLO leader Arafat delivers speech stressing Palestinian unity as o.t. prepares to mark anniversary of intifada [AVP 12/9, BVP 12/10 in FBIS 12/10; MEM 12/10; Palestinians in o.t. begin 2-day general strike to commemorate 10/8 Hiram al-Sharif killings [WP 12/9].

GCC finance ministers meet for summit in Doha to discuss disruption of economies because of Gulf crisis [WAHK 12/8 in FBIS 12/11]; while Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries opens meeting in Cairo [MENA 12/8 in FBIS 12/11].

9 DECEMBER

More than 1,000 foreigners, including 163 Americans, fly out of Iraq; more flights are scheduled for 12/10 and 12/11 [NYT, LAT, WT, WP, CSM 12/10].

Citing Defense Dep't. and White House officials, New York Times reports Pentagon may have to ask Congress for additional $10 billion to $20 billion in spending authority to cover rising costs of Gulf deployment [NYT 12/10].

Sec. Baker says U.S. will not stand in way of talks between Iraq and Kuwait once Iraq complies with UN resolutions, leaving the 2 countries to negotiate anything, including fate of Bubiyan and Warba islands [MEM 12/10].

Jordan's King Hussein proposes Gulf peace plan that calls for compromise, talks among Arabs, and linking Palestine question to Gulf crisis [LAT, WP 12/10].

Former D.M. Yitzhak Rabin says "We must now recognize the fact that coexistence with the Palestinian population of the terri-
tories in one political framework has no chance,” as New York Times reports that many Israelis are beginning to believe that only solution to Palestine question is permanent separation [NYT 12/10].

U.S. soldier in Saudi Arabia is killed when tractor-trailer truck overturns; he is 52d casualty of Operation Desert Shield [LAT 12/10].

Israeli soldier is killed, 2 are wounded when bombs explode outside military headquarters in Bethlehem; Palestinian is shot dead in Gaza after allegedly attacking soldier; Palestinians celebrate beginning of 4th year of intifada, despite being under curfew for 3d consecutive day [JDS 12/9 in FBIS 12/10, 12/19; LAT, WT, WP, MEM 12/10; CSM 12/11; BVP 12/11 in FBIS 12/12; JPI 12/15; MET 12/18].

Annual report issued by 'Uvda, the settlers' information center in Hebron, argues that number of incidents in o.t., such as stone throwing and placing barricades on roads, almost doubled in 3d year of intifada, rising from 39,411 incidents in 1989 to 71,754 in 1990 [HAA 12/10 in FBIS 12/13].

In Stockholm, retired lawyer Felicia Langer receives "Right Livelihood Award" for defending Palestinians in Israeli courts for more than 20 years [MEM 12/10].

### 10 December

U.S. and Iraqi admin. air differences over when Bush-Aziz and Baker-Saddam meetings should take place; Iraq suggests Baker come to Baghdad on 1/2, but U.S. says it is too close to UN deadline of 1/15 for Iraqi troops to leave Kuwait [NYT, WP 12/11].

For 2d time, U.S. postpones Sec. Council vote on resolution endorsing Middle East peace conference; hopes to change text so that it can avoid using in Israel's defense veto that could weaken Arab support for U.S.-led coalition in Saudi Arabia [NYT, WP, MEM 12/11; CSM 12/12; JPI 12/22].

Sec. Baker asks F.M. Shevardnadze to commit Soviet troop contingent to multinational force in Gulf; Shevardnadze says USSR cannot do so [WP 12/11].

Kuwaiti officials says Iraq owes them $64 billion for stolen property, unpaid debts, and damage caused by 8/2 invasion [IRNA 12/11 in FBIS 12/12].

Israeli army steps up 3-month-old policy of deploying hidden snipers along highways in the West Bank with authorization to shoot Palestinians seen throwing stones at Israeli cars. Snipers use live ammunition and are permitted to fire without warning if they believe the stone throwers are endangering lives [HAM 12/11 in FBIS 12/11; MEM 12/12; NYT, WT, CSM 12/13; MET 12/25].

Israeli military prosecutors are ordered to demand harsher sentences for those Palestinians convicted of stone-throwing. D.M. Arens sets maximum sentence at 20 years in prison [JDS 12/11 in FBIS 12/11].

Labor MK Yossi Beilin presents initiative of dovish Mashov Circle group, calling for “negotiations between Israel and a Palestinian delegation with a primary purpose of bringing about Israel's evacuation from the Gaza Strip, to create in the Gaza Strip a Palestinian state...” [MEM 12/11].

28 American Jewish community leaders, celebrities, and law professors send letter to Pres. Bush urging him to raise at his 12/11 meeting with P.M. Shamir the human rights cases of Palestinian journalists Radwan Abu Ayyash and Ziad Abu Zayyad, who were placed in administrative detention on 11/13. Letter urges they be either formally charged with a crime or else released. Copy of letter is sent to P.M. Shamir [MEM 12/11].

EC says it will give $6 million to help 8 hospitals in o.t. keep functioning during Gulf crisis [MEM 12/11].

### 11 December

In Washington, Pres. Bush holds 2-hour meeting with Israeli P.M. Shamir, the 1st U.S.-Israeli meeting since Gulf crisis began; Shamir calls talks “reassuring” (See doc. D2) [JDS 12/11, YA 12/12 in FBIS 12/12; NYT, LAT, WT, WP, CSM 12/12; JPI 12/22].

Nearly 500 Western and Japanese hostages leave Iraq and Kuwait on chartered planes; State Dep't believes 268 Americans have left since 12/8, but that about 500 Americans have chosen to remain behind [INA 12/11 in FBIS 12/12; NYT, LAT, WP 12/12].

France announces it will send an additional 4,000 men to the Gulf, raising total number of French troops to 10,000. Pentagon says Iraq has placed an additional 20,000 troops in and around Kuwait in the past week [NYT, WP 12/12].

Sec. Baker gives tentative and qualified support for Soviet F.M. Shevardnadze's proposal for nuclear-free Middle East; once Iraq leaves Kuwait [LAT, WT, WP 12/12].

First Polish ambassador to Israel since 1967 presents his credentials as Poland and Israel resume ties [HAM 12/12 in FBIS 12/12].
12/19].

Despite U.S. initial commitment on 10/2 to give Israel $400 million in housing loan guarantees for Soviet immigrants, Bush admin. is still in process of reviewing loan arrangements and loan has not yet been implemented [MEM 12/12].

Italian F.M. Gianni De Michelis tells Le Monde “we cannot allow [Israel] to dictate the present and future security in the [Middle East]. I think it is necessary from now on to isolate Israel. One has seen with Iraq that isolation can have good results” [MEM 12/13].

**12 DECEMBER**

U.S. and Iraq again fail to agree on dates to send respective F.M.s to Washington and Baghdad [NYT, LAT 12/13].

Pres. Chadli Benjedid of Algeria meets with Saddam Hussein in Baghdad after stop-over in Amman for talks with King Hussein [INA 12/12 in FBIS 12/13; NYT, CSM 12/13; MET 12/25].

Maj. Gen. Saadi Tuma Abbas, battle-hardened hero of Iran-Iraq war, is appointed new Iraqi D.M., replacing Gen. Shanshal who leaves at age 70 [BADS 12/12 in FBIS 12/12; NYT, LAT, WT, WP, MEM 12/13; MET 12/25].

P.M. Shamir meets in Washington with Soviet F.M. Shevardnadze to discuss Israeli-Soviet relations; Shamir says Shevardnadze promises not to bring up international peace conference as precondition for renewing ties [IDF 12/12, JDS 12/13 in FBIS 12/13; NYT, LAT, WT, WP, MEM 12/13].

D.M. Moshe Arens says Jewish settlements in o.t. “are growing and blossoming” and their population has increased to 100,000 despite intifada [WT 12/13].

Israeli Interior Minister Ayre Deri bars Palestinian nationalist Sari Nusseibah from leaving Israel for 3 months [JTS 12/12 in FBIS 12/18; MEM 12/14; MET 12/25].

At meeting on solidarity with intifada, Yasir Arafat says Gulf crisis has cost Palestinians more than $10 billion, and that $1.4 billion annual contributions from Palestinians in Gulf to Palestinians in o.t. have ceased [AVP 12/13 in FBIS 12/14; MAP 12/13 in FBIS 12/17].

**13 DECEMBER**

Federal District Court judges rule against 54 Democratic members of Congress who had sought an order forbidding Pres. Bush from going to war without first seeking congressional approval, but also rule Congress could force Bush to seek declaration of war if it chooses [NYT, WP 12/14].

Last U.S.-sponsored evacuation flight out of Iraq and Kuwait arrives in Frankfurt, carrying U.S. ambassador to Kuwait and 31 other Americans [AFP 12/13 in FBIS 12/13; ADS, INA 12/13 in FBIS 12/14; NYT, WP 12/4; LAT 12/15].

American official says U.S. wants to keep some UN sanctions against Iraq in place even if Saddam withdraws from Kuwait; sanctions would continue to ensure Saddam “can’t keep up his massive military machine” [NYT 12/14]; U.S. officials accuse Saddam of stalling on setting dates for talks [WP 12/14].

New York Times/CBS News poll finds 45% of respondents believe U.S. should start military actions against Iraq if it does not leave Kuwait by 1/15; 48% say U.S. should wait for sanctions to work; 62% say sending troops to Saudi Arabia was correct thing to do [NYT 12/14].

Concluding 2-day meeting, OPEC ministers in Vienna agree to maintain present production levels and reinitiate production ceiling of 22.5 million barrels per day once Gulf crisis is over [IRNA, AFP 12/13 in FBIS 12/13].

French F.M. Roland Dumas says Iraqi pledge to leave Kuwait would not be enough to satisfy UN, but it could move Gulf crisis towards peaceful solution [MEM 12/14].

Tel Aviv military court convicts Col. Yaacov Sadeh of causing death by negligence of Palestinian teenager during clash 17 months ago [MEM 12/14].

Labor party leader Shimon Peres says P.M. Shamir’s gov’t. has moved into W. Bank and Gaza hundreds of new trailer homes imported to ease housing shortage [JTS 12/13 in FBIS 12/14; MET 12/25].

**14 DECEMBER**

Pres. Bush says direct talks between U.S. and Iraq are “on hold” until Baghdad agrees to receive Sec. Baker no later than 1/3; Iraq echoes Bush statement saying talks have been postponed indefinitely, and wants Baker-Sad- dam meeting on 1/12 [NYT, LAT, WP 12/15].

Sec.-Gen. of GCC, Abdallah Beshara, a Kuwaiti, is quoted as saying Gulf crisis has underlined need for 6-member GCC to set up joint army and move towards “total unity” [MEM 12/14].
Algerian Pres. Chedli Benjedid flies to Muscat for meetings with Omani leaders about Gulf crisis [MEM 12/14].

Three Israelis are stabbed to death in an aluminum factory in Jaffa; widespread anti-Arab rioting follows while police search for 2 Palestinian suspects (cf. 12/15) [JDS 12/14 in FBIS 12/14, FBIS 12/17; MEM 12/14; NYT, LAT, WP 12/15; JPI 12/22; MET 12/25].

15 DECEMBER

Iraq's Information Minister says Baghdad still wants "deep dialogue" with U.S. despite differences over dates for direct talks; also says F.M. Aziz will not travel to Washington on 12/17 [INA 12/15, ATS 12/16 in FBIS 12/17; NYT 12/16; MET 12/25].


Egypt expresses to Israel its "extreme anxiety" over reports that Temple Mount Faithful will tour Haram al-Sharif on 12/17 [MENA 12/15 in FBIS 12/18].

EC ends summit conference in Rome with 2 resolutions on Middle East, one warning Saddam Hussein that peace in Gulf is his responsibility, the other calling for international peace conference on the Middle East (See doc. A2) [MEM 12/17].

Still searching for 2 Palestinians suspected in 12/14 stabbings, Israeli police arrest hundreds of Palestinians in o.t. Palestinians claim 800 are detained. Gaza is placed under curfew (cf. 12/16) [DFS 12/15 in FBIS 12/17; NYT, LAT 12/16; MET 12/25].

Israel issues deportation notices to 4 Gaza Strip Palestinians described by IDF as members of Hamas. Notices are given to Fadel Zaabut, Imad al-Alami, Mustapha al-Lidani, and Shajik Mustafa Knuah (cf. 12/16, 12/18, 12/20, 12/25; 1/7, 1/8) [JDS 12/15 in FBIS 12/17; NYT, WP, CSM 12/17; JPI 12/22].

16 DECEMBER

Iraq is delaying departure of 2,300 Soviet advisors working at oil and military installation, saying Baghdad will impose economic penalties on Moscow for breaching contracts; high-level Soviet delegation arrives in Baghdad to discuss situation [NYT 12/17; CSM 12/18].

Three DFLP fighters are killed, 3 Israeli soldiers are wounded in gunfight in S. Lebanon [IDF 12/16 in FBIS 12/18; NYT, MEM 12/17].

Sec. Baker says he still hopes Washington and Baghdad could agree on dates for direct talks; reiterates he would go to Iraq anytime between 12/20 and 1/3 [NYT, LAT, WP 12/17].

U.S. agrees to sponsor UN Sec. Council resolution condemning Israel's deportation notices to 4 Palestinians, asking for international protection for Palestinians, and giving qualified support for international peace conference to settle Palestine question [NYT 12/18].

Israeli D.M. Moshe Arens pledges to deport more Palestinians from o.t., renewing policy that draws criticism from U.S. [NYT, WT, WP 12/17].

Hamas issues pamphlet claiming responsibility for 12/14 killings in Jaffa; police arrest at least 300 additional Palestinians [NYT 12/17].

17 DECEMBER

Sec. Baker tells NATO allies he expects Saddam Hussein to take dramatic step, such as partial pullout from Kuwait, just before UN resolution authorizing use of force goes into effect on 1/15. NATO ministers issue statement saying "there can be no partial solutions" [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 12/18; CSM 12/19].

Iraq asks European Community to go ahead with scheduled high-level meeting on 12/20 in Rome between European leaders and Iraqi F.M. Aziz [NYT, WP 12/18].

Fourteen former senior govt. officials, including former NSC advisers Richard Allen and Robert McFarlane, urge Bush admin. to use military force shortly after 1/15 deadline if Iraq does not leave Kuwait [NYT 12/18].

After meeting with Algeria's Pres. Benjedid in Cairo on efforts to find Arab solution to Gulf crisis, Pres. Mubarak says "we have not yet found a way for a solution" [CDS 12/17 in FBIS 12/18; NYT 12/18]; Pres. Benjedid then travels to Libya, while Jordanian P.M. Mudar Badran goes to Syria in further diplomatic activity [APS, DDS 12/17 in FBIS 12/18; NYT 12/18].

Ishak Moussa Hussein, noted Palestinian writer and teacher who sought to explain Arab history to the West, dies in Jerusalem at age 86 [NYT 12/23; F] 12/24].

Shmeul Goren, coordinator of govt. activ-
ities in o.t., tells Knesset committee that Gulf crisis has cut in half annual aid of $140 million from Gulf Palestinians to o.t. Palestinians; that o.t. exports have been cut by 50%; and that citrus exports from Gaza have been reduced by 80% [IDF 12/17 in FBIS 12/20].

Senior Jordanian official says Amman has rejected proposal by Israel for bilateral negotiations on water and other territorial disputes, declaring Jordan would enter talks with Israel only in international peace conference on Middle East [MEM 12/18].

Israeli police bar thousands of Palestinians from entering Jerusalem and send hundreds of officers into the Old City to prevent clashes caused by heightened tensions [NYT, LAT, WT, WP, CSM 12/18; FJ 12/24; MET 12/25].

Jerusalem Post reports that the Jewish Agency about a month ago ordered all Agency and World Zionist Organization institutions to stop employing Palestinians from o.t. for “security considerations” [JPD 12/18 in FBIS 12/18; MEM 12/18].

18 DECEMBER

EC foreign ministers call off scheduled meeting with Iraqi F.M. Aziz, deciding not to negotiate with Iraq until Washington and Baghdad talk first [LAT, WT, 12/19; CSM 12/20]; EC ministers decide to extend grants and loans to number of Mediterranean countries, including Syria [DDS 12/19 in FBIS 12/20].

Sec. Baker indicates that even if Iraq pulls out of part of Kuwait before 1/15, the U.S. would not shrink from military measures to push Iraqis all the way out [NYT 12/19].

Amnesty International issues report asserting Iraqi occupation forces in Kuwait have tortured and killed hundreds of people, including 300 premature babies who died because incubators were stolen [WP, MEM 12/19; NYT 12/20].

’Al Hamishmar reports Israel is concerned by U.S. readiness to consider increasing number of UNRWA workers in o.t. so that they can serve as observers and report findings to UN Sec.-Gen. [HAM 12/19 in FBIS 12/20].

Israeli soldiers shoot and wound 18 Palestinians in o.t. during strike to protest Israeli plans to deport 4 Palestinian leaders [JPD 12/19 in FBIS 12/20; MEM 12/18, NYT 12/19; FJ 12/24; MET 1/1].

Israeli Maj.-Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai is named to succeed retiring Maj.-Gen. Yossi Peled as OC Northern Command [MEM 12/19].

19 DECEMBER

In Riyadh with Sec. Cheney, Lt. Gen. Calvin Waller, deputy commander of U.S. forces in Gulf, tells reporters American-led forces would not be ready to attack Iraq by 1/15; Bush admin. says Waller remarks are undercutting U.S. Gulf strategy [SPA 12/19 in FBIS 12/20; MEM 12/19, NYT, LAT, WP, WT 12/20; MET 1/1].

Pres. Mitterrand says that partial Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait is unacceptable and that he believes chances of avoiding war are slight [NYT 12/20].

Japanese Vice-F.M. Kuriyama says in addition to Japan’s $4-billion aid package, it must contribute personnel to coalition in order to fight growing criticism that Japan has not contributed enough to multinational effort [LAT, WT 12/20].

Turkish govt. asks NATO allies to send air units to bases near Turkey-Iraq border [MEM 12/19; LAT, WT, WP 12/20].

Major scandal involving allegations of kickbacks and fraud in purchase of U.S. weapons rocks Israel’s air force, implicating several senior officials [NYT, WP, MEM 12/20].

Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) lends Egypt 20 million Kuwaiti dinars to finance land reclamation project in northern Sinai [MENA 12/19 in FBIS 12/20].

20 DECEMBER

Soviet F.M. Eduard Shevardnadze abruptly resigns warning that “reactionaries” threatened USSR with dictatorship; speculation concerning effect on Gulf crisis [NYT, WT, WP 12/21].

UN Sec. Council adopts resolution 681 deploring Israel’s recent deportation of 4 Palestinians and indirectly endorsing international peace conference on Middle East (See doc. A3) [DDS 12/21 in FBIS 12/21; NYT, WT, WP, MEM 12/21; JPI 12/29].

General strike called for by UNLU is observed throughout o.t. [FJ 12/24].

Media in Damascus report Kuwaiti govt.-in-exile has granted Syria $110 million loan [MEM 12/21].
21 DECEMBER

Tens of thousands of Iraqis conduct mock evacuation drill in Baghdad as part of increased civil defense efforts [AFP 12/21 in FBIS 12/21; NYT, LAT 12/22].

British P.M. John Major meet with Sec. Baker in Washington; Baker says he is no longer optimistic that Gulf crisis can be resolved peacefully [LAT, WP 12/22].

Israel announces it is using every available plane and even allowing flights on the Sabbath to bring in additional Soviet Jews fearing political turmoil in USSR [LAT 12/22].

22 DECEMBER

Overnight, at least 19 U.S. sailors on leave from Gulf duty drown off Israeli port of Haifa when ferry carrying them back to USS Saratoga capsizes and sinks [JDS 12/22 in FBIS 12/24; LAT 12/22; NYT, WP 12/23; JPI 12/29; MET 1/1].

Gulf Cooperation Council opens 11th annual summit meeting in Doha, Qatar with the 6 member nations' leaders in attendance [WAKH 12/22 in FBIS 12/24; NYT 12/23; MET 1/1].

New York Times reports that in early November, Pres. Bush authorized American oil companies to import limited amounts of crude oil from Iran, partly relaxing ban on all Iranian goods imposed in 1987 near end of Iran-Iraq war [NYT 12/23].

PFLP reopens its Baghdad office after a 10-year absence [INA 12/22 in FBIS 1/3; MET 1/1].

IDF shoots dead "terrorist" cutting through fence along Israeli-Jordanian border north of Argaman settlement [JDS 12/22 in FBIS 12/24].

PLO statement says 12/20 UN Sec. Council resolution is insufficient and disproportionate compared to the volume of aggressions committed by Israel against Palestinians [AFP 12/23 in FBIS 12/24; AFP 12/22 in FBIS 12/27].

23 DECEMBER

Boston cardiologist John Pastore, who recently visited Iraq as part of international physician's organization, says UN embargo is having serious negative effects on medical care of civilians, both children and adults, in Iraq [NYT 12/24].

Continuing peace tour of region, Algerian Pres. Benjedid holds talks in Rabat with King Hassan [MET 1/1].

24 DECEMBER

Pentagon reportedly tells Pres. Bush that the dominant view held by American military officials is that U.S. troops will not be ready for offensive action against Iraq on 1/15, and that any attack should be deferred until February at earliest (cf. 12/26) [NYT, WP 12/25].

Iraq recalls its ambassadors from major European capitals, Washington, and Tokyo for consultations over deadlock in Gulf crisis [NYT, LAT, WP 12/25].

Saddam Hussein reportedly says Tel Aviv will be his 1st target in the event war breaks out; Israel promises swift and terrible retribution if attacked [LAT, WT, WP 12/25].

The Satanic Verses author Salman Rushdie's statement from hidden location affirms his Muslim faith, says he will not publish paperback version of book (cf. 12/26) [LAT, WT 12/25].

Israel in 1990 received highest number of immigrants in one year since 1949; about 187,000 people, mostly Soviet Jews, have arrived to date, and authorities expect 200,000 by year's end [LAT, WT, WP 12/25].

Housing Minister Ariel Sharon announces govt.'s plan to locate 2,500 more houses for Jewish settlers in o.t., almost certainly including new Soviet immigrants, despite past assurances new immigrants would not be settled in o.t. [WP 12/26; F] 12/31].

W. Bank and Gaza observe general strike called for by UNLU; signs of Christmas are noticeably absent in Bethlehem [NYT, WT, WP 12/25].

Newly-appointed Lebanese P.M. Omar Karami forms 30-man pro-Syrian cabinet, half-Christian and half-Muslim. Lebanese Forces leader Samir Geagea refuses post because of cabinet's pro-Syrian tilt [BVL, BDS 12/24, AFP 12/25 in FBIS 12/26; AFP 12/24, BVL 12/26 in FBIS 12/27; NYT, WP 12/25].

25 DECEMBER

GCC ends 4-day summit in Doha with statement and communiqué warning Iraq that war is only alternative unless Saddam withdraws from Kuwait, drops usual reference to PLO as "sole legitimate representative of Palestinians" [NYT, LAT, WP 12/26; CSM 12/27].

In annual Christmas message, Pope John...
Paul II calls for negotiations to end Gulf crisis, but seems to hint Iraq should leave Kuwait, saying "the inalienable rights of people and nations" must be respected. John Paul also calls for solution to Israeli-Palestinian conflict, one that acknowledges "the legitimate expectations" of each side [LAT 12/25, 12/26; NYT, WT, WP 12/26].

USSR's 1st consul in Israel since 1967 presents his credentials in Jerusalem while Israel's 1st consul does likewise in similar ceremony in Moscow [LAT, WP 12/26; JPI 1/5].

Military panel in Jerusalem rejects appeals of 4 Palestinians slated to be deported for membership in Hamas [LAT, WT 12/26; FJ 12/31].

Spokesman says DFLP is ready to launch attack at Israel in event of U.S. aggression against Iraq [INA 12/25 in FBIS 12/26].

Fateh's Central Committee opens meeting in Tunis under Chrmn. Arafat [DUS 12/25 in FBIS 12/27].

26 DECEMBER

U.S. Defense Dept. says threat of Iraqi attack on Israel is "very realistic" and that American intelligence analysts believe Iraq would use chemical weapons against coalition forces in event of war [NYT 12/27]; Israel signals it will not launch first strike against Iraq [WP 12/27] and asserts it has no aggressive intentions toward Jordan [JPI 1/5].

Iraqi cargo ship carrying tons of food bound for Iraq is seized by U.S. and Australian soldiers after having to use stun grenades to subdue crew members; Baghdad protests to UN [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 12/27].

U.S. orders diplomats out of Jordan and Sudan "well before 15 January" because of fears of anti-U.S. violence (cf. 1/3) [WT, WP 12/27].


3 Jewish militants are freed after serving less than 7 years of their life sentences for killing 3 Arabs and maiming 2 Palestinian mayors in early 1980s car bombings; Jewish Underground members Menachem Livni, Shaul Nir, and Uzi Sharbav are greeted as heroes by Jewish settlers [JDS 12/26 in FBIS 12/26; NYT, LAT, WP, CSM 12/27; FJ 12/31; JPI 1/5].

Gaza youth is shot dead by IDF after reportedly attacking soldier with knife [JDS 12/26 in FBIS 12/26].

27 DECEMBER

Military officials, acting on CIA warnings that Iraq has developed biological weapons, is planning to begin vaccinating American military personnel in Gulf [NYT 12/28; LAT, WP 12/29].

Saddam Hussein sends his ambassadors back to their posts in Western and foreign capitals with message that Iraq wants "serious and constructive" dialogue with U.S. [NYT, LAT, WT 12/28].

Israeli Supreme Court temporarily bars expulsion of 4 Palestinians suspected as leaders of Hamas until Court completes its deliberations [NYT, LAT, WP 12/28].

Palestinian doctor, his sister, and her child are shot and wounded by sniper south of Jerusalem. Unknown group named Zionist Avengers claims responsibility for attack (cf. 1/1) [JDS 12/28 in FBIS 12/28; NYT 12/29].

28 DECEMBER

Worried about the possibility of a 2-front war, Iraq begins reinforcing its border with Turkey [NYT 12/29].

Iraq test-fires Soviet-made SCUD missile; it is 3d test this month [LAT, WP 12/29].

White House announces that Pres. Bush has issued directive forgiving Egypt's remaining $997 million debt for military hardware, saying Gulf crisis makes move vital to U.S. interests [LAT, WP 12/29].

In biggest sailing of U.S. warships since Vietnam, 16,000 sailors including those on aircraft carriers Roosevelt and America, leave for Gulf [WP 12/29].

General strike called for by UNL is observed in o.t. [FJ 1/7].

Iraqi employees of Arab League submit resignations in protest of decision to move League's headquarters back to Cairo [INA 12/28, AFP 12/29 in FBIS 12/31].

29 DECEMBER

PLO leaders say that Israeli and Palestinian officials have met in Paris to discuss Gulf crisis; spokesperson for Israeli Labor party says reports of such a meeting have "no basis" [NYT 12/31].

Egypt announces that Radio Kuwait will start broadcasting from Cairo as of 1 January
1991 for 3 hours a day [MENA 12/29 in FBIS 12/31].

Israeli soldiers shoot dead 4 Palestinians, wound at least 125 in series of clashes in Gaza, reports say 5th Palestinian dies of tear gas inhalation [JDS 12/29, JPD 12/30 in FBIS 12/31; NYT 12/30; CSM 12/31; JPI 1/5, F] 1/7]; PLO says U.S. is responsible [ADS 12/30 in FBIS 12/31].

Artillery and rocket duels between Lebanese militiam and Israeli troops in S. Lebanon kill 8 Lebanese, including 4 children [NYT 12/30].

30 DECEMBER

Baghdad tells U.S. gov't. that if coalition forces attack, Iraqi guerrillas would strike at vital U.S. interests around globe [LAT, WT, CSM 12/31].

Vice Pres. Quayle, on Gulf trip, asks Saudi rulers and Kuwaiti gov't.-in-exile to provide additional funds for U.S.-led coalition [NYT, LAT, WT 12/31].

Senate minority leader Bob Dole (R-Kan.) says putting the Emir of Kuwait back on the throne is not "worth one American life"; says U.S. should make additional efforts to arrange meeting between Saddam and Sec. Baker [NYT, WP 12/31].

General strike is observed in o.t. in protest of 12/29 killing of 4 Palestinians [F] 1/7].

Ha'aretz reports that Housing Ministry has decided to build 1,500 housing units for Jewish immigrants in the Golan Heights [HAA 12/31 in FBIS 12/31].

31 DECEMBER

UNLU leaflet promises that intifada leadership will punish those Palestinians who carry out executions of suspected collaborators [NYT 1/1].

Bomb prematurely explodes in West Jerusalem, killing Palestinian who is apparently handling the explosives [JDS 12/31 in FBIS 12/31; NYT, LAT, WT 1/1].

Iraq orders 17-year-olds to report for military duty [BVM 12/31 in FBIS 12/31; LAT 1/1].

Secret meeting takes place in Jerusalem between Major Teddy Kollek and Palestinian activist leader Faisal Husseini. They hold cordial discussion on topics including status of Jerusalem on condition that meeting not be made public immediately (cf. 1/4) [LAT 1/5].

Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics releases year-end figures: economic activity in o.t. has declined sharply; population of Israel rose to 4.8 million [JDS, HAA 1/1 in FBIS 1/3; MEM 1/2].

Economic and Planning Minister David Magen tells Knesset committee that by March 1991, Jews will be a demographic majority in Galilee; Magen announces establishment of Galilee Development Authority [HAA 1/1 in FBIS 1/4].

UNLU issues call no. 66 "denouncing" the imperialist role and the hostile policy of the U.S.," and calling on Egypt and Syria to withdraw their forces from Saudi Arabia [BVP 1/2 in FBIS 1/15].

In 21st and deadliest air attack in Lebanon this year, Israeli fighter-bombers kill 12 Fateh militiamen in predawn raid south of Sidon [JAA 12/31 in FBIS 12/31; NYT, WT 1/1].

1 JANUARY

New York Times reports Iraq is encountering increasingly serious shortages in the gov't. food rationing program; declines of 25% to 50% in amount of basic food items are reported [NYT 1/2].

4 Palestinians are killed in clashes with IDF as many defy curfews to celebrate 26th anniversary of 1st military operation of Fateh [JPD 1/2 in FBIS 1/2; NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/2; LAT 1/3].

In New Year's speech, Pres. Mubarak warns Saddam Hussein that "the decision for peace rests in your hands" and that wrong decision would mean "sacrificing the lives of hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children" [NYT 1/2]; Iraq rejects Mubarak's warning [LAT 1/2].

In Washington, American Civil Liberties Union and 51 other organizations call on Congress to adopt resolution to prevent Pres. Bush from starting war without congressional approval [LAT 1/2].

Arab League completes its move to permanent headquarters in Cairo (cf. 1/2) [KUNA 1/2 in FBIS 1/3].

Israeli Labor party doeses propose initiative calling for unconditional withdrawal of Israel from Gaza Strip within 2 years after approval of plan; Gaza would be handed over to UN or local gov't. [MEM 1/2].

2 JANUARY

NATO announces that Germany, Belgium, and Italy will send 42 jet fighters with at least 470 support personnel to Turkey
to reinforce that nation's border with Iraq [WP, LAT, NYT 1/3].

After meeting with Saddam Hussein, Yasar Arafat indicates in interview that neither he nor Saddam is insisting that Israel withdraw from o.t. as requirement for Iraq to leave Kuwait [BADS 1/2 in FBIS 1/3; NYT 1/3].

Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) releases letter signed by 127 law professors insisting Pres. Bush has constitutional obligation to "obtain prior express congressional authorization" before ordering U.S. troops into war in the Gulf [WP 1/3].

IDF troops shoot dead 30-year-old Palestinian, wound at least 16 others in Gaza clashes arising after curfew is lifted there [MEM 1/2; LAT 1/3].

Kuwait embassy in Washington reports about 500 Kuwaiti nationals in U.S. are being drafted by Kuwait's govt.-in-exile for training as translators to be assigned with U.S. military units in the Gulf [LAT 1/3].

Foreign ministers of Egypt, Syria, and Libya meet in Cairo to discuss Gulf crisis [MENA 1/2 in FBIS 1/2, 1/3; WT 1/3].

Jordan's King Hussein arrives in London for talks with British PM John Major [MEM 1/2, WT 1/3].

Arab League ass't. sec.-gen., Salah al-Mukhtar, resigns in protest of League's move to Cairo; he is replaced by Egyptian Ahmed 'Adil [INA, MENA 1/2 in FBIS 1/3].

Maj. Gen. Antoine Lahad, commander of Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army, reaffirms SLA independence of newly strengthened govt. of Elias Hrawi until govt. shows it is free of Syrian control [LAT 1/3].

3 JANUARY

Pres. Bush, saying he is making "one last attempt" to avoid war in Gulf, proposes Sec. Baker meet with Iraqi F.M. Aziz between 1/7 and 1/9 in Geneva [MEM 1/3; NYT, WP, WT, LAT, WP] 1/4.

Libyan leader Qaddafi predicts Iraq will leave Kuwait to avoid international "catastrophe"; Qaddafi hosts hastily arranged 3-hour meeting with Pres. Mubarak, Pres. Asad, and Sudanese leader Omar Bashir to discuss Gulf crisis [MENA 1/3 in FBIS 1/3; DDS, SANA, RMC, JANA 1/3 in FBIS 1/4; MEM 1/3; WP, WT, LAT 1/4].

Sources in Algerian gov't. say Saddam has sought guarantees before evacuating Kuwait that Iraq will not be attacked subsequently by U.S. or Israel [WP 1/4].

Group of international judges say UN Sec. Council resolution authorizing use of force against Iraq is invalid because China, as a permanent member, had not backed it. Judges cite Article 27 of UN Charter as saying decisions of the Council require "affirmative vote" of all 5 permanent members [WT 1/4].

Citing national security and Iraqi threats, Britain expels 8 Iraqi embassy staff members and 67 other Iraqi nationals [NYT, WP, WT, LAT, MEM 1/4].

Guido de Marco, president of UN Gen. Assembly and 1st to visit o.t., witnesses stones being thrown at Israeli troops and soldiers answering with tear gas and rubber bullets during visit to Jabaliya camp [WP, WT 1/4].

Israeli troops shoot dead Palestinian and wound 6 others in Gaza; military reports soldiers chased masked Palestinians in Khan Yunis and opened fire when they would not halt [WT 1/4].

Pentagon reports number of Iraqi troops in and near Kuwait has grown to over 530,000 and multinational force arrayed against them now totals more than 580,000 [NYT 1/4].

Jerusalem court sentences army Lt. Col. Yair Klein to 12 months in prison, suspends him for 3 years, and fines him $75,000 for training armed groups linked to drug barons in Columbia [JPD 1/4 in FBIS 1/4; WP 1/4].

Syrian D.M. and deputy P.M. Gen. Mustafa Talas arrives in Riyadh for meetings with Saudi defense officials [SPA, RIDS 1/3 in FBIS 1/4].

4 JANUARY

In move to encourage Iraq to remove its troops from Kuwait, EC endorses French plan promising Baghdad that EC will work to resolve all problems in Middle East if Gulf crisis could be settled peacefully; EC also invites F.M. Aziz to meet with 3 EC ministers on 10 January; Aziz declines [INA 1/5 in FBIS 1/7, NYT, LAT, WP 1/5].

Iraqi F.M. Aziz accepts invitation to meet Sec. Baker in Geneva on 1/9, despite "arrogant statements" he says accompanied U.S. offer; Aziz says he will press for "justice and fairness" for Palestinian cause; Pres. Bush says Iraq's acceptance of talks is "useful step," but insists no compromises will be made and that Sec. Baker will not go to Baghdad [INA 1/4 in FBIS 1/7; NYT, LAT, WP 1/5].

Bus driven by Palestinian collides with car, killing Israeli woman; bus driver is shot
to death by Israeli near Gaza Strip. Palestinians and Israelis give entirely different versions of episode [IDF 1/4 in FBIS 1/4; NYT, LAT 1/5].

In nonbinding statement, UN Sec. Council formally rebukes Israel, deploiring “recent acts of violence in Gaza” (See doc. A4) [MEM 1/4; NYT, WP 1/5]; Political circles in Israel criticize statement [JDS 1/4 in FBIS 1/4].

Seeking to avoid battle with Israel's supporters in Congress, Bush admin. postpones 2d part of large arms sale to Saudi Arabia, valued at $13 billion, until after Gulf crisis [NYT, LAT, WP 1/5].

Congressional General Accounting Office (GAO) says Operation Desert Shield will cost U.S. $30 billion this year even if no shots are fired [LAT 1/5].

Details of 12/31 conversation between Faisal Hussein and Mayor Teddy Kollek are published; status of Jerusalem is among topics discussed [MEM 1/4; LAT 1/5].

Washington Post reports that Palestinian fatalities in clashes with Israeli troops are rising sharply in o.t. as IDF steps up patrols and toughens its tactics [WP 1/5].

Secret agreement is reportedly reached in Islamabad between Iran and Turkey that neither will move against Iraq, effectively ruling out ground attack against Iraq from anywhere but Saudi Arabia [WP 1/16].

5 JANUARY

Pres. Bush says that U.S. military action against Iraq would not necessarily begin immediately after 1/15, even if Iraqi troops had not left Kuwait; Bush meets with UN Sec.-Gen. Pérez de Cuéllar at Camp David [NYT, LAT, WP 1/6].

In an interview with French legislator, Saddam says he is prepared to make certain “sacrifices” in return for guarantees that Iraq will not be attacked [WP 1/8].

U.S. State Dep't. rebukes Israel for increasing its firepower in recent clashes with Palestinians and apparently abandoning moderation IDF showed last summer [NYT 1/6].

F.M.'s of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Syria meet in Riyadh for 2-day talks to review Gulf crisis [DDS 1/5, MENA, SPA 1/6 in FBIS 1/7, WP 1/7].

Guido de Marco, Pres. of UN Gen. Assembly, arrives in Amman after visit to o.t.; calls for swift action to convene international conference on Middle East peace, says that worsening tension in o.t. is unacceptable [ADS 1/5 in FBIS 1/7].

Israeli helicopters shell “resistance” targets in Biqa Valley in S. Lebanon [BDS 1/5 in FBIS 1/7]; Israel denies incident [WP 1/6].

IDF shoots dead infiltrator; Israeli officer is wounded in clash after man is spotted crossing border from Jordan into Israel [MEM 1/7].

6 JANUARY

In speech commemorating 70th anniversary of Iraq's army, Saddam Hussein says he is preparing nation for great battle to liberate Palestine, defeat American "tyranny," and keep Kuwait [BADS, JDS 1/6 in FBIS 1/7, NYT, LAT, WT, WP, MEM 1/7].

Israeli Air Force jets attack PFLP camp southeast of Sidon in Lebanon, killing 1 and wounding 6 others [NYT, WT, WP 1/7].

Reviewing multinational forces arrayed in Saudi Arabia, King Fahd says he believes that Saddam Hussein will withdraw his forces from Kuwait before 1/15 deadline; also defends his country's decision to invite forces into Saudi Arabia (See doc. B3) [SPA 1/6 in FBIS 1/7; NYT, LAT, WP, MEM 1/7].

Sec. Baker says the U.S. cannot endorse 1/4 French plan backed by EC because it links Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait to settlement of Arab-Israeli conflict [NYT, WT, WP 1/7]; Baker also hints that he will give Iraq F.M. Aziz dramatic new evidence of allied military power when they meet. Iraq's ambassador to U.S. says Baker "is welcome to go to Baghdad," but Baker says that proposal "is now off the table" [LAT 1/7].

7 JANUARY

U.S. officials say 6 Iraqi helicopter pilots flew to Saudi Arabia in one of most significant defections since crisis began; Iraq denies defections occurred (cf. 1/8) [INA 1/7 in FBIS 1/8; NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/8].

Sec. Baker meets with F.M.s of Britain, Spain, Luxembourg, and Sec.-Gen. of NATO; says that coalition will hold firm even in event of war [LAT, WP 1/8]; adds that UN deadline will not be extended [WT 1/8].

White House says it will work with Congress to draft measure on use of force that can be passed before 1/15 deadline [LAT 1/8].

In Baghdad, Yasir Arafat says PLO would side with Iraq in event of Gulf war, and that idea of linking Gulf crisis to Palestinian issue was his and not Saddam's [MEM, LAT 1/8];
PLO says in event of war, o.t. Palestinians would create internal disruption for Israel if Jewish state becomes involved [WT 1/8].

FBIs agents, seeking to deter possible terrorist attacks resulting from any allied military action against Iraq, begin interviewing Arab-American business leaders (cf. 1/11, 1/14) [LAT 1/8; WP 1/9].

Israeli gov't. votes down 3 motions of no-confidence brought about by decision to resume deportations. Vote is 56 to 21 with 12 abstentions [JPD 1/8 in FBIS 1/14].

8 JANUARY

Pres. Bush sends letter to Congress calling on both houses to adopt resolution supporting use of force against Iraq if it does not withdraw from Kuwait by 1/15 [NYT, LAT, WP 1/9].

Chrmn. of House Armed Services Committee, Lee Aspin (D-Wisc.) says if war breaks out in Gulf, U.S. will attack in phases, beginning with air campaign; ground attack would be used as last resort and in final phases of fighting [NYT, LAT, WP 1/9].

F.M. Aziz arrives in Geneva, says he has come for "constructive talks," but would not bow to pressure. Sec. Baker also arrives in Geneva after spending day in successive meetings in European capitals with leaders of France, Italy, and Germany [MEM 1/8; NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/9].

King Hussein of Jordan visits Germany to discuss Gulf crisis; he is in Bonn at the same time as Sec. Baker, but the two did not meet [NYT 1/9].

Saud D.M. "categorically denie[s]" that 6 Iraqi helicopter pilots sought refuge in Saudi Arabia on 1/7; allies say entire incident is mix-up [MEM 1/8; NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/9].

Israel deports to Lebanon 4 Palestinians from Gaza Strip less than 24 hours after they dropped appeals to Supreme Court [IDF 1/8 in FBIS 1/8; MEM 1/8; NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/9].

Washington Post/ABC News poll finds most Americans want Congress to support more strongly Pres. Bush's Gulf policy (68%), but equally large majority thinks Bush should get authorization from Congress before going to war (66%) [WP 1/8].

9 JANUARY

6 1/2-hour Baker-Aziz talks in Geneva produce no results: Baker says he "heard nothing today that suggested to me any Iraqi flexibility," while Aziz says Baker's "language was diplomatic and polite . . . but the substance was full of threats." Aziz says if attacked, Iraq will "absolutely" attack Israel; Aziz refuses to accept personal letter from Pres. Bush to Saddam Hussein, saying language used was not proper for world leaders. Iraqi embassy in Washington also refuses letter (See docs. B4, D3, D5) [INA 1/9 in FBIS 1/9; BDS, RMC, JTN 1/9, WAKH, Mena, BDS, Dds 1/10 in FBIS 1/10; MEM 1/9; NYT, LAT, WP, MEM 1/10].

Israel increases its military readiness in light of Geneva meeting [JDS 1/9 in FBIS 1/9]; Israeli politicians are lobbying Washington to destroy Iraqi military machine in war, arguing that if it is not done now, it will have to be done at greater cost in a few years [WP 1/10].

French Pres. Mitterrand says he will pursue peace through independent diplomatic efforts until UN deadline expires [NYT 1/10].

Lebanese P.M. Karami says in policy statement that he promises to disarm and disband all armed militias in country; although not mentioned specifically, his statement is taken to include Palestinian groups operating in Lebanon [NYT 1/10] Karami's gov't. wins vote of confidence by majority of 37 votes [RFL 1/9 in FBIS 1/10].

Jordan closes its border with Iraq, saying it could not cope with another large flow of refugees into the country [ADS, RMC 1/9 in FBIS 1/9; MEM 1/9; NYT, WP 1/10].

International Popular Islamic Conference begins in Baghdad (cf. 1/11) [BADS 1/9 in FBIS 1/9].

Maghreban Consultative Council, parliamentary body of Arab Maghreb Union, concludes 3-day session, adopting resolution expressing solidarity with Iraq and condemning U.S. forces in region [MEM 1/9; MAP, JANA 1/10 in FBIS 1/11].

10 JANUARY

Protests are planned on behalf of steadily growing anti-war movement in U.S. embracing many religious denominations in country and 9 major unions [NYT, LAT 1/11].

Arab diplomats at UN say they believe Saddam Hussein plans initiative soon after 1/15 deadline expressing support "in principle" for leaving Kuwait while simultaneously calling for international conference to address Palestinian grievances against Israel [NYT, WP 1/11].

Sec. of State Baker meets with King Fahd; they reportedly discuss timing of allied attack
on Iraq [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/11].

New York Times reports Saudi Arabia earned roughly $15 billion in windfall oil profits from August to December, and has pledged $30 billion in Gulf-related commitments, effectively mortgaging part of future oil profits [NYT 1/11]; Kuwait has disbursed nearly $7 billion to help finance coalition effort [WT 1/11].

Congress opens debate on whether to authorize war with Iraq; Democrats accuse Pres. Bush of rushing toward use of force [LAT, WP 1/11].

Pres. Bush telephones P.M. Shamir, asks again that Israel “remain low” during Gulf crisis [WP 1/11].

U.S. Justice Dept. orders immigration authorities to begin fingerprinting and photographing anyone entering the U.S. with a Kuwaiti or Iraqi passport as part of an effort to combat potential terrorism [MEM, WP 1/11].

Pres. Mubarak tells CNN that “if Iraq launched an attack at Israel without any Israeli participation [in war], she would have the right to attack it [back]!” [MEM 1/11].

11 JANUARY

Arab-Americans object to FBI policy of questioning business and community leaders of Arab descent [MEM 1/11; NYT, LAT 1/12].

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater says Gulf military operation cost U.S. $10 billion in 1990, and that U.S. has received $6 billion “in cash and in-kind support from our allies to defray this cost” [NYT, LAT 1/12].

Pres. Saddam Hussein tells conference of Islamic leaders that he is preparing for holy war against multinational forces that could only be averted if greater priority is given to solving Palestine problem [NYT, LAT 1/12].

Senior UN officials urge Sec.-Gen. Pérez de Cuéllar to ask Saddam for pledge to leave Kuwait immediately in return for international conference to address Palestine problem. Before leaving Geneva, Pérez de Cuéllar meets with EC leaders who offer peace proposal that includes stationing UN peacekeeping force in Gulf and convening international conference [MEM 1/11; NYT, LAT 1/12]; en route to Baghdad, Pérez de Cuéllar stops in Amman for meeting with King Hussein [ADS 1/11 in FBIS 1/14].

Pres. Gorbachev telephones Pres. Bush, and twice dispatches Soviet ambassador to White House to discuss Soviet’s last-minute Gulf peace initiative [LAT 1/12].

Washington Post/ABC News poll finds 66% of respondents say U.S. should agree to international conference on Arab-Israeli issues if Iraq agrees to withdraw from Kuwait; 68% think if Iraq doesn’t withdraw, U.S. should go to war; 86% believe war is inevitable [WP 1/11].

4 PFLP fighters are killed in shootout with IDF troops in S. Lebanon [JDS 1/12 in FBIS 1/14].

12 JANUARY

After 3 days of debate, both houses of Congress vote to give Pres. Bush authority to go to war against Iraq. Senate approves use of military force by 52-47 vote; House vote is 250-183 (See doc. D6) [NYT, LAT, WP 1/13; WT 1/14].

UN Sec.-Gen Pérez de Cuéllar arrives in Baghdad to discuss Gulf crisis, says he is not carrying “any specific proposals” [INA 1/12 in FBIS 1/14; NYT, LAT, WP 1/13].

Meeting with Sec. Baker in Damascus, Pres. Asad calls on Saddam Hussein to leave Kuwait immediately, so Arab world can close ranks and confront Israel. Asad also says if Iraq withdraws and is later attacked, Syria will fight alongside the Iraqis; statement is repeated by Syrian F.M. [DDS 1/12 in FBIS 1/14; NYT, WP 1/13; MEM 1/14]; Sec. Baker meets with Pres. Mubarak in Cairo [MENA 1/12 in FBIS 1/14].

Diplomats in Ankara say that despite giving no political signs of opening 2d anti-Iraq front, Turkish troop strength has steadily increased to at least 120,000 soldiers near the Turkish-Iraqi border [NYT 1/13].

Yasir Arafat arrives in Baghdad for talks with Iraqi officials, including Tariq Aziz [AFP 1/12 in FBIS 1/14].

Peace Now rally calling for peace between Israel and Palestinians is attended by “many thousands” including many MKs [JDS 1/12 in FBIS 1/14].

Anti-war protests occur in Washington and Bonn [WP 1/13].

State Dep’t. orders expulsions of all but 4 Iraqi diplomats from embassy in Washington, saying action is taken to “reduce Iraq’s ability to orchestrate terrorism” if war begins [WP 1/13].

13 JANUARY

After 2 1/2-hour meeting with Saddam Hussein, Sec.-Gen. Pérez de Cuéllar says only that he has gained a better understand-
ing of Iraq's position in Gulf crisis. Before meeting with Pérez de Cuéllar, Saddam Hussein tells radio audience that occupied Kuwait would remain 19th Iraqi province [LAT, WT, WP, NYT 1/14].

Bush admin. mobilizes interagency task force to recommend how to deal with complex political problems that will exist after Gulf crisis [LAT 1/14]; Kuwaiti planners also look towards rebuilding operations [WP 1/14].

Pentagon officials say massive Iraqi force entrenched in Kuwait would require weeks to withdraw completely [WP 1/14].

Saudis King Fahd and Libyan leader Qaddafi appeal to Saddam Hussein to withdraw from Kuwait and spare his fellow Arabs [LAT 1/14].

14 JANUARY

France issues 6-point 11th-hour initiative calling for Saddam to leave Kuwait (See doc. A5); similar appeal is made by Yemen, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya. EC gov'ts., frustrated by seeing diplomatic efforts rebuffed by Baghdad, say they plan no new initiatives before the deadline [TDS, AFP, AES 1/14 in FBIS 1/15; NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/15]; routing French plan, Algeria's Pres. Benjedid leaves for Baghdad [AGS 1/14 in FBIS 1/15].

Revolutionary Command Council votes unanimously to follow Saddam Hussein in defying UN resolutions; measure also authorizes Saddam to undertake last-minute political settlement [ADS 1/14 in FBIS 1/14; INA 1/15 in FBIS 1/15; MEM 1/14; NYT, WP 1/15]; Saddam sends "open message" to King Fahd decrying Saudi's Gulf stance [BADS 1/14 in FBIS 1/15].

PLO's second-ranking official, Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] is assassinated in Tunis; Abu al-Hol [Hayel Abdel Hamid] and aid Fakhri al-Omari are also killed (cf. 1/15) [TDS, AFP, SPA 1/15 in FBIS 1/15; NYT, LAT, WT, WP, MEM 1/15].

UN Sec.-Gen. Pérez de Cuéllar arrives back in New York from Baghdad, having failed to secure any new concessions from Saddam Hussein [NYT, LAT 1/15].

Kuwaiti Crown Prince and P.M. warns that multinational forces would strike at civilian as well as military targets in Iraq. "If he [Saddam] bombs Kuwait cities, we'll do the same to Iraqi cities" [NYT, WP 1/15].

Allied officials agree that U.S. and British troops will conduct all offensive military operations while French and Arab troops will remain in defensive positions in war [LAT 1/15].

FBI rejects requests to stop interviewing Arab leaders about potential terrorist plans, but agrees to discontinue certain political questions such as "How do you feel about the Gulf situation?" and "How do you feel about Saddam Hussein?" [LAT 1/15].

Saddam Hussein orders the phrase "Al-lahu Akbar" ["God is great!"] be added to Iraq flag [INA 1/14 in FBIS 1/15].

Israeli High Court orders defense establishment to distribute gas masks to Palestinians in o.t. since only limited number are available, Palestinians in Jerusalem area and those closest to Israel will receive masks [JDS, IDF 1/14 in FBIS 1/15; WP, MEM 1/15].

King Hussein and Chrmn. Arafat discuss Gulf crisis at meeting in Amman [ADS 1/15 in FBIS 1/15].

15 JANUARY

Commander of Israeli Air Force, Maj. Gen. Avihu Bin-Nun, says U.S. and Israel still have no mechanisms in place to coordinate military activities, and that U.S. may not be able to give Israel advance warning of missile launches [NYT 1/16]; Bin-Nun also warns Jordan that should Israel be drawn into war, there is no way for his planes to approach Iraq except through Jordanian airspace [LAT, WP 1/16].

PLO reports that Hamza Abu Said, a dissident from Abu Nidal's Fateh Revolutionary Council, killed Abu Iyad and two others; 3 Palestinians are killed and 30 wounded in clashes between IDF and Palestinians angered over assassinations; curfews are imposed to prevent further clashes; Israel says it had nothing to do with assassinations [AFP, JDS, IDF 1/15 in FBIS 1/15; NYT, WT, WP 1/16].

Saddam Hussein visits Iraqi troops in Kuwait [BADS 1/15 in FBIS 1/16; LAT 1/16].

Tens of thousands of anti-war protestors take to streets in Washington, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York, as well as elsewhere [LAT, WT, WP 1/16].

In strongest appeal since crisis began, King Fahd urges Saddam to "prove to the world that you are worthy of the responsibility you are shouldering in ruling Iraq," and leave Kuwait [LAT 1/16]; Sec.-Gen. Pérez de Cuéllar also issues statement making final appeal to Saddam to leave Kuwait [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/16].

Pres. Mubarak sends last-minute proposal to Saddam Hussein, also asks Pres. Bush to delay military option [RMC 1/15 in FBIS 1/15].
1/16; WP 1/16).

British House of Commons votes 534-57 to endorse Gov’t. policy of waging war against Iraq [WP 1/16].

16 JANUARY

U.S., Saudi, British, and Kuwaiti aircraft launch attack on Iraq bombing Baghdad and other military targets in Iraq and Kuwait with massive waves of air attacks and ship-launched missiles. “We have no choice but to force Saddam from Kuwait” say Pres. Bush [NYT, LAT, WT, WP, MEM 1/17].

Hours before war erupts, French National Assembly overwhelmingly approves use of French forces for military operations; P.M. Rocard places country’s 10,000 troops and 76 aircraft in Saudi Arabia under U.S. command [NYT, LAT, WP 1/17].

Israel declares nationwide state of emergency as war breaks out; schools are closed; curfew is placed on entire Gaza Strip [JDS 1/16 in FBIS 1/16; NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/17].

Many Arab gov’ts., reportedly including Egypt, are not given advance notice of allied attack. Jordanian radio delays for 3 hours before broadcasting news that war has begun [LAT, WT 1/17].

Arab League and Gulf countries issue statements condemning 1/14 assassination of PLO’s Abu Iyad and others [MENA 1/16 in FBIS 1/16; WAKH, AES 1/16 in FBIS 1/17].

PLO calls for general mobilization of its forces in Lebanon; warns them to be ready to strike at U.S. interests [AFP 1/16 in FBIS 1/17].

Israeli gunboats shell inland Amal positions in S. Lebanon; no injuries are reported [BDS 1/16 in FBIS 1/17].

17 JANUARY

After day of multinational force bombing successes against Iraq, Baghdad fires as many as 8 SCUD missiles at Israel, hitting Tel Aviv, Haifa, and less populated areas [NYT, LAT, WT, WP, MEM 1/18].

Saddam Hussein defies 2d day of bombing in Baghdad by touring Iraq’s capital; vows to defeat multinational force and liberate Palestine; calls on all Arabs to help resist U.S. [NYT, LAT, WP, MEM 1/18].

Anti-U.S. demonstrations erupt in Algeria, smaller protests in European cities but European gov’ts. give full backing to war effort; Iran condemns U.S.-led invasion; Pres. Gorbachev blames Iraqi intransigence for war, but only after trying to get Pres. Bush to postpone attack long enough for Soviet diplomats to try to speak to Saddam Hussein, Japan pledges additional aid for allied effort [MEM 1/17; NYT 1/18].

Turkey’s parliament authorizes U.S. fighters and bombers to launch attacks on Iraq from Incirlik Air Base near Adana on the Mediterranean [NYT, LAT, MEM 1/18].

New York Times reports of CIA’s psychological warfare against Iraq: broadcasting anti-Saddam propaganda into Iraq, circulating audio and video cassettes depicting Saddam’s regime as corrupt, and smuggling radios into Iraq to receive American broadcasts [NYT 1/19].

Curfew in Gaza continues; Israel places West Bank under curfew [JDS, IDF 1/17 in FBIS 1/17].

PLO Executive Committee issues statement decrying U.S. for beginning Gulf war and calling for worldwide resistance (See doc. B6) [AVP, MAP, AFP 1/17 in FBIS 1/18; MEM 1/17; WP 1/18].

18 JANUARY

Israeli officials warn that Iraqi missile attack could not stand without retaliation. Yet after telephone calls from Pres. Bush and Sec. Baker to P.M. Shamir, U.S. admin. says Israel will not retaliate for the time being. Saudi officials say Arab nations would face additional pressure if Israel entered fight, but probably would not desert coalition. More than 20 countries, including 13 in Europe, and UN Sec.-Gen. condemn Iraqi attack and urge Israeli restraint; USSR unites Israel and allied Arab nations to avoid turning war against Saddam into Arab-Israeli conflict [IDF, AFP, TET 1/18 in FBIS 1/18; NYT, LAT, WP 1/19; MEM 1/21; IDF 1/18 in FBIS 1/22].

Open elation in Jordan over missiles hitting Israel; some Tunisians, Syrians, and Lebanese also show support for Saddam’s attack. PLO says attack represents “effective entry of Israel into the conflict” [MEM 1/18; LAT 1/19].

Allied warplanes mount huge effort to destroy Iraq’s remaining mobile SCUD missile launchers, partly in effort to keep Saddam Hussein from attacking Israel again. [NYT, LAT, WP 1/19; MEM 1/21].

U.S. Patriot anti-missile defense system destroys incoming Iraqi SCUD missile aimed at Saudi air base [NYT, LAT 1/19]; 2 SCUDs hit Tel Aviv [WP 1/19].

After 3d day of bombing, Baghdad is
without electricity and telephone service, and
is suffering severe shortage of water, accord-
ing to Western media in Iraq [NYT, LAT, WP
1/19].

Jordan reopens its border with Iraq after 9
days, official says "we don’t want anymore
suffering" [JTE 1/19 in FBIS 1/22; LAT 1/19].

Officials say U.S. ambassador to Lebanon
Ryan Crocker and his staff have flown to Cy-
prus, fearing anti-U.S. backlash in Beirut
[LAT 1/19].

Jordanian lower house of parliament
statement backs Iraq in Gulf war, brands U.S.
as "Great Satan" [LAT 1/19].

Pres. Gorbachev sends letter to Saddam
Hussein asking for Iraqi withdrawal from Ku-
wait (cf. 1/21) [BADS 1/21 in FBIS 1/22].

19 JANUARY

Four Iraqi SCUD missiles land in Israel,
wounding 15; Israeli officials say they will
retaliate, but will wait in deference to U.S. [IDF
1/19 in FBIS 1/22; NYT, LAT, WP 1/20].

Pres. Bush calls P.M. Shamir to express
concern over Iraqi missile attacks on Israel
and to encourage Shamir to let U.S. respond
militarily for Israel [IDF 1/19 in FBIS 1/22;
NYT 1/20].

"Several hundreds of thousands" of peo-
ple march through Khartoum streets in sup-
port of Iraq. Pro-Iraq demonstrations also
take place in Tunis and Mauritania [PIS, AFP
1/19 in FBIS 1/22].

Iraq offers reward of 10,000 dinars for
Iraqi citizens and $20,000 for non-Iraqis who
turn in downed allied pilots to Baghdad
[BADS 1/19 in FBIS 1/22].

Despite encountering increasing resistance
from anti-aircraft fire, U.S. says it has air con-
trol over most of Iraq and Kuwait [NYT, WP,
LAT 1/20].

20 JANUARY

Iraqi television broadcasts interviews with
7 allied pilots shot down and taken
prisoner; Pentagon officials believe pilots’
statements to be coerced [INA, ATS 1/20 in
FBIS 1/22; NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/21].

Iraq launches barrage of at least 9 SCUD
missiles at Dhahran and Riyadh; most or all
are shot down by Patriot anti-missile de-
fenses [SPA 1/20 in FBIS 1/22; NYT, LAT,
WT, WP 1/21].

U.S. command concludes that after 4 days
of bombardment, most of Iraq’s air force has
escaped serious damage; however, future role
Iraqi planes can take in war is viewed by U.S.
as limited [NYT, WT 1/21]; U.S. also says
that Iraqi nuclear facilities have been heavily
bombed; light allied losses are credited to
early strikes against Iraqi radar [WP 1/21].

U.S. airlift delivers to Israel 2 Patriot
anti-missile defense systems and U.S. crewmen
to operate them. U.S. also sends carrier USS
Forrestal to eastern Mediterranean to help
Israel should Iraq send war planes at Tel
Aviv; Israel says it did not request carrier, and
its presence "could only be for purposes un-
related to Israel" [IDF 1/20 in FBIS 1/23;
NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/21].

Beginning visit to Algeria, Yasar Arafat re-
iterates linkage between Gulf war and Pales-
tinian issue; calls for Arabs to stop fighting
each other [AVP, AGS 1/20 in FBIS 1/22].

Saddam Hussein replies to Pres.
Gorbachev’s 1/18 letter; says U.S. committed
aggression, that Pres. Bush has grudge against
Arabs [INA 1/21 in FBIS 1/22].

21 JANUARY

Charging that its civilian population had
been bombed beyond "minimum of human
standards," Iraqi military announces it has
moved captured airmen to strategic locations
to deter future allied air attacks. Pres. Bush
and British officials express outrage, saying
this violates Geneva Convention, and Inter-
national Red Cross agrees; Bush vows to hold
Saddam accountable for "brutal parading of
allied pilots" on television [BADS 1/21 in
FBIS 1/22; MEM 1/21; NYT, LAT, WT, WP
1/22].

Changing earlier position, Syrian D.M.
joins Egyptian and Saudi goyts in saying
that Israeli retaliation against Iraq would not
force Arabs out of coalition [MEM, WP 1/22].

Admin. officials say that simple declara-
tion that Iraq intends to withdraw from Ku-
wait would not be enough to halt allied at-
tacks; air bombardment would continue until
massive withdrawal is underway, causing
speculation about U.S. aims and goals of war
with Iraq [NYT, LAT, WP 1/22].

Capping 5 days of talks in Israel with se-
nior govt. officials, Dep. Sec. of State
Eagleburger speaks of Bush admin.’s admira-
tion and "affection" for Israel, especially be-
cause of the restraint shown by Israel in not
responding to Iraqi missile attacks [NYT, LAT
1/22]; Los Angeles Times reports of Israel’s de-
sire to retaliate after 1st SCUD missile attack
was hindered by U.S. not providing Israel
with electronic identification codes needed to
tell allied and Iraqi aircraft apart [LAT 1/22].

New York Times/CBS News poll finds 82% of Americans approve of way Pres. Bush is handling Gulf conflict, 48%; though, believe war will cost more than 5,000 American lives [NYT 1/22; Washington Post/ABC News poll finds similar results [WP 1/22].

Iraq launches 2 SCUD missiles at Saudi Arabia, lands in ocean, other is intercepted by Patriot missile [MEM 1/21; LAT, WP, WP 1/22].

Iraq abrogates all existing treaties and agreements with Saudi Arabia, including a bilateral nonaggression pact [BADS 1/23 in FBIS 1/22; LAT 1/22].

22 JANUARY

Israel asks U.S. for $13 billion in direct economic assistance and loan and investment guarantees. (See doc. CI) [JDS 1/22 in FBIS 1/22; NYT, WP, MEM 1/23].

Western military officials say Iraqi troops have set fire to 2 Kuwaiti oil refineries and an oil field near the Kuwait-Saudi border [MEM 1/22; NYT, LAT, WP 1/23].

Iraqi SCUD missile hits Tel Aviv suburb; about 70 are wounded, 3 are killed, although Israeli officials say they died from heart attacks [JAA, IDF 1/22, BADS, JDS 1/23 in FBIS 1/23; NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/23]; Patriot missiles destroy 4 SCUD missiles incoming at Dhahran [BADS 1/23 in FBIS 1/23; LAT 1/23].

EC calls for emergency meeting to discuss threat of Iraqi terrorist attacks in Europe [LAT 1/23].

Israel lifts curfews from E. Jerusalem neighborhoods, some West Bank villages; Gaza Strip curfew enters 7th day [HAD 1/23 in FBIS 1/25].

23 JANUARY

Segment of Egyptian population is seen as shifting in favor of Iraq in Gulf war; shift is evident enough to force gov’t. to scale back its propaganda campaign against Iraq [NYT 1/24]; pro-Iraqi sentiment is seen as increasing in N. Africa [NYT 12/26].

Allied command reports total loss of 20 aircraft—16 in combat—including 10 U.S. planes. Iraq says it has downed 178 allied planes [NYT 1/24].

Chancellor Helmut Kohl announces Germany is sending Israel $165 million in “immediate humanitarian aid” after Iraqi missile attacks, and that more money would be sent to support Gulf allies [NYT, LAT 1/24].

Japanese P.M. Kaifu sends military cargo aircraft for transportation of refugees to Middle East, and adds $9 billion to its financial support of coalition forces; Iraq says it now considers Japan a “hostile” nation [WT, WP 1/24; LAT 1/25].

Abul Abbas, leader of Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) has left Baghdad for Yemen because of lack of communications facilities in Iraq after allied bombing raids [WT 1/24].

24 JANUARY

Allied bombers, aided by improving weather, step-up pace of attacks deep into Iraq; largest Marine amphibious assault force since Korean War practices landings in Gulf [NYT, LAT, WP 1/25].

For 1st time, French warplanes attack targets inside Iraq; previously Pres. Mitterrand said French would only attack positions in Kuwait [NYT, LAT 1/25].

Saudi pilot shoots down 2 Iraqi Mirage F-1s, recording 1st Saudi kills in combat [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/25].

About 300 young Kuwaitis have been trained to help U.S. ground forces identify Iraqis in Kuwait in event of land war in Gulf; Kuwaitis will work as interpreters and try to spot Iraqis trying to blend in with Kuwaiti population [NYT 1/25].

Facing growing hesitation about Egypt’s role in Gulf war, Pres. Mubarak says Egypt is obligated by its commitments to UN and Arab League to come to the aid of Kuwait; Mubarak also urges Israeli restraint [NYT, WP 1/25]; Los Angeles Times reports growing Arab concern over Iraq’s survival [LAT 1/25].

UN Sec. Council meets to discuss ceasefire proposed by N. African countries, but effort is considered futile by U.S. and other permanent council members are certain to veto any resolution calling for end to fighting [NYT 1/25].

25 JANUARY

U.S. accuses Iraq of releasing millions of gallons of Kuwaiti crude oil into Gulf; officials say it will have little military significance, but threatens ecology on scale larger than Exxon Valdez disaster. Pres. Bush says spill is “sick” act of desperation, orders Pentagon to find way to stop leak [WAKH 1/26 in FBIS 1/28; NYT, LAT 1/26].

Iraqi SCUD missile hits Riyadh, killing 1 person and wounding 6; 7 missiles are fired
at Israel, all are reportedly intercepted by Patriot missiles, but falling debris kills 1 and injures 42 others [RIDS, JAA, IDF 1/25 in FBIS 1/28; NYT, LAT 1/26].

New York Times reports that Pan American World Airways has refused to carry Iraqi passengers since 1/16, for fear of terrorism like that which destroyed Pan Am flight over Lockerbie 2 years ago [NYT 1/26].

Iranian Pres. Rafsanjani restates neutrality in Gulf war; strongly rejects idea that Iran join with Iraq, saying that would be suicide and would mean Iran approved of Iraq remaining in Kuwait [NYT 1/26].

Soviet F.M. Alexander Bessemernykh meets with members of PLO Executive Committee to explore ways to end Gulf war [LAT 1/26].

EC lifts all restrictions on Israel because of its restraint under Iraqi missile attack; restrictions were imposed in January 1990 to protest closure of Palestinian schools [MEM 1/25].

26 JANUARY

Saudi and U.S. officials ready barricades and dispersal chemicals to try to keep oil slick flowing south from Kuwait from reaching desalination plants on Gulf. Iraq says spill was caused by allied bombing. U.S. contends it was deliberate act by Iraqi troops [NYT, WP 1/27].

Patriot missiles intercept 5 SCUDS over Tel Aviv, Haifa, and Riyadh [IDF 1/26 in FBIS 1/28; NYT, WP 1/27].

Teheran radio reports 7 Iraqi planes have been allowed to make emergency landings in Iran, and that 1 of the planes crashed and exploded on landing. Teheran says planes will be impounded. U.S. says dozens of other Iraqi planes have been flown to Iranian airbases over past week [NYT, WP 1/27].

About 75,000 people march in Washington, D.C., protesting U.S. involvement in Gulf war; protest also takes place in San Francisco, while scattered counterdemonstrations, supporting Pres. Bush occur. Protesters also march in Bonn [NYT, WP 1/27].

Yasir Arafat meets with King Hassan in Rabat to discuss Gulf war [RADS 1/26 in FBIS 1/29].

27 JANUARY

U.S. Gen. Schwarzkopf says there are 39 Iraqi aircraft on Iranian soil, many being flown there recently. He also says allied planes have recorded 26 air-to-air combat kills while flying over 22,000 sorties [NYT, LAT 1/28; allied command reports about 65% of Iraq's airfields are still operational, that 20% of Iraqi radar is back in operation [WP 1/28].

Egypt's Deputy F.M. Boutros Ghali says his country "is not in favor" of the destruction of Iraq nor of its present gov't., reminds U.S. that Egyptian support ends when troops reach Iraqi border with Kuwait [NYT, LAT 1/28].

Sec. Baker says Saudi Arabia will contribute $13.5 billion to the war effort; contribution is for the first 3 months of 1991 [LAT 1/28].

Iranian branch of Red Crescent Society says it is sending to Iraq emergency food supplies [LAT 1/28].

Revising earlier $30 billion estimate, White House says it anticipates spending $40 to $50 billion in 1991 to fight Gulf war [WT 1/28].

Aliyah Committee reports about 16,000 Soviet Jews arrived in Israel during January, a significant drop largely due to war [IDF 1/27 in FBIS 1/29].

28 JANUARY

More than 80 Iraqi planes have now sought refuge in Iran, according to U.S. officials [LAT, WT 1/29].

In television interview with CNN, Saddam Hussein says Iraq has won "the admiration of the world" for employing only conventional arms in war; Saddam warns that SCUD missiles can still be fitted with nonconventional warheads [BAD 1/28 in FBIS 1/29; LAT, WT 1/29].

Military officials say U.S. bombing raids at oil facilities in Kuwait have stopped oil spilling into Gulf, but not before 11 million barrels had entered the water [LAT, WT 1/29].

For 1st time in 20 years, no one protests outside Soviet embassy in Washington, demonstrating on behalf on Jews trying to emigrate from USSR. Kremlin's relaxed policies lead Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington to suspend daily 15-minute protests that began in December 1970 [LAT, WT 1/29].

Patriot missiles destroy incoming SCUD missiles aimed at Saudi Arabia; parts of SCUD land in Palestinian villages in West Bank; additional Patriot missile systems arrive in Saudi Arabia [SPA, IDF 1/28 in FBIS 1/29; LAT, WT 1/29].
Baghdad claims that some captured pilots have been injured in air raids by allied planes; in letter to UN leader Pérez de Cuéllar, Iraq says 345 civilians have been killed, 450 wounded, in air raids [LAT 1/29].

Prominent Israeli authors and peace activists Amos Oz, A.B. Yehoshua, Yoram Kaniuk, and Yael Dayan speak out in favor of war in Gulf, saying anti-war protests amount to appeasing Saddam Hussein [LAT 1/29].

One-day strike called in support of Iraq by Morocco's 3 major trade unions shuts down most economic activity [LAT 1/29].

UN Sec. Council rebuffs calls by several Arab nations for open debate on Gulf war; Council elects to continue informal consultations behind closed doors [LAT 1/29].

Bomb explosions in Greece and Turkey, no one is injured in attacks that may be linked to U.S. role in war [LAT 1/29].

American Civil Liberties Union assails FBI assertion that Arab-American civic and business leaders will suffer no consequences if they refuse to be interviewed about potential terrorism [LAT 1/29].

29 JANUARY

U.S.-Soviet joint statement says allied assault on Iraq could end now if Saddam Hussein makes "unequivocal commitment" to withdraw from Kuwait; statement appears to soften past U.S. insistence that only "massive withdrawal" by Iraq would stop war (See doc. A6), (cf. 1/30) [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/30].

Pres. Bush, in State of the Union address, says Iraq's capacity to sustain war is being destroyed [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/30].

U.S. says it will shoot down any Iraqi plane trying to rejoin war after taking refuge in Iran; White House says it has received fresh assurances from Teheran that Iraqi planes will not be allowed to leave [LAT, WP 1/30].

Chancellor Kohl pledges additional $5.5 billion to war effort, and orders German anti-aircraft missile systems to Turkey [LAT, WP 1/30].

Pres. Bush meets in Washington with Egyptian F.M. Esmat Abdel Meguid; Egypt pushes for U.S. commitment to pressure Israel for settlement with Palestinians once Gulf war has ended [NYT, LAT, WP 1/30].

Law enforcement and intelligence agencies say they have detected more than 700 cases in which firms and individuals worldwide have tried to sell munitions and other goods to Iraq, including 20 incidents since August in U.S. [LAT 1/30].

Fateh official Abu Ziad [Rafiq Shafiq Qiblawi] is assassinated in ambush outside his home in Iraqi-occupied Kuwait [WT 1/30].

French D.M. Jean-Pierre Chevenement, who had openly expressed his doubts about war with Iraq, is forced from office, and replaced by Interior Min. Pierre Joxe [WP 1/30].

Israel orders Palestinian leader Sari Nusseibeh jailed without trial for 6 months as a spy for Iraq [WP 1/30].

Israeli gunboats and helicopters attack Fateh camps in S. Lebanon after barrage of rockets explode in "security zone" [WP 1/30].

30 JANUARY

Allied forces, led by Saudi troops, try to liberate small Saudi border town of Khafji after 1st major Iraqi ground assault had captured the town; reports say 12 Marines, perhaps as many as 500 Iraqis are killed in the battle (cf. 1/31) [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/31].

Responding to questions about 1/29 joint U.S.-Soviet statement, U.S. officials say it was intended as gesture to keep Moscow's backing for coalition, and not a softening of previous demands for ending war. P.M. Shamir bitterly complains that he was not given advance notice of joint statement [NYT, LAT, WP 1/31].

U.S. commander Gen. Schwarzkopf tells reporters that 75% of Iraq's command, control, and communications facilities have been bombed, and that the Iraqi air force is no longer a viable military threat [LAT, WP 1/31].

Jordanian F.M. Taher Masri accuses U.S. of violating Geneva Convention by bombing civilian traffic near the Jordan-Iraq border, killing 4 Jordanians and 1 Egyptian; some refugees claim allies have deliberately targeted oil tankers, buses, and refugee convoys [NYT, LAT, WT, WP 1/31].

Jordanian officials say since 2 August, about 323,000 men and women have volunteered for Jordan's Popular Army, many have expressed desire to fight for Iraq [LAT 1/31].

As part of psychological war, U.S. has dropped at least 4 million leaflets on Iraqi troops, promising them safe passage if they wish to surrender [LAT 1/31].

Pres. Mubarak makes unannounced visit to Tripoli to meet with Libyan leader Qaddafi [LAT 1/31].

EC decides how to divide $685 million in loans and grants to Egypt, Turkey, and Jor-
Jordan to help compensate for Gulf crisis losses: Egypt will receive $240 million grant; Jordan, a $205 million grant; and Turkey, an interest-free loan of $240 million. Individual EC states earlier gave the 3 nations $1.37 billion [NYT, LAT, WP 1/31].

Breaking long-standing official policy against shipping weapons to areas of tension, Germany announces $700-million military support package to Israel [LAT, WP 1/31; NYT 2/1]; Germany also offers Britain $535 million and military equipment for its role in Gulf war [WT 1/31; NYT 2/1].

Israel shells 2 villages in S. Lebanon's Bqqa Valley after rockets struck Israeli positions in "security zone"; no injuries are reported [LAT 1/31]; Israeli officials believe that PLO has begun operations against Israel on behalf of Iraq [WP 1/31].

31 JANUARY

Allied bombers attack 10-mile column of thousands of Iraqi troops and as many as 1,000 vehicles as they move in southern Kuwait; allied command says it is not apparent whether Iraqis are regrouping or massing for attack [WP, NYT 2/1].

Saudi and Qatari forces, backed by U.S. artillery, retake Saudi border town of Khafji, capture 167 Iraqi soldiers [WP, NYT, LAT 2/1].

Envoys from France, Algeria, Yemen, and Iraq arrive in Iran on separate diplomatic missions designed to end Gulf war; Iran tells Iraq it will hold on to Iraqi airplanes until end of war [WP, NYT, LAT 2/1].

Israeli F.M. David Levy outlines possible 5-point post-war plan, linking Israel's discussion of Palestinian issue with simultaneous bilateral peace talks with Arab nations [WP 2/1].

Pres. Mubarak affirms that 45,000 Egyptian soldiers would not be used to attack Iraq [LAT 2/1].

Rocket and artillery clashes between Israel and PLO fighters in S. Lebanon continue; radio stations call it "mini-war"; Israel says PLO is trying to open 2d front in war [NYT, LAT 2/1].

Iraq fires SCUD missile at Israel; it disintegrates in flight, falling debris lands in West Bank [NYT, LAT 2/1].

State Dept.'s official says that about 70 acts of terrorism have been committed against U.S. and allied interests outside U.S. since Gulf war began; most are small property damage [NYT, LAT 2/1].

Red Cross convoy carrying 19 tons of emergency medical supplies for Iraqi civilians crosses from Iran into Iraq; 1st such mission since war began [LAT 2/1].

War toll according to allies includes: 30,000 sorties flown; 23 allied planes lost, 18 in combat; 11 Americans killed in action; 161 Iraqi prisoners; 59 Iraqi planes destroyed. Iraq claims to have shot down 180 allied aircraft; captured 20 prisoners; and that 320 civilians and 90 soldiers have been killed [LAT 2/1].

1 FEBRUARY

Allied forces seize more than 500 Iraqi prisoners in 2 days of clashes near the Saudi town of Khafji; allies continue to bomb Iraqi positions along Saudi-Kuwaiti border [LAT, NYT, WT, WP, MEM 2/2].

Marines report that some of 12 U.S. casualties of 1/31 fighting may have been killed by friendly fire [LAT, NYT, MEM, WP 2/2].

IDF artillery again shells PLO targets north of S. Lebanon's "security zone" [IDF 2/1 in FBIS 2/1; MEM 2/1; NYT, WP 2/2].

UNLU issues intifada call no. 67, "The Call of Steadfastness and Defiance" [AVP 2/2 in FBIS 2/4].

Iraqi F.M. Aziz sends letter to UN Sec.-Gen. Pérez de Cuéllar decrying allied bombing of civilian targets; Aziz complains that previous letter of 1/24 was ignored [BADS 2/4 in FBIS 2/4; NYT 2/5].

P.M. Shamir signs coalition agreement with Moledet faction, terms of which provide for Rehavam Zeevi, who has openly called for "transfer" of Arabs out of Israel and the o.t. to be named minister without portfolio (cf. 2/3) [NYT 2/2; JTS 2/1 in FBIS 2/4].

State Dept.'s annual report on human rights says Iraq's "abysmal record" of violations worsened during 1990; report also criticizes Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, and Kuwait. State Dept. also "remains concerned about continuing violence, death and injuries on both sides" of Israeli-Palestinian conflict [MEM 2/1; NYT, WP 2/2].

2 FEBRUARY

Pres. Bush discusses Gulf war with Emir of Qatar over telephone, expresses appreciation for Qatari force's role in battle for Khafji; Bush also calls King Fahd [SPA 2/2, WAKH 2/3 in FBIS 2/4].

American command says it has destroyed Iraqi naval power in Gulf; U.S. spokesman says 24 boats, many captured from Kuwait,
have been sunk, 31 others disabled [NYT, WP 2/3; MEM 2/4].

Iraqi anti-aircraft fire hits 2 U.S. planes, A-10 Thunderbolt and A-6 Intruder; both are listed as missing. Aircraft losses stand at 15 U.S. planes, 7 other allied craft [NYT, WP 2/3].

U.S. soldier is killed, 2 are wounded when convoy is bombed, apparently by American warplane; it is 2d incident of "friendly fire" killing U.S. troops since war began [NYT, WP, WT 2/3].

In renewed affirmation of neutrality, Iran rejects appeals from senior Iraqi officials to allow Iraqi planes to return to combat after having sought refuge in Iran. Sources say Iran is almost certainly allowing steady supply of food and other goods to reach Iraq in contravention of spirit, if not the letter, of UN sanctions [NYT 2/3].

IDF artillery shells Palestinian bases in S. Lebanon; gov't. warns that if guerrilla rockets continue to land in "security zone," Israeli reaction will be more harsh [IDF 2/2 in FBIS 2/4].

3 FEBRUARY

Six U.S. helicopter crewmen are killed in 2 separate crashes; 3 airmen are missing after B-52 crashes in Indian Ocean [LAT, NYT, WP, WT, MEM 2/4].

Investigators confirm that 7 U.S. soldiers killed 1/31 were victims of friendly fire [LAT, NYT, WP, MEM, WT 2/4].

Allied air war passes 40,000 sortie mark; U.S. command reports that 25 of 35 major Iraqi bridges leading to Iraqi front line have been destroyed as allies continue pounding Iraqi positions. 68 Iraqi aircraft are reported destroyed, and number of Iraqi prisoners stands at "about 800" [LAT, NYT, WP 2/4].

EC foreign ministers meet in Brussels for 1st time since war began [LAT, MEM 2/4].

Knesset approves cabinet addition of anti-Arab Rehavam Zeevi, former general [IDF, JDS 2/3 in FBIS 2/4; LAT, NYT, WP, MEM 2/4].

In Rabat, at least 300,000 people take to streets in pro-Iraqi demonstration [PDS 2/3 in FBIS 2/4; LAT, NYT, WP, MEM 2/4].

Jerusalem District Court confirms detention of Sari Nusseibeh, reducing sentence from 6 to 3 months. Nusseibeh was detained on 1/29 as alleged spy for Iraq [IDF 2/3 in FBIS 2/4].

Lebanese gov't. says it has arrested 4 senior Palestinian fighters, including top aid to Abu Nidal, and is sending troops to S. Lebanon to check PLO military power there [NYT 2/4].

4 FEBRUARY

UN Sec.-Gen. Pérez de Cuéllar condemns allied bombing raids on highway from Baghdad to Jordanian border; calls Jordan "an innocent victim" of war [LAT 2/5].

In 1st policy address to Knesset on Gulf war, P.M. Shamir vows that Israel will never take part in an international conference on the Middle East, and denounces PLO as "the biggest supporters of the murderer from Baghdad" (See doc. C2) [IDF 2/4 in FBIS 2/5; NYT, LAT, WP, MEM, WT 2/5].

EC sends experts to Gulf to help contain oil slick; France's new D.M. Pierre Joxe flies to Saudi Arabia; Soviet Communist party calls on Pres. Gorbachev to launch fresh diplomatic initiative to end war [LAT 2/5].

Pres. Rafsanjani of Iran offers to mediate Gulf war; Iraq has no comment, U.S. response is cool [MEM 2/4; NYT, WP 2/5].

PLO says that it will stop its rocket attacks against Israeli troops in S. Lebanon "security zone," and will use other means to assist Iraq in Gulf war [RFL 2/4, BVL 2/5 in FBIS 2/5; NYT, WP 2/5].

5 FEBRUARY

In separate statements Iran and USSR say they are waiting for "signal" from Saddam Hussein that he is ready for peace before making any new mediation efforts in Gulf war [MEM 2/5; LAT 2/6].

For 2d time in 6 days, U.S. ambassador to Jordan Roger Harrison is summoned in Amman to explain U.S. position on bombing raids on civilian highway leading from Baghdad to Jordanian border [LAT, WT 2/6].

French foreign ministry announces that Palestinians in o.t. will receive gas masks from the EC [LAT 2/6].

Israeli police say they have detained 10 Israeli Arabs on charges of spying for Iraq [LAT 2/6].

Israel decides to implement 3-stage plan to gradually allow Palestinians, who have been under curfew since war began, to leave their homes, but warns that pro-Iraq demonstrations could cause curfew to be reinstated [JPD 2/6 in FBIS 2/7; NYT, WP, MEM 2/6; LAT 2/7].

IDF mounts broad attacks against Palestinian strongholds in S. Lebanon, killing 12 and wounding 25; Palestinians return fire
6 FEBRUARY

Before Congress, Sec. Baker says U.S. and allies might help rebuild post-war Iraq, and outlines elements of post-war settlement; Baker also says that continued U.S. military role in region may be inevitable (See doc. D8) [LAT, NYT, WP, WT 2/7].

Sec. Baker says that U.S. has not moved forward with $400 million in loan guarantees for Israel to house Soviet Jews because Israel has yet to provide settlement information; Israel reacts angrily, saying information has been provided. Earlier this week, Israel said between 1,500 and 3,000 Soviet Jews settled in o.t., which would be as much as 17% of all Jewish settlers [NYT, WP 2/8].

Iraqi POWs report that more than 1/4 of positions in Iraq's regular army in Kuwait are deserted or undermined, raising questions about Iraq's ability to defend against ground assault [LAT 2/7].

Allied planes shoot down 2 Iraqi fighter jets headed for Iran, bringing total air-combat (dog-fight) losses to 33 Iraqi planes, 0 allied planes [LAT, NYT 2/7]. Military sources revise estimates to say about 120 Iraqi planes have landed in Iran [LAT, WT 2/7].

Iraq announces that it is severing all remaining diplomatic relations with 6 leading members of coalition: U.S., Britain, France, Italy, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt. Warplanes from all those nations, except Egypt, have attacked Iraq (cf. 2/7) [INA 2/6 in FBIS 2/7; MEM 2/6; LAT, NYT, WP, WT 2/7].

In nationwide address, King Hussein describes Gulf war as effort by outsiders to destroy Iraq and carve up Arab world; that war was against all Arabs and all Muslims, not just Iraq; he calls on Arab and Muslims to "make the alliance accept a cease-fire" (See doc. B7) (cf. 2/7, 2/8, 2/10) [ADS 2/6 in FBIS 2/7; LAT, NYT, WP, WT, MEM 2/7].

Sauid F.M. Prince Faisal arrives in Cairo for meetings with Pres. Mubarak [MENA 2/6 in FBIS 2/7].

Lebanese Army regularly move into positions in S. Lebanon for 1st time since 1975; the 2,500 troops are within sight of Israel's "security zone"; Israeli army again shells Palestinian positions in S. Lebanon [MEM 2/6; LAT, NYT, WP 2/7].

7 FEBRUARY

Sec. Baker proposes new Middle East bank for reconstruction and development to collect funds from region's richest countries to rebuild Iraq and support programs for area's neediest [LAT, WP 2/8].

U.S. ambassador to Jordan Roger Harrison meets with For. Affairs Min. Taher Masri to protest King Hussein's 2/6 speech; P.M. Shamir also tells reporters that speech "worries us, because he is our neighbor" [LAT 2/8; Bush admin. says it is reviewing all economic aid granted by U.S. to Jordan [MEM 2/7; NYT, WP, WT 2/8].

Pentagon wants access to Syrian airspace to help wage war against Iraq, but White House has declined to push Syria for permission, according to admin. officials [NYT 2/8].

For 1st time since war began, Israeli commandos move north from "security zone" in Lebanon to strike at Palestinian bases; Israeli govt. warns that incursions would continue unless Lebanese Army ejects "terrorist organizations" from region [NYT 2/8].

8 FEBRUARY

Allied warplanes attack Iraqi positions in Kuwait and southern Iraq; military command reports about 600 tank kills; cloud cover restricts number of sorties flown [LAT, NYT, WP 2/9].

Iraqi SCUD lands in Tel Aviv, it is the 11th attack since war began; some injuries are reported [LAT, WP 2/9].

France and Britain announce they will set up joint committee to lay groundwork for post-war settlement in Gulf [LAT 2/9].

Soviet deputy F.M. Belonogov criticizes what he says is deliberate destruction of Iraqi residential areas by allied air raids [LAT, WT 2/9, MEM 2/11].

Pres. Bush angrily denounces King Hussein's 2/6 speech, says Jordan has "moved over, way over, into the Saddam Hussein camp"; Jordanian diplomats say action will deepen widespread anti-American sentiment in Jordan [LAT, NYT, WP, WT 2/9].

Israeli Maj. Gen. Danny Rothman is appointed as head of military govt. in o.t., replacing Shmuel Gore [LAT 2/9].

UNICEF and World Health Organization ask allies for safe passage through eastern Iraq for convoy carrying medicine from Iran to Iraq and occupied Kuwait [MEM 2/8; NYT, WP 2/9].

3 Jordanians are killed after crossing bor-
der into Israel and throwing handgrenade at Israeli bus carrying soldiers, wounding 4 [IDF 2/8 in FBIS 2/8; MEM 2/8; NYT, WP 2/9].

9 FEBRUARY

Pres. Gorbachev warns that Gulf war is threatening to go beyond UN mandate to remove Iraq from Kuwait [NYT, WP 2/10; MEM 2/11].

SCUD missile hits Tel Aviv neighborhood, wounding 26 Israelis, none seriously; [IDF 2/9 in FBIS 2/11; NYT, WP 2/10].

Front-page editorial in Al Thawra, leading Syrian newspaper, urges Iraqis to “liquidate” Saddam in extraordinary personal attack on Iraqi pres. [NYT 2/10].

British For. Sec. Douglas Hurd arrives in Riyadh from Ta’if, continues discussions with Saudi and Kuwaiti leaders [SPA 2/9 in FBIS 2/11].

Jordanian newspaper publishes “complete text” of minutes of meeting between UN Sec.-Gen. Pérez de Cuéllar and Saddam Hussein in Baghdad on 1/13 [DUS 2/9 in FBIS 2/11].

10 FEBRUARY

In 1st speech in about 2 weeks, Saddam Hussein praises what he calls Iraqi strength and steadfastness in face of allied bombing [INA 2/10 in FBIS 2/11; LAT, NYT, WP, MEM, WT 2/11].

King Hussein says his 2/6 speech was misunderstood and did not indicate a shift towards Iraq [JTE 2/11 in FBIS 2/11; LAT, MEM 2/11].

Israeli military announces that it has arrested 350 Palestinian activists in broad crackdown on Hamas [LAT, MEM 2/11].

Allied command says it believes bombing raids have so severely damaged communications systems in Iraq that it take 24 hours for Saddam to send orders to front lines by reasonably secure means [NYT 2/11].

Headland on Saudi coast has slowed oil slick, which is moving south toward vital water and industrial plants; environmentalists hope they can contain slick before it reaches Jubail [NYT 2/11].

11 FEBRUARY

SCUD missile fired at Israel lands in uninhabited area, 2d missile hits residential area, light injuries are reported; missile launched at Riyadh is intercepted by Patriot missile [SPA, IDF 2/11, IDF 2/12 in FBIS 2/12; LAT, NYT, WP, WT, MEM 2/12].

As part of previously announced aid package, Germany delivers to Israel check for $3.3 million to help repair missile damage to Tel Aviv [LAT, MEM 2/12].

Environmental experts say oil slick in Gulf will severely damage Gulf states’ fishing industry [LAT 2/12].

Israeli D.M. Moshe Arens meets with Pres. Bush, other U.S. officials in Washington; Arens describes “casualties and damage that have affected the Israeli civilian population” [IDF 2/11 in FBIS 2/12; LAT, NYT, WP, WT 2/12].

Irani cabinet min. Abdullah Fadel says “thousands” of Iraqi civilians have been killed in allied bombing raids, and adds that several mosques and churches have been destroyed; U.S. calls statement “propaganda” [NYT 2/12].

Pentagon offers cumulative U.S. combat losses: 12 killed in action, 12 wounded, 28 missing, and 8 POWs, with 18 aircraft lost in combat. More defecions push number of Iraqi POWs past 1,000 [NYT, WP 2/12].

P.M. Major meets in Bonn with Chancellor Kohl to discuss Gulf war; King Hussein meets in Amman with Chrmn. Arafat [ADS 2/11 in FBIS 2/12; NYT 2/12].

Knesset rejects 3 motions of no-confidence submitted because of continuing curfew in o.t. [IDF 2/11 in FBIS 2/12].

12 FEBRUARY

Allied forces battle Iraqi front line troops with air raids, ship-launched missiles, and artillery fire; military officials report about 50 fires burning at locations throughout Kuwait [LAT, NYT, WT, WP 2/13].

2 Iraqi govt’s. ministry buildings are hit in bombing raids; senior Baghdad official claims Iraq is being systematically destroyed by allies [NYT, WP 2/13].

Saddam Hussein tells Soviet envoy Primakov that Baghdad is prepared to cooperate with Soviet Union and other “nations or agencies” to find peaceful solution to Gulf war; U.S. response is cautious optimism [MEM 2/12; LAT, NYT, WP, WT 2/13].

Diplomats report that Saudi Arabia is facing short-term financial problems after spending billions of dollars bankrolling Gulf war effort; officials say Saudis have contributed about $48 billion in military and economic assistance to allies since 2 August [MEM 2/12; LAT, NYT, WP 2/13].
13 FEBRUARY

Hundreds of Iraqi civilians, many of them women and children, are killed when 2 American bombs score precision hits on what Baghdad calls residential bomb shelter and U.S. calls Iraqi command-and-control bunker; U.S. says Saddam “kills civilians intentionally,” and suggests that he allowed civilians to use shelter in hopes of shielding military bunker [NYT, LAT, WP, WT, MEM 2/14]. U.S. sources claim Iraq has major military communications center hidden in secret basement of one of main Baghdad hotels used by foreigners [NYT 2/14].

Jordan says about 60 Jordanians and Sudanese fleeing Gulf war were killed in recent days when allied planes attacked buses in which they were riding [NYT 2/14].

During visit to Damascus, German F.M. Hans-Dietrich Genscher says Syria has renewed its commitment to recognize Israel’s right to exist as part of new Middle East order to be established after Gulf war; Syria also says it remains committed to Palestinian self-determination [NYT, WP 2/14].

14 FEBRUARY

Iraq vows “severe revenge” for 2/13 bombing of what Baghdad calls residential shelter, places death toll at about 400; demonstrators throw red paint on abandoned U.S. embassy in Baghdad; “outrage” over bombing is reported in Jordan, other Arab nations that back Saddam [AVP, APS 2/14, DUS 2/15 in FBIS 2/15; MEM 2/14; LAT, NYT, WP, WT 2/15].

U.S. reports significant gains in destroying Iraqi tanks and combat vehicles, saying more than 1,300 tanks have been destroyed; carrier USS America moves into Gulf in preparation for possible Marine amphibious landing [LAT, NYT, WP, WT 2/15].

UN Sec. Council, holding formal session behind closed doors for 1st time in 15 years, begins major debate over scope of Gulf war [WP, LAT 2/15].

Marking 9th anniversary of Israeli annexation of Golan Heights, hundreds of Syrians come to Ain Tine and shout with bullhorns greetings and words of encouragement to friends and family in Majdal Shams, now controlled by Israel [NYT 2/15].

In 1st collective statement of Gulf war since hostilities began, leaders of more than 20 major Protestant and Orthodox Christian denominations, join with 15 Roman Catholic bishops, and many other denominations in reaffirming opposition to war and calling for cease-fire. Statement from 32 denominations is made public by National Council of Churches [MEM 2/14; NYT 2/15].

Soviet press is becoming increasingly critical of Gulf war, following Pres. Gorbachev’s recent statements that war may be exceeding UN resolutions [NYT 2/15].

Cuba and Yemen circulate new peace plan at UN Sec. Council closed-door meeting calling for halt to allied bombing and UN commission to study possible solutions to crisis [NYT 2/15].

Curfew is lifted in Gaza; 14 Palestinians are wounded in clashes with IDF troops, who fire live ammunition and tear gas into crowds [HAD 2/15 in FBIS 2/15].

15 FEBRUARY

Iraq says it will abide by UN resolution calling for Iraq’s withdrawal from Kuwait but only if allies meet conditions including: withdrawal of allied forces, withdrawal of Israel from o.t., payment of war reparations to Iraq, and removal of Sabah family from power in Kuwait. In Baghdad, civilians celebrate what they believe is end of war; Pres. Bush rejects offer as “a cruel hoax” (See doc. B8) [BADS 2/15 in FBIS 2/15; MEM 2/15; LAT, NYT, WP, WT 2/16].

About 30,000 Algerians hold pro-Iraq march in Algiers; demonstrators attack UN office and offices of Italy’s and Egypt’s airlines [LAT 2/16; MEM 2/18].

Pres. Gorbachev sends letter to Pres. Bush, Pres. Mitterrand, P.M. Major, asking allies to hold off on ground offensive until talks scheduled early next week in Moscow with F.M. Aziz are completed [NYT, WT, WP 2/16].

In unusually blunt statement, White House criticizes Israeli ambassador Zalman Shoval for making public comments about U.S. economic aid to Israel. Shoval complained on 2/14 that U.S. had not moved forward on $400 million in loan guarantees and that Israel “had not received one cent in aid” from allies to compensate for missile damage.” U.S. says comments are “outrageous and outside the bounds of acceptable behavior” [NYT, WP 2/16].

Fatah troops loyal to Yasir Arafat split into 2 rival camps in S. Lebanon and fight fierce battle leaving as many as 28 dead, and 42 injured [LAT, NYT, WP 2/16; MEM 2/18].
CHRONOLOGY SOURCE ABBREVIATIONS

CSM (Christian Science Monitor, Boston)
FJ (Al-Fajr Jerusalem Palestinian Weekly, Jerusalem)
FNS (Federal News Service wire, Washington, D.C.)
JPI (Jerusalem Post, International Edition, Jerusalem)
LAT (Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles)
MEI (Middle East International, London)
MEPARC (Middle East Policy and Research Center, Washington, D.C.)
MEM (Mideast Mirror, London)
MET (Middle East Times, Nicosia)
WJW (Washington Jenish Week, Washington, D.C.)
WSJ (Wall Street Journal, New York)
WP (Washington Post, Washington, D.C.)
WT (Washington Times, Washington, D.C.)

Sources referenced from Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) Near East and South Asia, and Soviet Union

ADS (Amman Domestic Service, Amman)
AES (Aden Domestic Service, Aden)
AFP (Agence France Presse, Paris)
AGS (Algiers Domestic Service, Algiers)
APS (Algerian Press Service, Algiers)
ATS (Amman Television Service, Amman)
AVP (Algiers Voice of Palestine, Algiers)
BADS (Baghdad Domestic Service, Baghdad)
BAY (Al-Bayan, Dubayy)
BDS (Beirut Domestic Service, Beirut)
BNR (Beirut Voice of National Resistance, Beirut)
BVP (Baghdad Voice of the PLO, Baghdad)
BVL (Beirut Voice of Lebanon, Beirut)
BVM (Baghdad Voice of the Masses, Baghdad)
CDS (Cairo Domestic Service, Cairo)
DAV (Davar, Tel Aviv)
DDS (Damascus Domestic Service, Damascus)
DST (Damascus Syrian Television, Damascus)
DUS (Al-Dustur, Amman)
HAA (Ha’Aretz, Tel Aviv)
HAD (Hadashor, Tel Aviv)
HAM (Al Hamishmar, Tel Aviv)
IDF (Israel Defense Forces radio, Tel Aviv)
IGP (Israel’s Government Press Office, Jerusalem)
IHD (Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon, Ihdin)
INA (Iraq News Agency, Baghdad)
IRNA (Iranian News Agency, Tehran)
IRT (Iraqi Republic Television Network, Baghdad)
ITT (Al-Ittihad, Abu Dhabi)
IZV (Ivrebbea, Moscow)
JAA (Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World radio, Jerusalem)
JANA (Jamahiriyyah News Agency, Tripoli)
JDS (Jerusalem Domestic Service, Jerusalem)
JPD (Jerusalem Post, daily edition, Jerusalem)
JTE (Jordan Times in English, Amman)
JTS (Jerusalem Television Service, Jerusalem)
KUNA (Kuwait News Agency, London [formerly Kuwait])
MAA (Ma’ariv, Tel Aviv)
MAP (Maghreb Arabic Press, Rabat)
MENA (Middle East News Agency, Cairo)
MTS (Moscow Television Service, Moscow)
NAH (Al-Nahar, Jerusalem)
PAT (Paris Antenne 2 Television, Paris)
PDS (Paris Domestic Service, Paris)
PIS (Paris International Service, Paris)
PRA (Pravda, Moscow)
QAB (Al-Qabas, London [formerly Kuwait])
QDS (Al-Quds, Jerusalem)
QNA (Qatari News Agency, Doha)
QU (Clandestine Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio, Syria)
RAY (Al-Ray, Amman)
RADS (Rabat Domestic Service, Rabat)
RFL (Clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, Lebanon)
RIDS (Riyadh Domestic Service, Riyadh)
RMC (Radio Monte Carlo, Paris)
RPP (Radio Peace and Progress, Moscow)
RTS (Riyadh Television Service, Riyadh)
RYF (Rose al-Yusuf, Cairo)
SANA (Syrian Arab News Agency, Damascus)
SDS (Sanaa Domestic Service, Sanaa)
SOR (Sovetskaya Rossiya, Moscow)
SPA (Saudi Press Agency, Riyadh)
SVP (Sanaa Voice of Palestine, Sanaa)
TASS (Tass News Service, Moscow)
TET (Tel Aviv Educational Television, Tel Aviv)
TDS (Tunis Domestic Service, Tunis)
WAFA (Palestine News Agency, Tunis)
WAKH (Gulf News Agency, Manama)
WFD (Al-Wafd, Cairo)
YA (Yedi'ot Aharonot, Tel Aviv)

Chronology compiled by Mark Mechler