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## The Parthenon, January 17, 1991 Special Edition

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# It's War!

## U.S., allies attack Iraq

\* EXTRA \* EXTRA \* EXTRA \*

THURSDAY  
Jan. 17, 1991

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

### THE PARTHENON

SPECIAL  
EDITION

## U.S. launches full air assault in Persian Gulf

By Edith M. Lederer  
Associated Press Writer

CENTRAL SAUDI ARABIA — The United States launched air attacks early Thursday against Iraq, hurling its mighty air force against an Arab power that for five months has held Kuwait in defiance of the rest of the world.

"The liberation of Kuwait has begun," President Bush declared in Washington.

In Baghdad, television reporters said bombs were falling on the center of the Iraqi capital. They said exploding bombs shook the ground, an oil refinery 10 miles away was in flames, and flashes of light brightened the night sky — apparently anti-aircraft fire.

"Operation Desert Shield" became "Operation Desert Storm" around 12:50 a.m. (4:50 a.m. EST) as F-



AP photo courtesy of The Herald-Dispatch

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President Bush addresses the nation Wednesday evening after U.S. forces bombed Iraq in Operation Desert Storm.

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## Protesters, professor arrested during rally

By Kevin D. Melrose  
Managing Editor

Seven protesters were arrested Wednesday evening on disorderly conduct charges during an anti-war demonstration across from the Federal Building on Fifth Avenue in Huntington.

The demonstrators, most of whom are associated with Marshall Action for Peaceful Solutions, were taken to the Huntington Police Department and fined \$155 each for obstructing traffic.

Those arrested included associate professor of

journalism Janet L. Dooley, a MAPS adviser. Others were: Jason E. Huber, Parkersburg junior; Kristen J. Keating, Charleston junior; David K. McGee, Huntington graduate student; Jason A. Morris, Richmond, Va., sophomore; and Gideon T. Paulovic, Huntington, sophomore.

Police officials would not release the name of the seventh person who was a juvenile.

More than 20 protesters had converged on the Federal Building shortly after learning of the U.S.

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## MAPS

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attack on Iraq Thursday evening and chanted peace slogans like "No blood for oil" — the apparent theme of the anti-war movement.

During the demonstration, some of the activists repeatedly moved onto Fifth Avenue between red traffic lights and, at one point, poured a small amount of oil onto the street.

McGee said he purposely was arrested after seeing police apprehend Huber and Paulovic.

"They (the police) seemed to just single them out," he said.

Dooley said that although she was arrested for obstructing traffic, she only had been trying to keep demonstrators from being struck by passing cars.

"I spent part of the evening directing traffic around the protesters," she said. "I was a little concerned about the safety of the protesters."

Dooley said she was "grabbed" by police officers when she crossed Fifth Avenue to sit on the sidewalk.

Morris did not deny that he had been obstructing traffic, saying being arrested was worth it and he would be willing to protest again.

"I suppose it — the demonstration — and everything was worth it because it drew attention to everything."

## Peace rally spurs vocal opposition

By Kevin D. Melrose  
Managing Editor

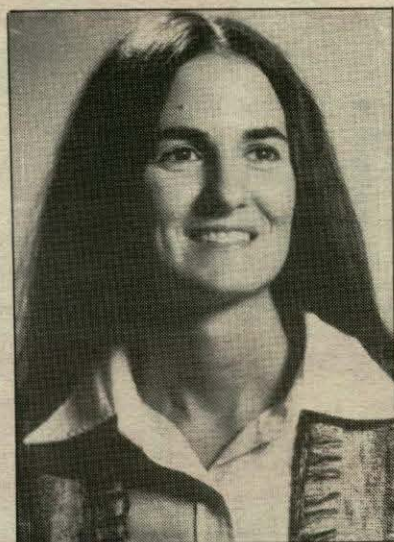
Anti-war activists met with opposition Wednesday night shortly after converging on Fifth Avenue across from the Federal Building in Huntington.

Chants of "No blood for oil" were challenged by opposition shouting "USA! USA!" as more than 20 military action supporters began a demonstration of their own.

Jim Smith, a Vietnam-era veteran from Coal Grove, Ohio, said he participated in the counter demonstration to show support for U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia and for Wednesday night's attack against Iraq.

Smith, who was designated the group's spokesman, said if anti-war protests get more "radical" he thinks more Vietnam veterans will demonstrate in support of military action in the Middle East.

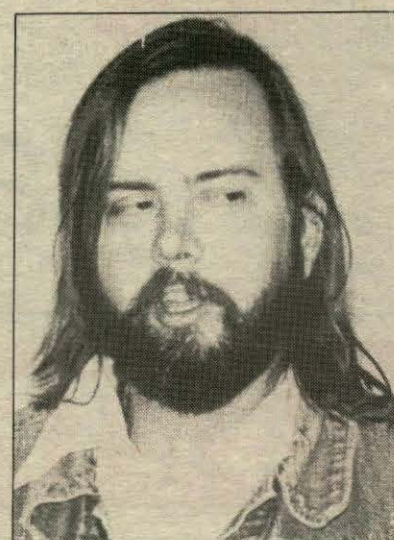
"Vietnam was a lot different," he said. "That was purely a political war. This



Dooley



Huber



McGee



Photo by John Baldwin

An anti-war activist shows his support for peace after being arrested during a demonstration across from Huntington's Federal Building.

time they're (the U.S. government) going to kick ass and take names."

Smith, who wore a shirt with the slogan, "Kick their ass and take their gas," said he and some of the others attempted to "talk reasonably" to anti-war protesters who, in turn, walked away.

"I agree with their right to protest if they'll agree to listen to both sides."

He said he was upset that some of the anti-war protesters probably received federal grants to pay for their educa-

tion but would be unwilling to fight for the U.S.

Some students said they are willing to go to battle.

"My bags are packed and I'm ready to go," Brent Anglin, Barboursville senior, said.

David K. McGee, Huntington graduate student and a participant in the anti-war protest, said he expected a lot of opposition.

"We said all along that this damn thing is going to tear this country apart."

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# 'We will not fail,' Bush says in TV address

## President repeats his promise 'This will not be another Vietnam'

By The Associated Press

The initial attack against Iraq was two hours old Wednesday when President George Bush spoke to the nation at 9 p.m. and said, "We will not fail."

Bush said "all responsible efforts" to resolve the Persian Gulf crisis by diplomacy had failed and that Iraqi President "Saddam Hussein met every overture of peace with contempt."

He said the allied forces from 28 nations "standing shoulder to shoulder" would drive Iraqi troops out of Kuwait and destroy Iraq's nuclear potential and chemical warfare facilities.



BUSH

One hundred and fifty Saudi aircraft were in the first wave, according to embassy spokesman Fred Dutton, who called the attack "saturation bombings" of Iraq. A Pentagon official said "a wave of Cruise missiles" were fired from U.S. Navy ships at pre-programmed targets in Iraq.

Bush said he had been assured by Army Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, the American military commander in Saudi Arabia, that the air operations were succeeding. Bush said no ground forces were involved in the assault against Iraqi positions in Iraq and Kuwait.

Bush spoke slowly, somberly, unsmiling, and stumbled over several words. He said "all reasonable efforts" to resolve the Persian Gulf by diplomacy had failed.

"Why act now? The world could wait no longer" for Saddam to withdraw, Bush said. He said it had to become clear that economic sanctions alone would never compel a withdraw.

His brief speech included sharp denunciation of the Iraqi leader. "While the world prayed for peace, Saddam prepared for war," the president said.

Bush repeated his oft-standing pledge that "this will not be another Viet-

nam," vowing, "I have said this before and I repeat this here tonight, our troops will not be asked to fight with one hand tied behind their back. Our troops will have the best possible support."

Bush acted after molding a potent international alliance to challenge Iraq's occupation of the oil-rich kingdom of Kuwait. He issued his order less than 24 hours after the expiration of a United Nations deadline for Iraq to leave Kuwait — an ultimatum scorned by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Bush, who won congressional backing Saturday for the use of force, telephoned congressional leaders with his decision to strike. Senate President Pro Tempore Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., told Bush his prayers were with the president, a spokesman said.

By unleashing an overnight aerial bombardment, Bush attempted to take advantage of the darkness of a new moon by unleashing overwhelming U.S. air superiority. Iraq's strength rested in day fighting by ground troops.

About 100 anti-war protesters maintained a vigil outside the White House as the war began. Their ranks swelled somewhat once hostilities began.

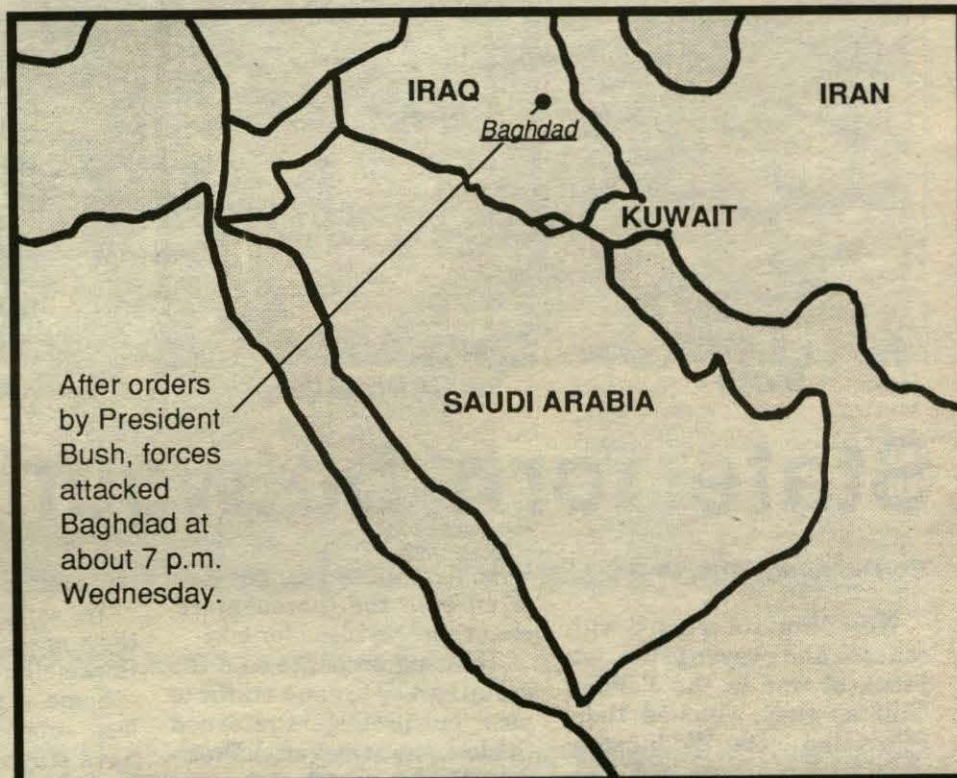
A few blocks away at the Iraqi Embassy, Secret Service agents armed with shotguns stood guard. A sign in front read, "Hey, hey, ho, ho, Saddam Hussein has got to go."

Secretary of State James A. Baker III was in his 7th floor State Department office monitoring events and keeping contact with allies.

A Saudi spokesman said Baker obtained Saudi approval for the bombardment in a conversation Wednesday with Prince Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi ambassador who was in touch with King Fahd by telephone.

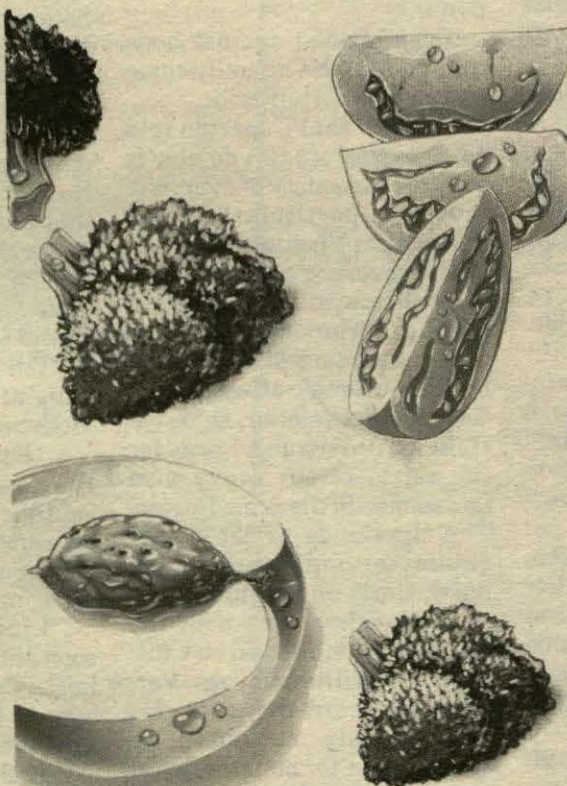
Senator Sam Nunn, who led the opposition to war authority, said Wednesday night: "Our service men and women will be given all the resources to do the job. I believe we will prevail in a matter of days or weeks."

More than one million troops were massed on opposite sides; 425,000 of them Americans who were deployed as part of 'Desert Shield', a code-name that gave way under combat to 'Desert Storm'.



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3. Include cabbage, broccoli, brussels sprouts, kohlrabi and cauliflower.
4. Be moderate in consumption of salt-cured, smoked, and nitrite-cured foods.
5. Cut down on total fat intake from animal sources and fats and oils.
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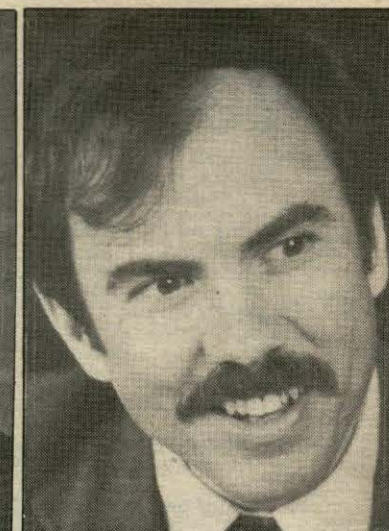
CAPERTON



RAHALL



ROCKEFELLER



WISE

## State torn between support, opposition

By The Associated Press —

West Virginia reacted with concern and prayer to the outbreak of war in the Persian Gulf as they watched their television sets Wednesday night to make sense of the initial reports of conflict.

"It's a tough moment. We had the feeling it was going to happen tonight," said James Whaley of Clarksburg, whose youngest son, daughter-in-law and a son-in-law are serving in the war zone.

"The man (Iraqi President Saddam Hussein) has got to be stopped. He might try to take over the United States next," Whaley said. "I praise President Bush for what he's done."

Whaley said his family was watching the evening television news when the story of the attack broke. He has resolved to keep the Christmas lights on his house burning until his family's soldiers come home.

President Bush called Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, at about 6 p.m. in Washington and told him the bombing would start in an hour, said Tina Evans, spokeswoman for Byrd.

Byrd told Bush: "My Bible tells me the heavenly father hears our prayers in secret and rewards us openly. During this critical period, I have been praying for you every night. You have my prayers."

In Huntington, about 20 members of the Marshall Action for Peaceful Solutions gathered at the Federal Building about an hour after hostilities were reported Wednesday night.

Seven protesters were arrested after they twice blocked

Fifth Avenue and poured cans of oil onto the thoroughfare, chanting "No blood for oil."

Huntington police said the group agreed to allow traffic to pass, but protesters returned to block the street after President Bush's speech at 9 p.m.

Police said the protesters were charged with disorderly conduct. Other protesters vowed to stay at the building until war ended.

Gov. Gaston Caperton was meeting with senior staff members in the Governor's Mansion in Charleston when a state trooper called to say Caperton should turn on the television, according to spokesman Bob Brunner.

"I had hoped against hope that it wouldn't actually come to this," Caperton said.

Brunner said Caperton told staffers, "All we can do now is pray for the safety of everyone involved, particularly those 3,000 West Virginians."

The governor asked staffers to go home to be with their families, Brunner said.

"I am profoundly saddened by the outbreak of war," said Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va. "Like all Americans, I pray for the safety of our brave men and women in the armed forces. The thousands of West Virginians serving in the Gulf are particularly on my mind."

Rockefeller was with the National Commission on Children in Williamsburg, Va., when he heard the news. He immediately returned to Washington for congressional meetings Thursday, according to spokeswoman Marisa Spatafore.

Rockefeller, who voted against giving Bush authority to use force during the weekend, said Congress "stands firmly behind our troops and

our commander-in-chief."

"We will provide the support they need to win this war," Rockefeller said.

Some state residents were less supportive. "We should have stayed out of there and negotiated," said Charles Allen, 63, of Wheeling, a retired utility worker. "I hope for a short war, but I'm afraid we've got a tiger by the tail."

"I was getting ready to write (U.S. Rep. Alan) Mollohan about it, but I guess I'm too late," Allen said.

Mollohan was driving north on Interstate 79 near Fairmont when he heard the news on his car radio. Mollohan visited Saudi Arabia in September and November, meeting with U.S. military leaders.

"It appears the operation is unfolding as advertised with a massive air strike on Iraq and Kuwait," he said. "Everything that I can see, and I'm relying on news reports, seems like precision bombing, leading with our strength, our technological superiority."

"I'm not surprised it came tonight. I thought it would," Mollohan said.

Katie Johnson, 37, of Elkview, Kanawha County, said she was working out with an aerobics videotape when a girlfriend called her with the sobering news.

"I just hope it will be over soon and not a lot of people get hurt. My son is of draftable age, so that's a concern," she said.

Rep. Bob Wise, D-W.Va. was watching ABC-TV news at his Charleston office when the network helped break the story.

"We knew it was coming and the only question was when. Hopefully, it will be quick, overwhelming and successful,"

Wise said.

Wise said he was glad American warplanes attacked Baghdad because it was the most important target.

"If it had to be war, I'm glad it is focused at Iraq rather than Kuwait because that's where you cut off the head," Wise said.

Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va., had just left the site of a mine accident in McDowell County and got first word while watching television at the Welch Lions Club. Rahall said he thought the night would pass without an attack.

"I stand united with our president," Rahall said. "While it may be easy to debate whether to fight or not to fight when there is peace, now we must all come together to support our troops, stand by them and convey their hopes, which is come quickly."

"I hope that peace will now come sooner rather than later," Rahall said.

Jim Watkins, spokesman for Rep. Harley O. Staggers Jr., D-W.Va., said Staggers' "prayers are with the troops and there's no doubt they can get the job done."

Maj. Gen. Joseph Skaff, adjutant general of the West Virginia National Guard, was at church when the news broke. He could not be reached for comment immediately.

In Charleston, retired Army Brig. Gen. Dallas Brown, 58, a history professor at West Virginia State College, said he heard the news from a waitress at an Italian restaurant. Brown was a paratrooper and artillery officer in Korea and Vietnam.

"I think it's an awful thing. We'll take a lot of casualties, but they'll take more. Will we win? Yes, we'll win. There's no

question about that," Brown said.

"I don't think the president had much choice. I agree with what he did. We tried to negotiate. We tried to work it out. The United Nations tried to work it out. The guy wouldn't listen," Brown said.

Gidgett Jefferies of Grafton said, "Our strong feeling is we should have gone in a long time ago and kicked some butt."

Jefferies and her husband, Randy, recently left the Army after 15 years out of fear that war would develop in the Middle East. She said she didn't want to have to leave her five children behind without any family.

Randy Jeffries said they should have gone in before this.

"We've had troops in Bahrain before. They didn't like us over there a long time ago," he said.

Ed Pastilong, athletic director at West Virginia University, said officials would meet Thursday to discuss the safety of fans at Mountaineer sports events in light of the outbreak of hostilities.

There were no reports of protest at WVU.

Bethany College basketball fans paused for a moment of silent prayer before a scheduled game between Bethany and Ohio-Belmont, according to Sports Information Director Sue Ryan.

Mahmoud Naanaa, 26, a Kuwaiti graduate student at Marshall University, heard the news of the battle for his nation on television. He has four family members still in Kuwait.

He said he is happy that the United States is fighting for Kuwait. He said Saddam should be stopped from annexing his country.



# U.S. launches largest attack since Korea

## 28 nations add military aid

By College Information Network

War started Wednesday with Iraq. Operation Desert Storm began at 7 p.m. EST with the launching of an air attack on targets in Iraq and Kuwait. President Bush addressed the nation at 9 p.m. EST. White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said the attack, code named Operation Desert Storm, was begun to "enforce the mandate of the U.N. Security Council" - which has demanded that Iraq retreat from its occupation of Kuwait. Gunfire sounded over Baghdad to open the confrontation over the liberation of the tiny oil emirate of Kuwait. Network reports described flashes of light over the Iraqi capital as U.S. forces began their barrage. The action, which began at 3 a.m. Iraq time, began 19 hours after the Jan. 15 midnight EST deadline set Nov. 29 by the U.N. Security Council. The U.N. resolution that set the deadline authorized the 28-nation U.S.-led coalition to use whatever means were necessary to remove Iraqi forces from Kuwait. The United States has massed about 425,000 troops in the Persian Gulf region with 265,000 troops contributed from 28 allied nations, including Saudi Arabia, Britain, France, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates. Iraq has about 545,000 troops in Kuwait and southeastern Iraq. The ground and naval forces in the region is the largest such U.S. military operation since the Korean War. The United States has more than 1,300 warplanes, 1,500 helicopters and 2,000 tanks. Six aircraft carrier battlegroups and at least 100 other ships are in the region, as well as two hospital ships. Iraq has a reported 700 combat aircraft, 330 surface-to-air missile launchers and 4,200 tanks. The march to war began July 17, 1990, when Iraq accused Kuwait of side drilling into oil fields on the Iraqi border. Kuwait denied it. Iraq demanded forgiveness for its \$7 billion war debt. Kuwait refused. Negotiations proved fruitless. Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2. Five days later, Bush ordered 20,000 U.S. troops to protect Saudi Arabia and its oil fields. Fear of war escalated dramatically a week ago on the collapse of what Bush had billed as the "last best chance for peace": A six-hour meeting in Geneva between secretary of State

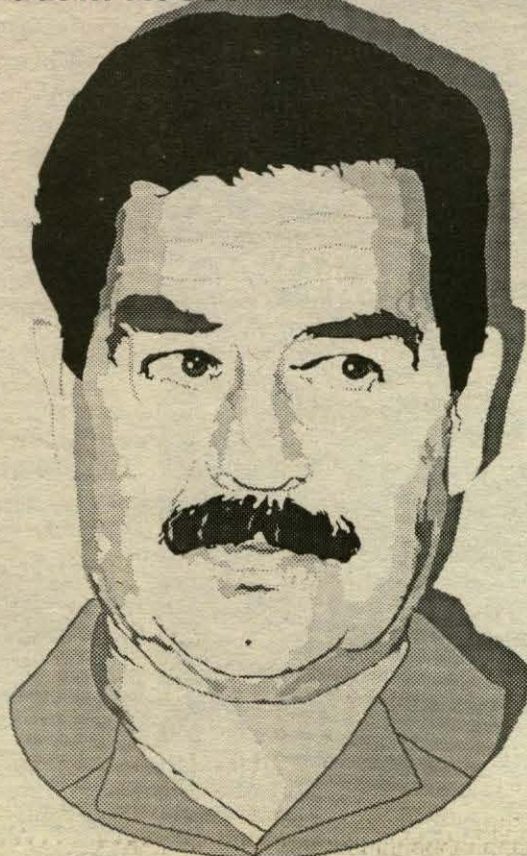


Photo by John Baldwin

Almost immediately after the first attack on Iraq, protesters marched downtown chanting disapproval.

James Baker and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz. Three days later, a sharply divided Congress approved resolutions similar to the U.N. Security Council resolution, endorsing Bush's authority to go to war, if needed, to oust Iraq from Kuwait. On Sunday, U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar ended a meeting with Saddam in Baghdad saying "only God knows" if there will be war. Monday, Iraq's National Assembly called for a "holy war" to defend the occupation of Kuwait. Tuesday, the fateful deadline day, world leaders made last-minute appeals to Saddam and Bush to pull back from the brink of war. As troop levels and tensions built in the Middle East, so did the peace movement in the United States and around the world. Dozens of marches and vigils have been held with more expected. Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., a Vietnam war veteran who ended up leading opposition to that conflict, promised, "I'm going to back the president if a shot is fired." But Kerry, who voted against the resolution authorizing use of force in the Persian Gulf, said on CBS's "This Morning" Wednesday, "I'm convinced we're doing this the wrong way." As many military experts predicted the hostilities began at night with a U.S. air assault. Some analysts expected Iraq's 700-plane air force would be quickly incapacitated by the initial U.S. air strikes.

Saddam Hussein



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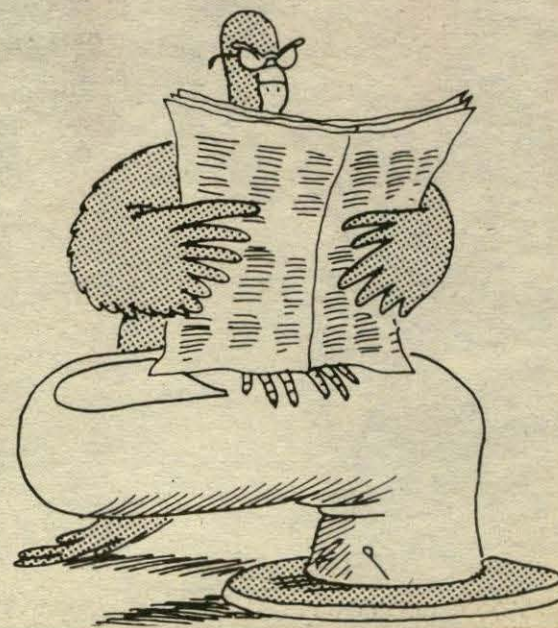






Photo by John Baldwin

Anti-war activists conduct a sit-in across Fifth Avenue after U.S. forces attacked Iraq Wednesday as part of "Operation Desert Storm." Seven protesters later were arrested.

# Student views vary on Gulf attack

By Chris Dickerson, Lisa A. Wheatly  
and D. Andrew McMorrow  
Staff Writers

As news of Operation Desert Storm broke Wednesday night, student opinion was as varied as the nations involved in the conflict.

Marshall Action for Peaceful Solutions gathered along Fifth Avenue near the Sydney L. Christie Federal Building to protest the latest U.S. initiative.

Members of the group shouted, "Hell no! We won't

go!" and poured motor oil on one lane of the avenue while chanting "No blood for oil!"

Matt Topping, executive chairperson of MAPS, said he did not know how long the demonstration would last. "There's no plan to it," he said, "We ought to do it until they fucking pull out."

He also said he thinks support for such protests will grow. "Support gradually builds. Just like at our rally the other day."

Jeana Wilt, New Martinsville senior, said, "I don't think it's (the Middle East crisis) any of our goddamn business. I don't think it's our problem."

Other members seemed frustrated by Wednesday's events.

"Bush gave them an ultimatum without thinking about the long term," Jeni Burns, Cross Lanes junior, said.

Meanwhile, some students considered the idea of having a pro-war rally.

C. David Classing, South Point, Ohio junior, said it is about time the U.S. attacked Iraq. "It needed to be done about Aug. 2. It needs to be supported, not opposed," he said.

Doug R. Harlow, Barboursville sophomore, said that although he supports the war effort, the situation is nerve-wracking.

"I hope for the best and pray for others," he said. "I hope it is over quickly so we can negotiate. Maybe this will change Saddam's mind."

Harlow said the pro-war rally is just in the planning stages.

Classing said he doesn't like the idea of anti-war demonstrations. "If people don't support Bush, now is not the time to be protesting."

Still other students focused their energy on supporting family and friends stationed in the Persian Gulf.

Tabitha L. Stapleton, Martin County, Ky. sophomore, said, "I will be sleeping uneasy tonight, as everyone will in my county."

Stapleton said she has friends and a cousin who have been in Saudi Arabia since the beginning of the crisis.

"Everybody's been waiting for it, because anytime you send that many troops over there you know something is going to happen," she said.

Other students seemed oblivious to the conflict, according to Dave K. McGee, public relations chairman of MAPS.

"We were sitting at The Roadhouse when we heard. There were people talking about guitars, while they were talking about the bombing on TV. I couldn't fucking believe it."



Photo by John Baldwin

More than 20 war protesters marched to the Federal Building in Huntington to oppose U.S. intervention in the Gulf.



# Local students react to U.S. attack of Iraq

By James M. Slack  
Staff Writer

Some were in night classes. Others were watching television.

But all who learned about the U.S. attack of Iraq Wednesday night were shocked.

Shocked, but not surprised.

"I knew that if they were going to do it, they were going to do it soon after the deadline," said Krisha B. Thompson, Buena Park, Calif. sophomore, who learned about the attack while working at the Buffalo Roadhouse.

"My brother is over there, he's in the Marines. I've met everyone in his whole squad. I also know a couple of other people over there," she said.

"I don't have enough knowledge about what we are doing there. Right now I'm scared for my family and friends.

"I was there the day that my brother's whole squad left and I saw what it was like for guys that old facing the threat of war," Thompson said.

"They acted like they were three years old, they were so filled with panic. Most of them were between 20 to 28 years old."

Others had a different view of the military action.

"I think it's stupid," Phillip T. Carson, Fairmont junior, said. "It's definitely not worth fighting for."

Carson's opinion received support from W. David Hall, assistant professor of English.

"I'm not sure that it's worth our time," he said. "I might be more comfortable with our presence in the gulf if I knew

more about the invasion, but I'm not comfortable with what I know."

Hall said he felt that the consequences of war will be long-lasting.

"I think that there will be five to six months of actual combat, but the repercussions will take years to work out of the nations consciousness," he said.

"I don't want to compare it with Vietnam, but it can get kind of messy and it will take time for people to get comfortable with the government's actions."

H. David Moore, Charleston senior, was sharing a booth with Hall and Carson and somewhat disagreed with his friends.

"I think the threat of terrorism is a problem, but at the same time I don't know if this is dealing with it or not," he said. "I think the war will be short."

Some patrons of the bar said they agree with the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf but think we should have relied more on diplomacy.

"I think that we should take more time to work things out," Joe Holland, Huntington junior, said. "I don't think that we spent enough time in peace talks. But then again it is kind of a Catch-22."

He said if the U.S. waited longer, the troops would have to wait out the Muslim religious season as well as yearly sand storms that occur in the region. He said U.S. military presence during this time of year could of upset relations with other Muslim nations.

"If we had waited too much longer, we would have to spend three extra months in the gulf," Holland said.

He said he would go to the Middle

East if called upon, but he would not be in complete agreement with the U.S. involvement.

"The other side wanted to give, but the U.S. didn't want to budge," he said. "I feel that we will only be in the Gulf for about a month if we stay just to liberate Kuwait, but if it carries into Iraq we'll be there a while."

Thompson said a confrontation in the Roadhouse involved Jason Huber, member of Marshall Action for Peaceful Solutions, and a female student whose fiance is in the gulf.

"There were four or five guys from MAPS watching the news and Jason stood up and started yelling, 'Are you glad we're fighting for oil?'" Thompson said. "Across the room there was a table with four girls and one of them told Jason to shut up because her fiance was over there, and she started to cry," she said.

The two later discussed their differences calmly, she said. Holland said the remarks from Huber were initially directed at him because his opinion differed from Huber's. "After a while Jason was yelling at the girl who vocally opposed his comments, but it soon calmed down."

Huber denies that there was an argument. "I talked to a girl who, like me, disagreed with our presence in the Gulf, but her boyfriend was there and she felt that she should support him," he said. "We had a conversation, not an argument."

Huber says that he didn't have much time to debate with the girl because as soon as he and other members of MAPS

heard the

news of the invasion, they headed to the Federal Building on Fifth Avenue to protest the military action. The group blocked the road at the intersection of Fifth Avenue and Eighth Street with anti-war signs and chanted peace slogans.

"We're going to stay here all night," Huber said. "We want to show Nicky Joe Rahall, who voted for the use of force, and the Huntington community that this war is wrong. Our main objective is that by any peaceful means necessary we'll bring our troops home. This is our number one concern."

Sgt. Dennis Ashworth of the Huntington Police Department ordered the group not to block traffic, and the group moved to the sidewalk across from the Federal Building. They moved back into the street when the traffic signals changed.

"As far as I know they have a permit to be here," Ashworth said. "We got an internal memo a couple of days ago that (MAPS) has a permit. As long as they don't block the streets or cause a raucous, they can stay all night long if they want."

David McGee, public relations chairperson for MAPS, said most of the U.S. is ignorant of what is actually happening in the Gulf.

"A lot of innocent people are going to die for goddamned nothing," he said. "We are willing to give sanctions 20 years in South Africa, but we won't even give them six months in Saudi Arabia. This is a war that George Bush wants."

"We're now the world's policemen. We have a new world order — capitalism. The U.S. has declared itself capitalism's enforcer. Oil is a big part of this, but the main issue is that we want to show the rest of the world that America is the strongest military power."

McGee said he thought most Americans purposefully have been misled.

"The polls show that most people are in favor of military action, but when they are further questioned about American casualties the support drastically begins to fall apart. With the mention of 1,000 casualties, the support drops by 50 percent, and when talk goes to 10,000 casualties the support falls through the floor.

"The sad part about this whole crisis is that there is a misconception about the number of people that are going to die," McGee said. "Anybody that thinks that there will be very little American casualties is a fool."



Photo by John Baldwin

Like students across the country, residents of Laidley Hall watch the developments of the U.S. attack on Iraq



## ASSAULT

From Page 1

15E fighter-bombers took off from the largest U.S. air base in central Saudi Arabia and streaked north. "This is history in the making," said Col. Ray Davies, the base's chief maintenance officer.

The offensive included U.S.-allied forces and was aimed at Iraqi troops in both Iraq and Kuwait, U.S. officials said.

When President Bush addressed the nation, he said ground forces had not been activated. Also, there was no sign of an Iraqi attack on Israel, as threatened.

The early-morning assault was the climax to a crisis that had built over more than five months, as Iraq's President Saddam Hussein, whose forces stormed Kuwait in a lightning invasion Aug. 2, rejected world condemnation and dismissed international economic sanctions designed to force him out of the occupied emirate.

Reporters in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, a staging base for the U.S. force, said air raid sirens sounded at about 3:20 a.m. (7:20 p.m. EST) and journalists were told to take shelter.

The Associated Press's Richard Pyle, in the Saudi capital of Riyadh, said sirens also wailed there, but there was no sound of any attack.

The American warplanes took off in pairs, disappearing in red dots that winked out as they gained altitude. The aircraft were heavily loaded with bombs and underwing fuel tanks for the long trip north. They also were armed with cannon and air-to-air missiles for self-defense.

"We've been waiting here for five months now. Now we finally got to do what we were sent here to do," Col. Davies said.

Earlier, ABC and CNN television news reported from Baghdad there were "flashes in the sky." Explosions and machine gun fire could be heard in the

background of the reports. "The night sky filled with a hail of bullets from anti-aircraft guns," CNN's John Holliman said.

The U.S.-led attack came one day after the Tuesday midnight deadline set by the United Nations Security Council for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. After that, the council declared, the assembled international military force would be free to drive the Iraqis from the conquered oil-rich enclave.

In Washington, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, quoting Bush, said, "The liberation of Kuwait has begun. In conjunction with the forces of our coalition partners the United States has moved under the code name Operation Desert Storm to enforce the mandates of the United Nations Security Council.

"As of 7 p.m., Operation Desert Storm forces were engaging targets in Iraq and Kuwait."

Right to the end, Iraq had remained defiant. Saadi Mehdi Saleh, speaker of Iraq's legislature, said Wednesday that Saddam — already de-facto military commander — would "from now on direct the battle." Saddam later met with his ruling Revolutionary Command Council.

Saleh said in an interview that Iraq was ready for talks with the United States if U.S. forces are withdrawn from the Persian Gulf. But he reiterated Iraq's threat to use chemical weapons if attacked.

Wednesday, many of Baghdad's 3.8 million residents, fearful that war was about to befall their ancient city, continued their flight into the countryside.

In Saudi Arabia as skies cleared Wednesday after 36 hours of rain in the desert, more than one million soldiers had readied for battle — almost 700,000 in the U.S.-led coalition, and more than a half-million Iraqi troops in southern Iraq and Kuwait.

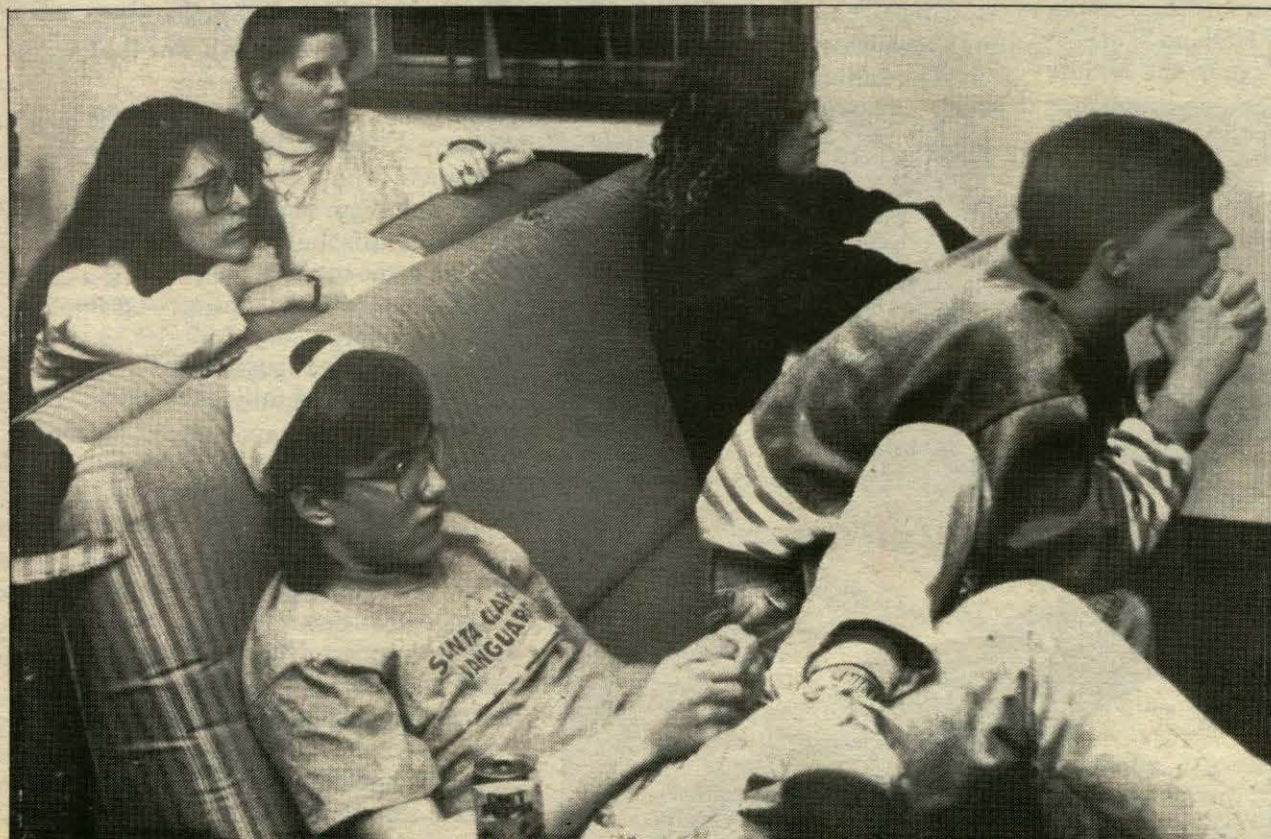


Photo by John Baldwin

News of the U.S. attack on Iraq caused many students to solemnly view the developments in the residence halls on television. Most evening classes let out early once news of the attack spread.

Look for The Parthenon when it begins regular publication for the spring semester Tuesday. If significant developments arise, The Parthenon may publish another special edition this week.

## Our thanks...

*We would like to thank the following individuals who volunteered to work all night and morning to publish this special edition. Without the help of these students, this issue would not have been possible:*

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