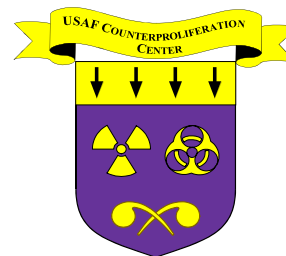


USAF COUNTERPROLIFERATION CENTER

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Washington Post

January 27, 2002

Pg. 1

Pentagon Plans New Command For U.S.

Four-Star Officer Would Oversee Homeland Defense

By Bradley Graham, Washington Post Staff Writer

The Pentagon has decided to ask the White House for approval to set up a new four-star command to coordinate federal troops used to defend North America, part of an intensified effort to bolster homeland security, defense officials said.

The move was prompted by the new domestic security demands placed on the military after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and the Bush administration's declared war on terrorism.

Although the Pentagon has regional commanders in chief, known as CINCs, who are responsible for Europe, the Pacific, Latin America, and the Middle East and South Asia, none exists for U.S. forces in the United States and Canada. The proposed change would give a single four-star officer authority over such domestic deployments as Air Force jets patrolling above U.S. cities, Navy ships running coastal checks and Army National Guard troops policing airports and border crossings.

Before September, military leaders had resisted the idea of a homeland CINC (pronounced "sink"), reflecting a traditional aversion to -- and legal limits on -- the use of federal armed forces for domestic law enforcement.

Opposition also existed outside the Pentagon on both the political left and right, with civil libertarians and right-wing militia groups alike warning against military forces encroaching on areas traditionally considered the responsibility of civilian emergency response, law enforcement and health agencies.

But in recent months, as military air, sea and land patrols pressed into action by the Pentagon have answered to several four-star commanders, the Defense Department's top military officers have come to accept the need for streamlining the chain of command.

Earlier opposition from such groups as the American Civil Liberties Union has also waned, although concerns persist about possible "mission creep" and the risk that any military forces deployed around the country could end up threatening individual rights.

Initially, the military chiefs had argued for assigning the homeland defense mission to one of two commands already headquartered in the United States -- either the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) in Colorado, which is responsible for protecting U.S. skies, or the Joint Forces Command in Virginia, which has been charged with guarding the maritime approaches to North America and the land defense of the continental United States. The thinking was that setting up an entirely new command would entail needless additional bureaucracy and expense.

But Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld has settled on creating a new command rather than loading an existing one with additional responsibilities, according to four officials in different branches of the Pentagon familiar with the plan. Currently, the general who heads NORAD also runs the U.S. Space Command, which oversees the nation's military satellites and computer networks. The admiral who leads the Joint Forces Command is in charge of developing new ways the different services can fight together, and he serves as head of NATO's North Atlantic region.

"All the chiefs and CINCs have seen the plan and have signed on to it, although it has not yet been briefed to the president," a senior military officer said yesterday. "Everyone is moving down the track toward realizing it."

Defense officials also said that the geographic responsibilities of the new command would likely extend beyond U.S. borders to the rest of North America. Among other advantages, this would facilitate the transfer of the air defense mission from NORAD, which is operated jointly with Canada.

"It's not going to be just a homeland defense command," another official said. "It's going to be a command that has responsibility beyond homeland defense."

But many of the details for implementing the new command structure have yet to be worked out, including where it would be located, what it would be called, who would lead it and exactly which functions it would take from existing CINCs.

"There's still the hope this new command can be created without a net increase in headquarters staff across all the CINC-doms," the senior officer said.

Another official said: "It's going to take time to work out how you go about moving responsibilities from this or that CINC to this new command. This particular review will go ahead and establish the command, and then we'll lay out a series of considerations over the course of the next several months to make it all happen."

Responsibility for coordinating federal activities in homeland defense rests with Tom Ridge, who heads the White House's Office of Homeland Security, which was set up after the Sept. 11 attacks. While the new Pentagon command would doubtless have links to Ridge's office, it would formally fall in a separate chain of authority running from the president through the secretary of defense to those federal troops enlisted in the homeland effort. Historically, Pentagon planning for dealing with the consequences of terrorist attacks has relied heavily on local and regional organizations -- including the police, firefighters, medics and hazardous-material teams -- taking the lead. Only as a matter of last resort were federal troops to be summoned to help.

Even with the increased domestic role thrust on the armed forces in the aftermath of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, senior defense officials say they would prefer to avoid making federal troops permanent fixtures at airports and elsewhere.

Pentagon authorities contend that state and local agencies should handle the bulk of homeland security responsibilities while federal forces stay focused on trouble spots abroad.

"The problem is concurrency," Army Secretary Thomas E. White said in an interview last week. "No one has let us out of our obligations in Kosovo, in Bosnia, in the Sinai, in Korea. The Army is fully deployed in 100 different countries, supporting our regional commanders in chief. And we are hard-pressed to do that which the Army is principally organized to do. So we don't need to volunteer for any other tasks."

White said defense officials are hoping to begin pulling National Guard troops off security duties at the nation's airports in the next 60 to 90 days, turning the work over to the new Transportation Security Administration. Roughly 6,000 troops are stationed at more than 400 airports across the country as part of the effort to deter terrorists and reassure the public about the safety of air travel.

Defense officials are also evaluating whether to scale back the combat air patrols over Washington, New York and more than two dozen other cities now that airports and commercial airline companies have instituted stronger safeguards.

Legal barriers to sending the armed forces into U.S. streets have existed for more than a century under the Posse Comitatus Act of 1878. That law was prompted by President Ulysses S. Grant's use of federal troops to monitor the elections in the former Confederate states. The act prohibits military personnel from searching, seizing or arresting people in the United States.

Some exceptions exist, allowing military forces to suppress insurrections or domestic unrest or to assist in crimes involving nuclear, biological or chemical weapons.

Since Sept. 11, several prominent lawmakers -- including Sen. John W. Warner (R-Va.), the ranking minority member on the Armed Services Committee, and Sen. Max Cleland (D-Ga.), another committee member -- have called for revising the act. But congressional opinion on the matter is divided, and senior Pentagon officials have expressed little interest in any fundamental legislative overhaul.

The move to establish a homeland CINC, officials said, is part of a broader series of geographical and other adjustments being proposed in a number of regional commands under what the Pentagon calls the Unified Command Plan. "This does not finish something," a senior official said. "It actually starts a process of examining how you might" streamline the commands.

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Washington Post
January 29, 2002
Pg. B3

First Suit Filed Over Chemicals In NW Soil

Family Alleges Toxic Exposure

By Arthur Santana, Washington Post Staff Writer

A Northwest Washington family yesterday became the first to sue concerning toxic munitions from World War I left beneath a large swath of their Spring Valley neighborhood.

The suit, on behalf of Thomas and Kathi Loughlin, and their children, Nora, 7, and Hannah, 5, claims that the family was exposed to toxic chemicals for several years without warning. Kathi Loughlin developed a brain tumor in 1997, and doctors said they could not rule out a connection. Although the tumor was removed, apparently successfully, the family's pediatrician warned that the children should not return to the house, said the attorney, Patrick M. Regan. The civil suit for \$32 million, filed in U.S. District Court, alleges that the U.S. government, American University, the U.S. Army and four developers were aware of highly toxic substances under the house at 4825 Glenbrook Rd. and failed to tell the family about it.

Other Spring Valley residents say they think they may have been exposed to high levels of toxic substances, such as arsenic.

The Loughlins lived in the house for six years after purchasing it in 1994. It sits atop a site, once owned by the university, that the Army used to test chemical weapons during World War I, the suit says. Since March of last year, the Army has recovered more than 200 chemical weapons and related items, including several corroded 55-gallon drums -- empty but having signs of leakage -- on the Loughlins' property, Regan said.

Numerous Spring Valley residents have said they worry there might be a link between illnesses in their families and the presence of high levels of arsenic.

"Before the litigation is concluded, it will involve hundreds of homeowners," Regan said.

This month, an analysis by the D.C. Department of Health said that the Spring Valley neighborhood has not experienced an abnormal number of deaths from cancer.

Using 10 years of data for a demographically similar neighborhood -- Potomac in Montgomery County -- the study found "no substantial difference in the cancer mortality rate," officials said.

Regan questions the study. "They never contacted my clients," he said. "Whatever methodology they used was fatally flawed."

In July, American University filed an \$86.6 million claim against the Army for damages from use of the campus as a chemical testing ground and for cleanup costs. That claim is pending, university spokesman Todd Sedmak said. He would not comment on the Loughlins' suit.

A spokesman for the Army Corps of Engineers and others involved in the suit were unavailable or could not be reached to comment last night.

The Loughlins, who now live in the 4800 block of Foxhall Crescent NW, also could not be reached.

Arsenic contamination was found in some soil on campus last year. The Corps of Engineers announced in 1995 that it had cleaned up the problem, but under pressure from residents and city officials, its teams returned to sample the soil of every property in a 661-acre area. As of Dec. 11, it had tested 1,194 of the 1,525 properties and had found that 140 had arsenic levels greater than the threshold set by officials for conducting additional tests.

The Loughlins were not told about the contamination until 1999 and were reassured that the levels were not dangerous, Kathi Loughlin has said. The family first filed a claim with the Army last year, seeking more than \$2 million. The Army did not act on it, and the family sued to force a response.

In about 1990, the university sold the property to four developers, Limited Partnership, Brandt Inc., Lawrence Brandt and Robert Brandt, the suit says. In 1992, five construction workers at the Loughlins' homesite were overcome by toxic fumes and required medical care, the suit says.

Two years later, when the Loughlins moved in, the Corps of Engineers tested the soil on the property. "And although these soil samples revealed dangerous levels of arsenic . . . the Army did not disclose this information. . . .," the suit states.

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Washington Post

January 29, 2002

Pg. 2

Survey Finds Counties Unready For Bioterrorism

Official Says More Federal Aid Needed

By Bill Miller, Washington Post Staff Writer

Most of the nation's county public health departments are not adequately prepared to respond to a biological or chemical terrorist attack, with the biggest deficiencies found in small communities and rural areas, according to a survey released yesterday.

"Many departments are so under-funded, understaffed and under-trained that they are not ready to effectively handle a major crisis," said Javier Gonzales, president of the National Association of Counties, which commissioned the survey.

The study, which involved 300 of the nation's 3,066 counties, highlights the need for federal assistance in dealing with the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks, the anthrax outbreak and the potential for additional terrorist strikes, Gonzales said.

Only 9.7 percent of the counties said they were fully prepared to deal with a biological attack and only 5 percent said they were ready to handle public health needs arising from the use of chemical weapons, Gonzales said.

Although most county health departments had taken some steps to get ready, 21 percent reported they weren't prepared at all for a bioterrorism crisis, and 43 percent said they weren't prepared at all for chemical warfare, he said.

Most counties also reported having inadequate policies to enforce quarantines.

"This is a terrible situation," Gonzales, a county commissioner from Santa Fe, N.M., told an audience at the National Press Club. "Improvements must be made immediately, and a long-term plan for rebuilding the system must be developed," he said.

Congress approved a bioterrorism funding package that includes \$865 million this year for state and local health departments.

President Bush plans to include \$6 billion for bioterrorism prevention overall in the budget for fiscal 2003, but officials have not said how much of that money will reach states, cities and counties.

Gonzales also called on the Bush administration to sell "homeland security bonds" and offer a \$1 income tax checkoff on federal returns whose proceeds would go to state and local governments.

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Hartford Courant

January 25, 2002

Pg. 17

Perot Urges Halt To Vaccine

New Anthrax Shot Can Be Developed

By Thomas D. Williams, Courant Staff Writer

H. Ross Perot, the Texas multimillionaire who has donated millions to assist research into Persian Gulf War veterans' illnesses, testified Thursday that the Pentagon should end mandatory use of the controversial anthrax vaccine.

The vaccine is supposed to protect service members from a biological warfare agent. It is being proposed for eventual voluntary use to protect the U.S. population from terrorist attacks. Most recently federal postal and congressional workers, who may have been exposed to anthrax spores sent through the mails, have been offered the vaccine on an experimental basis, but relatively few have opted to take it.

Testifying at a congressional hearing chaired by Rep. Christopher Shays, R-4th District, Perot said the vaccine hasn't been proved safe or effective. He added that the Pentagon should stop purchasing it from the manufacturer, BioPort Corp. of Lansing, Mich.

Shays and other members of his committee have already called for a halt in the vaccine's use until it can be proved safe and effective.

The Pentagon stopped the six-shot series with annual boosters because of a vaccine shortage. It has not announced plans for continued use of the vaccine.

"BioPort is a mess, they should not be able to keep that contract," said Perot. "They have never accomplished any of their goals. The damage this [vaccine] has done to the military is unbelievable."

Hundreds of military pilots, trained at a cost of at least \$6 million each, have left military service rather than be forced to take the vaccine, he said.

Kim Brennan-Root, a BioPort spokeswoman, did not comment Thursday, but she has previously defended the vaccine and scientific testing showing it to be safe and effective.

At the hearing, Dr. William Winkenwerder, assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, said: "The [U.S. Food and Drug Administration] believes the vaccine is safe and effective. They are satisfied with the quality of the vaccine. ... Is it a perfect vaccine? I would say, 'No.' It is not the same technology we would use today."

This month, BioPort passed an FDA inspection that could, with further approvals, allow the manufacturer to start selling its own vaccine for the first time. BioPort has been using old vaccine lots it obtained from the previous manufacturer, Michigan Biologic Products Institute, a part of Michigan's health department. Federal health officials allowed a good deal of that vaccine to be used after the normal three-year shelf life had expired. Some lots were permitted for use after six years or longer.

At Thursday's hearing, Shays asked officials of the General Accounting Office, the federal watchdog agency, to obtain results of the latest inspection reports on BioPort and its vaccine for the committee to examine.

"I've talked to all the Tigers [pilots] who have been damaged [by the vaccine]," said Perot. "The medical evidence is overwhelming, you just cannot give them this shot," Perot said. He pledged his own money in funding research to develop a new safe and effective vaccine, a task that he said should take no longer than a year.

Nancy R. Kingsbury, the GAO's director of applied research and methods, said it is apparent that "someone has to accept the responsibility of better monitoring of adverse reactions to the vaccine." The FDA, with help from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Pentagon, is responsible for monitoring adverse reactions.

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Insight Magazine
February 18, 2002

Rogues Lending Hand To Saddam

By Kenneth R. Timmerman

On the surface the contracts sounded innocent enough. It was the suppliers who first caught the attention of U.S. intelligence officials. Some of China's top arms producers have won approval from the U.N. Sanctions Committee in New York City to sell products worth tens of millions of dollars to Saddam Hussein's Iraq. With winks and nods from the Chinese government and from complacent U.N. members such as France and Russia, the Chinese have taken advantage of an enormous loophole in the international effort to prevent Saddam from rebuilding his weapons industry.

The "oil-for-food" (OFF) program initially was devised to alleviate the suffering of the Iraqi population by allowing the sale of "humanitarian" goods using money from Iraqi oil sales. Since then, as a result of international pressure, many restrictions on the type of equipment that can be sold have been lifted. Under Saddam's control since 1997, and with witting foreign partners, this U.N. program has become a blatant tool of rearmament that some have compared to the League of Nations sanctions that were supposed to prevent Adolf Hitler from reopening German war factories in the Ruhr valley in the 1930s.

U.N. member nations are supposed to present contracts by national companies to a special committee for approval, which in theory vets the contracts to ensure they contain no military goods. But close observers say the obvious escapes them.

Take China North Industries Corp. (NORINCO). Typical deals with Iraq by this state-owned giant include a \$2 million shipment of chlorine gas (ostensibly for water purification), a \$1.1 million contract to sell polyester fibers and dozens of smaller shipments of assorted chemicals, according to a six-page, single-spaced list of U.N.-approved Chinese contracts with Iraq obtained by Insight. Why would the company described by U.S. China experts as "the PLA's (People's Liberation Army) arms manufacturer" be selected by Iraq as the privileged supplier of "adult milk" worth \$7,293,362.34 in December 2000? And why would this contract fall under Phase VIII of Iraq's U.N.-approved program to rebuild its oil industry?

The United Nations wouldn't say. "We don't disclose lists of contracts by country or by supplier," a spokesperson for the Office of the Iraq Program tells Insight. But the track record of Iraq's suppliers is not reassuring.

"China is the No. 1 proliferator of weapons of mass destruction, with a history of secret arms deals," says Bill Triplett, a China analyst for the U.S. Senate and author of recent best sellers on China, *Year of the Rat* and *Red Dragon Rising*. "One has to wonder with these contracts: What is in the box? Is it the declared commodity, or something else?"

NORINCO manufactures main battle tanks, field guns and rocket launchers, among other military hardware. Perhaps to confuse the extent of its involvement with Saddam, it designated a regional subsidiary, China North Industries Dalian Corp., to handle a separate shipment of "adult milk" to Iraq worth \$4,625,009.40.

"We're aware of the problem of these Chinese sales, and we constantly work on it," a U.S. diplomat at U.N. headquarters in New York City tells Insight. "Under the oil-for-food program, the selling countries are required to inspect cargo to determine that the shipment corresponds to what it was declared to be."

But officials say that rarely happens with Communist China.

"We are constantly sending diplomatic protests — *démarches* — to the Chinese," a White House official tells Insight. "The Chinese response is typical. First, they come back to us and claim they know nothing about the company involved, even though it was the Chinese government that had to apply for permission for the export with the U.N. Then, if we persist, they say they do know the company but that they are not state-owned, so the government cannot control what they do. If we object again, they say they've checked and the goods are purely civilian."

NORINCO is not the only major Chinese state-owned arms manufacturer currently making large U.N.-approved sales to Saddam. The Chinese Aero-Technology Import-Export Company (CATIC) is selling Iraq everything from detergent, ceiling fans and water pumps to electric generating sets, industrial cranes and medical equipment. CATIC is best known as the designer and manufacturer of Communist China's fighter jets. In October 1999 the company was fined in the United States for illegally diverting sophisticated machine-tools purchased from McDonnell Douglas to a military facility in China.

CATIC has contracted, with U.N. approval, to sell a "meteorological satellite" and "surface-observation" equipment to Iraq. The Iraqi military imported similar equipment, designed to track weather patterns, to help plot accurate trajectories for its ballistic missiles in the late 1980s. "If a contract is approved, we probably feel comfortable with the information we received that it is not to be used for military purposes," the U.S. official at the United Nations tells Insight. But that statement may not reassure everyone.

Even with help from the U.S. intelligence community, outside consultants and the national nuclear laboratories, which employ dozens of skilled analysts of strategic trade, the task of monitoring Iraqi trade is a massive undertaking. The United States and Britain currently have "holds" on 1,892 contracts worth nearly \$5 billion, according to the U.N. Office of the Iraq Program (www.un.org/Depts/oip/latest/wu15Jan02.html). "You object to contracts as often as necessary to get the information that you need," the U.S. official in New York City tells Insight. Most troubling to U.S. officials has been a series of contracts during the last four years for fiber-optics equipment that Iraq and its Chinese suppliers have billed as telecommunications gear. "We know this equipment has been used to reinforce and upgrade Iraq's national air-defense grid," a White House official says. "These shipments have allowed Iraq to threaten U.S. flight crews. This is a clear-cut case of a violation by China. These sales put U.S. lives at risk."

CATIC won approval from the United Nations in July 2000 to sell \$2 million worth of "cables." U.S. officials believe they were strategic fiber-optic cables used for secure data and communications links between national command and control centers, long-range search radar, targeting radar and missile-launch units.

Documents obtained by Insight show that China National Electric Wire & Cable sold Iraq \$6,104,000 worth of unspecified "communications equipment/supplies," while another \$15.5 million worth of goods came from the China National Technical Import Telecommunications Equipment company.

Intelligence officers working for the opposition Iraqi National Congress (INC) based in northern Iraq penetrated government-controlled areas of the country in 1998 to acquire samples of earlier shipments of cables at the request of the CIA, Insight has learned. "Our guys brought back a three-foot section of the fiber-optic cable," a top INC official said. "Later, we went back and obtained a copy of one of the contracts."

This damning information led the Clinton administration in December 1998 to carry out a four-day bombing campaign in Iraq, known as Desert Fox, that attempted to destroy some of these upgraded air-defense sites. Just weeks after his inauguration, President George W. Bush ordered U.S. fighter-bombers again to strike Iraqi air-defense sites that had been enhanced with Chinese fiber-optics gear. To try to avoid killing Chinese technicians, the February 2001 strikes took place on a weekend, a move that Bush conservatives criticized.

At his first solo press conference as president on Feb. 22, Bush said that evidence of Chinese aid to Iraq's efforts to upgrade its air-defense network had "risen to the level where we are going to send a message to the Chinese." Those messages have been almost constant ever since, officials tell Insight.

Among the companies then named as having aided the Iraqi air-defense effort was Hua Wei Technologies, a shadowy company based in Shenzhen, China, that boasted it had grown from a mid-1990s startup to sales of \$2.66 billion in 2000, thanks to close ties to the Clinton administration and the Chinese military. A Hua Wei subsidiary, Ran Boss Technologies Ltd., has set up high-tech research and procurement centers in Santa Clara, Calif., and in Sunnyvale in the Los Angeles aerospace belt. Neither center has registered to do business in California, although Ran Boss boasts that it employs researchers at its California labs.

Ran Boss and Hua Wei are listed as "Gold Sponsors" of the Silicon Valley Chinese Engineers Association (www.scea.org), which runs job fairs and social and professional events. The association also helps members with immigration and visa problems. From Jan. 29-Feb. 8, 2002, SCEA will play host to a Chinese government delegation from Liaoning Province that is coming to California for the explicit purpose of recruiting "overseas scholars in advancing hometown high-tech industry," according to a recent SCEA announcement. The Chinese communist government refers to expatriate citizens and their descendants as "overseas Chinese" and frequently uses them for intelligence and procurement activities, according to Nicholas Eftimiades, a U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency expert on China. Other U.S. government experts concur.

The OFF program began in 1997 in response to clever Iraqi propaganda that portrayed the international trade embargo imposed on Saddam as having caused the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Iraqi babies from malnutrition and lack of medicine. While Iraqi children indeed were dying of malnutrition, then secretary of state Madeleine Albright and other Clinton officials insisted that Saddam bore the blame, since he was refusing to distribute food and medicines to his people while building billion-dollar palaces for himself and the ruling Baath Party elite.

Albright was right, but the Clinton administration couldn't take the heat and agreed to allow the United Nations to license a vast array of industrial gear for sale to Iraq, aimed at rebuilding Saddam's oil industry, the source of Iraq's wealth. Once Saddam could pump more oil (Iraq now pumps more than 2 million barrels per day), it was only a matter of time before he could buy whatever he wanted from willing trading partners eager to cash in on the inflated prices he was willing to pay for banned goods.

Since the OFF program began operating in October 1997, Iraq has imported more than \$50 billion worth of goods approved by the U.N. Sanctions Committee, said Hasmik Egian, a spokeswoman for the Office of the Iraq Program. Since December 2000, Iraq has demanded that its partners trade not in dollars but in euros as a further enticement to non-American suppliers. The Sanctions Committee nonetheless is supposed to verify each sale to ensure the equipment cannot be used to enhance Saddam's military.

Thanks to this massive infusion of technology, Iraq has begun to rebuild the broad-based industrial machine that allowed its military engineers to churn out ballistic missiles and bio/chem weapons, and to design a workable nuclear device before the 1990-91 Persian Gulf War.

An October 2001 analysis by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), obtained by Insight, highlights a large number of potentially troubling deals that have clear strategic-weapons potential (see "U.N. Aid Feeds Iraqi Weapons Program," Dec. 31, 2001). These included:

- *a "powder mixer granulator," which U.S. officials believe could be used to process dried anthrax spores into grains capable of being delivered from ordinary crop dusters;

- *10,000 liters of Methidathion 40, a pesticide that LLNL reviewers pointed out was "only two or more steps from being VX," a powerful nerve agent that can kill humans instantaneously with a single drop;

- *1,500 kilograms of Ophenidrine Citrate BP98, which LLNL reviewers noted "would be a good crowd-control nerve agent or perhaps [have] tactical military use";

- *large quantities of aluminum-alloy tubes and stainless-steel pipes and fittings, which could be used for uranium-enrichment "cascade-piping systems";

- *accelerometers, vibrometers and stroboscopes, which the LLNL experts commented were "nicely suited to gas centrifuge research and development use," in addition to use for Iraq's ballistic-missile test programs; and

- *oil-well logging equipment and "radiological sources," which were used by Iraq before the gulf war as nuclear-weapons initiators.

The LLNL study reveals another long-familiar aspect of Saddam's military-procurement effort: the widespread use of previously unidentified trading companies based in neighboring Arab countries, where Iraqi intelligence and procurement officers are known to be particularly active.

Jordan led the pack, winning 663 contracts worth \$1,678,556,733, including contracts of concern for direct application to Iraq's chemical-weapons programs. The United Arab Emirates was next, with 503 contracts worth \$1,430,100,703. Egypt was third, with 184 contracts worth \$1,396,085,582. France was the only other supplier nation to top \$1 billion in sales, with China (\$884 million) and Russia (\$831 million) close behind.

The LLNL study noted that most contracts went to ministries involved in industry or infrastructure: Industry and Minerals (20 percent), Oil (19 percent), Transportation (9 percent) and Interior (5 percent). Iraq used its Ministry of Industry and Minerals during the 1980s as a major conduit for military-technology purchases from overseas, when it was more aptly known as the Ministry of Industry and Military Industrialization.

Is Iraq becoming a threat once again? Most experts point out that constant bombardment and the difficulty in acquiring spare parts seriously has degraded Iraq's military. But the real threat remains Iraq's unconventional

weapons. "If Iraq were to acquire nuclear weapons, Saddam could be-come unassailable," says former Pentagon official Stephen Bryen. "So far, no one in the administration is suggesting that Iraq has reached that point." Not yet. *Kenneth R. Timmerman is a senior writer for Insight.*

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New York Times
January 30, 2002
Pg. 1

In Speech, Bush Calls Iraq, Iran And North Korea 'An Axis Of Evil'

By David E. Sanger

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29 — President Bush told Americans tonight that "our war against terror is only beginning" and sent new warnings to terrorists around the world and to three nations — Iran, Iraq and North Korea.

Using unusually strong language, he charged that "states like these and their terrorist allies constitute an axis of evil," choosing a word once used to describe the alliance of Germany, Italy and Japan during World War II.

In his first State of the Union address, Mr. Bush seemed to be outlining a rationale for future action, if he deems it necessary, not only against terrorists but against any hostile states developing weapons of mass destruction.

The president stressed the need to act quickly, when the country and the world are united against terrorism and the nations that support it.

"We will be deliberate, yet time is not on our side," he said. "I will not wait on events, while dangers gather. I will not stand by, as peril draws closer and closer. The United States of America will not permit the world's most dangerous regimes to threaten us with the world's most destructive weapons."

In haunting words of warning, Mr. Bush said American intelligence now believed that tens of thousands of potential terrorists have been trained by Al Qaeda in Afghanistan since 1996 and "are now spread throughout the world like ticking time bombs — set to go off without warning." [Transcript, Page A22.]

Mr. Bush vowed to use the national unity forged by the war against terrorism toward the twin causes of creating jobs for those worst hit by the recession and promoting a spirit of national service.

He offered few words of optimism about America's economic outlook, sounding more cautious about the prospects for a turnaround than the Federal Reserve chairman, Alan Greenspan, did in an appearance before Congress on Thursday.

The president appeared both vigorous and confident tonight; gone were the deep lines that marked his face during the first month after the attacks. More comfortable than ever in the formal setting of the House, he was mostly free of the verbal stumbles that sometimes mark his speech, and he struck tones of deep passion when he talked of the war, its victims and its effects on the national soul.

Mr. Bush filled the spectator seats with heroes and widows of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and their aftermath, symbols of an America that he asserted was already prevailing over its enemies.

He described a country made stronger by tragedy — "those of us who have lived through these challenging times have been changed by them," he said — and he called on all adults to devote two years or 4,000 hours of their lives to volunteer activities. He talked of an expanded Peace Corps and a new USA Freedom Corps, an umbrella organization that will gather existing public service organizations with new ones intended to help guard American shores and rebuild blighted cities.

But Mr. Bush's calls for lower taxes, expanded trade and new energy production seemed to pale next to the emotional center of his speech, a celebration of America's slow recovery from Sept. 11.

He expanded his definition of America's immediate defensive goals, saying he would soon deal with countries that make the nuclear and biological weapons that terrorists covet.

He vowed that their efforts to develop nuclear and biological weapons would be stopped.

Disclosing new American intelligence findings, Mr. Bush said that in digging through Al Qaeda's hideouts, "we have found diagrams of American nuclear power plants and public water facilities," along with instructions for manufacturing chemical weapons and maps of major American cities and their landmarks. A senior intelligence official, reached after the speech tonight, said the documents came from Al Qaeda homes and caves in Afghanistan, but the official would not talk about when they were acquired or what cities or plants appeared on the diagrams.

Despite the chilling discovery, Mr. Bush tried, mostly through symbolism, to convey the sense that the United States now understands its enemy and feels a new confidence.

Vice President Dick Cheney sat behind him, making tonight the first time the men have appeared together at a state event since the terrorist attacks. And sitting with Laura Bush were an array of men and women who symbolized the battle, including Shannon Spann, the widow of the C.I.A. officer killed in Afghanistan, and the two flight attendants, Cristina Jones and Hermis Moutardier, who helped seize a terrorist suspect on a flight from Paris before he could light explosives in his shoes.

But there were subjects Mr. Bush avoided. He never uttered the name Osama bin Laden, who has eluded capture and remains the subject of an intense manhunt but is also a symbol of what remains incomplete in Mr. Bush's campaign in Afghanistan.

Nor did he mention the Enron Corporation, the collapsing energy concern once run by one of Mr. Bush's biggest political supporters, Kenneth L. Lay. Instead, he talked of the need to revise pension laws so that workers who "save all their lives should not have to risk losing everything if their company fails." And he called for "stricter accounting standards and tougher disclosure requirements" that would make corporations "more accountable to employees and shareholders" — subjects that Mr. Bush never talked about in his past addresses to the country or in his presidential campaign.

In the Democratic Party's response, Representative Richard A. Gephardt, the minority leader, was far more specific about Enron and its many political connections.

Mr. Bush did not mention the dispute over how to deal with Al Qaeda and Taliban fighters held in Guantánamo Bay, which has divided his administration.

He never talked about the tinderbox of the Middle East, though his top aides said tonight that he had discussed the issue so much in recent weeks that they did not believe further discussion was necessary.

Tonight's State of the Union speech was Mr. Bush's first, but the appearance was his third before a joint session of Congress.

The first was a bit more than a month into his presidency, when Mr. Bush delivered his budget message. He had celebrated "a balanced budget, big surpluses, a military that is second to none, a country at peace." A year later, the balanced budget and big surpluses are gone, the military has proven itself in an unconventional war, and the peace has been shattered.

His second appearance, on Sept. 20, came when the shock of the terrorist attacks was fresh. That speech — one a member of his staff said today was "a moment that we knew we couldn't match tonight" — set the nation on the path to war.

From the very beginning of his speech tonight, Mr. Bush tried to capture the odd moment in history he found himself in — a moment of soaring popularity despite a significant recession, the beginning of a war with no end point.

"Our nation is at war, our economy is in recession, and the civilized world faces unprecedented dangers," he said. Then, repeating the declaration that virtually all of his predecessors have uttered in one form or another, he said, "Yet the state of our union has never been stronger."

He spoke of liberating Afghanistan in three months, and pointed to the country's interim chairman, Hamid Karzai, who sat in the balcony along with his minister of women's affairs, Dr. Sima Samar.

Mr. Bush pulled at the heartstrings with tales from the wreckage of the World Trade Center, recounting the story of a little boy who "left his football with a note for his lost father: 'Dear Daddy, Please take this to Heaven. I don't want to play football until I can play with you again someday.'"

And he described, vaguely, the outlines of the expanding war: American troops in the Philippines to help root out terrorist cells, and a Navy patrolling the Horn of Africa to block weapons and stop Al Qaeda terrorists from seeking refuge in Somalia.

But as Mr. Bush described the world as his battlefield, he gave no hint of where he would next turn his attentions. For all his talk about the threat posed by Iraq, he made no threats and set no deadlines, and he never discussed the objections his closest allies have raised to taking the war there.

His discussion of the nuclear and biological threat posed by hostile nations was clearly intended to build support for action there, though his aides said tonight that he had not meant to imply that military force was his only option.

"There are other instruments, including economic ones," a senior official told reporters tonight.

By comparison, Mr. Bush discussed relatively few new weapons in his war on recession. "We will prevail in the war, and we will defeat this recession," he said, a politically significant effort to link the two.

As he has done so often in recent weeks, Mr. Bush focused his economic discussion on job creation. Yet he seemed to have little new to offer in the way of a legislative agenda.

He called for passage of his energy plan, one set back by questions about whether Enron influenced its development in Mr. Cheney's office. "This Congress must act to encourage conservation, promote technology build infrastructure, and it must act to increase energy production at home," he said.

He had invited the president of the Teamsters, James P. Hoffa, to join the guests — chiefly for his support of drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, which would create thousands of union jobs.

He asked the Senate to give him authority to negotiate trade accords, as the House did last year. But he devoted only a paragraph to tax policy and stopped well short of his vow early this month that Congress would halt last year's tax cut package "over my dead body."

Tonight came the far milder version: "For the sake of long-term growth and to help American plan for the future, let's make these tax cuts permanent." He did, however, indirectly invoke a nontraditional economist — Goldilocks — to defend last year's tax cut.

"Last year, some in this hall thought my tax relief plan was too small," he said, "and some thought it was too big. But when those checks arrived in the mail, most Americans thought tax relief was just right." The Congress erupted in self-congratulatory applause.

But toward the end of his speech, Mr. Bush ventured into new territory, when he said Sept. 11 had brought about a cultural change in America.

"For too long our culture has said, 'If it feels good, do it,' " he said. "Now America is embracing a new ethic and a new creed: Let's roll." His preferred path to creating that culture, he said, was volunteer service, and he vowed to create a new USA Freedom Corps that would extend "American compassion throughout the world."

Mr. Bush talked in general terms of aiding the developing world, and particularly the Islamic world, to achieve both economic and educational development.

"We have no intention of imposing our culture," Mr. Bush said, "But America will always stand firm for the nonnegotiable demands of human dignity: the rule of law, limits on the power of the state, respect for women, private property, free speech, equal justice and religious tolerance."

His list was telling because it demonstrated that his plans, at their core, involve creating a world that is in America's image. But he said that America's enemies have less to sell: "They embrace tyranny and death as a cause and creed. We stand for a different choice, made long ago, on the day of our founding. We affirm it again today."

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Los Angeles Times

January 30, 2002

Pg. 1

Troops Uncovered Diagrams For Major U.S. Targets, Bush Says

Terror: Documents analyze nuclear plants, water systems and landmarks, he reveals.

By Josh Meyer and Aaron Zitner, Times Staff Writers

WASHINGTON -- American forces searching Al Qaeda hide-outs in Afghanistan have discovered diagrams of American nuclear facilities, water treatment plants and landmarks, President Bush said Tuesday, shedding new light on the types of terrorist threats facing the United States.

The disclosures, made during Bush's first State of the Union address, provided the most detailed glimpse to date of the intelligence gathered in Afghanistan since the collapse of the Taliban regime.

Bush also said "tens of thousands" of Al Qaeda terrorists had been trained at the Afghanistan camps and remain deployed throughout the world--a far higher figure than his administration had previously provided.

"Our discoveries in Afghanistan confirmed our worst fears, and show us the true scope of the task ahead," Bush said. "We have found diagrams of American nuclear power plants and public water facilities, detailed instructions for making chemical weapons, surveillance maps of American cities and thorough descriptions of landmarks in America and throughout the world."

A senior Bush administration official described the evidence as previously classified and significant, and said it has alarmed the president's inner circle since it was found during the military campaign in Afghanistan.

By making the information public, the official said, the president was attempting to brace the American people for a continued state of high alert and the potential for more attacks.

"It's not been made public before," said the administration official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "We had circumstantial evidence in the past of this, that they were directly targeting America: monuments and things like that. But now we know that it was all true.

"We know from fragmentary intelligence that they were interested in this kind of thing. But the fact that the president has mentioned it in a State of the Union indicates the quality of the evidence," the official said.

Like other counter-terrorism experts in and out of government, the official said Bush's remarks served to underscore the continuing threat of Al Qaeda and its global network of semi-autonomous terrorist cells, and to bolster his calls for additional military and homeland security funding.

"The lead-up time to an Al Qaeda attack is measured in months if not years, so it is likely that additional attacks are already in the operational stages," the official added. "This is a war that did not end with the elimination of the Taliban, and we will all have to prepare ourselves for that. There will be additional losses."

White House spokesman Scott McClellan declined to elaborate on Bush's remarks except to say that authorities around the nation have been kept abreast of any terrorist threats gleaned from the evidence found in the rubble of Afghanistan, as well as from interrogations of battlefield detainees and other sources of information.

"The law enforcement community throughout America has been made aware of these threats," McClellan said.

In his 48-minute speech, Bush portrayed Al Qaeda as bent on the mass killings of Americans through attacks on the nation's vulnerable points.

Nuclear plants, water treatment facilities and landmarks have long been described as potentially rich targets for terrorists.

In testimony last summer, Ahmed Ressam, who was later convicted in a plot to bomb Los Angeles International Airport, said he had been trained in Al Qaeda camps to gauge the vulnerability of American power plants, utilities and landmarks with the intention of bombing them to cause the most casualties. Ultimately, he settled on LAX, but the plot was thwarted when Ressam was arrested in December 1999 at the U.S.-Canadian border with explosives in his rental car.

Bush alluded repeatedly to the ongoing dangers posed by terrorists.

"What we have found in Afghanistan confirms that, far from ending there, our war against terror is only beginning," said Bush, who used the speech to disclose other previously classified findings gleaned from the four-month battle against the Taliban and Osama bin Laden's Al Qaeda terrorist network.

"Most of the 19 men who hijacked planes on Sept. 11 were trained in Afghanistan's camps, and so were tens of thousands of others," Bush said. "Thousands of dangerous killers, schooled in the methods of murder, often supported by outlaw regimes, are now spread throughout the world like ticking time bombs, set to go off without warning."

Neither Bush nor his senior aides disclosed specifics of the intelligence findings gained in Afghanistan, such as which American cities may have been targeted or at what time.

But he did say tens of thousands of "trained terrorists" are plotting attacks in at least a dozen countries.

"A terrorist underworld--including groups like Hamas, Hezbollah, Islamic Jihad and Jaish-e-Mohammed--operates in remote jungles and deserts and hides in the centers of large cities," Bush said, adding that a priority for the United States is to stop them from using chemical, biological and nuclear weapons.

One senior administration official said 100,000 terrorists had been trained in Afghan camps and that 10,000 to 15,000 of them have become Al Qaeda fighters.

Lt. Col. Ralph Peters, a former Army intelligence officer, said Bush's disclosures indicated credible threats.

"There was enough of it to make it clear that these people absolutely had the intention of attacking these facilities if they could," Peters said.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and other Pentagon officials have previously said that information gleaned from Al Qaeda caves and homes has included address books, computer disks, drawings and documents that allude to potential attacks.

One Al Qaeda haven in Kabul was found to have references to chemical weapons and U.S. military manuals, among other things. Nevertheless, defense officials have said they have not yet found any direct evidence of weapons of mass destruction in more than four dozen laboratories and other facilities that drew their attention.

At the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, spokesman William Beecher said he was unaware of any "specific, credible" threat against any nuclear power plant.

But Beecher said that until recently, information about plant design and vulnerability was available from the industry and the commission itself. Some nuclear power companies might have posted plant diagrams on their Web sites before Sept. 11, "so to acquire a diagram might not have been all that difficult," Beecher said.

Moreover, reports on plant vulnerabilities were available in the commission's public reading room and at other libraries, Beecher said. Those reports were removed after Sept. 11.

At the Nuclear Energy Institute, the industry's trade group, spokesman Steve Kerekes said the nation's 103 nuclear reactors, located in 31 states, are protected by 5,000 armed private security guards. About a dozen states deployed National Guard troops outside of plants after Sept. 11, but some of them later withdrew the troops.

"We live in a dangerous world. But we are extremely confident that we have a very strong deterrent in place, in terms of the physical design of our facilities, and very well-trained and highly competent security forces on the ground," Kerekes said.

Times staff writers John Hendren and Bob Drogin contributed to this report.

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Washington Post

January 30, 2002

Pg. 1

Pakistan Won't Indict 2 Scientists

By Peter Baker and Kamran Khan, Washington Post Foreign Service

LAHORE, Pakistan, Jan. 29 -- Pakistan has decided not to press criminal charges against two of its nuclear scientists whose reported contacts with Osama bin Laden stirred fears of nuclear terrorism, according to officials and a lawyer involved in the case.

Although Pakistani authorities concluded the scientists violated a secrecy oath during trips into Taliban-controlled Afghanistan, the government decided they would not have been able to give away information necessary to build a bomb. A trial, officials said, would generate further international embarrassment and risk disclosure of Pakistan's nuclear secrets.

"So far every thing that relates to our nuclear program is a state secret," said a senior Pakistani official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "By talking to Osama and his folks in Afghanistan, the two scientists broke their oath to secrecy, yet we were forced to ignore their action in the best interest of the nation."

The scientists, Sultan Bashiruddin Mahmood and Abdul Majid, will remain under government control as part of a deal worked out for their release from strict detention. They are currently living in a safe house in the capital, Islamabad, and restricted in their travels and communications. Mahmood's family, which went to court seeking his release following his arrest last fall, agreed to the arrangement and on Monday withdrew a legal complaint filed here in Lahore, the family's home town.

"There was a settlement. It was a mutual understanding between him and the government," said the family's attorney, Mohammed Ismaeel Qureshy. "They are not prisoners. What was communicated to me was they were under protective custody for their own protection."

Pakistan's president, Gen. Pervez Musharraf, made the decision to forgo prosecution, sources said. But his government assured U.S. officials that they would have access to the scientists for further questioning if requested. U.S. officials have been particularly concerned about the case and participated in previous interrogations. The case was a major subject of a trip to Pakistan by CIA Director George J. Tenet last fall.

In Washington, the CIA said it had no comment on the Pakistani decision.

Mahmood and Majid were detained in October after intelligence reports indicated they might have been helping bin Laden's al Qaeda network obtain a nuclear weapon.

The two scientists, who had just returned from the Taliban stronghold of Kandahar, said they had traveled to Afghanistan only for charitable work. Under questioning, they acknowledged meeting bin Laden and providing detailed answers to his questions about weapons of mass destruction, according to government officials. But they insisted they discussed only their academic knowledge about the enrichment of nuclear material and at no point shared Pakistani nuclear secrets with bin Laden or his lieutenants, the sources said.

Pakistani authorities concluded that the scientists could not have disclosed vital information because they were not involved in the weapons side of the nuclear program. Mahmood, who at one time held top positions at three of Pakistan's most important nuclear facilities, and Majid, a top engineer, left government service in 1999.

Mahmood, like many Pakistani officials before Sept. 11, was a Taliban supporter, but he was forced out after he spoke against signing a nuclear test ban treaty and in favor of helping other Muslim countries with their nuclear programs.

Qureshy, the family attorney, denied that Mahmood met with bin Laden or helped al Qaeda develop nuclear weaponry. "It is not true," he said. "He had no communication with Osama. He headed a philanthropic organization. They said they wanted to help the people of Kabul and Afghanistan."

Government sources disclosed this week that Mahmood and Majid told investigators that Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence agency (ISI) had sanctioned their charity activities and meetings with the Taliban leader, Mohammad Omar. Until Sept. 11, the ISI had been a patron of the Taliban.

Whether the scientists' contention was true or not, Pakistani authorities clearly did not want such issues aired through a court proceeding, even one kept closed to the public. "The trial of these scientists, particularly at this juncture, would have attracted tremendous international media attention," said a senior Pakistani official in explaining the decision not to file charges.

As recently as last month, officials were suggesting strongly that they planned to charge the scientists. Mahmood and Majid were released in mid-December to celebrate with their families the Muslim festival of Eid al-Fitr, the holiday that ends Ramadan, even as government authorities were proposing to Musharraf that they be prosecuted for violating the nation's official secrets act. If charged and convicted, they could have received seven-year prison terms. Officials said at the time that the scientists' Eid furlough would be temporary and that the investigation was continuing.

Little is more precious to Pakistan's government than the secrecy of its nuclear program. Pakistan first tested underground nuclear devices in 1998, shortly after its arch-rival India conducted a test. The fact that both countries have nuclear weapons capability has made the subcontinent a flash point, particularly during the recent tension over the disputed region of Kashmir and a terrorist attack on the Indian Parliament in New Delhi.

Analysts have said they believe Pakistan has enough nuclear material to assemble 30 to 40 warheads, and it has test-fired intermediate-range missiles that could be used to launch them. However, officials and specialists said Pakistan keeps its warheads and missiles stored separately and has not moved to "mate" them with an eye toward using them during the current crisis.

Khan reported from Karachi, Pakistan.

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New York Times

January 30, 2002

Military Analysis

Pointing Finger, Bush Broadens His 'Doctrine'

By Michael R. Gordon

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29 — In reviewing the dangers that confront the United States, President Bush tonight laid the basis for an ambitious campaign of diplomatic pressure and potential military action against Iraq and other hostile nations that are seeking to develop weapons of mass destruction.

Following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States, the Bush administration's principal goal has been to dismantle the Qaeda terrorist network and to topple the Taliban rulers who gave it sanctuary.

The president also indicated his readiness to take the fight against international terrorists to the Philippines, the Middle East and Africa, and renewed warnings against governments that shield terrorists, invoking what has come to be known as the Bush doctrine.

But tonight the president significantly broadened that doctrine, expanding it to include states that might threaten the United States with weapons of mass destruction.

Terrorism, he argued, was not the paramount danger facing the United States. Equally worrisome, he insisted, were efforts by Iraq, Iran and North Korea to develop nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. Mr. Bush described those dangers as so great that he seemed to be building an argument in some cases for potential, pre-emptive military action.

"I will not wait on events while dangers gather," he vowed. "I will not stand by as peril draws closer and closer. The United States will not permit the world's most dangerous regimes to threaten us with the world's most destructive weapons."

It was the strongest oratory that the president has used to date to describe Iraq's pursuit of weapons of mass destruction and the United States' determination to neutralize that threat. The Clinton administration initially

referred to Iraq, Iran and North Korea as "rogue states" and later shifted to a milder characterization, "states of concern."

In contrast, Mr. Bush cast them as the essence of evil. He described their pursuit of weapons of mass destruction as an imminent danger that needed to be dealt with quickly as well as decisively. Or as Mr. Bush put it, "We will be deliberate, yet time is not on our side."

Senior civilian and military officials say the Bush administration is only in the beginning stages of trying to figure out how to deal with Iraq. There is no consensus among senior administration officials, and Mr. Bush tonight did not explicitly refer to a military campaign.

But his description of the threat was so urgent and his call to action so stark that he has essentially accepted the hawks' definition of the problem. After deferring Iraq while the administration concentrated on its war in Afghanistan, Saddam Hussein has now been pushed toward the top of Washington's foreign policy agenda.

"He has laid down a new marker," said Ivo Daalder, a foreign policy specialist at the Brookings Institution. "The hard-liners have been arguing that after Sept. 11 it is intolerable to live in a world in which Iraq, Iran and North Korea have weapons of mass destruction. Bush has now fully embraced this paradigm. He has made clear that this either these regimes or their weapons capabilities must go."

For the first year of the Bush presidency, his administration has been torn over the Iraq issue. The debate has largely turned on two questions: how urgent the Iraqi threat is, and whether it must be dealt with militarily or contained by economic and diplomatic measures.

Pentagon civilians, most notably Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz, have urged that a military campaign be planned to topple the Hussein government. They have been backed by staunch conservatives like Richard Perle, who have argued that time is of the essence. The United States, the conservatives have argued, must put an end to the Iraqi leadership before it develops nuclear weapons or threatens American and its allies with biological and chemical arms.

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell, in contrast, has put the emphasis on containing Iraqi power and relying on economic sanctions. He has drawn support from foreign policy experts who have argued that the Iraqi threat is not as urgent as combating terrorism. Many allies, those specialists assert, oppose a military campaign to unseat Mr. Hussein, and the United States needs the cooperation of those governments to gather intelligence and pursue Al Qaeda and other terrorists.

While many elements of Mr. Bush's Iraq policy remain unclear, he sided with the hawks who argue that time is running out and that the Iraqi danger cannot be deferred. Mr. Bush's speech was not one that the State Department would have drafted.

In his broad-brush account of proliferation, Mr. Bush also accepted the hard-line characterization of North Korea and Iran. He complained that North Korea was "arming with missiles" but failed to note that Pyongyang had imposed a moratorium on the testing of long-range missiles. As a result of the test ban, North Korea has yet to test an intercontinental-range missile that could deliver a nuclear payload to the United States.

He denounced Iran's pursuit of nuclear arms and its support of terrorism. But he declined to highlight Iran's cooperation at the talks in Bonn on fashioning a post-Taliban government, cooperation that has been underscored by the State Department.

How precisely Mr. Bush plans to stop the Iraqi, Iranian and North Korean weapons is still unclear. There will certainly be many debates within his administration over strategy and tactics. Military action against Iran or North Korea would be far more problematic than strikes against Iraq.

But while the all-important details are unclear, the goal is clearer than ever. Tonight, Mr. Bush not only celebrated the successes in his war against terrorism. He dramatically expanded the mission.

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Washington Post

January 30, 2002

Pg. E5

Firm's Anti-Nerve-Gas Device Approved

Meridian of Columbia to Sell U.S., Allies an Injector That Delivers Antidote

By Terence Chea, Washington Post Staff Writer

Meridian Medical Technologies Inc. of Columbia and the U.S. Army announced yesterday that they won approval from the Food and Drug Administration to sell a medical device that can be used to protect military personnel against chemical attack.

The Antidote Treatment Nerve Gas Agent Auto-injector is an improved version of Meridian's current anti-nerve-gas device, which allows users to inject themselves with medicine if exposed to nerve gas.

The newly approved device was developed through a collaboration between Meridian and the U.S. Army Medical Research & Materiel Command at Fort Detrick in Frederick. The Army submitted the application for the new device to the FDA last year and received approval on Jan. 17, said FDA spokesman Brad Stone.

Meridian, which holds patents on the product, will manufacture the auto-injectors at its St. Louis factory this year and sell them to its military customers.

Meridian makes pen-like devices called auto-injectors that allow users to self-administer precise doses of medicine. The company's best-selling product is an auto-injector that delivers antidotes to nerve gas, the most common type of chemical weapon.

The company has contracts to supply the nerve gas antidotes and auto-injectors to the Department of Defense, the Department of Health and Human Services, and other government agencies. It also sells them to militaries of NATO countries.

"These products can save soldiers' lives on the battlefield," said Coleen Martinez, deputy commander of the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity.

Meridian's stock price rose sharply after the Sept. 11 attacks as investors bet the company would receive more orders for its antidotes as government agencies increased counterterrorism spending. In November, the company announced it received \$6 million in orders for its nerve gas antidotes under a federal government homeland security program.

Currently, military personnel carry two separate injection devices that contain two types of antidotes, atropine and praladoxime chloride, which are needed to counter nerve gas exposure.

The new device can deliver both types of antidotes in one injection. It is smaller, lighter and more user-friendly than Meridian's current product, company officials said.

"The benefit of this product to the army is that the soldier only carries one injector," said James H. Miller, Meridian's president and chief executive. "We believe this will be the future not only for our U.S. military but for foreign military customers as well."

Miller said he expected the new product would eventually generate significant revenue for the company, but did not make sales projections.

Meridian shares fell \$1.32, or 6 percent, on the Nasdaq Stock Market yesterday to close at \$21.53, well above its 52-week low of \$8.50 but below its December high of \$29.50.

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Aerospace Daily
January 30, 2002

Seven More WMD Civil Support Teams Certified, DOD Says

Seven more Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) civil support teams have been certified, the Department of Defense announced Jan. 28, leaving DOD just eight teams shy of the 32 authorized by Congress.

DOD already certified all 10 teams authorized in the 1999 National Defense Appropriations Act. Another 17 teams were authorized in FY 2000. Including the eight certified teams announced Jan. 28, DOD has a total of 14 of the 17 authorized for FY 2000 and is organizing the five teams authorized in FY 2001.

Each WMD civil support team consists of 22 full-time members of the Army National Guard or the Air National Guard, according to the DOD. The teams are intended to aid first responders on short notice, providing immediate assistance without the need for an initial federal response.

Members of the team receive 15 months of training in dealing with radiological, chemical and biological threats and are subdivided into medical assessment, logistic support, and communications groups. The secretary of defense must certify that the teams have both the proper training and proper equipment to perform their support functions.

The teams receive federal funding and training, but as members of the National Guard, are under the command of the state governors.

Until January 2000, there were only 10 civil support teams - then known as rapid assessment and initial detection teams - prepared to operate in regions determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). That month, then-Secretary of Defense William Cohen renamed the teams "WMD civil support teams," and added teams to broaden geographic coverage.

In adding the teams, states were selected for teams according to their population and geographic location, according to the DOD. WMD teams are also designated to cover states that do not have their own teams.

The 17 states selected in 2000 were: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Virginia.

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Washington Times

January 30, 2002

Pg. 1

Super Bowl Security Blitz

By Eric Fisher, The Washington Times

The list of potential security disasters at Super Bowl XXXVI, to be played Sunday in New Orleans, is endless. The playbook for preventing those disasters is simple: use every effective security method known to man.

"We have made security our top priority," said Milt Ahlerich, the NFL's vice president of security. "[Commissioner Paul Tagliabue] said, 'If you need it, buy it,' and we did."

The Super Bowl has always been a high-security event, and the war on terrorism led the Secret Service to declare it a national security event in November. But the threat of terror, a budget exceeding \$6 million, a laundry list of planned security initiatives, and the participation of more than a dozen federal, state and local agencies adds up to what is being called the most security-conscious event ever in sports — at least until the Winter Olympics start next week.

The Super Bowl and all its related events and parties last a week. But New Orleans this week in essence has become an oversized airport, as all the security elements air travelers now experience, and then some, are in place in the Big Easy. That means X-ray machines, undercover officers, armed guards, metal detectors, and an eight-foot concrete and wire-link fence barrier around the Louisiana Superdome.

It also means an ongoing struggle within NFL offices to strike a proper balance between the usual festivity of the event, New Orleans' legendary anything-goes party reputation and the serious importance of the security operation. That balancing act becomes more difficult as Mardi Gras already is closing in on its frenetic Fat Tuesday finale Feb. 5.

"We don't want security to be the focus of the game," said Secret Service spokesman Jim Mackin. "The ordinary fan may see an increase of security around the game, but the majority of what we do won't be seen by the fans."

Eleven other events have been classified National Special Security Events by the White House since the designation was created in 1998, but never before for a sporting event. The change this time came not because of the long list of politicians, celebrities and high rollers due to attend the game. Rather, the events of September 11 showed the implausible is now plausible, and none of the organizers involved want any real-life resemblance to "Black Sunday." In that fictional book and movie from the 1970s, a Palestine Liberation Organization plot develops to detonate a explosive dart-filled blimp over a Super Bowl in New Orleans.

"We want to send a very strong message to all visitors that New Orleans is going to be the safest place in America this weekend," said New Orleans Mayor Marc Morial. The city is hosting its ninth Super Bowl.

More than 2,000 security personnel stationed in the Louisiana Superdome, downtown New Orleans and along the Mississippi River will be on alert for all types of wrong-doing. But authorities are particularly looking for any attempts at hurting a large group of people, such as the pipe-bomb explosion at the 1996 Summer Olympics.

"The biggest threat is definitely biological," said Barry Horvitz, a Houston-based weapons and hazardous materials expert who has worked with the NFL. "You're not going to get a bomb anywhere near that stadium, not now. The no-fly zone is going to be quite secure. But a small vial of something hidden somewhere on a person? That's harder to find."

"The tough thing is that you try and predict every possible scenario, and realistically you just can't. Having said that, it looks like the NFL has built upon last year's plan from Tampa [site of Super Bowl XXXV] well and put together a real solid plan," Horvitz said.

The computerized facial imaging from last year's game — cameras inside the stadium were connected to high-speed databases to identify those with criminal pasts — will not make a return appearance at the Super Bowl. Rather, that technology is being deployed at the Olympics.

Soon after September 11, the NFL began to drastically rework its security plans to incorporate the increased presence. The planning intensified and grew more complicated once the national-security designation arrived and the Secret Service took control. But by early December, officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency were conducting mock drills to evacuate the Superdome if disaster does strike, representing the last major piece of planning.

"We've had to come a very long way in a very short period of time," said Terry Landry, superintendent of the Louisiana State Police. "But we're absolutely ready."

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New York Times
January 30, 2002

Geographic Gaffe Misguides Anthrax Inquiry

By William J. Broad

The postmarks on the deadly letters laced with anthrax made clear from the start that they came from Trenton. But tracing the origin of the strain of anthrax that killed five people last fall has been a far murkier venture. And it now turns out that scientists and investigators have been on the wrong trail all along.

Federal investigators have found in recent weeks that the so-called Ames strain was first identified not in Ames, Iowa, its reputed home, but a thousand miles south, in Texas. The strain of the bacteria was found on a dead cow near the Mexican border in 1981, and the geographic gaffe was the result of a clerical error by a scientific researcher.

It was of little consequence until last October, when investigators determined that the anthrax in the nation's first major bioterrorism attack matched the "Ames strain." Then the clerical error wound up taking the investigation on several wrong turns.

Investigators spent considerable effort trying to find the genesis of the strain in Iowa, issuing a subpoena to Iowa State University, which was known to have a sizable library of anthrax samples. Investigators persisted, even though Iowa state officials said they could find no evidence of the Ames strain.

The discovery of the true origin of Ames "looks like it gets Iowa off the hook," a senior law enforcement official said yesterday.

The criminal investigation also focused on the possibility that the anthrax used in the attacks was left over from the nation's bioweapons program, which was shut down in 1969. A scientific paper published in 2000 said Ames anthrax was a strain used in the program. But now, with the discovery that Ames emerged from Texas in 1981, that part of the investigation has also lost steam.

The discovery of the error also sheds a disturbing light on the prevalence of the virulent Ames strain. Until recently, Ames was seen as a germ that had an uncertain origin in nature and was locked away in several laboratories around the country. But now scientists and veterinary doctors say they believe that Ames is common throughout Texas. This raises a possible public health concern and increases the possibility that last fall's bioterrorist could have simply dug anthrax out of the dirt in Texas.

"We isolate a lot of anthrax here," said Lelwe G. Gayle, director of the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory in College Station. He said the Ames strain now appeared to be widely scattered in natural settings. It was found in a dead goat on a Texas ranch in 1997.

The new history of Ames, some of which was reported yesterday in The Washington Post, is being investigated by the F.B.I. along with the National Intelligence Council, which does federal threat assessments, and the Central Intelligence Agency.

"This one is the true Ames," a C.I.A. analyst said of the Texas germ. He added that the anthrax that panicked the nation last fall "all came from Texas."

That history starts in late 1980 when Gregory B. Knudson, a biologist working at the Army's biodefense laboratory at Fort Detrick, Md., was searching for new anthrax strains to use in tests of the military's vaccine. In December 1980, he wrote Texas A&M veterinary officials, according to documents obtained from Dr. Knudson.

"Unfortunately, I have discarded all my pathogenic cultures," Howard W. Whitford replied in January 1981. But he said warmer weather would probably bring new outbreaks.

Indeed, in May 1981, the disease struck a herd of 900 cows at a ranch near the Mexican border.

"This heifer in excellent flesh was found in the morning unable to rise," Michael L. Vickers, a veterinarian in Falfurrias, Tex., wrote in his case report. "By noon she was dead."

In an interview, Dr. Vickers said: "This is a very lethal strain of anthrax we have down here. It's nothing to play with. I've seen as many as 30 head of cattle die a day until they're inoculated."

Dr. Vickers sent anthrax specimens to the Texas Veterinary Medical Diagnostics Laboratory, an arm of Texas A&M. The Texas laboratory, remembering Dr. Knudson's request, sent a sample along to Fort Detrick.

That is where the mix-up began. The Texas lab sent the iced specimens to Fort Detrick with a prepaid mailing label that Dr. Knudson has carefully preserved among his papers. Its return address is not Texas A&M at College Station but rather the National Veterinary Services Laboratories, in Ames, Iowa, an arm of the federal Agriculture Department that does diagnostic tests for state and foreign veterinary labs.

The Texas laboratory frequently sent shipments to Ames using prelabeled boxes with prepaid postage. In this case, it put on an additional label to redirect the box to Fort Detrick, with the national laboratory in Ames as the return address.

The return address blur soon became a scientific muddle.

At Fort Detrick, Dr. Knudson had gathered 27 anthrax strains. "I called this 'Ames' since it came from Ames," he recalled in an interview.

In May 1986, his vaccine study and the Ames strain made their public debut. Dr. Knudson and Stephen F. Little of Fort Detrick reported in a science paper that the highly lethal strain, which killed six out of six vaccinated guinea pigs, had come from an Iowa cow.

Biologists recycled the mistake. The issue grew muddier in May 2000 when a scientific paper claimed incorrectly that Ames had been used in the American germ weapons program that was shut down in 1969.

The academic confusion became a public drama last fall. After federal experts identified the strain in the bioattacks as Ames, reporters and investigators descended on the city in Iowa.

Gov. Tom Vilsack of Iowa sent armed troopers and Iowa National Guard soldiers to safeguard Iowa State University's cache of anthrax microbes, which were kept in more than 100 vials. Some news reports said the attack germs had been stolen.

Officials in the College of Veterinary Medicine tore through old files and read cryptic labels on vials but could find no documentation that any of their germs were the Ames strain. They could find nothing to support Dr. Knudson's 1986 paper that said Ames had originated in an Iowa cow.

"We figured it had to have come through here, but we couldn't prove it," recalled James A. Roth, an assistant dean.

In early October, the college destroyed its anthrax collection after deciding that the germs were not worth the trouble of the new high security. In an Oct. 12 statement, the college pointed a finger at its neighbor, the National Veterinary Services Laboratories, saying it "appears" to have shipped the Ames strain to Fort Detrick.

But officials there could also find no evidence of Ames. "The Army said they got it from us," recalled Tom Bunn, head of diagnostic bacteriology there. "But we have no records of this being in our laboratory."

Still, most federal and private analysts concluded that the germ had arisen in Iowa, been isolated at Iowa State, shared with the agriculture lab and from there shipped to Fort Detrick.

By December, analysts were speculating that since Iowa State had destroyed anthrax cultures dating to 1925, perhaps one of those early strains was the true Ames.

Based on that interpretation, Barbara Hatch Rosenberg, a private expert in biological weapons at the State University of New York at Purchase, concluded in widely cited December report that the powdered anthrax in the attack letters "may be a remnant of the U.S. biological weapons program."

But in December, based on interviews and a review of documents, some from Dr. Knudson's file, investigators began to unravel the true Ames story.

Dr. Knudson acknowledges his mistake, saying, "It's good to get this clarified."

Officials at Iowa State could not agree more. Critics had widely faulted the university for destroying its anthrax collection, saying important evidence in the attacks might have gone up in smoke.

"My life would have been a lot easier if it was known as the College Station strain rather than the Ames strain," Dr. Roth said.

Questions linger. An official of Iowa State's veterinary school has been subpoenaed to testify in early February before a federal grand jury in Washington about the school's handling of anthrax germs. But the discovery of the true history of Ames has raised new concerns in Texas, where the soils appear to be widely contaminated with the lethal strain. In 1997, a goat on a Texas ranch hundreds of miles from the original site of the Ames discovery died from a type of anthrax that turned out to be genetically identical to Ames. Ames contamination could become a safety issue if would-be terrorists hunt for lethal germs in Texas soils, experts say.

Timothy W. Tobiason, a self-taught scientist who sells germ-weapon cookbooks at gun shows across the West, has suggested that old cattle trails in Texas and Oklahoma are ideal places to dig for anthrax microbes, and scientists say his logic is accurate enough to be dangerous.

"A lot of big cattle drives originated in this area," said Dr. Vickers, the Texas veterinarian who first isolated Ames. "It could be quite simple" for a terrorist to acquire the lethal spores.

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Washington Times
January 31, 2002
Pg. 1

Nuclear Plants Targeted

By Bill Gertz, The Washington Times

U.S. intelligence agencies have issued an internal alert that Islamic terrorists are planning another spectacular attack to rival those carried out on September 11.

The detailed warning was issued within the past two weeks in a classified report that said one target was a U.S. nuclear power plant or one of the Energy Department's nuclear facilities.

The alert was based on sensitive intelligence gathered overseas that revealed discussions among terrorism suspects. The latest warning was similar to other terrorist threats that prompted public alerts in October and December. Officials familiar with the report said it contained six potential methods and targets of attack, among them:

- A bombing or airline attack on a nuclear power plant or other U.S. nuclear facility, such as a weapons storage depot, designed to cause mass casualties and spread deadly radiological debris.
- A bombing against a U.S. warship in Bahrain, headquarters of the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, where some 20 ships are based. The attack would be similar to the October 2000 suicide bombing attack on the USS Cole.
- Another airliner attack on a building using a hijacked commercial jet as a suicide bomber.
- A vehicle bombing in Yemen. Authorities in Yemen, acting on intelligence gathered by the United States in Afghanistan, recently averted a car bombing of the U.S. Embassy in San'a by finding the explosives-laden vehicle.

A public alert had been issued Jan. 14 that said al Qaeda terrorists were planning an attack in Yemen.

President Bush said in his State of the Union speech Tuesday night that U.S. intelligence agencies had uncovered plans of U.S. nuclear power plants at terrorist bases in Afghanistan, an indication attacks on the facilities were planned.

"We have found diagrams of American nuclear power plants and public water facilities, detailed instructions for making chemical weapons, surveillance maps of American cities, and thorough descriptions of landmarks in America and throughout the world," Mr. Bush said.

"What we have found in Afghanistan confirms that — far from ending there — our war against terror is only beginning," he said.

A defense official said yesterday that intelligence gained from Afghanistan had led to the thwarting of three terrorist attacks, including the arrests of terrorists in Singapore and Yemen. A third operation is still "being rolled up," the official said.

"We have been getting a lot of indications [of an attack] but no specific threat information," the official said. Yemen's foreign minister, Abubaker al-Qirbi, told The Washington Post on Wednesday that authorities in Yemen have tracked down two key al Qaeda suspects in that country.

Mr. al-Qirbi said Yemen was working to capture a group of suspects wanted by the United States for questioning about their links to Osama bin Laden, blamed for the September 11 attacks.

A U.S. intelligence official said the intelligence community is constantly receiving new threat data.

"It's a heightened threat environment, and we get threat information on a regular basis," this official said.

No public announcement has been made of an impending terrorist attack based on recent assessments. But the information related to a potential new attack first came to the attention of intelligence agencies last week, officials said.

The last time the Bush administration issued a public warning of a potential terrorist attack was Dec. 3, when Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge announced that Americans should be alert to the danger of an attack. It was the second such warning.

"We remain on alert," Ridge spokesman Gordon Johndroe said yesterday, adding that the FBI also has issued a warning to law enforcement around the country to remain on high alert through March 11.

"Subsequent warnings for heightened vigilance around utilities, nuclear power plants, water treatment plants were issued a couple of weeks ago," Mr. Johndroe said in an interview. "The threat remains, and therefore we remain on alert."

Attorney General John Ashcroft said Friday, in releasing a photograph of a suspected suicide terrorist, that "I want to advise the public to exercise vigilance and common sense in the face of the terrorism threat."

On Jan. 17, Mr. Ashcroft released photographs of five al Qaeda terrorists whose statement made on videotapes found in Afghanistan "suggest future terrorist acts, specifically suicide attacks."

Energy Department spokeswoman Lisa Cutler said security has been stepped up at nuclear-weapons facilities throughout the United States since September 11.

In San Francisco yesterday, security guards detected bomb residue on the shoes of a passenger seeking to pass through a security checkpoint. The man disappeared before he could be questioned.

On Dec. 22, Richard C. Reid, a British national linked to the al Qaeda terrorist network, was arrested after he tried to light the fuse of an explosives-laden shoe on a Paris-to-Miami flight, authorities said.

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New York Times

January 31, 2002

Pg. 1

Bush Aides Say Tough Tone Put Foes On Notice

By David E. Sanger

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 — President Bush decided to lump Iran and North Korea with Iraq as members of an "axis of evil" whose support for terrorism seeks to acquire and spread weapons of mass destruction, officials said today, despite the fact that the two nations have sporadically sought improved relations with the United States.

Administration officials insisted that Mr. Bush was not suggesting imminent military action against any of the three countries. But several officials — including some who had argued for toning down the language in drafts of his State of the Union address — said in interviews that the president was insistent that he use the opportunity to send a clear warning that any nation that puts its nuclear or biological weapons within reach of terrorists can expect the strongest American reaction.

From Western Europe to Russia to South Korea today, several allies of America said they feared that Mr. Bush's strong language would widen the fissures in the coalition against terrorism, set back reformers in Iran and shut down talks with North Korea. [Page A12.]

But in an emphatic defense of Mr. Bush's position, Donald H. Rumsfeld, the secretary of defense and one of the more hawkish members of Mr. Bush's national security team, said the president's message had "near- perfect clarity." He argued that despite Iran's early offers to help in the war against terrorism, "we know Iran is actively sending terrorists" to threaten Israel and "we also know that they have a very active weapons-of-mass-destruction program."

The combination could lead to catastrophe, Mr. Rumsfeld said, and "the world has to know the potential not for thousands of people to be killed but tens of thousands of people to be killed."

Little that Mr. Bush said about the individual countries he cited was new. He has often warned President Saddam Hussein of Iraq in recent months, and the administration has openly said it will seek ways to destabilize his government. Today, Ahmad Chalabi, a leader of the Iraqi National Congress opposition group based in London, was seen at the Pentagon and elsewhere in Washington, and State Department officials said the administration was restoring its full monthly financing levels for the group after cutting it back because of accounting disputes.

Two months ago, Mr. Bush demanded that North Korea open its entire territory to nuclear inspection, even while members of the administration conceded that the country appeared to be complying with a 1994 accord to freeze its nuclear weapons program.

Mr. Bush and his aides have often expressed skepticism that reformers in Iran would prevail over anti-American hard-liners who control the military and intelligence services and are pursuing nuclear weapons production. "There are people in the State Department who want to think Iran is changing because everyone's drinking Coca-Cola," a White House official said, "but the evidence isn't there."

But until drafts of Mr. Bush's State of the Union address began circulating in the administration, the president had never commented on the three countries collectively, and never referred to them in the stark terms that his "axis of evil" phraseology implied.

That wording rocketed around the world today, and led to puzzled calls from diplomats here in Washington seeking to explain it in cables back to their capitals. The White House spokesman, Ari Fleischer, said that in reaching for the word "axis," Mr. Bush meant no comparison to the Axis powers of Germany, Italy and Japan during World War II. He said the expression was "more rhetorical than historical."

Earlier drafts of the speech, two officials said, went even further in describing possible links among the three nations. But the evidence was thin; "North Korea has had more exchanges of missile technology with Pakistan than with Iran," one official said, adding:

"So we pared back to the essential warning: If you develop these weapons, and if you mess with terrorists, sooner or later we will make you regret it."

Richard A. Boucher, the State Department spokesman, seemed to acknowledge the delicacy of the point today when he said "there are some relationships between these countries," but offered few details.

Administration officials said today that in the days after Sept. 11, they had hopes that Iran's offer of support — including landing rights if the United States needed to run rescue operations in Afghanistan — presaged a major turning point in relations.

But as events unfolded, Mr. Boucher said, "we began to have some serious concerns about what Iran was doing in the various places on the ground in Afghanistan." Then came the *Karine A*, the ship Israel seized as it was on its way to deliver smuggled arms from an Iranian port to Palestinian forces.

A senior administration official said, "That was a sign to the president that the Iranians weren't serious."

While Mr. Bush's words were strong, it was unclear today how he planned to back them up with action. "I think you have to read it as signaling an increasing preoccupation with the nexus of weapons of mass destruction and states that support terrorism," a senior administration official. "It's not clear what policies will flow from it."

Mr. Bush himself has not yet taken up those decisions, aides say. He is still debating how to build an international consensus to overthrow Mr. Hussein, a move that Germany and Arab nations have warned against. Similarly, Mr. Bush has only begun to address the more subtle questions of dealing with Iran, which has deep economic ties to Western European allies and Russia.

Mr. Bush has a more complex problem ahead of him as he travels next month to South Korea, where Kim Dae Jung has staked his presidency on a "sunshine" policy of offering economic incentives to the Stalinist government in the North.

Mr. Bush's trip has already encountered some complications: Torkel L. Patterson, the senior director for Asian Affairs in the National Security Council, resigned suddenly last week, citing "personal reasons." Administration officials say his departure had nothing to do with policy, but his departure removes one of the few senior White House officials with long experience in Northeast Asia.

When Mr. Bush and Mr. Kim first met, here in Washington last spring, Mr. Bush's team was engaged in an internal battle over whether to continue the Clinton administration's efforts to negotiate with North Korea — and hold open the possibility of economic aid — or whether to contain its power.

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell argued that Mr. Clinton's diplomacy toward the North had "useful elements" that should be pursued. It was one of his first clashes with more hawkish elements of the Republican Party and the Pentagon, but ultimately Secretary Powell appeared to have prevailed — at least until Tuesday night.

Now, South Korean officials, who say they have been given assurances that Mr. Bush will endorse the "sunshine policy," fear that the State of the Union address set back the cause for months or years.

South Korea's ambassador to Washington, Yang Sung Chul, said today that "as a result of the persistent pursuit of the sunshine policy, the tension level on the Korean Peninsula is at an all time low." When Mr. Bush arrives in Seoul on Feb. 19, he said, "we expect he will clear up this lack of clarity on the issue."

Mr. Boucher said today that the president still supported Mr. Kim's overtures to the North. But Kurt Campbell, a former defense official who specializes in Asian affairs and spent years working on the Korea issue, said: "The

slight warming of relations between the U.S. and North Korea prior to the speech is over. Now, it will be back in the freezer."

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USA Today
January 31, 2002
Pg. 1

'Axis Of Evil' Scoffs At Bush Speech

By Barbara Slavin and Laurence McQuillan, USA Today

WASHINGTON — Iran, Iraq and North Korea derided President Bush on Wednesday for calling them "an axis of evil" that supports terrorism and seeks chemical, biological and nuclear arms. But Bush kept up the tough talk. "If you're a nation that's going to develop weapons of mass destruction, you, too, are on our radar screen," he said in Winston-Salem, N.C.

In his State of the Union address Tuesday night, Bush said he "will not permit the world's most dangerous regimes to threaten us with the world's most destructive weapons."

Foreign affairs experts said the remarks were unusually tough for a presidential speech.

In Tehran, an aide to Iran's leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, called Bush's remarks "amazing" and added, "We will not be threatened by such aggressive language."

In Baghdad, Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan said Bush made "a stupid statement inappropriate of the president of the biggest country."

In Pyongyang, a commentary by the official North Korean news agency said, "The U.S. loudmouthed 'threat' is intended to justify its military presence in South Korea and persistently pursue the policy of aggression."

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said Bush "is not sending a signal that military action is imminent."

Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage told USA TODAY the administration has decided to give the Iraqi National Congress, an exiled opposition movement, \$2.4 million through April. He said the group, which faced a cutoff of funds today, had satisfied U.S. concerns about poor accounting.

Bush is weighing whether to seek Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein's ouster. He has protested Iran's alleged arms shipment to Palestinians and its helping al-Qaeda terrorists escape. He has been wary of the Clinton administration's overtures to North Korea. Extending the war on terrorism.

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USA Today
January 31, 2002
Pg. 8

News Analysis

Critics Question Tough Talk On Iran, North Korea

By Barbara Slavin

WASHINGTON — In singling out North Korea, Iran and Iraq as an "axis of evil," President Bush appears to be extending his war on terrorism to countries that are developing arms of mass destruction.

Foreign policy analysts say none of those countries cited by Bush in his State of the Union address Tuesday night has been linked to recent terrorist attacks against the United States. But all three are believed to be seeking nuclear, chemical or biological weapons.

Few experts disagree with Bush's description of Iraq's regime as "evil," but some say he erred by lumping in North Korea and Iran.

"This could create a much more difficult situation with Iran and close out options opened by the Clinton administration with North Korea," says Tony Cordesman, an arms expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

"The president is edging close to a new doctrine of pre-emption" of proliferation threats, adds Lee Feinstein, an arms control expert at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "I agree you don't have to wait to be hit to take action. But these are three very different countries here."

Bush said Iran, Iraq or North Korea might arm terrorists, attack U.S. allies or attempt to "blackmail" the United States. All three countries rejected those charges.

A State Department official said Wednesday that the administration is still seeking talks with North Korea and Iran. He said Bush's remarks were meant to increase pressure on them to abandon weapons programs and — in North Korea's case — permit full inspection of its nuclear facilities. But critics say Bush's tough rhetoric might rally Iranians against the United States and encourage North Korea to refuse to talk.

All three countries are on a State Department list of terrorist sponsors. But they also differ:

Iraq. Eleven years after being driven from Kuwait, Iraq still has not complied with United Nations resolutions demanding that it disclose all its nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and long-range missiles. No U.N. arms inspectors have been allowed in the country for three years, and there are concerns that the regime of Saddam Hussein is secretly developing nuclear weapons. In the 1980s, Saddam used chemical weapons against Iran and Iraqi Kurds.

North Korea. The world's last Stalinist nation continues to arm itself even as 10% of its 22 million people may have died of starvation. Unlike Iraq or Iran, the regime signed an agreement with the United States in 1994 to abandon a nuclear weapons program, but some Bush administration officials are skeptical that it has kept its word. North Korea also agreed to suspend long-range missile tests, and it was negotiating an accord to halt missile exports as the Clinton administration ended.

Han Park, director of the Center for the Study of Global Issues at the University of Georgia, says Bush's remarks undercut South Korean President Kim Dae Jung's "sunshine policy" of engagement with the North before Bush visits Seoul.

Iran. Some Iranian leaders and many ordinary citizens favor reopening ties broken two decades ago after Iran seized hostages at the U.S. Embassy. But the country's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, backs Palestinian and Lebanese groups that Bush also singled out as terrorists Tuesday.

Israel's seizure this month of a shipload of Iranian weapons bound for Palestinians set back chances for a U.S.-Iranian reconciliation based on a post-Sept. 11 alliance against the Taliban in Afghanistan. The administration also has been rankled by allegations that Iran allowed al-Qaeda terrorists to escape and is arming rivals of the interim Afghan government, which Washington supports.

"It's hard to understand how you can cooperate on Afghanistan and at the same time be so explosively involved in the question of the Palestinians and Israel," Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage said Wednesday. "You can't be occasionally a good citizen."

Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's national security adviser, said U.S. allies might reject Bush's expanded target list.

Bush didn't mention Libya, Sudan, Cuba or Syria — the other countries on the U.S. list of terrorist sponsors. U.S. relations with the first two are improving, Cuba is not considered a threat, and some call Syria crucial for Middle East peace.

Contributing: Bill Nichols

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Inside The Pentagon

January 31, 2002

Pg. 1

Continental Divide

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has decided to name the military's new command responsible for homeland security the U.S. Northern Command, defense officials tell Inside the Pentagon. The moniker aims to reflect the 10th unified command's full area of operations, which will include not only the continental United States but also Canada and Mexico, news ITP broke in its Jan. 17 and Jan. 24 issues. U.S. Northern Command will serve as a sister command of sorts to the existing U.S. Southern Command, which leads counterdrug efforts in Latin America and the Caribbean. In coming years, these two unified commands may merge into a single "Americas Command" and

take responsibility for national missile defense, according to those familiar with the Pentagon's secret -- and recently revised -- Unified Command Plan.

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Norfolk Virginian-Pilot
January 30, 2002

Local Command Overseeing Homeland Defense For Now

By Dale Eisman, The Virginian-Pilot

WASHINGTON -- Despite the Bush administration's apparent plan to create a new military structure for homeland defense, the Norfolk-based U.S. Joint Forces Command will figure prominently in domestic security efforts for at least a few more months, defense officials suggested Tuesday.

President Bush is expected to announce soon his preference for the new homeland command. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld reportedly decided last week to recommend the move, but Bush had not signed off on it as of late Tuesday.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the White House and Congress will need much of 2002 to hash out the precise role, authority and budget of the new command. They'll also need to choose and confirm its commander, a four-star general or admiral.

The new command most likely will begin operation Oct. 1, the beginning of the federal fiscal year, a senior official said.

Meanwhile, a 90-member Homeland Security Directorate inside the Joint Forces Command in Norfolk is expected to retain control of the military's port security and mainland defense efforts. And the Air Force's North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) will continue to be responsible for airborne patrols over major U.S. cities, officials said.

Until Sept. 11, port security and U.S. coastal defense were handled almost exclusively by the Coast Guard, which is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

But within hours of the terrorist attacks in New York City and at the Pentagon, the Navy positioned ships to track and if necessary shoot down incoming aircraft, and NORAD mobilized Air Force and National Guard fighter planes to patrol the skies.

Some lawmakers, among them U.S. Sen. John W. Warner, R-Va., suggest the military should become even more involved in domestic security. Creation of the new command could be a step in that direction.

But under the Posse Comitatus Act, a Reconstruction-era law, the use of military forces within the United States is strictly limited. The law generally restricts domestic law enforcement to local, state and federal police agencies. Congress has carved out one major exception, permitting the military to participate in attempts to stop the flow of illegal drugs into the country.

Privately, military leaders say they prefer to leave most domestic policing to civilians. Changes to Posse Comitatus also are viewed suspiciously by an assortment of civilian groups, from gun rights activists to civil libertarians.

Officials said Tuesday that it's unclear whether NORAD and the Homeland Security Directorate will be transferred to the new command or if they'll be dismantled in favor of a new structure inside the command.

Also uncertain is the future organizational structure of military "civil support teams" established by Joint Forces Command to aid civilian agencies in responding to an accident or attack involving weapons of mass destruction. Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke noted Monday that the Defense Department periodically re-evaluates its "unified command plan," a document that divides warfighting and support responsibilities worldwide among nine four-star officers.

She said changes in the structure of the homeland defense effort were under consideration well before Sept. 11.

The plan was last revised in October 2000, when Joint Forces Command was given responsibility for creating and overseeing the civil support teams.

A change to the plan the previous year created Joint Forces Command and assigned it to lead experiments with new weaponry and techniques of warfare. The command also is responsible for training and equipping Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force units assigned to warfighting commanders abroad.

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(Editor's Note: Hyperlink for referenced report follows article.)

Washington Times

January 31, 2002

Pg. 4

CIA Sees Rise In Terrorist Weapons

By Bill Gertz, The Washington Times

The danger of a terrorist attack with chemical, biological or nuclear weapons has increased since the September 11 strikes, the CIA said in a report made public yesterday.

U.S. intelligence also "uncovered rudimentary diagrams of nuclear weapons inside a suspected al Qaeda safehouse in Kabul," said the semiannual report on arms proliferation from January to June 2001.

"These diagrams, while crude, describe essential components — uranium and high-explosives — common to nuclear weapons," it said.

Several of the 30 foreign terrorist groups and other non-state terrorists around the world "have expressed interest" in obtaining biological, chemical and nuclear arms.

However, terrorists likely will continue to favor "proven conventional tactics such as bombing and shootings," the report said.

As in earlier reports, the CIA identified Russia, China and North Korea as "key suppliers" of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons materials and missile-delivery systems.

For the first time, the report included a section on the use by terrorists of unconventional weapons.

According to the report, Osama bin Laden and groups allied with him are interested in "staging unconventional attacks" and have sought materials to develop chemical, biological and nuclear weapons since the early 1990s.

"Bin Laden and his organization continue to make public statements about unconventional weapons, which could be an attempt to justify the use of such weapons," the report said.

The CIA said it had "no credible reporting" that terrorists had purchased or stolen nuclear weapons or sufficient material to produce them. "Gaps in our reporting, however, make this an issue of ongoing concern," the report said.

Bin Laden, the report said, stated in 1988 that he viewed the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction as a "religious duty," and press reports have stated that he has nuclear weapons to use as a deterrent against the United States.

Terrorists are most interested in acquiring chemicals such as cyanide salts that could be used to contaminate food or water supplies or to assassinate people, and chlorine for nerve agents, the report said.

Regarding state-sponsored arms proliferation, Russia sold ballistic missile-related goods to Iran, India, China and Libya, and continued to provide nuclear materials to Iran, the report said.

As for Moscow's efforts to stop arms proliferation, the CIA stated that "the Russian government's commitment, willingness and ability to curb proliferation-related transfers remain uncertain."

North Korea exported "significant" ballistic missile goods to the Middle East, South Asia and North Africa during the first half of last year, the report said.

"Pyongyang attaches a high priority to the development and sale of ballistic missiles, equipment, and related technology," the report said.

China was a major proliferator of missiles in 2001, supplying Pakistan with missile-related technical assistance, the report said.

"Pakistan has been moving toward domestic serial production of solid-propellant [short-range ballistic missiles] with Chinese help," the CIA stated. "Pakistan also needs continued Chinese assistance to support development of the two-stage Shaheen II [medium-range ballistic missile]."

Such assistance would violate China's November 2000 pledge not to help any nation build missiles that could deliver nuclear weapons.

China also sold missile-related items to Iran, North Korea and Libya during the first half of 2001, the report said.

The CIA said contacts between Chinese and Iranian nuclear "entities" indicate that China may be violating its 1997 pledge to limit cooperation with Iran on a uranium-conversion plant that could be used to build nuclear weapons.

The State Department is "seeking to address these questions" with the Chinese, the report said.

The report also said that China had supplied chemical arms equipment to Iran before 2001 and that there were continuing efforts by Iran to buy more equipment.

The State Department last week imposed sanctions on China for sales of chemical weapons-related equipment.

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Posted January 30, 2002

Unclassified Report to Congress on the Acquisition of Technology Relating to Weapons of Mass Destruction and Advanced Conventional Munitions, 1 January Through 30 June 2001

http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/bian/bian_jan_2002.htm

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New York Times

January 31, 2002

Russia Calls For Binding Pact To Reduce Nuclear Arsenals

By Todd S. Purdum

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 — Russia told the United States in arms talks here this week that it wanted a binding agreement that both sides would make real and irreversible cuts in their nuclear arsenals, and that Washington would not simply store excess warheads, as it proposed, but destroy them.

The Russians hope to have a treaty ready for signing when President Bush meets with President Vladimir V. Putin in Russia later this year that would reduce arsenals to about 2,000 warheads each during the next decade.

But the Bush administration has preferred to talk of a "codification" agreement, and some American officials have said each side should just decide how many warheads to eliminate and inform the other.

The State Department spokesman, Richard A. Boucher, said today that the administration was prepared to reach an agreement on reductions, but that "the form of the agreement would be subject to discussion." He added, "Our position is that we'll talk about it."

Russia's deputy foreign minister, Georgi Mamedov, who held talks on Tuesday with John R. Bolton, the under secretary of state for arms control, issued a statement saying he was pleased with the negotiations. But he also said that "more certainty is needed," and that Russia's draft "includes a provision calling for the elimination of both the delivery systems and warheads."

The official Russian statement said, "It was stressed that it will be a legally binding document that provides for radical, real and verifiable cuts in strategic offensive weapons, with ceilings at 1,700 to 2,200 warheads in the course of 10 years."

Mr. Bush and Mr. Putin pledged deep reductions in nuclear arsenals in their talks in Washington and Crawford, Tex., in November, but they disagreed on Washington's aspirations for a missile defense system.

A senior administration official said the talks this week had been productive, especially given Russia's anger over the United States decision to withdraw from the Antiballistic Missile Treaty of 1972, which bans national missile defenses. "It could have been contentious," the official said.

Instead, "they came with drafts, and we will give them counterdrafts, and they may well be very different," the official said. "We told them we will agree to a legally binding document regarding the reductions. Exactly what form that takes remains to be decided. Exactly what it contains remains to be decided."

Mr. Mamedov also met briefly with Secretary of State Colin L. Powell, and Mr. Boucher said the overall focus of the talks was "the elaboration of a new U.S.-Russia strategic framework."

The next round of talks is set for Feb. 19 in Moscow.

Also this week, State Department officials had talks with a Russian delegation led by Sergei V. Kiriyenko, chairman of the State Commission for Chemical Disarmament, on American financing for a plant to destroy chemical weapons.

Mr. Boucher said the two sides had agreed to resume consultations on the topic "on an expedited basis."

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U.S. News & World Report (usnews.com)

January 30, 2002

Washington Whispers

Bush Should Hire The Mob

By Paul Bedard

Who has the guts to swindle Osama bin Laden? Evidently some Russian mobsters do. U.S. intelligence experts now believe that bin Laden's al Qaeda organization may have been fooled into buying bogus radiological weapons instead of the real thing. In mid-January, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld suggested that some weapons seized in Afghanistan appeared to have a high radioactivity count. But analysts now think al Qaeda was duped by Russian organized-crime figures trying to pass off nondescript industrial offal as "dirty nukes."

The substance, whatever it was, wasn't in radiationproof containers—meaning anybody who handled it (including the sellers) would have been contaminated. And the scheme matches other known efforts in that part of the world to sell bogus nukes on the black market. "It was a scam that we were familiar with," a U.S. intelligence official tells our Richard J. Newman.

U.S. officials are growing skeptical that al Qaeda had obtained chemical or biological weapons either. A number of suspicious cylindrical containers, labeled with a skull and crossbones, have been snatched in Afghanistan and are now in the United States awaiting testing. But the cylinders may be empty or contain nothing more worrisome than everyday poisons. Pentagon officials still stress, however, that numerous al Qaeda documents indicate dead seriousness to obtain and use weapons of terror.

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Washington Post

January 31, 2002

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India Tests Another Version Of Missile

NEW DELHI -- India tested a naval version of a short-range surface-to-air missile from its western coast on Monday and Tuesday, its second missile trial in less than a week, the Defense Ministry said.

Last Friday, India tested a shorter and new version of its nuclear-capable missile Agni from the eastern seaboard, drawing criticism from Pakistan, with which it is locked in a tense standoff over a long-running dispute in Kashmir.

Reuters

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Thursday January 31 2:33 PM ET

Bush: World Against Rogue Nations

By SALLY BUZBEE, Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bush ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) said Thursday that the world should be behind him as he goes after rogue nations because their weapons of mass destruction could be aimed anywhere.

``The rest of the world needs to be with us, because these weapons could be pointed at them just as easily as us,"

Bush said in a speech in Florida, where he was promoting his volunteerism initiatives.

And, in a speech in Atlanta, Bush said countries with designs on antagonizing the United States or its allies ``must get their house in order ... respect the rule of law."

Any nation that harbors terrorists, he said, ``then you, too, are on our watch list."

Bush's remarks come on the heels of his State of the Union address Tuesday when he singled out Iran, Iraq and North Korea ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) as an ``axis of evil," suggesting they might be the next targets as he expands the war against terrorism.

The comments stirred concerns in Asia and Europe that the president was inflaming tensions and striking a combative pose. Some prominent newspapers in Europe disparaged the remarks.

National security adviser Condoleezza Rice ([news](#) - [web sites](#)) elaborated on Bush's comments slightly in a speech Thursday, saying the United States would work through nonproliferation agreements, and through its "new and budding" relationship with Russia, to fight the three countries' development of weapons of mass destruction.

Bush's speech also had raised the possibility that Washington may be considering a major military assault on one of the three rogue states, probably Iraq. But aides said no military action was imminent.

"As these nations develop these sophisticated weapons, they need to know not how (we will respond), but our intention is to hold them accountable," the president said Thursday. "We'll be wise and deliberate."

Iraq "remains a regime determined to acquire these terrible weapons" of mass destruction, Rice said in a speech to a conservative group, pressing the administration's criticism of the three regimes.

"North Korea is now the world's No. 1 merchant for ballistic missiles," she said. And Iran's "aggressive efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction belie any good intentions that it displayed" in the days immediately after the Sept. 11 attacks.

"All of these nations have a choice to make: to abandon the course they now pursue. Unfortunately, terrible regimes have shown no inclination to do so," Rice said. She said the rest of the world has "only one choice: to act with determination and resolve."

No military action is imminent against any of the three nations, Bush aides said Wednesday, despite the president's strong language in the State of the Union that "I will not stand by, as peril draws closer and closer."

The White House aides, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Bush also intended to heighten Americans' awareness of the terrorist threats they face as he seeks to justify new military spending and buy more time to decide how to act.

The administration is likely to pursue economic and diplomatic moves, including more warnings, for months before any possible military action, officials said. Also, the State Department made clear it remains willing to hold talks with Iran and North Korea, and continue to press for weapons inspectors in Iraq.

Iran's moderate president, Mohammad Khatami ([news](#) - [web sites](#)), reacted strongly to Bush's words, accusing him of speaking "arrogantly, humiliatingly, aggressively," and saying Iran seeks "a peace based on justice for humanity." Iraq's vice president called the U.S. government the source of evil in the world. A North Korean spokesman said Bush's words were little short of a declaration of war.

The U.S. military flies regular fighter patrols over northern and southern Iraq to enforce "no fly" zones devised to protect Shiite Muslims and Kurds from Iraqi forces. The patrols also keep a close eye on the movements of Iraq's military and search for signs of weapons of mass destruction.

Within the administration, there has been a debate about how to act against Iraq, either with military strikes or diplomatic moves. The administration has taken few actions to pave the way for military strikes: It has not, for example, given money to Iraqi opposition groups to help them operate inside the country.

North Korea is currently not testing long-range missiles, and had taken steps to reduce contacts with terrorists, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Wednesday, but needs to do more.

Iraq and North Korea have repeatedly been singled out by the Bush administration as wrongdoers. Early in the war on terrorism, American officials spoke of better cooperation with Iran. But last week, Bush strongly criticized Iran after Israel discovered an arms shipment from Iran bound for Palestinian militants.

http://dailynews.yahoo.com/h/ap/20020131/pl/axis_what_next_6.html

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