

Voice of **KUWAIT**

A newsletter edited and published by Kuwaitis in Exile-Colorado
No.1 September 24, 1990 "Long Live Kuwait!"

Join Us

This is the first issue of a weekly newsletter which we chose to name as "Voice of KUWAIT." The idea of this newsletter was conceived when we saw the bombardment of Iraqi propaganda in the international media. This propaganda concentrates on solidifying the unjust Iraqi claims of Kuwait and on attacking the people of the other Gulf countries and their governments, and on trying to use Islam as a cover for the Iraqi regime's greed.

We are here to show the whole world the true Saddam Hussein and his true dreams of conquering the whole Middle East. We are here to explain to those who still believe in him how wrong they are and to prove to them that his claims of Arab unity have nothing to do with the interests of Arabs, but have everything to do with his own interests and his own dreams. We are here to warn them that when their turn comes, he will do to them exactly what he did to his own people in the past and what he is now doing to the Kuwaiti people. We are here to appeal to their consciences and their heritage of Arabic and Islamic nobility to stop, think and see what is going on in Kuwait.

We urge anybody and everybody to write to us and help carry this message to the world. Incoming articles could cover such areas as current events in Kuwait and the Middle East, causes and consequences of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, its effect on the Palestinian just cause and other Islamic causes, the histories of Kuwait and Iraq, economic, social and political aftermath of the crisis and the expected new world order, predictions of what could be the solution to the Gulf crisis, ...etc.

—barrak

The Aftermath

Kuwaitis woke up early the morning of Aug. 2 to the sound of explosions, bombing, and machine guns. What they had expected but found hard to believe had happened. They were being attacked by an Arab neighbor.

Families gathered in one corner of their homes and waited to be bombed at any moment. Some of them were bombed: mother, father, and little children. Some of them waited in horror for their turn to be killed for no reason whatsoever.

Those who were able to quickly collect their courage and wits managed to get out of their homeland, leaving behind the rest of their families, friends, belongings; as well as their pasts and plans for the future. Those who stayed a little longer saw Kuwaiti families bury innocent young Kuwaiti men in their own backyards. And when they ventured out, saw other families and their children perish in the desert from thirst and hunger.

Without the military build-up in the Gulf, these horrifying scenes would have been repeated in many other neighboring countries of Saddam's, and ultimately he would have controlled the world economy with his criminal hands.

Saddam's passion for power was not unknown to the West. The Israelis have been closely watching his military power increasing in the region. Saddam's strength became a threat to the existence of Israel which is another reason the West decided to get rid of him. Unfortunately, however, Kuwait had to be sacrificed in order to prove to the world the unlimited danger this dictator poses. That is why his military build-up at the Iraqi-Kuwaiti borders and his threats to Kuwait were underestimated by all of those that Kuwait turned to for help before the invasion. And so, Kuwait was slain. The paradox though is: Kuwait was allowed to be sacrificed with an Arab knife.

The knife of a man calling for Arab unity and Islamic Jihad!

The lamb is still bleeding, but breathing. As U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said, "Kuwait has been occupied, but not conquered." Kuwaitis are doing whatever they can to free their country. Kuwaitis are killed everyday in their homeland and in front of their families for defending their country. Yet, and the worst dilemma for the Kuwaitis inside and outside Kuwait is, they alone cannot free their country. What really hurts more than the stabbing wound of Saddam's knife is that Kuwait will keep bleeding while the

Arab leaders try to resolve their problems with each other and the rest of the world. Kuwaitis will be sacrificed until the international community unites against aggression, until world peace and order is enforced by the super powers! How long will this take? How long?

In the meantime, the lessons that Kuwaitis have learned are as numerous as the tears they have shed since Aug. 2. The toughest lessons might be those related to trust: "Your brothers are not necessarily the most worthy of your trust." The second lesson is about peace: In order to live in peace you need a strong and massive military army.

—Firyal El-Shalabi

Arab Solution

"No Americans! Americans Out! Americans Out! Americans Out!" These are the cries of one pro-Iraqi Palestinian in Jordan against military intervention in the Gulf. Those people demand that the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait be dealt with by Arabs only.

When we, Kuwaitis, see the people who are demanding an Arab solution to the crisis are, at the same time, the only people who side by Saddam Hussein and vow to defend him with their blood and souls—when we see these things, we get really terrified of what such an Arab solution could be. We feel almost certain that their so called Arab solution will be, at best, unfair for Kuwait and the Kuwaiti people.

There is another kind of Arabs who are against Saddam Hussein but still against foreign military intervention, and they also support the Arab solution. To those people whom we trust a bit more than the previous group, we say, OK! What is this Arab solution? We will appreciate it if you could present a specific detailed plan to reverse the current situation and get Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait. Don't tell us that such Arab dialogue should not start until all foreign troops are out of the area, because quite honestly, we Kuwaitis do not trust your intentions. Yet, we could agree with you to delay such dialogue if all foreign troops withdraw from Saudi Arabia and all Iraqi troops withdraw from Kuwait with Kuwaiti people and Kuwaiti legitimate government in full control of Kuwait. When these actions take place with good intentions from all sides, then believe it, we the Kuwaitis will be the first to stress on an all Arab solution.

Let's hope this day will come soon without any blood shed.

—barrak

Saddam's Crimes—I

- The son of a peasant, Saddam Hussein committed his first murder at age 14.
- Saddam has been called the "Butcher of Baghdad" and "The Most Dangerous Man in the World," a reputation that started to take shape as far back as 1959.
- Saddam Hussein was a member of a Ba'athist hit-squad that attempted unsuccessfully in 1959 to assassinate the then Communist-backed military president, General Qassem.
- Shortly after becoming president in 1979, the regime sentenced a group (21 members) of its own senior officials to death for conspiracy. The state's leaders were officially reported to have been present at the execution, and all members of the Ba'ath Party, including those in Britain, were ordered to watch the executions on video.
- Iraqi forces began using poison gas against Iranian troops in 1983.
- In 1984, 600 members were executed from an Iranian-backed Shiite organization formed to disrupt Saddam's rule.
- In 1985, Saddam arrested 300 children of parents who were political activists. At least 29 were reportedly executed.
- An Iraqi Mirage F1 fired two Exocet missiles at the frigate USS Stark, killing 37 American soldiers in May 1987.
- In March 1988, more than 8000 people were killed by nerve gas in the Kurdish town of Halabja. Whole families were found dead, defenseless against chemical weapons.
- Amnesty International this year said eight teenagers were held for more than 15 months and horribly tortured for political reasons.
- Saddam arrested 90 members of a prominent Shiite family—ages 9 to 76—after one of them made anti-Iraq broadcasts from Iran. When the broadcasts continued, he killed six members of the family in front of the rest.

—Anwar Ghuloum

From the "Twice" Occupied Palestinians To President Arafat

This is a statement issued by 'Palestinians under Iraqi Occupation in Kuwait' and was published in the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Qabas International on Monday, September 3rd, 1990 (London). Note: the following is a translation from Arabic by barrak and Najat Hussein:

A message to the Palestinian President from the Iraqi-occupied Palestinians in Kuwait...

Brother Abu-Ammar, or as you like to be called lately, Mr. President...

We were shocked and amazed by the position you took from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. This noble Arab country that harbored us in light of our misfortions and provided us with decent living conditions without any kind of terror or oppression. This country and its people who did their best in supporting the PLO financially and morally in its struggle against the Zionist occupation in the international arenas.

We were shocked because we did not expect such a stand from a leadership of the people who suffered the most from vagrancy and who were lost for years and who gave thousands of lives for the sake of their right to their own self-determination and for establishing their own sovereign state. Bearing this in mind you should've been amongst the first who denounce any acts of aggression and the use of force against any country whatever it is, especially since such acts were taken against Kuwait which lead to the fleeing of thousands of Kuwaitis, other Arabs and Palestinians who all lived together in harmony and brotherly fashion during the past years.

Mr. President...

We do not have to go back too far in our memory to a time during the Palestinian war in the forties and to a time before Kuwait

struck rich with oil, when Kuwaitis were cutting from their daily earnings to purchase weapons and ammunition for the Arab fighters in Palestine and when they suffered in their attempts to smuggle the supplies to them. All we can do here is direct the attention to the recorded facts in this regard which prove that the Palestinian leadership and the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories gained much from the Kuwaiti support. This support makes Kuwait one of the biggest if not the biggest supporter among all the Arab countries.

Do you remember Mr. President how thousands of Palestinians stood alongside their Kuwaiti brothers to defend Kuwait against the previous Iraqi dictator Abdul-Karim Qasim in 1961? You were in Kuwait at that time. And do you remember how the treasury of Kuwait and the pockets of Kuwaitis, Palestinians, and all other Arabs were open for you when you came out to the open especially after Al-Karama war in 1968? And did you forget how Kuwait supported you when yesterday's enemy and today's friend and ally, King Hussein had shed your blood in 1970? And do you remember how Sheik Sa'ad Al-Abdulla Al-Sabah [Kuwaiti prime minister] had saved your neck from the Jordanian hanging rope and dressed you in his own costume and smuggled you in his own plane out of Amman to Cairo to ensure the safety of the symbol of the Palestinian movement? Did you forget how the Kuwaiti government stopped its financial support to the Jordanian government in order to stop the slaughter of the Palestinian people? Did you forget all that or are you trying forcefully to forget it?

Mr. President...

We knew you in the past as the master of indecision and the engineer of the floating yes/no policy which has sent us and our cause blundering in one setback after the other. And now you are coming out hand in hand with Iraq while the Iraqi tanks are crushing the bones of our Kuwaiti brothers and killing their freedom and hopes along with the freedom and hopes of all honest Arabs who are living in Kuwait.

We, the Palestinian people in Kuwait, have the right to question the reasons behind this stand. The justifications you provided do not convince us. The mediation that you claim you took your position in order to ensure its success is not an excuse. We have a lot of suspicions about the real reasons behind your floating position. We will mention here two of the most probable ones...

The first explanation says that the Iraqi regime promised you a lot of things in return of your support to it... A lot of money, and more to fulfill your personal dreams of glory and of being a true leader on true land and not as you are now floating in the air. But the question is, where did the Iraqi regime promise you the land to be? In Palestine? We don't think so since the path to Palestine does not pass through Kuwait. The answer to this question as agreed with by many is that the invasion of Kuwait is the first step toward the Jordanian initiative of relocating Palestinians outside of Palestine. An idea which has been supported by Israel for years now. Do you know that Mr. President? Do you accept to sit on the ruins of

the Hashimite throne instead of King Hussein.

The other explanation is that you were trapped by the Iraqi regime who utilized your own history of indecision and kissing everybody's beard in order to please everybody. This is similar to another trap, set for you by the same regime when you did not condemn the failed operation on the beaches of Tel Aviv by Abu-Abbas which led to the United States cutting its dialogue with you. After that you did not find anybody to harbor you except the man who threatened to burn half of Israel. Suddenly we saw him burning all of Kuwait and destroying the beautiful Arab dream of fighting zionism.

Mr. President...

If we want to talk with the logic of revolutionaries which you consider yourself as one of them then this logic would tell you that occupation and forced annexation and killing of the freedom of nations and thus their right in self-determination are all absolutely unacceptable wherever that happens; in Palestine, in Kuwait, in South Africa or any other country. And if we want to talk with the logic of politicians which provided you with high international support in the last two years. That logic says that there are laws, protocols and international rules which no one can violate and no one should expect the international community to be quiet if someone violates these rules. Your leadership's support to the Iraqi invasion had eliminated all kind of support for the Palestinian cause in the world. The support you enjoyed in recent years did not come as a result of your struggle in hotel conference rooms or inside the fancy cars but as a result of the blood shed by thousands of our Intifada mortals since 1987 and as a result of the huge political support of Arab countries including Kuwait and other Gulf Cooperation Council countries on the international arenas.

Mr. President...

We draw your attention here to the attempts of destroying the trust between us and our brothers in Kuwait by some of the so called Palestinian big shots. What really disturb us is while you are keeping completely silent in front of those acts, we see our Kuwaiti brothers headed by their leadership and despite their pain and sorrow climb to higher levels of nobility and confirm in all their statements that "the Palestinian people are joining their Kuwaiti brothers in the resistance against the occupation" and that "if there is any bad group, then that should not be held against all Palestinians in Kuwait." And the position of PLO with respect to the occupation "will not affect Kuwait's support to the

Palestinian cause". Saying all that, where do you stand against such an attitude.

Mr. President...

It is really depressing that although Kuwait has stood up defending you as a symbol of the Palestinian cause and defending your legitimacy as a sole representative of the Palestinian struggle, we do not see you officially state the real position that the Palestinians took which is NO to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and NO to the overthrowing of the legitimate government of Kuwait, and NO to the suppressing of the will of Kuwaitis and their right of self-determination. May be it is a clear example for you the decent stand of Hamas movement which shows the huge difference between those who act on principle and those who only claim them.

We hope you realize, Mr. President, that the historical claims of the Iraqi regime concerning Kuwait and his claims that it is part of Iraq—give the zionists the excuse and support for their policy in annexing the occupied Palestinian territories since the zionist claims in Palestine theoretically, historically, and religiously are stronger and more persuading than the Iraqi claims of Kuwait. Moreover, your silence concerning the Iraqi annexation of Kuwait puts you in a very critical situation when you try to talk about the Israeli attempts to annex the occupied territories.

Mr. President...

We beg you, if there is still some decency and Arab nobility and concern of the interests of Arabs left in you to whisper in the ear of your Ally in Baghdad—if you still can do that. Try to explain to him that what he did in Kuwait did not destroy Kuwait only but also burned for hundreds of years to come all the hopes and dreams of the Palestinian people in going back to their homeland and in their self-determination.

Tell him that Mr. President, and for once stand and defend your principles. Try to convince him to withdraw his troops from Kuwait immediately so that the foreign troops can leave the Gulf. Try and tell. "Ala Hal Balaght, Allahumma fash'had." Otherwise, history will record that you, Mr. President, and your ally in Baghdad had buried the Palestinian people and their just cause forever.

—Palestinians under Iraqi occupation in Kuwait

All kinds of contributions are appreciated, we invite everybody to write to us. You may e-mail your articles to bar-rak@tramp.Colorado.EDU or send them to: VOICE of KUWAIT, 805 29 St. #354, Boulder, CO 80303, Tel. (303) 443-9847

Voice of KUWAIT

A newsletter edited and published by Kuwaitis in Exile-Colorado
No.2 October 1, 1990 "Long Live Kuwait!"

Kuwait-Palestine Link?

Ever since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait there have been voices demanding that the Kuwaiti-Iraqi problem and the Palestinian-Israeli problem should be linked together.

We, the Kuwaitis would love to see the Palestinian crisis solved along with ours. But we feel that attempting to link both issues will be unfair for us. Because the Palestinians themselves are not united in their visions to the solutions of their problems. There are those who seek a mutual coexistence with the Jews, others want an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Ghaza Strip, and there are those who want to throw the Jews in the sea! There is already bloodshed caused by conflicts between these groups.

Bearing this in mind, the whole world community will find it extremely hard to seek any kind of solution for a group of people while those people are not united in their struggle for their own cause.

Add to this the fact that the alliance of Arafat, the PLO leader, with Saddam Hussein has caused a great damage to the Palestinian cause and put a lid on the sympathy the Palestinians once had through the publicity of Intifada inside Israel and the occupied territories.

These problems do not exist when it comes to Kuwaitis. Kuwaitis are already united in their demands, and the whole world is already united in backing these demands. So it is clearly unfair to link the two issues in the present time. Still, Kuwaitis hope that the resolve of one of the two conflicts will help resolve the other in the near future "In Sha'Allah."

—barrak

Saddam's Crimes-2

- In March 1990, the Iraqi government announced a new legal exemption for Iraqi men: they were entitled to kill female members of their family, including wives, mothers, grandmothers and cousins, if they "suspected" them of adultery.
- On March 10, 1990, Saddam Hussein ignored British protests and ordered the execution of Iranian-born London journalist Farzad Bazoft based on erroneous charges of espionage. Bazoft, who tried to gather information about a massive explosion at a military complex, was hanged five days later on March 15.
- Mrs. Daphne Parish, a British nurse, was sentenced to 15 years in jail for giving the journalist a lift in her car.
- On April 6, 1990, a federal grand jury indicted a former employee of Iraq's United Nations Mission, charging that he was part of a plot to assassinate opponents of the Iraqi government in this country.
- On April 19, 1990, a House panel approved a non-binding resolution condemning Iraq for human rights abuses, including torture, executions and persistent repression of all political opposition.
- On August 8, 1990, Iraqi soldiers reportedly fired on 35 women and children who were peacefully protesting against the annexation of Kuwait in Kuwait City. A witness said two teenagers and a 20-year-old died, shot in the heart and head.
- Saddam took his health minister, Riyadh Ibrahim, to another room and shot him after he had suggested during a cabinet meeting that Saddam should consider stepping down temporarily to help end the Iran-Iraq War.
- It is a capital offence in Iraq to insult the President, espouse Zionism, leave the ruling Ba'ath Party or persuade someone else to do so. Using these laws, Iraq has executed thousands.
- Iraq marked the end of the war by beginning active support for General Aoun in Lebanon, undermining the reconciliation policy of the Arab League and the Lebanese people's only hope for peace.

—Anwar Ghuloum

Kuwait: A Chronology

- BC 600 The Hellens settled in Al-Khazna Hill area on Failaka Island.
- 529 Al-Monzer Bin-Ma'a Al-Sama'a defeated Al-Hareth Al-Kindi in the Kuwaiti area of Wara.
- 300 The Creeks lived on Failaka Island for two centuries.
- 73 A royal message was inscribed on the Ikarus stone which is now on view in the National Museum of Kuwait.
- AD 623 The Arabs defeated the Persians at the battle of Zat Al-Salassel in the Kazima area.
- 1672 The approximate date of the establishment of Kuwait town when Barrak was the Amir of the Beni Khaled tribe.
- 1711 Approximately when the Al-Sabah family arrived in Kuwait.
- 1752 The approximate date of the election of Sabah Bin Jaber from the Al-Sabah family to be the first ruler of Kuwait.
- 1760 The first wall, 750 meters long, was built around Kuwait City.
- 1762 Abdulla Bin Sabah, the second ruler of Kuwait, came to power.
- 1765 C. Niebuhr, the Danish traveler, visited Kuwait which he referred to on his map as "Grane."
- 1773 Kuwait was attacked by an epidemic and most of its inhabitants died.
- 1783 The Kuwaitis defeated the tribe of Bani K'ab in the sea battle of Riqqa.
- 1811 The second wall of Kuwait, 2300 meters long, was built.
- 1871 The Al-Taba'ah accident, in which many Kuwaiti diving ships were sunk, was caused by a massive tidal wave between India and Muscat.
- 1886 The first Kuwaiti currency was minted in copper during the reign of Sheikh Abdulla Al-Sabah II.
- 1911 December 22. Al-Mubarakiya School, the first formal school in Kuwait, opened.
- 1920 The third wall of Kuwait, 6400 meters long, was built.
- 1921 Kuwait took the first step toward democracy, the formation of a consultative council, but did not last for long.
- 1922 The total number of Kuwaiti pearl diving boats reached 800, manned by over 10,000 sailors and divers.
- 1922 The first public library in Kuwait was established.
- 1926 The historian Abdul Aziz Al-Rasheed published the first book on Kuwait.
- 1928 Kuwait's first periodical, the "Kuwaiti Magazine," was published by Abdul Aziz Al-Rasheed.
- 1930 Kuwait Municipality was established.
- 1930 An Amiri Decree was issued prohibiting the wearing of the Bisht because of soaring prices.
- 1933 The Municipality installed lighting in the Kuwait market.
- 1934 December 7. Heavy rainfall destroyed many Kuwaiti houses. Therefore this year was called "The destructive Year," "Al-Sannah Al-Hadamah."
- 1938 February. Oil was discovered in Burgan oilfield.
- 1938 The first general elections, resulted in the first Legislative Council.
- 1942 The first bank in Kuwait was opened.
- 1945 "Kuwait House" was established in Egypt to look after Kuwaiti missions and interests.
- 1946 The first Kuwaiti crude oil shipment was exported.
- 1948 "Kazima Magazine" was issued, the first Kuwaiti magazine to be both printed and published in Kuwait.
- 1950 Sheikh Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, who had ruled Kuwait for thirty years, died.
- 1951 May 12. Kuwait Radio went on the air for the first time.
- 1952 The first "Kuwait Masterplan" was drawn up.
- 1954 Khalid Al-Faraj, the man of letters and poet, died.
- 1954 December, 11. "Kuwait Al-Youm" (Official Gazette) was issued for the first time.
- 1955 Oil was struck in Al-Rawdhatain, north of Kuwait.
- 1957 Kuwait wall was demolished and removed.

- 1957 The "Social Affairs Department" conducted the first population census.
- 1958 December 1. The first issue of "Al-Arabi" magazine was published.
- 1960 The first Kuwaiti woman was employed by Kuwait Oil Company.
- 1961 April 1. The Kuwaiti Dinar became the official currency in Kuwait.
- 1961 June 19. The agreement of January 23, 1899, concluded between Kuwait and Great Britain, was terminated.
- 1961 July 20. Kuwait became a member of the Arab League.
- 1961 December, 31. Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development was established.
- 1962 January 20. The elected constituent assembly met to draw up the Constitution of Kuwait.
- 1962 An Amiri Decree was issued providing for the division of the country into three governorates.
- 1962 November 11. The Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Abdulla Al-Salem Al-Sabah ratified the first Constitution of Kuwait.
- 1963 January. The first elected National Assembly of Kuwait convened.
- 1963 May 17. Kuwait became a member of the United Nations Organization.
- 1963 August 7. The great Kuwaiti poet Saqr Al-Shebaib died.
- 1965 November 24. The Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Abdulla Al-Salem Al-Sabah, passed away.
- 1966 The Neutral Zone was partitioned between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.
- 1966 November 27. Kuwait University was inaugurated.
- 1968 May 13. Kuwait freed itself from all external obligations when it canceled the agreement of June 19, 1961.
- 1969 April 1. Central Bank of Kuwait was established.
- 1969 October 18. The first communications satellite earth station in Kuwait was inaugurated.
- 1973 July 6. The Kuwaiti pioneer and reformer Sheikh Yousef Bin Eisa Al-Qina'ai died.

1975 March. The government acquired full ownership of Kuwait Oil Company.

1976 The Social Security Law, applicable to Kuwaiti nationals, was issued.

1976 The Future Generations Reserves Law was issued. It stipulates the allocation of 10% per annum of the State revenues for future generations.

1977 December 31. The Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah died.

1981 May 25. Kuwait signed the Articles of Association of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

1983 The Bubiyan Bridge, linking Bubiyan Island to the mainland, was opened for traffic.

1985 May 25. His Highness the Amir survived a vicious attempt on his life when a bomb-laden car rammed into his motorcade on Arabian Gulf Street.

1985 October 29. The Amir said, "Our decision will remain a free one that does not succumb to blackmail, terrorism or emotionalism."

—From *Kuwait, Facts and Figures, 1986*.

Iraqi Hypocrisy

To those who believe that Saddam Hussein and his Ba'th party are willing to free Palestine, burn half of the Jewish state and throw the rest in the sea. To those who believe that Saddam does not want to deal or communicate with what they call "Impirialism" represented by USA or even to negotiate the Arab-Israeli struggle with them. To those who believe Saddam opposes any U. S. intervention in the region. To those, please go back several years ago and hear what Tariq Azeez, Iraqi Foreign Minister, said in December 1984 on American TV. He said that his country "would support any just, honorable and lasting settlement between the Arab states and Israel," and went on to say that "Iraq does not consider itself to be a direct party to the conflict, because Israel is not occupying any part of Iraqi soil."

These quotes are taken from *Iraq since 1958* by Marion Farouk-Shughet and Peter Shughet. These quotes clearly prove that the Iraqi claims of rising up for the sake of Palestinians are nothing but an attempt to drive a wedge between the them and the rest of the Arabs. Unfortunately, Saddam succeeded in doing just that.

—N. H.



FROM: AL-AYYAM
(BAHRAIN)

Home Is Where You Are Happy

I will never forget the moment I stepped out of the plane that has just landed in Kuwait. It seems just like yesterday when this gust of hot air gently caressed my face and ... welcomed me to this wonderful country.

A country in which I have spent the best eight years of my life. A country that introduced me to its people with whom I have formed the best friendships I have ever had. A country with such a blend of culture, people and heritage. One with such grace and hospitality that made me feel right at home. A country that every Arab would be proud of—I know I am.

Almost two months have gone by, and still, I am living this horrible nightmare that I can't seem to be able to get out of. I keep telling myself maybe all this is just a bad dream and it will eventually go away. But, my friends, I am wide awake and nothing has changed. A whole nation, in just 4 hours, has been gobbled up, physically destroyed, looted, and raped.

If you think that you can wipe out a nation just like what you are trying to do, well, think again, because this act of barbaric destruction is not enough. Do you know why? because, Kuwait will NEVER die. It is in its people's hearts, in their souls, in every drop of their blood. And you'll never touch that, no matter what you do. So why don't you pack and go home back where you came from. Can't you see, you lost already.

My heart goes out for my brothers and sisters, my mothers and fathers. I feel your pain and sorrow. I weep for your misery and grief.

Be brave. Just be brave. God bless and save you all. God bless this great country of yours.

—A. G.

All kinds of contributions are appreciated, we invite everybody to write to us. You may e-mail your articles to barak@tramp.Colorado.EDU or send them to: VOICE of KUWAIT, 805 29 St. #354, Boulder, CO 80303, Tel. (303) 443-9847

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A newsletter published in coop. with
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No.3 October 8, 1990 "Long Live Kuwait!"

Friends of Free Kuwait

Within this newsletter, we would like to establish a group to be named "Friends of Free Kuwait." If you support the struggle of the Kuwaiti people in regaining their freedom back, and if you are willing to help in any way you can, please send us your name, phone number and address. Our address is at the back of this newsletter. And we will make sure that you will receive a free subscription in "Voice of Kuwait."

There are many ways to participate in this group, the following are some of the possible activities

1. Helping circulate "Voice of Kuwait" and other possible publications.
2. Attending the seminars and exhibits that will take place in the future.
3. Writing articles for "Voice of Kuwait."
4. Directing our attentions to articles or events relevant to Kuwait.
5. Writing to local and national representatives urging them to keep pushing for freeing Kuwait.
6. Directing our attentions to any Iraqi propaganda so we can counter it with facts and figures.

We in particular urge anti-Saddam Iraqis to write to us and express their opinions so we can publish them in the newsletter—be as candid as possible for your own safety, though.

—barrak

Forever FREE

At the rally in London on September 9, a young Kuwaiti man who shall remain nameless, read out a letter he had written to Saddam Hussein. This is the text:

Today I have a message. This message is not for the Kuwaiti people. This message is not for the British people. This message is not for the international community. This message is for Saddam Hussein.

Saddam Hussein...

On the 2nd of August, you attacked the peaceful country of Kuwait, my homeland. Your tanks and army roared in. Within hours, you crossed Kuwait from border to border. I can visualize you standing in your military operations room, fists clenched, hands on hips with a big grin on your face, being congratulated by your generals: "You have won! You have won!"

Did they tell you that the people of Kuwait resisted you and are still resisting you? Did they tell you that the Kuwaiti National Guards stood their ground around the Dasmann Palace, refusing to surrender and fighting till death to protect the sacred land of Kuwait? Did they tell you that every Kuwaiti man, woman and child refuses to bow to you? Did they tell you that the battle is not over yet because the people of Kuwait and their legitimate government of H.H. the Emir will never surrender?

I will tell you what you have gained: You have gained land, buildings, cars, equipment, and many of our personal possessions. But you have not gained a country, because a country is not made of material objects; A country is made up of people, and you will never gain control over the people of Kuwait.

I will tell you what you have lost: You have lost a friend and neighbor, Kuwait. You have lost the support of the international community. You have lost the respect of many of your Arab and Moslem friends. And you have lost your place in the human and civilized world, because evil has no place among us.

Saddam, I may not have the chance to deliver this message to you personally, but I am sure that your spies will deliver it to you on my behalf. I only hope that they will not forget to tell you that: Even though you have renamed Kuwait City. Even though you have made it a province of Iraq, Kuwait will always remain free. As long as there is a Kuwaiti left on this earth, Kuwait will always and forever remain FREE.

—From "Free Kuwait Campaign," London

To King Hussein

The following is a letter from Bandar Bin Sultan, Saudi ambassador to the United States, to King Hussein of Jordan. From the September 27 edition of the International Herald Tribune (accredited to the New York Times).

Your Majesty, you gave a moving speech to the American people this past week. This you appear to have done over the head of your longtime friend, President Bush. You said you were moved to make the speech because of a letter from Mr. Brown of North Carolina.

Wouldn't it be more honorable and truly moving if you were moved enough by Kuwaiti women and children with tears in their eyes because they lost their country as a result of the aggression of your friend Saddam Hussein?

Would it not be more honorable and honest to speak to the Iraqi people over the head of your friend Saddam, and tell them that he has dishonorably invaded and annexed a brother Arab and Muslim country? And tell them of the horrifying acts of rape and destruction by Iraqi troops that are unprecedented in Arab history— and that is fact.

And facts are stubborn things.

You say, Your Majesty, that the holy places in Saudi Arabia have been desecrated by friendly forces and that those forces must leave immediately. But those forces are actually hundreds of miles away, and with tens of thousands of Muslim and Arab soldiers (but none of yours) between those friendly forces and the holy places. And all those forces are dedicated to help defend Saudi Arabia and are respectful of its custodianship of the holy places. They will not leave until your friend Saddam leaves Kuwait, which we hope will be peacefully and immediately.

Tell us, Your Majesty, what you have done to safeguard the Al Aqsa mosque and the church of the Holy Sepulcher, which you lost to Israel in 1967, almost a quarter of a century ago. Is that the kind of protection you would like us to give to the holy places?

Your Majesty, the holy places in Saudi Arabia are protected only by your brother Muslims, and no non-Muslim is anywhere around, as millions of Muslims can daily attest. And you know that to be a fact.

And, Your Majesty, you claimed to defend the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and a state of their own. And I support you in that. But you were responsible for the Palestinian homeland on the West Bank from 1948 to 1967. Why in all that period did you not give them their rights and statehood? And how would the occupation of Kuwait give our brother Palestinians their

homeland?

Facts are stubborn things.

You talk of "haves" and "have-nots." Saudi Arabia's record as one of the "haves" helping the "have-nots" is clear, and we are proud of it. Just turn to the records of your finance minister and see how much has been given to you and your country for many years by Saudi Arabia, willingly and happily, as brothers.

Are not facts stubborn things!

When you needed Saudi troops to help you, they came and spent 10 years in your country at your asking. And we did not question why or why not, nor raise "ifs," "ands" or "buts," as you do now.

Facts are stubborn things.

You are a very intelligent man, Your Majesty, And you have a fine memory. You say the Kuwaiti-Iraqi border is disputed and based on a historical record created by the colonial British. Your Majesty, you should be the last one to say that. Not only all your borders but your whole country was created by the colonial British.

Facts are stubborn things, indeed, Your Majesty.

And do you remember when the British troops were invited by you into your country in 1958? We did not object or question your motives and judgement over that.

Facts are stubborn things.

You tell us that the situation today is like 1914, when the world was falling into a war it did not want but could not stop. That led to World War I. That is not true, Your Majesty, we are today in a period like the 1930s, when a madman decided to annex his neighbors and the world did nothing. That led to World War II.

These are the facts.

Your Majesty, please remember what caused this entire crisis in our region: the invasion of the Arab and Muslim state of Kuwait by Saddam Hussein. And only after that, and because of that, were Muslim Arab and friendly forces invited. They will all leave when this aggression is turned back or when we ask them to leave.

These are facts, Your Majesty.

Finally, Your Majesty, I long had great respect and affection for you. And I continue to have deep respect and affection for your people. But I no longer can feel that you are the same man I knew. I hope that I am wrong. And if I am wrong, please accept my sincere apologies, Your Majesty. But facts are stubborn things.

—Prince Bandar Bin Sultan, Saudi Ambassador in the United States

Saddam's Crimes-3

- Iraqis are often frightened to voice their opinions even within the family, so fear-some is the security apparatus and so effective its network of informers. Executions are common place. Saddam Hussein's underling are so terrified of executions and reprisals against their families that they dare not tell him unpalatable truths.
- From student days onward, killing has always been part of Saddam Hussein's political repertoire. Those who have opposed Saddam more openly have been imprisoned and, in dozens of cases, executed.
- Saddam deported have a million Shiite Arabs to Iran, confiscated their properties, and has attempted to destroy the ancient Shiite institutions based in Najaf and Karbala, in central Iraq. Schools there have been closed, and leading clerics killed under torture, executed or banished.
- In its recent review of human rights, the State Department cited Iraq's extensive surveillance, disappearances, torture and summary executions of dissidents; "non-existent" press freedom; the destruction of villages and the forced removal of nearly 500,000 people since 1987 from "security zones" along the border with Iran.
- Reports indicate that 120 officers of Saddam's army who objected to the invasion of Kuwait were executed.
- Amnesty International has received several reports of human rights violations by Iraqi forces, including allegations of rape, killings and summary executions of unarmed civilians.
- Ninety members of Saddam Hussein's dissident family in the town of Najaf had "disappeared" under Saddam's regime and 20 more had been openly executed.
- Saddam deported half-a-million Shiite Arabs to Iran, confiscated their property, and has attempted to destroy the ancient Shiite institutions based in Najaf and Kerbala, in central Iraq. Schools there have been closed, and leading clerics killed under torture, executed, or banished.

—Anwar Ghuloum

Organized Robbery-1

The following is a list of some of what the Iraqi invaders have stolen from Kuwait, translated from the Bahraini newspaper Al-Ayyam, September 8, 1990 by Ramzi:

- All kinds of Kuwaiti military equipment and ammunition. Workshops of the air force, coast guard, and army. Fighter planes, coast guard boats, and military uniforms and accessories.
- A large number of Kuwait Airways aircrafts. Everything that was available in the company's workshops including spare parts, office equipment, computers, and furniture.
- The warehouses of the red crescent of Kuwait including catering and medical materials and tents for disaster relief.
- All types of food and medicine from public and government warehouses, food supermarkets and pharmacies.
- Everything in the car dealerships including all kinds of vehicles and spare parts. Many of the private vehicles were stolen from their owners in the streets using force. All the spare parts in the showrooms.
- Jewelry stores and goldsmiths.
- Commercial banks and financial firms and their safe deposit boxes.
- Stores; their goods, furniture, and electric and bathroom fixtures.
- Equipment in the government press houses; printing material, office equipment, and stationaries.
- The printing equipment of the local newspapers and computers that are used to operate them.
- Furniture and equipment of all the schools.
- Disassembly of the amusement park in Kuwait City which is considered the largest in the Middle East.
- Bringing a large number of Iraqi citizens to Kuwait to change the demographical structure of the Kuwaiti population.
- Disassembling all the electronic bakeries.
- Burning the places that have been stripped of their contents.

—Al-Ayyam, Bahrain

Moslem Brother

Assalamu Alaikum,

I would like to share some thoughts with you with respect to the Kuwaiti newsletter and its content. First of all, let me state as a muslim I condemn the Irak invasion of Koweit and no muslim can ever condone what Irak is doing in this muslim country. This said, I categorically reject any non-muslim interference in muslim affairs. The articles published in your newsletter give the impression that things are either black or white. The least I could say is that these views are simplistic in their approach if not politically short sighted. In order to have a clear idea of the gulf crisis is all about one has to take a step back and look at the background of the problem. I sincerely believe that the gulf regimes are the ones that made what Saddam is now. They provided him with billions of dollars to kill fellow muslims. He gased his own people without gulf regime daring to condemn it. I just think it is late to condemn something that was ok a while back. I truly believe that the gulf countries poured billions of dollars in Iraki's weaponry not because they had a love affair with Saddam but rather in the hope that the two regional powers in the gulf, ie Irak and Iran would destroy and annihilate each other so not to be threat to the corrupt regimes in the area. I believe that instead of whining about the Arab reaction, it is better to conduct a self-criticism. I think that as a first step, the people of Kuwait and his true representatives should condemn and reject their regimes for bringing about catastrophe to their own people. Second organize a resistance based on Islam and not on some nationalistic basis.

Also, I would like to bring your attention to the article that was defending the US presence in the area and the supposedly legitimate fear of Israel. The least I could say is that the article is irresponsible if not flat ignorant. No foreign force is there to protect people but rather are there to protect their interests and their puppet regimes. I suggest you be very careful what you publish as this might your newsletter into a piece of junk paper.

To summarize, I would like to stress that the fundamental problem lies in the way we see our regimes. The Iraki regime as well as the Kuwaiti and Saudi regimes are working against their own people. It is about time we wake up and see things from the right angle. I would appreciate any comment on the above.

—Your brother in Islam, Athman

• *I am sorry that I did not make myself clear about foreign intervention in the Gulf crisis. I am, in fact, in favor of this intervention. I don't know how could it be against Islam to*

ask the help of the world to stop the killing, raping, stealing, and starving of Moslems in Kuwait (by the way, all of this is still happening there on a daily basis.) When I see the biggest Islamic symbol in Al-Azhar Al-Shareef of Egypt, approving the foreign intervention in the Gulf, I find myself highly tempted to disagree with what you are saying above.

• *Kuwait and other Gulf states did help Iraq, but only after the second year of the war when Iran was already inside Iraq and refusing to listen to the Iraqi (and world) pleas for a cease fire. At that time, there was a genuine fear about where Iran wanted to stop. That was the reason we helped Iraq, It was not because we wanted to destroy both countries as you claim. I do agree with you, however, that we made a big mistake in not responding to Halabja massacre. But that was simply because we were blinded by our fears of the then formidable military power Iraq had aquired during the course of the war.*

• *I do not have the right to talk about other regimes. I can, however, talk about my regime—the Kuwaiti regime. This crisis showed that all Kuwaitis are backing the Emir (including the political opposition headed by Ahmed Al-Sa'adoun,) and all of them want him back along with their country. So, when you call the Emir corrupt, you are in effect calling all Kuwaitis corrupt. The United Nations records testify that Kuwait has the highest percentage rate of national income in its spendings on the welfare of the Third World, Arabs and non-Arabs, Moslems and non-Moslems. I will be publishing some of these figures in the near future In Sha'a Alla. If you call that corrupt, then let it be.*

• *It is true that the whole world did not come just to save people. They are also here for their own interests. But, like it or not, oil is an international commodity, and the world has the right to worry about its interests and even to defend them, especially if it is invited and welcomed to do so by the Gulf States, the people who own this commodity and who are now directly threatened by the Bull of Baghdad.*

• *A final thought: I don't think that you have the right to call this newsletter "a piece of junk paper" just because it contains articles that do not agree with your views.*

—barrak

All kinds of contributions are appreciated, we invite everybody to write to us. You may e-mail your articles to barrak@tramp.Colorado.EDU or send them to: VOICE of KUWAIT, 805 29 St. #354, Boulder, CO 80303, Tel. (303) 443-9847

Kuwait: A Chronology

BC 600 The Hellens settled in Al-Khazna Hill area on Failaka Island.

529 Al-Monzer Bin-Ma'a Al-Sama'a defeated Al-Hareth Al-Kindi in the Kuwaiti area of Wara.

300 The Creeks lived on Failaka Island for two centuries.

73 A royal message was inscribed on the Ikarus stone which is now on view in the National Museum of Kuwait.

AD 623 The Arabs defeated the Persians at the battle of Zat Al-Salassel in the Kazima area.

1672 The approximate date of the establishment of Kuwait town when Barrak was the Amir of the Beni Khaled tribe.

1711 Approximately when the Al-Sabah family arrived in Kuwait.

1752 The approximate date of the election of Sabah Bin Jaber from the Al-Sabah family to be the first ruler of Kuwait.

1760 The first wall, 750 meters long, was built around Kuwait City.

1762 Abdulla Bin Sabah, the second ruler of Kuwait, came to power.

1765 C. Niebuhr, the Danish traveler, visited Kuwait which he referred to on his map as "Grane."

1773 Kuwait was attacked by an epidemic and most of its inhabitants died.

1783 The Kuwaitis defeated the tribe of Bani K'ab in the sea battle of Riqqa.

1811 The second wall of Kuwait, 2300 meters long, was built.

1871 The Al-Taba'ah accident, in which many Kuwaiti diving ships were sunk, was caused by a massive tidal wave between India and Muscat.

1886 The first Kuwaiti currency was minted in copper during the reign of Sheikh Abdulla Al-Sabah II.

1911 December 22. Al-Mubarakiya School, the first formal school in Kuwait, opened.

1920 The third wall of Kuwait, 6400 meters long, was built.

1921 Kuwait took the first step toward democracy, the formation of a consultative council, but did not last for long.

1922 The total number of Kuwaiti pearl diving boats reached 800, manned by over 10,000 sailors and divers.

1922 The first public library in Kuwait was established.

1926 The historian Abdul Aziz Al-Rasheed published the first book on Kuwait.

1928 Kuwait's first periodical, the "Kuwaiti Magazine," was published by Abdul Aziz Al-Rasheed.

1930 Kuwait Municipality was established.

1930 An Amiri Decree was issued prohibiting the wearing of the Bisht because of soaring prices.

1933 The Municipality installed lighting in the Kuwait market.

1934 December 7. Heavy rainfall destroyed many Kuwaiti houses. Therefore this year was called "The destructive Year," "Al-Sannah Al-Hadamah."

1938 February. Oil was discovered in Burgan oilfield.

1938 The first general elections, resulted in the first Legislative Council.

1942 The first bank in Kuwait was opened.

1945 "Kuwait House" was established in Egypt to look after Kuwaiti missions and interests.

1946 The first Kuwaiti crude oil shipment was exported.

1948 "Kazima Magazine" was issued, the first Kuwaiti magazine to be both printed and published in Kuwait.

1950 Sheikh Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, who had ruled Kuwait for thirty years, died.

1951 May 12. Kuwait Radio went on the air for the first time.

1952 The first "Kuwait Masterplan" was drawn up.

1954 Khalid Al-Faraj, the man of letters and poet, died.

1954 December, 11. "Kuwait Al-Youm" (Official Gazette) was issued for the first time.

1955 Oil was struck in Al-Rawdhatain, north of Kuwait.

1957 Kuwait wall was demolished and removed.

Voice of **KUWAIT**

A newsletter edited and published by Kuwaitis in Exile-Colorado
No.2 October 1, 1990 "Long Live Kuwait!"

Kuwait-Palestine Link?

Ever since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait there have been voices demanding that the Kuwaiti-Iraqi problem and the Palestinian-Israeli problem should be linked together.

We, the Kuwaitis would love to see the Palestinian crisis solved along with ours. But we feel that attempting to link both issues will be unfair for us. Because the Palestinians themselves are not united in their visions to the solutions of their problems. There are those who seek a mutual coexistence with the Jews, others want an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Ghaza Strip, and there are those who want to throw the Jews in the sea! There is already bloodshed caused by conflicts between these groups.

Bearing this in mind, the whole world community will find it extremely hard to seek any kind of solution for a group of people while those people are not united in their struggle for their own cause.

Add to this the fact that the alliance of Arafat, the PLO leader, with Saddam Hussein has caused a great damage to the Palestinian cause and put a lid on the sympathy the Palestinians once had through the publicity of Intifada inside Israel and the occupied territories.

These problems do not exist when it comes to Kuwaitis. Kuwaitis are already united in their demands, and the whole world is already united in backing these demands. So it is clearly unfair to link the two issues in the present time. Still, Kuwaitis hope that the resolve of one of the two conflicts will help resolve the other in the near future "In Sha'a Allah."

—barrak

Saddam's Crimes-2

- In March 1990, the Iraqi government announced a new legal exemption for Iraqi men: they were entitled to kill female members of their family, including wives, mothers, grandmothers and cousins, if they "suspected" them of adultery.
- On March 10, 1990, Saddam Hussein ignored British protests and ordered the execution of Iranian-born London journalist Farzad Bazoft based on erroneous charges of espionage. Bazoft, who tried to gather information about a massive explosion at a military complex, was hanged five days later on March 15.
- Mrs. Daphne Parish, a British nurse, was sentenced to 15 years in jail for giving the journalist a lift in her car.
- On April 6, 1990, a federal grand jury indicted a former employee of Iraq's United Nations Mission, charging that he was part of a plot to assassinate opponents of the Iraqi government in this country.
- On April 19, 1990, a House panel approved a non-binding resolution condemning Iraq for human rights abuses, including torture, executions and persistent repression of all political opposition.
- On August 8, 1990, Iraqi soldiers reportedly fired on 35 women and children who were peacefully protesting against the annexation of Kuwait in Kuwait City. A witness said two teenagers and a 20-year-old died, shot in the heart and head.
- Saddam took his health minister, Riyadh Ibrahim, to another room and shot him after he had suggested during a cabinet meeting that Saddam should consider stepping down temporarily to help end the Iran-Iraq War.
- It is a capital offence in Iraq to insult the President, espouse Zionism, leave the ruling Ba'ath Party or persuade someone else to do so. Using these laws, Iraq has executed thousands.
- Iraq marked the end of the war by beginning active support for General Aoun in Lebanon, undermining the reconciliation policy of the Arab League and the Lebanese people's only hope for peace.

—Anwar Ghuloum

- 1957 The "Social Affairs Department" conducted the first population census.
- 1958 December 1. The first issue of "Al-Arabi" magazine was published.
- 1960 The first Kuwaiti woman was employed by Kuwait Oil Company.
- 1961 April 1. The Kuwaiti Dinar became the official currency in Kuwait.
- 1961 June 19. The agreement of January 23, 1899, concluded between Kuwait and Great Britain, was terminated.
- 1961 July 20. Kuwait became a member of the Arab League.
- 1961 December, 31. Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development was established.
- 1962 January 20. The elected constituent assembly met to draw up the Constitution of Kuwait.
- 1962 An Amiri Decree was issued providing for the division of the country into three governorates.
- 1962 November 11. The Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Abdulla Al-Salem Al-Sabah ratified the first Constitution of Kuwait.
- 1963 January. The first elected National Assembly of Kuwait convened.
- 1963 May 17. Kuwait became a member of the United Nations Organization.
- 1963 August 7. The great Kuwaiti poet Saqr Al-Shebaib died.
- 1965 November 24. The Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Abdulla Al-Salem Al-Sabah, passed away.
- 1966 The Neutral Zone was partitioned between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.
- 1966 November 27. Kuwait University was inaugurated.
- 1968 May 13. Kuwait freed itself from all external obligations when it canceled the agreement of June 19, 1961.
- 1969 April 1. Central Bank of Kuwait was established.
- 1969 October 18. The first communications satellite earth station in Kuwait was inaugurated.
- 1973 July 6. The Kuwaiti pioneer and reformer Sheikh Yusef Bin Eisa Al-Qina'ai died.
- 1975 March. The government acquired full ownership of Kuwait Oil Company.
- 1976 The Social Security Law, applicable to Kuwaiti nationals, was issued.
- 1976 The Future Generations Reserves Law was issued. It stipulates the allocation of 10% per annum of the State revenues for future generations.
- 1977 December 31. The Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah died.
- 1981 May 25. Kuwait signed the Articles of Association of the Gulf Cooperation Council.
- 1983 The Bubiyan Bridge, linking Bubiyan Island to the mainland, was opened for traffic.
- 1985 May 25. His Highness the Amir survived a vicious attempt on his life when a bomb-laden car rammed into his motorcade on Arabian Gulf Street.
- 1985 October 29. The Amir said, "Our decision will remain a free one that does not succumb to blackmail, terrorism or emotionalism."

—From *Kuwait, Facts and Figures, 1986*.

Iraqi Hypocrisy

To those who believe that Saddam Hussein and his Ba'th party are willing to free Palestine, burn half of the Jewish state and throw the rest in the sea. To those who believe that Saddam does not want to deal or communicate with what they call "Imperialism" represented by USA or even to negotiate the Arab-Israeli struggle with them. To those who believe Saddam opposes any U. S. intervention in the region. To those, please go back several years ago and hear what Tariq Azeez, Iraqi Foreign Minister, said in December 1984 on American TV. He said that his country "would support any just, honorable and lasting settlement between the Arab states and Israel," and went on to say that "Iraq does not consider itself to be a direct party to the conflict, because Israel is not occupying any part of Iraqi soil."

These quotes are taken from *Iraq since 1958* by Marion Farouk-Shughet and Peter Shughet. These quotes clearly prove that the Iraqi claims of rising up for the sake of Palestinians are nothing but an attempt to drive a wedge between the them and the rest of the Arabs. Unfortunately, Saddam succeeded in doing just that.

—N. H.



Home Is Where You Are Happy

I will never forget the moment I stepped out of the plane that has just landed in Kuwait. It seems just like yesterday when this gust of hot air gently caressed my face and ... welcomed me to this wonderful country.

A country in which I have spent the best eight years of my life. A country that introduced me to its people with whom I have formed the best friendships I have ever had. A country with such a blend of culture, people and heritage. One with such grace and hospitality that made me feel right at home. A country that every Arab would be proud of—I know I am.

Almost two months have gone by, and still, I am living this horrible nightmare that I can't seem to be able to get out of. I keep telling myself maybe all this is just a bad dream and it will eventually go away. But, my friends, I am wide awake and nothing has changed. A whole nation, in just 4 hours, has been gobbled up, physically destroyed, looted, and raped.

If you think that you can wipe out a nation just like what you are trying to do, well, think again, because this act of barbaric destruction is not enough. Do you know why? because, Kuwait will NEVER die. It is in its people's hearts, in their souls, in every drop of their blood. And you'll never touch that, no matter what you do. So why don't you pack and go home back where you came from. Can't you see, you lost already.

My heart goes out for my brothers and sisters, my mothers and fathers. I feel your pain and sorrow. I weep for your misery and grief.

Be brave. Just be brave. God bless and save you all. God bless this great country of yours.

—A. G.

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Elections in Kuwait?

Saddam Hussein wants free elections in Kuwait! This clearly shows how peace-loving and democracy-loving this man is! After all, he invaded Kuwait only to establish democracy there! Or that at least what he is claiming (just browse through the next page to learn about the "democracy" that brought this man to power.)

But let us step back and look at the whole situation. Who are the people that Saddam want them to vote? The Kuwaitis? We doubt it, since every single one of them will vote for the Emir and not for anyone Saddam will push forward.

In any case, we the Kuwaitis are against free elections in Kuwait at this time. Because Saddam Hussein has messed up the whole population of Kuwait, he even issued Kuwaiti passports to thousands of his Ba'athist party members. Add to that the fact of the fleeing of almost half of the Kuwaiti people from Kuwait because of the invasion.

We the Kuwaitis will never accept anyone to vote in Kuwait along with us. Kuwait is for Kuwaitis only. This fact should be clearly stated in the minds of the whole world. They should never be fooled by this latest Iraqi regime's attempt to disguise its hold of Kuwait.

P.S. When we mention the word "anti-Iraq," we actually mean "anti-Iraqi regime." We have nothing against the people of Iraq, we believe that they are as much victimized by the Iraqi regime as we are. A friend of ours suggested using "pro-Kuwaiti" instead. We will try that in the future.

—barrak

Voice of KUWAIT

A newsletter published in coop. with
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No.4 October 15, 1990 "Long Live Kuwait!"

Democracy in Kuwait

On September 29 1990, the National Council on US-Arab Relations invited the Kuwaiti Ambassador to the United States, Saud Nasser Al-Sabah. The following are quotes of his speech:

"Since 1961, when we became independent, a pre-elected parliament was instated, which drew up our constitution that still exists today. Dividing the power of legislator, the executive and the judiciary, in a proper democratic system—a democratic system by the will of the people. It was not imposed upon them by guns or by tanks. Such a system continued to operate smoothly until the Iran/Iraq war broke out. When the war started, we saw some fragmentation inside our parliament which threatened the security of our country. We saw it fit to dissolve the parliament at that time for security reasons."

"The parliamentary life was revived again only two months before the invasion, with a pre-elected parliament of 50 members and 25 members appointed, for the purpose of reviewing our constitution. Every constitution in the world has to be reviewed after 30 years of experience. There were loopholes, pullbacks, and this parliament was instructed to draw up recommendations to be submit-

ted to the future parliament for adoption."

"Kuwait is a democratic system within the customs and culture of our people. This is the choice of our people. We have a constitution defining the powers and duties of each branch. There isn't a system in the Arab World that exists similar to ours. We have freedom of press, freedom of speech, and freedom of expression."

"They (some people) seem to think that if there is a ruler in any country then there is no democracy. If that is the case then there is no democracy in Britain, Denmark, Sweden, or Spain. It does not have to be a presidential government in order to have a democracy. Each country has its own system befitting with the will and desire of the people. And this is the democracy which we chose for ourselves. And this was really a center of threat that we had from other countries in the area, mainly from Iraq. Because Iraq saw in Kuwait the Switzerland of the area that they did not like. They tried to interfere in our press. They tried to buy our press. They tried to buy our deputies in our parliament to be their spokesmen. Our system was an alien to the Iraqi system of dictatorship and oppression and the Iraqi regime regarded it as a threat."

—Compiled by Firyal Alshalbi

Iraq, a Chronology

- 1921 The British installed Faisal as a monarch in Iraq.
- 1932 The independent state of Iraq is formally admitted to the League of Nations.
- 1933 King Faisal dies to be succeeded by his son Ghazi.
- 1936 Bakir Sidqi overthrows the government in the Arab World's first military coup.
- 1943 A group of less than 10 people, calling themselves the Arab Ba'ath movement issue their first programmatic statement in Damascus.
- 1958 A secret organization of 200 "Free Officers" overthrow the monarchy in a coup acclaimed throughout Iraq.
- 1959 A Ba'athist hit team fails to assassinate Qassem. A member of the team, 22-year old, Saddam Hussein, escapes to Syria and then goes to Egypt.
- 1961 The Iraqi army launches its first major offensive against the Kurds.
- 1963 A Ba'athist coup overthrows Qassem. Abdus-salam Aref becomes President.
- 1968 The Ba'ath cast out their former allies in a second carefully planned coup. Supreme authority passes to the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) chaired by Ahmed Hassan Al-Bakir. (Saddam Hussein becomes Deputy Chairman of the RCC in charge of internal security)
- 1968 December. Iraqi TV presents graphic details of an alleged Zionist spy ring involving Iraqi Jews that have been broken in Basra.
- 1969 January. The new regime's first batch of "spies" are brought for a public trial, 17 people were hanged.
- 1969 February. Aziz Al-Haj, leader of the Iraqi Communist Party (ICP) Central Command, is arrested.
- 1969 August. The Kurdish village of Dakan in Mosul is the scene of a major army atrocity. The war against the Kurds is being stepped up.
- 1969 October. Former Prime Minister, Abdurrahman Al-Bazzaz, is tortured and imprisoned for 15 years on charges of being a Zionist agent.
- 1970 January. The regime reports that a new conspiracy is foiled. Within a week, 44 people have been executed.
- 1970 October. Hardan Al-Takriti, prominent officer Ba'athi and former member of the RCC and Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense, is gunned down in Kuwait.
- 1971 August. AbdilKarim Nasrat, early Ba'athi and organizer of the militia that was used in the overthrow of the Qassem regime, is stabbed to death in his house.
- 1971 September. Iraqi State Security fails in an attempt to assassinate the Kurdish leader, Barazani (he was executed later).
- 1971 November. Fuad Al-Rikkabi, the leader of the Ba'ath from the inception of an Iraqi organization until 1959, is murdered in prison.
- 1972 June. The Iraqi Petroleum Company is nationalized.
- 1973 July. Nadhim Kazar, Chief of Internal Security, is executed along with at least 35 others in the wake of a coup attempt.
- 1974 March. Following the collapse of the 1970 Kurdish autonomy accords, all-out war breaks out. The Kurdish towns of Zakho and Qala'at Diza are razed to the ground. Hundreds of thousands of Kurds flee the cities. Brutalities break all previous records.
- 1974 December. 5 Shi'i 'ulama' are executed for unknown reasons.
- 1975 March. The Algiers agreement between the Iraqi Ba'ath and the Shah's regime in Iran is promulgated.
- 1977 February. Shi'i clergy head a demonstration on the religious occasion of Ashura in the city of Karbala. Some 2,000 people are arrested and 8 more 'ulama' executed. Mass deportations into Iran of Iraqi Shi'is happened around this time, by the late 1970's some 200,000 Iraqis have been dumped inside Iran, stripped of their nationality and property.
- 1978 October. Khomeini expelled from Iraq.
- 1979 February. The Islamic revolution in Iran.
- 1979 June. Saddam Hussein becomes President. Al-Bakir is stripped of all positions and placed under house arrest.
- 1979 July. Massive Purge of top Ba'athi command. Muhyi Rashid, Secretary of RCC, forced to confess and shot along with whole family. One third of the members

of the RCC are executed. By August 1, some 500 top ranking Ba'athists are said to have been executed.

1980 April. Mohammed Baqir Al-Sadr and his sister Bint Al-Huda, symbols of the Shi'i opposition in Iraq, are executed.

1980 September. Saddam Hussein launches full-scale war against Iran.

—From *Republic of Fear*, by Samir Al-Khalil

Organized Robbery-2

- All ministries and government firms.
- Street lamps in the highways and the electronic traffic signals.
- Electric generators and telephone extensions.
- Warehouses of Kuwait Petroleum Company.
- Warehouses of the Ministry of Water and Electric Resources.
- Furniture and equipment in Kuwait University plus all labs, computers and libraries.
- Equipment in all private and public hospitals including X-ray machines, modern labs and warehouses of the Ministry of Health, the Kuwaiti Medicine Company including new equipment some of which are estimated to have a value more than 100 million dollars.
- The dismissal of all patients from hospitals and using the hospitals to treat the Iraqi soldiers.

—Al-Ayyam, Bahrain

God Bless Egypt

As soon as the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait took place, Kuwaitis in London gathered and demonstrated in front of the Iraqi embassy condemning the acts of its government. After that they marched directly to the Egyptian embassy crying "Egypt! Egypt! Where Are You!" At the same time, Egyptians demonstrated in front of the Iraqi embassy in Cairo and after that they marched to the Kuwaiti and Saudi embassies and volunteered to defend their brothers in both countries.

These spontaneous acts clearly show the deep respect Kuwaitis have for Egypt and its people. They also clearly show how Egyptians react to the current events in the Middle East based on their own beliefs of Moslem and Arab brotherhood. That happened even before Egypt took its official stand against the invasion, taxi drivers in Cairo did not wait for a word from their government to refuse accepting ride fares from their Kuwaiti brothers.

An Egyptian friend of mine told me the other day that the popularity of Hosni Mubarak grew-up dramatically after his firm position of condemning the Iraqi regime and joining the whole world in imposing the UN sanctions on it. All these events give a bold statement to the world that Egyptians can in fact speak out their own minds contrary to the claims of the pro-Iraqi analysts saying that the official Egyptian position is contradicting with what the masses there want.

To Egypt we say, God bless you. God bless the souls of your people.

—barrak

Eye Witness

The following is a story of an 18-year old Kuwaiti who managed to flee Kuwait after a terrible experience with the Iraqi Secret Police:

We were 15 young men, ages ranging from 17 to 20 years old and we were all very close friends. We were engaging in the armed resistance against the Iraqis when one day, an Iraqi unit stormed into our hideout. 6 of us were immediately killed and the rest were captured. For the next 14 days we were subjected to interrogation and torture which included pulling out of our finger nails, burning us with cigarettes, and other unimaginable things.

At the end, they lined us up against a wall in the street and an Iraqi officer started asking us one by one about several names, the answers were immediately followed by a bullet in the head. I was the last one, when my turn came up, the officer was standing in front of me alone while his soldiers were busy pushing angry civilians away from the scene. I managed to kick him in the groin and started running, a bullet scratched the side of my head but I continued running.

It did not take long for me to pass out because of the wound. Later I learned that a Kuwaiti lady managed to pull me inside her house away from the eyes of the Iraqis. Later I went back home to find out that 4 Iraqi officers came to my family's house with a truck, drove my family out of the house and loaded everything they could carry into the truck. My mother then insisted that we all leave Kuwait. We arrived at Saudi Arabi on the last day of September.

—B. K.

Voice of Israel?

The other day I listened to a phone call on my answering machine. In it the caller suggested that I should change the name of this newsletter from "Voice of KUWAIT" to "Voice of Israel," since I am talking with a tongue of an Israeli, not a tongue of a Moslem! Of course, the caller did not leave his name or his phone number.

I was completely shocked! After several moments of staring at the answering machine, I snapped out of it and dashed to the back issues of the newsletter trying to find out how on earth could anyone reach such a conclusion!

I beg this caller to call or send a letter and tell me where did he find the evidence of my "collaboration" with Israel. I may have made a mistake somewhere, and I will appreciate it if he could correct me.

The purpose of this newsletter was and still is to show the whole world the hardships Kuwait and Kuwaitis are going through and also to expose the reality of the Iraqi regime and its crimes. Where does Israel get into the picture? I wish I know!

This caller said that he got the newsletter from the mosque which means he is a Moslem. Great, we have some common ground here (assuming that he did not mean it when he stripped from me my identity

as a Moslem.) To this caller I say, what do you think of the atrocities occurring in Kuwait right now? Isn't that against Islam? And what do you think of the Iraqi regime who is committing all of these atrocities? Isn't this regime acting against Islam? And what do you think of this newsletter which is aggressively condemning all of that? Is that against Islam? I wish you could apply your Islamic judgement when answering all of these questions. Because I am 100% sure that when you do so, you will change your mind about me and about this newsletter. I hope I will hear from you soon.

—barrak

Shedding Some Light

In the same meeting mentioned in the first page, Mr. Ambassador had the following to say about the political system in Kuwait:

"Kuwait itself was an entity identified as Kuwait even before Iraq was identified as Iraq in the Ottoman Empire. Kuwait was in existence since 1752. We continued to be in existence until the conflict between the Ottoman Empire and the British and others in the area. Thereafter, we signed with the British in 1899 a protective agreement whereby the British guaranteed the sovereignty and security of Kuwait."

"In 1913, the British and the Ottoman signed an agreement defining without any doubt the borders of Kuwait as they stand today. Such an agreement was reconfirmed in 1932 between the Kuwaiti government and the Iraqi government at that time. That is when Iraq became a state, after Kuwait itself."

"In 1961, when we declared our independence Iraq seized the opportunity to claim Kuwait as part of Iraq. There were threats. The British came in, and Arab forces came in to guarantee the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kuwait. In 1963, Kuwait and Iraq again signed border agreement, thereby defining our territory and Iraq's recognition to the sovereignty and territory of Kuwait."

—Compiled by Firyal Alshalbi

The Iraqi regime claims that Kuwait was cut from Iraq by the British in order to deprive Iraq of its oil. The 1913 and 1992 border treaties between Kuwait and Iraq represent clear testimonies against such an allegation since oil was discovered in Kuwait in 1938!

—barrak

Soviets Starving in Iraq

The Iraqi former best ally is suffering from the Iraqi regime's actions. According to the Soviet media, Iraq is stalling on permissions for 5,000 Soviet workers to depart. 300 Soviet construction workers had sent a letter to a Soviet publication appealing for help to get them out of Iraq. They say they almost ran out of food and that the Iraqi stores are refusing to sell them any.

—From *Christian Science Monitor*, October 5, 1990

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Tales of Horror-1

The following are testimonies gathered in the hearings of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus. Remember that when you find it hard to comprehend what you will read:

- 21 Kuwaiti professors were executed because they refused to resume teaching at Kuwait University.

- Hundreds of people in Kuwait are believed to be arrested for possession of the Kuwaiti flag or pictures of the Emir.

- Torture in Kuwait by the Iraqi regime includes; rape, electric shocks, prolonged beating to sensitive parts of the body, breaking of limbs, extraction of finger and toe nails, psychological threats of sexual assault or execution, cutting of various body parts, torching by lit cigarettes, ...etc.

- Iraqi soldiers fired on a group of 35 Kuwaiti women and children on a peaceful demonstration. Two boys, ages 13 and 16, and a 20 year old girl were killed.

- 5 little kids were killed because they had literature that said "Long live the Emir."

- A Moslem preacher was taken by the Iraqis, 10 days later he was brought to his family with burns all over his body and was executed in front of his mother.

- Iraqis gave wrong directions in the desert to fleeing people. Many of them perished because of that.

- 2 Kuwaitis were stopped at a check point, accused of being members of the Kuwaiti National Guard, and executed in the middle of the street in front of 12 other waiting cars.

—Hearings of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus

Voice of KUWAIT

A newsletter published in coop. with
National Union of Kuwait Students-USA
No.5 October 22, 1990 "Long Live Kuwait!"

Numbers for Thoughts

In response to someone who asked about the Kuwaiti loans to the Third World, I found the following which represents the official Kuwaiti development assistance only, and this does not include gifts, donations, waving of loans, and private investment. Data is for both Iraq and Kuwait. The following is in millions of dollars.

Year	Kuwait	Iraq
1976	706	123
1978	1001	123
1979	971	658
1980	1140	864
1981	1163	207
1982	1161	52
1983	997	-10
1984	1020	-22
1985	771	-27
1986	715	-40

The Kuwaiti figures do not include those loans given to Iraq since 1983. Kuwaiti loans have very low interest rate, ranging from 2-5%, these loans represent 3.5-5.1% of the Kuwaiti Gross National Product (GNP).

For Iraq, the negative numbers mean borrowing. Iraqi loans represent 0.54-1.9% of Iraq's GNP, this does not include the borrowing stage during the war.

Source: World Development Report 1988, Published for the World Bank.

—N. II.

Organized Robbery-3

- Equipment in the Ministry of Information and the TV and radio studios, the library of the ministry that is considered the largest in the Middle East which contains some unique and priceless recordings.

- Furniture and equipment in the Institution of Applied Sciences and the hi-tech equipment in Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research.

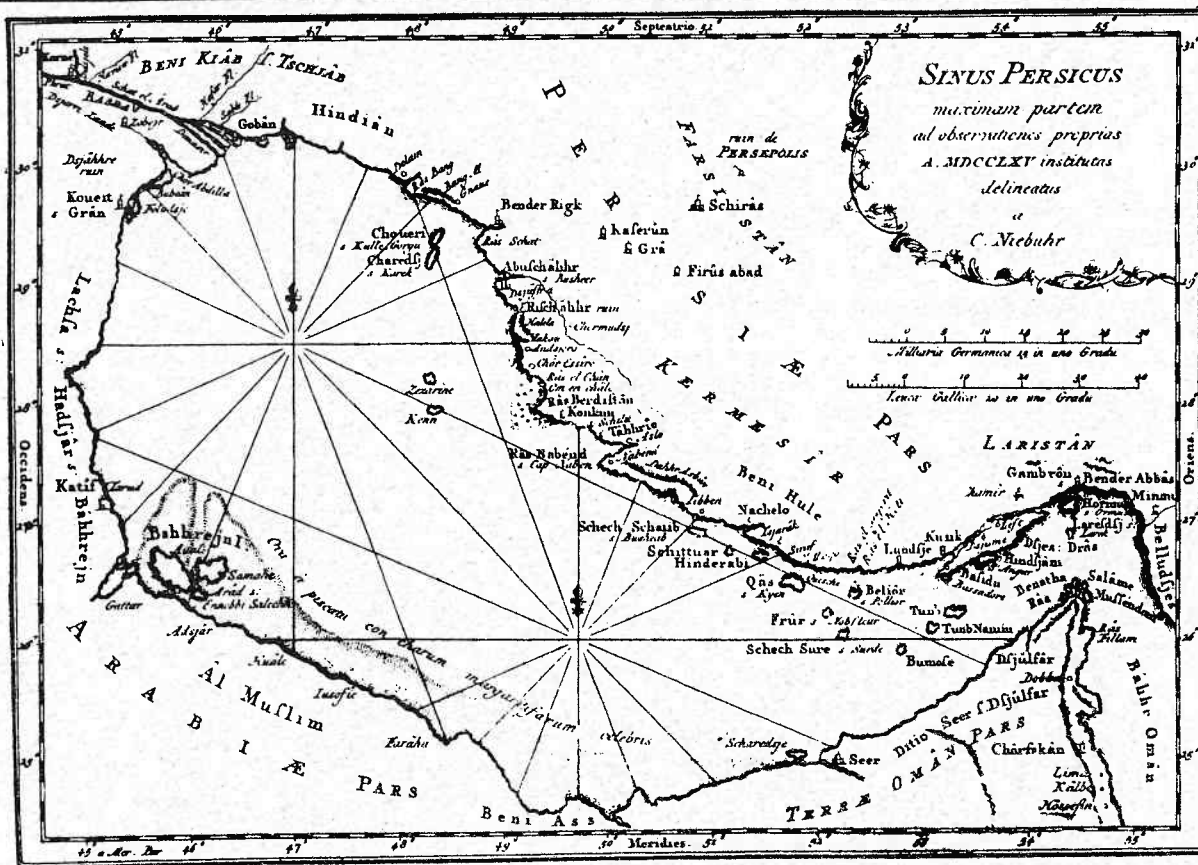
- Animal resources from private and government farms. Eating some of the animals in the zoo.

- A large number of private residences and all the houses that belong to members of the ruling family and high government officials.

- Concrete bricks that form the pedestrian sidewalks of the streets.

- All equipment, computers, and furniture of the Kuwaiti Society for the Advancement of Arab Children (a week after its chairman denounced the Iraqi invasion in Washington, DC.)

—Al-Ayyam, Bahrain



Origins of Kuwait

The establishment of Kuwait is attributed to Barrak b. Ghurair of the Bani Khalid who used Kuwait as a summer residence. The beginning of Kuwait goes back to the late 17th century and some historians go further up to 1611. Kuwait's name is derived from al-Kut which means fortress. Kuwait is also called Qurain, which is the diminutive of qarn, a horn or hill. Kuwait town flourished and grew since its establishment.

The 'Utub, al-Sabah family is a branch of 'Utub, settled in Kuwait during the early 18th century. They lived under the protection of Bani Khalid until 1752. After that, they became independent and Sabah Bin Jabir was chosen as the first ruler for 'Utub.

Carsten Niebuhr (1733-1815) a Dutch explorer was among the first who wrote about the Ara-

bia. He was the mathematician in the scientific expedition sent in 1760 by the King of Denmark to Arabia. He documented details of Arab tribes inhabiting both coasts of the Gulf and in the case of Kuwait, he was the first writer to give the two names by which the town was known, Kuwait and Qurain. Niebuhr's chart of the Persian Gulf was the best one drawn before the end of that century, see the map from Abu Hakima, History of Eastern Arabia 1750-1800. pub.1965.

Al-Sabah ('Utub) kept good relations with other powers in the eastern Arabia. According to Ahmed Abu Hakima's conclusions in his well documented study about the history of eastern Arabia between 1750-1800, there was no Ottoman rule on the region. "In the second half of the 18th century, there was no Ottoman ruler in Eastern Arabia. In fact, Ottoman rule was not even nominally acknowledged. Their at-

tempts to restore their lost position in al-Hasa through the campaign of Thuwayni in 1786, and Ali Pasha's expedition against the Wahhabis in 1798, were unsuccessful. At Kuwait, the nearest point of the Utbi domains to the Ottoman Mutasallimiyya of Basra, the Shaikh was under no form of Ottoman control. The aim of 'Utbi external policy was to keep on friendly relations with all the forces working in the Gulf." (p. 182-183) Abu Hakima continued in his conclusions that "Kuwait was not a dependency of Basra, the Persian occupation of Basra (1775-79) did not affect Kuwait." (p.183)

Kuwait had its own identity through the Ottoman domination on the Arab world. This identity was clear to the British and the French who tried to win the support of Kuwait's Sheikh between 1793-95 when the British wanted his support in their conflict with the French in the Gulf area.

—N. H.

Angry Responses

I got several angry responses on the article that I wrote under the title "Kuwait-Palestine Link." Some accused me of putting down the Palestinian cause, others said that I am sympathetic to Israel. Some even accused me of speaking with an Israeli tongue.

The clashes between the different Palestinian factions have been going on for years now. Those clashes which sometimes included bloody encounters were the major reason of the many setbacks to the Palestinian cause in recent years.

I never talked about those problems before since I always felt that they are internal differences and that they should be addressed by the Palestinian people only. What is happening now is that some people are pressing hard to link the Kuwaiti and the Palestinian issues. And the way I see it is that those "internal" differences which have been hurting the Palestinian cause are going to severely affect the Kuwaiti cause once they are linked. That is why I said it is not fair to link them, only the Palestinians have bloodshed among them, Kuwaitis don't.

Just for the record I will say this; I fully support the Palestinian people in their struggle against the Israeli occupation and racial discrimination. Once the Palestinians unite in their demands and wishes I will support them 100% whatever these demands and wishes are.

Unfortunately, some people do not have the same respect to the demands and wishes of the Kuwaiti people. Those "some" are trying to speak out for the Kuwaiti people without any authorization. Worse, they are putting down the wishes and demands of the Kuwaiti people

and mark them as un-Islamic which is the utmost insult.

Kuwait has been among the leading nations in supporting Islam and Moslems in every international arena. Our government allocates millions and millions of dollars every year for the sake of Islam. The same goes for the several Islamic organizations supported by the Kuwaiti people. We even have Islamic radio stations in Africa owned by these non-government organizations.

It is really heart-breaking for us to be accused in our Islam by someone who just learned about Islam in the later years of his life and who is still not in full grasp of the basic Islamic beliefs. This is apparent from the way the word "Islam" is linked only to the Palestinian struggle but not to the Kuwaiti struggle.

Those "Moslems" are pouring all their anger on the U.S. presence in the Gulf without looking at the facts surrounding such presence which we can summarize in the following:

- The reason behind the foreign intervention in the Gulf is the occupation of Kuwait by the Iraqi regime.

- Both the Saudi and the American officials declared that the U.S. presence will be reversed once Saddam Hussein withdraws from Kuwait or once the Saudis ask for it to end.

- The U.S. presence in the Gulf is supported and encouraged by the United Nations. It is also supported and encouraged by most of the International Islamic institutions which they look at it as a necessity to stop the anti-Islamic regime in Baghdad.

- The U.S. forces are not their alone, the forces of 21 other countries are present there including major Arab and Moslem countries (Egypt, Syria, Pakistan.)

- The foreign military pres-

ence has been asked for and supported by the people of the Gulf. No one other than those people has the right to condemn it.

- Raising the issue of U.S. presence puts a lid on the Kuwaiti cause and gives an unfortunate cover for the Iraqi regime's atrocities and human rights violations committed now in Kuwait. Unfortunately, this is the goal of some "Moslems."

- The withdrawal of the international forces will serve no one but Saddam Hussein and the rest of his fellow international pirates.

- The days of "colonialism" and "imperialism" are over for decades now, the world has a new order and a new vision for the international relations. Saddam Hussein is terribly outdated, and those who cry about the U.S. "occupation" of the Gulf are badly in need for a crash course in the politics and economics of today's world.

—barrak

Kuwait GNP per Capita

After the invasion, ABC news reported that Kuwait Gross National Product (GNP) per capita is more than \$24,000 which made me wonder what was their source of information! The highest ranking GNP per capita country in the world is Switzerland which recorded \$17,680 in 1986. The real GNP per capita in Kuwait was \$13,890 in 1986 which is affected by relatively high rate of inflation (14.1%). Kuwait GNP per capita is less than Switzerland, US, Norway, Canada and U.A.E. Many writers are capitalizing on this alleged high GNP per capita (\$24,000!)

Source: The World Development Report 1988, Page 223, Tables #1-, Published for the World Bank.

—N. H.

Mixing Issues

Dear Editor,

I was pleased to find a copy of the Voice of Kuwait, No.2, October 1, 1990, in the UMC the other day. It is a well-written newsletter setting forth the Kuwait issue. I hope it was seen and read by many C.U. [University of Colorado] students.

I don't think enough was said about a fairly frequent argument I have been hearing in Boulder lately, that Iraq should withdraw from Kuwait, but only if there is no return to the Amirate form of government. Among others, this opinion has been expressed by Representative Patricia Schroeder, member of Congress from the Denver district. I do not believe that the issue of the unprovoked invasion of Kuwait should be confused by asserting that the overthrow of Kuwait's traditional form of government is necessarily in the best interest of either the people of Kuwait or of this country.

The notion that a monarchical form of government is necessarily undemocratic is absurd. Several highly admired European countries are monarchies, and no one is saying they are therefore "undemocratic." European countries with Kings or Queens include Sweden, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, and Belgium, as well as Spain. In the Islamic world, monarchies or comparable forms of government with a hereditary ruler include Morocco, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, along with Kuwait and the other Gulf emirates. Among other major monarchical nations now considered fully democratic are Japan; other Asian monarchies include Thailand and Brunei. Closer to the USA, CANADA is formally a monarchical state, with Queen Elizabeth II as head of state, and the same is true of Australia and New Zealand.

The form of government of the

state of Kuwait is certainly up to its inhabitants, but should not be considered as something to be negotiated with Iraq as a condition for Iraqi withdrawal.

You may be familiar with a book on Kuwait and its neighbors, which I have found informative on the long separate history of Kuwait from what used to be the Mesopotamian part of the Ottoman Empire. There is a copy in the C.U. Library: History of Eastern Arabia, 1750-1800, by Ahmed Mustafa Abu Hakima. Beirut, 1965, Publ. by Khayats.

This book makes it very clear that Kuwait had a separate existence under its own Amirs from early in the 18th century, a fact long recognized by the British East India Company, and later by the British Crown, who, although for their own national interests, did not consider Kuwait simply as a part of the Ottoman Empire.

—Professor Gordon W. Hewes, Boulder, Colorado

I am a Kuwaiti and I can assure everybody here that every single Kuwaiti wants the Emir back along with their country. Throughout the history of Kuwait, the presence of the traditional Kuwaiti government was the biggest single factor in the social and political stability of Kuwait which is situated in a highly volatile region. Without such stability, Kuwait could be easily transformed to another Lebanon, and that will serve nobody.

—barrak

Innocent Islam

In response to some "Moslems" who are waging the holy war (Jihad) against the whole world, and in an attempt to clear up the blackened image of Islam, I have the following to say:

When you read about the Islamic philosophy, you will be shocked about how "some" Moslems have managed to give Islam a real bad name. To read about this philosophy, you may see some writings of a Moroccan writer called Rushdi Fakkar. I don't know if any of his works have been translated into English, though.

Everybody should know that no religion (especially those from God, i.e. Moslems, Jews and Christians) is in favor of bloodshed. In Islam, the Prophet Mohammed was forced to use the sword against many people because those people tried to forcefully stop Islam from migrating. If he lived nowadays in a world that guarantees freedom of religion and speech, he wouldn't have dreamed of shedding one single drop of blood. Today's world would be ideal for him to scrap the sword from his book and fully and peacefully engage himself in "Da'awa" (spreading Islam in the world to raise the word of God.)

Unfortunately, many Moslems read about the history of Islam, but not about its beautiful philosophy which in short calls for: "To strive and struggle to raise the word of God and to make this universe a better place to live in."

—barrak

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Elections in Kuwait?

Saddam Hussein wants free elections in Kuwait! This clearly shows how peace-loving and democracy-loving this man is! After all, he invaded Kuwait only to establish democracy there! Or that at least what he is claiming (just browse through the next page to learn about the "democracy" that brought this man to power.)

But let us step back and look at the whole situation. Who are the people that Saddam want them to vote? The Kuwaitis? We doubt it, since every single one of them will vote for the Emir and not for anyone Saddam will push forward.

In any case, we the Kuwaitis are against free elections in Kuwait at this time. Because Saddam Hussein has messed up the whole population of Kuwait, he even issued Kuwaiti passports to thousands of his Ba'athist party members. Add to that the fact of the fleeing of almost half of the Kuwaiti people from Kuwait because of the invasion.

We the Kuwaitis will never accept anyone to vote in Kuwait along with us. Kuwait is for Kuwaitis only. This fact should be clearly stated in the minds of the whole world. They should never be fooled by this latest Iraqi regime's attempt to disguise its hold of Kuwait.

P.S. When we mention the word "anti-Iraq," we actually mean "anti-Iraqi regime." We have nothing against the people of Iraq, we believe that they are as much victimized by the Iraqi regime as we are. A friend of ours suggested using "pro-Kuwaiti" instead. We will try that in the future.

—barrak

Voice of KUWAIT

A newsletter published in coop. with
National Union of Kuwait Students-USA
No.4 October 15, 1990 "Long Live Kuwait!"

Democracy in Kuwait

On September 29 1990, the National Council on US-Arab Relations invited the Kuwaiti Ambassador to the United States, Saud Nasser Al-Sabah. The following are quotes of his speech:

"Since 1961, when we became independent, a pre-elected parliament was instated, which drew up our constitution that still exists today. Dividing the power of legislator, the executive and the judiciary, in a proper democratic system—a democratic system by the will of the people. It was not imposed upon them by guns or by tanks. Such a system continued to operate smoothly until the Iran/Iraq war broke out. When the war started, we saw some fragmentation inside our parliament which threatened the security of our country. We saw it fit to dissolve the parliament at that time for security reasons."

"The parliamentary life was revived again only two months before the invasion, with a pre-elected parliament of 50 members and 25 members appointed, for the purpose of reviewing our constitution. Every constitution in the world has to be reviewed after 30 years of experience. There were loopholes, pullbacks, and this parliament was instructed to draw up recommendations to be submit-

ted to the future parliament for adoption."

"Kuwait is a democratic system within the customs and culture of our people. This is the choice of our people. We have a constitution defining the powers and duties of each branch. There isn't a system in the Arab World that exists similar to ours. We have freedom of press, freedom of speech, and freedom of expression."

"They (some people) seem to think that if there is a ruler in any country then there is no democracy. If that is the case then there is no democracy in Britain, Denmark, Sweden, or Spain. It does not have to be a presidential government in order to have a democracy. Each country has its own system befitting with the will and desire of the people. And this is the democracy which we chose for ourselves. And this was really a center of threat that we had from other countries in the area, mainly from Iraq. Because Iraq saw in Kuwait the Switzerland of the area that they did not like. They tried to interfere in our press. They tried to buy our press. They tried to buy our deputies in our parliament to be their spokesmen. Our system was an alien to the Iraqi system of dictatorship and oppression and the Iraqi regime regarded it as a threat."

—Compiled by Firyal Alshalbi

Iraq, a Chronology

- 1921 The British installed Faisal as a monarch in Iraq.
- 1932 The independent state of Iraq is formally admitted to the League of Nations.
- 1933 King Faisal dies to be succeeded by his son Ghazi.
- 1936 Bakir Sidqi overthrows the government in the Arab World's first military coup.
- 1943 A group of less than 10 people, calling themselves the Arab Ba'ath movement issue their first programmatic statement in Damascus.
- 1958 A secret organization of 200 "Free Officers" overthrow the monarchy in a coup acclaimed throughout Iraq.
- 1959 A Ba'athist hit team fails to assassinate Qassem. A member of the team, 22-year old, Saddam Hussein, escapes to Syria and then goes to Egypt.
- 1961 The Iraqi army launches its first major offensive against the Kurds.
- 1963 A Ba'athist coup overthrows Qassem. Abdus-salam Aref becomes President.
- 1968 The Ba'ath cast out their former allies in a second carefully planned coup. Supreme authority passes to the Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) chaired by Ahmed Hassan Al-Bakir. (Saddam Hussein becomes Deputy Chairman of the RCC in charge of internal security)
- 1968 December. Iraqi TV presents graphic details of an alleged Zionist spy ring involving Iraqi Jews that have been broken in Basra.
- 1969 January. The new regime's first batch of "spies" are brought for a public trial, 17 people were hanged.
- 1969 February. Aziz Al-Haj, leader of the Iraqi Communist Party (ICP) Central Command, is arrested.
- 1969 August. The Kurdish village of Dakan in Mosul is the scene of a major army atrocity. The war against the Kurds is being stepped up.
- 1969 October. Former Prime Minister, Abdurrahman Al-Bazzaz, is tortured and imprisoned for 15 years on charges of being a Zionist agent.
- 1970 January. The regime reports that a new conspiracy is foiled. Within a week, 44 people have been executed.
- 1970 October. Hardan Al-Takriti, prominent officer Ba'athi and former member of the RCC and Deputy Premier and Minister of Defense, is gunned down in Kuwait.
- 1971 August. AbdilKarim Nasrat, early Ba'athi and organizer of the militia that was used in the overthrow of the Qassem regime, is stabbed to death in his house.
- 1971 September. Iraqi State Security fails in an attempt to assassinate the Kurdish leader, Barazani (he was executed later).
- 1971 November. Fuad Al-Rikkabi, the leader of the Ba'ath from the inception of an Iraqi organization until 1959, is murdered in prison.
- 1972 June. The Iraqi Petroleum Company is nationalized.
- 1973 July. Nadhim Kazar, Chief of Internal Security, is executed along with at least 35 others in the wake of a coup attempt.
- 1974 March. Following the collapse of the 1970 Kurdish autonomy accords, all-out war breaks out. The Kurdish towns of Zakho and Qala'at Diza are razed to the ground. Hundreds of thousands of Kurds flee the cities. Brutalities break all previous records.
- 1974 December. 5 Shi'i 'ulama' are executed for unknown reasons.
- 1975 March. The Algiers agreement between the Iraqi Ba'ath and the Shah's regime in Iran is promulgated.
- 1977 February. Shi'i clergy head a demonstration on the religious occasion of Ashura in the city of Karbala. Some 2,000 people are arrested and 8 more 'ulama' executed. Mass deportations into Iran of Iraqi Shi'is happened around this time, by the late 1970's some 200,000 Iraqis have been dumped inside Iran, stripped of their nationality and property.
- 1978 October. Khomeini expelled from Iraq.
- 1979 February. The Islamic revolution in Iran.
- 1979 June. Saddam Hussein becomes President. Al-Bakir is stripped of all positions and placed under house arrest.
- 1979 July. Massive Purge of top Ba'athi command. Muhyi Rashid, Secretary of RCC, forced to confess and shot along with whole family. One third of the members

of the RCC are executed. By August 1, some 500 top ranking Ba'athists are said to have been executed.

1980 April. Mohammed Baqir Al-Sadr and his sister Bint Al-Huda, symbols of the Shi'i opposition in Iraq, are executed.

1980 September. Saddam Hussein launches full-scale war against Iran.

—From *Republic of Fear*, by Samir Al-Khalil

Organized Robbery-2

- All ministries and government firms.
- Street lamps in the highways and the electronic traffic signals.
- Electric generators and telephone extensions.
- Warehouses of Kuwait Petroleum Company.
- Warehouses of the Ministry of Water and Electric Resources.
- Furniture and equipment in Kuwait University plus all labs, computers and libraries.
- Equipment in all private and public hospitals including X-ray machines, modern labs and warehouses of the Ministry of Health, the Kuwaiti Medicine Company including new equipment some of which are estimated to have a value more than 100 million dollars.
- The dismissal of all patients from hospitals and using the hospitals to treat the Iraqi soldiers.

—Al-Ayyam, Bahrain

God Bless Egypt

As soon as the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait took place, Kuwaitis in London gathered and demonstrated in front of the Iraqi embassy condemning the acts of its government. After that they marched directly to the Egyptian embassy crying "Egypt! Egypt! Where Are You!" At the same time, Egyptians demonstrated in front of the Iraqi embassy in Cairo and after that they marched to the Kuwaiti and Saudi embassies and volunteered to defend their brothers in both countries.

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—barrak

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—B. K.

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I beg this caller to call or send a letter and tell me where did he find the evidence of my "collaboration" with Israel. I may have made a mistake somewhere, and I will appreciate it if he could correct me.

The purpose of this newsletter was and still is to show the whole world the hardships Kuwait and Kuwaitis are going through and also to expose the reality of the Iraqi regime and its crimes. Where does Israel get into the picture? I wish I knew!

This caller said that he got the newsletter from the mosque which means he is a Moslem. Great, we have some common ground here (assuming that he did not mean it when he stripped from me my identity

as a Moslem.) To this caller I say, what do you think of the atrocities occurring in Kuwait right now? Isn't that against Islam? And what do you think of the Iraqi regime who is committing all of these atrocities? Isn't this regime acting against Islam? And what do you think of this newsletter which is aggressively condemning all of that? Is that against Islam? I wish you could apply your Islamic judgement when answering all of these questions. Because I am 100% sure that when you do so, you will change your mind about me and about this newsletter. I hope I will hear from you soon.

—barrak

Shedding Some Light

In the same meeting mentioned in the first page, Mr. Ambassador had the following to say about the political system in Kuwait:

"Kuwait itself was an entity identified as Kuwait even before Iraq was identified as Iraq in the Ottoman Empire. Kuwait was in existence since 1752. We continued to be in existence until the conflict between the Ottoman Empire and the British and others in the area. Thereafter, we signed with the British in 1899 a protective agreement whereby the British guaranteed the sovereignty and security of Kuwait."

"In 1913, the British and the Ottoman signed an agreement defining without any doubt the borders of Kuwait as they stand today. Such an agreement was reconfirmed in 1932 between the Kuwaiti government and the Iraqi government at that time. That is when Iraq became a state, after Kuwait itself."

"In 1961, when we declared our independence Iraq seized the opportunity to claim Kuwait as part of Iraq. There were threats. The British came in, and Arab forces came in to guarantee the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kuwait. In 1963, Kuwait and Iraq again signed border agreement, thereby defining our territory and Iraq's recognition to the sovereignty and territory of Kuwait."

—Compiled by Firyal Alshalbi

The Iraqi regime claims that Kuwait was cut from Iraq by the British in order to deprive Iraq of its oil. The 1913 and 1932 border treaties between Kuwait and Iraq represent clear testimonies against such an allegation since oil was discovered in Kuwait in 1938!

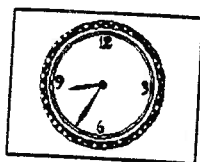
—barrak

Soviets Starving in Iraq

The Iraqi former best ally is suffering from the Iraqi regime's actions. According to the Soviet media, Iraq is stalling on permissions for 5,000 Soviet workers to depart. 300 Soviet construction workers had sent a letter to a Soviet publication appealing for help to get them out of Iraq. They say they almost ran out of food and that the Iraqi stores are refusing to sell them any.

—From *Christian Science Monitor*, October 5, 1990

All kinds of contributions, free subscription orders, or donations are appreciated, we invite everybody to write to us. You may e-mail your articles to barrak@tramp.Colorado.EDU or send them to: Voice of KUWAIT, 805 29 St. #354, Boulder, CO 80303, Tel. (303) 443-9847. Please, make donations payable to "Voice of KUWAIT."



Ku-WAITing for News

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

C/O SANDY STONE

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ISSUE 2, NOVEMBER 5, 1990

The second edition of Ku-WAITing for News is dedicated to Kuwaiti Resistance fighters who bravely defended their country against overwhelming odds. Many have died defending Kuwait. Let us never forget these brave men.

REFLECTIONS

Many of us who were in Kuwait the day of the invasion up until the day we were airlifted to various countries have mixed emotions and feelings of sadness. We wish to share with those of you who were out of the country on August 2 some of those feelings.

Kuwait is not perfect, no country is, and many of us complained about the lack of conveniences and freedoms we were used to in our own countries. When we first arrived we drove our cars and "froze in shock" as cars dodged around us, tailgated behind us, darted out of side streets, ran stop signs, turned left from the right-hand lane and cut us off and, to be perfectly honest, "scared the hell out of us." It didn't take long for most of us to become "Kuwaiti drivers" in self defense.

On August 2 we all went to work, even though we heard that Iraqi tanks had crossed the border and were moving into Kuwait City. The next few days were nerve-racking to say the least; we ran up the steps to the rooftop and watched Iraqi helicopters fly over our heads toward the city; watched the shelling of the conference center and the burning of one of the villas in our area. On the night of the invasion we turned the TV to the local station which showed pictures of the Emir and the Crown Prince and heard the anonymous voice of an Arab who was pleading for his Arab brothers to come to the aid of Kuwait. This went on in fifteen minute intervals for several hours and then stopped. We were overcome with compassion.

It was difficult to know how to react as these horrors were not programmed into our minds as the types of things we are told as children to "beware of" (such as "don't take candy from strangers," or "don't open the door if your parents aren't home") so we watched with a mixture of fascination, fear and disbelief. Our minds could not fully accept what our eyes were seeing.

During the first two weeks we felt pretty free to move around outside, to go shopping (all stores had soldiers with rifles stationed inside), to

visit friends and, yes, to go to our places of employment in the private sector, even though there was a chance our cars would be confiscated by soldiers. We drove alongside tanks and trucks loaded with Iraqi soldiers.

On the afternoon of August 16 American and British citizens were told to report to the International or Regency Palace Hotels. We elected not to report and from that day on we had to close ourselves off, stay inside, or go underground. We kept all lights off at night so that we would remain as unobtrusive as possible. It didn't work in some cases because the soldiers started breaking down doors and rounding up Westerners, even though our respective Ambassadors had been assured by the Iraqi Embassy in Kuwait that "nobody would be forced out of their homes." Some of us watched helplessly from behind hiding places as soldiers broke into homes and took Westerners away. We were warned in advance to "keep our heads down" on the nights the Kuwaiti Resistance were planning sabotage activities.

On the day we were due to leave Kuwait, we left for our rendezvous at the Safeway parking lot. There were no cars with "Kuwaiti drivers" to watch out for, no pedestrians dashing dangerously across the road in front of us, and no signal lights operating. We were drinking in the sights, looking at the landmarks which had become so familiar to us: the new communications tower with the crane still in profile against the unusually blue sky; the Kuwait Towers standing proudly; the prominent mosques with an eerie silence emanating from the minarets. Coupled with sadness was an inner rage at what had been done to this country and it suddenly struck me how much I had come to love Kuwait.

I had been desperately trying to put into words how I felt when I received a copy of **VOICE OF KUWAIT** which printed a message to Saddam Hussein written by a young Kuwaiti man. It expresses my feelings so clearly that I want to share a part of his message with you:

TO SADDAM HUSSEIN: "I will tell you what you have gained: You have gained land, buildings, cars, equipment, and many of our personal possessions. But you have not gained a country, because a country is not made of material objects: A country is made up of people, and you will never gain control over the people of Kuwait."

"I will tell you what you have lost: You have lost a friend and neighbor: Kuwait. You have lost the support of the international community. You have lost the respect of many of your Arab and Moslem friends. And you have lost your place in the human and civilized world, because evil has no place among us."



What more could anyone add? Many people have asked me if I will ever return to Kuwait. I tell them "yes, I will go back." The rage inside of me began there - it must end there.

Sandy Stone

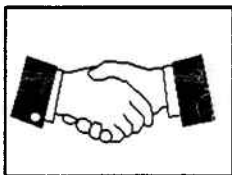
RETRIBUTION

Though the mills of God grind slowly, yet they grind exceeding small;
Though with patience he stands waiting, with exactness grinds he all.

F. Von Logau

Translated by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS!



The light of friendship is like the light of phosphorus, seen when all around is dark.

We have received many letters and phone calls from our Ku-WAITing for News readers since our first issue. We have a new Ku-WAITing for News Readers List ready and if you want a copy, please mail us a stamped self-addressed envelope and we will be glad to send you a copy. Our phone has been very busy, but we are afraid some of you are not contacting us due to the time difference. Lubna Shaya has volunteered to be our East Coast representative. If you would like to contact Ku-WAITing for News for information on friends or just to talk, our phone numbers are: (702) 363-3445 - West Coast (Sandy Stone, Leilani Marafie, and Abdullateef Marafie) and (703) 281-7462 - East Coast (Lubna Shaya). Correspondence can be sent to the address on the front of Ku-WAITing for News. We thought you might be interested in reading about some of your friends:

MARGIE AL-GHANEM is in the U.S. and had a baby boy about two months ago. CONGRATULATIONS, MARGIE! We still don't have her address. Does anyone have it? **GLORIA AL-BUSAIRI**'s husband, Ibrahim got out of Kuwait on October 25. We're very happy for her. We still need Gloria's address, too. **SUSAN AUGUSTINE** and husband John relocated in Texas. Susan was in Kuwait during the invasion and John was out of the country on business. **CATHY ABOUNA** wrote that her friend **MRS. SHIRLEY CARROLL** has seven children and her husband, Jim, a pediatrician, is still in Kuwait. Write to us, Shirley! You have friends who may be able to help you. **LISA AL-RAMLY**, husband and children are thankful to be together. She and her children were on summer vacation and her husband left Kuwait on August 1 to join them for a month's vacation. Lisa found a position as Admissions Coordinator at a Health Center. **EVELYN AL-MISNAD**'s husband, Misnad, may be able to give information regarding those in the Army who were stationed at the Air Force Base by the airport. He was captured and escaped during the second week and took a few families with him. Write to us with a photo and name of your husband if he was stationed there. We will forward to Misnad. She also encourages Americans and Kuwaitis to talk to schools about Arab culture.

NANCY BENGALI informs us that DEBBIE LINDROTH has a list of names of those outside Kuwait. Debbie, please send the list to Nancy and a copy to us. Thanks. MERRELL TURLEY'S son was among the group of 14 American men recently released from Baghdad. Her husband is still being held there. DEANNA DARDEN'S husband is still in Baghdad. SUSAN JAHNKE from the U.S.A. and AUDREY MCKENZIE from the U.K. received distressing news that their husbands were picked up in Kuwait and taken to Baghdad. KATHY AL-MEER has learned that her husband is safe. KARIN VENDETTI has a brother being held in Baghdad. She has not heard anything about him since August 28. He was an embassy employee but did not have diplomatic status. Ku-WAITing for News has not been able to help Karin get any information. Do any of you know if there is a group formed by people who are in her situation?

We have received many calls and it is impossible for us to list all of them here. Thanks to all of you for your support of Ku-WAITing for News.

RESPONSIBILITY

We consider it an honor
to be asked to be a friend.
Yet the responsibility it
brings sometimes makes it seem
more of a burden
than a blessing.

For we expect
a friend to be
completely honest with us,
yet always kind and careful
of our feelings
and our pride.

We expect a friend
to stand beside us
even when we stumble,
and lift our spirits
when our worlds
begin to crumble.

But perhaps precisely
just because
it's not an easy task,
we truly give an honor
to those we ask.

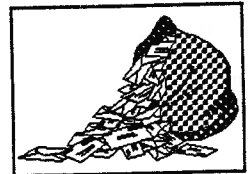
MAIL BAG

Thanks to our readers, we have located most of the people we did not have information about.

We have yet to hear about:

Ingrid Pawlouski
Macky and Vic Habib

Valerie Al-Ghanim
Sharon Shehab



Do you know what happened to:

Helen Haddad (husband Suleiman?)
Marisa & Jim Pennington
Carolyn Hussain
Brenda & Jeff Rickert

Dr. Robert Baima
Debbie Bourahmah
Ruby Abrahine

One of our Ku-WAITing for News readers has told us that Rhonda Abdul-Ghafoor, a former resident of Kuwait is sick. It is a special time of the year to remember our friends. Readers can send get-well cards to Rhonda via Ku-WAITing for News. We will be glad to forward them on to her. Thanks, to everyone in advance!

BARBARA BUSH (yes, President Bush's wife) wrote a nice letter which, in part, says "I can only tell you that George has all of the brave participants in the Persian Gulf crisis on his mind and in his prayers." A member of President Bush's staff also called and said they had received Ku-WAITing for News and appreciated receiving a copy and hoped we would continue our efforts.

LETTERS TO SOLDIERS: We cannot write to our loved ones, so why not express your feelings to a soldier in Saudi and help to build their morale. Also, it is time to mail packages for Christmas (already?) and I feel sure they would appreciate it even more if they heard from "victims" of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. There is no need to have a name of a soldier; just address your letters or packages as listed below. Some of the items suggested for packages are foot powder, writing materials, high protein foods, cookies, hard candy, sunflower seeds, playing cards, and tapes. We have already written letters and made cookies for Christmas packages. Send your letters and packages to:

To Any Serviceman
Operation Desert Shield
APO New York, New York 09848-0006
(This address is for soldiers
on the front line - Saudi)

To Any Serviceman
Operation Desert Shield
FPO New York, New York 09866-0006
(This address is for those on
ships in Gulf)

To Any Serviceman
Operation Desert Shield
37th TFW Deployed
APO New York, New York 09761
(This address is for the
Stealth Bomber Group)



SENDING MESSAGES TO OUR LOVED ONES

BBC in London is accepting calls from Americans. Thank you, BBC and our wonderful British friends. They are asking that we only send one message per 10 days. Their phone number in London is 011-44-1-2572373.

VOICE OF AMERICA is asking that we only send two messages a week to allow everyone an opportunity to send their messages. Again, their number is

(202) 619-3306. Call between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

WORD FROM KUWAIT

We are receiving information from Kuwait:

- There is still food.
- Military action is very quiet right now; however, they have picked up some Americans and British in the past few weeks and taken them to Baghdad.
- The Iraqis continue to dismantle Kuwait, piece by piece. They have even taken the petrol pumps.
- Many of you saw the news story regarding Ambassador Howell and the men at the American Embassy in Kuwait. If you did not see it, this is what happened: The men started digging and finally hit water! They then proceeded to wash all of the cars in the American Embassy compound in full view of the Iraqi soldiers! Margie tells me that they considered doing an "Iraqi Tank Wash" but since they would be paid in Iraqi Dinars decided not to hold this fund raiser. The men have started a vegetable garden and their radishes have already come up. There is humor in every situation, no matter how bad things might appear.
- Friends of Kathleen and Hussain Asad: They are fine.

BITS 'N' PIECES

TIE A YELLOW RIBBON: Barbara Jessup, Residential Manager for Centel, the telephone company here in Las Vegas, tells Ku-WAITing for News that Centel has passed out yellow ribbons for employees to tie on their vehicle antenna as a symbol of support for our armed forces and the American and foreign national hostages. Let us know what is happening in your cities.

KUWAIT TASK FORCE, U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT: We have received many calls from people who were referred to us by the Kuwait Task Force and these people have been added to our mailing list. Thank you to the Kuwait Task Force for trying to cope with a very difficult situation. Ambassador Howell's wife, Margie, is working as a volunteer with the Kuwait Task Force. Margie called and passed on some very helpful information. If you need assistance in finding a therapist or counselor, call 1-800-USA-GIVE. They will refer you to agencies in your area who have therapists who will work with you free of charge. They can also advise you regarding social service agencies who can assist those who need financial help. A law firm in Washington, D.C. wanted to help and have offered their toll-free line to those who want to call the Kuwait Task Force. Call 1-800-999-0529, tell them you want the Task Force and they will connect you. Going this route your call will be free. We applaud their efforts!

"VOICE OF KUWAIT": This is an excellent newsletter published in cooperation with National Union of Kuwait Students-USA. They would like to establish a group to be named "FRIENDS OF FREE KUWAIT." They ask that if you are willing to help in any way, send them your name, phone number and address to VOICE OF KUWAIT, 805 29 St. #354, Boulder, Colorado 80303, Tel. (303) 443-9847. They will make sure you receive a copy of their newsletter.

"COMING HOME, LTD": Michael Saba was stranded in Iraq during the invasion. When he returned home he wanted to try to give something back and formed the Coming Home project "to work toward the quick and safe release of Americans in Iraq and Kuwait and to provide information and referral services to the families of the detainees." He offers an excellent sample letter for you to use in writing your senators and congressmen asking that they demand that the United States Department of State publicly invoke the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 (the so-called "Civilians' Convention") to protect U.S. citizens currently being detained in Kuwait and Iraq. Write to him for a copy of his newsletter at COMING HOME, LTD., P.O. Box 36, Champaign, IL 61824 and write those letters.

"CITIZENS FOR FREE KUWAIT": Abdul-Hameed Al-Hussain has formed "Citizens for Free Kuwait" which is made up of Kuwaitis stranded in California and their friends. On November 2 a rally was held in San Francisco's Union Square between 12 and 1 p.m. to mark the anniversary of the third month of the invasion. Around 50 Kuwaitis and their American, Saudi and U.A.E. friends carried banners, Kuwaiti and American flags, and each participant had a yellow ribbon. The march was to ask for the return of Kuwait to its citizens. A visual representation of conditions inside Kuwait and a question & answer session was held that evening at the campus of U.C. Berkeley in conjunction with this group's activities. Keep up the good work, Abdul-Hameed! Anyone interested in keeping-up with the activities of this group is welcome to call Abdul-Hameed at 415-992-3604.

OPERATION YELLOW RIBBON: This organization has been formed for families of military men and hostages. Gay Jacobsen, 415-588-742.

PHIL DONAHUE SHOW

On Tuesday, October 23, Phil Donahue's show entitled "American Women Happily Married to Arab Men" was aired on CBS. If you saw the show and were as repulsed as we were by the Arab husband on the show, we urge you to write a protest to Phil. Address your letters to PHIL DONAHUE, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10012. Let him know that this man does not represent the "typical Arab man."

KUWAIT FACT

In 1911 the first Christian missionaries entered Kuwait. They were doctors and nurses who wanted to teach Christianity and practice medicine. The Emir at that time, Sir Mobarek Al-Sabah, was skeptical of western medicine and required the doctors to prove their skills first - on his horse! The horse was operated on successfully and the missionaries received permission to establish a hospital and practice medicine (although permission was not given to try to convert the Muslim residents to Christianity). The American Hospital on the Gulf Road is the result of those first dedicated men and women. Do you have a Kuwait Fact that you would like to share with our readers? If so, please write us with your story.

DONATIONS

This is our second issue of Ku-WAITing for News and it has grown faster than we could ever have foreseen. We will continue Ku-WAITing for News until we all return to Kuwait and are re-united with our loved ones. If you are able to help with even a small monetary donation, please mail your contribution to our Headquarters Office address. Thanks, readers, you're all in our thoughts and prayers!

THANK YOUS!

A special thank-you to the Lady Luck Casino Hotel in Las Vegas for their generous help in producing Ku-WAITing for News. Leilani works there in the executive office and her fellow employees have been very supportive. Our new logo is courtesy of their Art Department. Great, isn't it? Ku-WAITing for News also wants to pass along our thanks to Shirley Bollig, Lubna Shaya, Don & Camille Holt, Naomi Al-Haroon, Rita Robertson, and Kathy Al-Meer for their kind donations.

WHEN WILT THOU SAVE THE PEOPLE?

When wilt Thou save the people?
O God of mercy, when?
Not kings and lords, but nations!
Not thrones and crowns, but men!
Flowers of Thy heart, O God, are they;
Let them not pass, like weeds, away,
Their heritage, a sunless day.
God, save the people.
Shall crime bring crime forever,
Strength aiding still the strong?
Is it Thy will O Father,
That man shall toil for wrong?
No, say Thy mountains; No, Thy skies;
Man's clouded sun shall brightly rise,
And songs ascend, instead of sighs.
God, save the people!
When wilt Thou save the people?
O God of mercy, when?
The people, Lord, the people,
Not thrones and crowns, but men!
God, save the people, Thine they are,
Thy children as Thine angels fair.
From vice, oppression, and despair,
God, save the people!

December 8, 1990

My dear friends:

During the past three months we have shared our sorrows, our fears, our tears, some laughter, and the few joys which have come our way. We have all become "Middle East Experts" and together we have analyzed what moves Saddam Hussein will make next.

As I write this letter hostages are being released from Kuwait and Baghdad and are finally making their way home to families and friends. By the time you read this my husband, Al, should be back by my side and one of my three wishes will have come true. If I had a magic wand to wave, my other two wishes would come true: withdrawal of Iraqi troops from occupied Kuwait and the return of our military to their families.

While I hope to continue participating in Ku-WAITing for News, the extent of my involvement is uncertain at this time as I shall be moving to Reno, Nevada and do not know where my husband's next assignment will be. I hope you will write to me and let me know how you are doing. My mailing address in Reno will be P.O. Box 14157, Reno, Nevada 89507.

Leilani and Abdullateef will continue Ku-WAITing for News as long as possible but they will need a lot of input from you with articles and information to put into the newsletter. Please send your letters to them at 240 Mission Catalina, #108, Las Vegas, Nevada 89107. Our phone number, (702)363-3445, will be in service until December 31. Leilani works full-time so she will not be able to speak with you during the day; Lubna will continue as our East Coast Representative and will be available from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. I shall continue joining you on our Wednesday conference calls.

Thank you to Leilani and Abdullateef who have become very, very dear to me. It is going to be very difficult to say goodbye to them; however, I know we will meet again in Kuwait.

My wonderful sister, Barbara, and her husband, Jack, have been very supportive during this difficult time and have put up with phone calls every hour of the days, TV crews moving in and out of their home, and have been very gracious in allowing me to turn their second floor into an office.

And you, my wonderful friends, have helped me to make it through the darkest period of my life. I thank all of you from the bottom of my heart; I could not have made it without you. Rest assured that Americans who have been living in Kuwait will continue to speak out for the Kuwaiti people.

With deepest appreciation,

Sandy Stone

We know it is not the best Holiday Season of our lives, but we at Ku-WAITing for News wish to take this opportunity to wish all of our readers a Peaceful Holiday Season and a Joyous New Year.

West Coast Office - Open 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
(We have an answering machine, so please leave a message if we are out and we will call you back.)

East Coast Office (703) 281-7462 Open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

This issue of Ku-WAITing for News was sent to the printer on the day Sandy Stone received word of her husband's pending release from Kuwait. We want to express our special thanks to Sandy for a job well done - Ku-WAITing for News would not exist without her help. We will miss you, Sandy!

POEM SENT TO GENE HUGHES, KUWAIT HOSTAGE, BY HIS MOTHER
FOR HIS BIRTHDAY

Count your garden by the flowers
Never by the leaves that fall
Count your days by the golden hours
Don't remember the clouds at all
Count your nights by stars, not shadows
Count your life by smiles, not tears
And with joy on every birthday
Count your age BY FRIENDS, not years



FROM SAWT AL-KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL

Through our sources we have been able to obtain information about our loved ones and as of this date they are well and still able to get food. We would like to know how your loved ones in Kuwait or Iraq are doing and if you are able to get information about them. We may be able to help to get information about Kuwait if you have no sources there. This would be done very discreetly.

We want to continue ku-WAITing for news but we need ideas from you as to what you would like us to print and any information you might have for us.

WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED

to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and
to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and
to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and
to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

AND FOR THESE ENDS

to practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours and
to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, and
to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, that armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest, and
to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS.

PREAMBLE TO UNITED NATIONS CHARTER, 1945

"UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL"

OCTOBER 17, 1990

One of our prime objectives is to keep in touch with each other. However, please be assured that our mailing list is totally confidential. Should any of you desire to contact a friend on our mailing list, send us your name, address and telephone and we will then forward that information on to your friend.

I COUNT MYSELF IN NOTHING ELSE SO HAPPY
AS IN A SOUL REMEMB'RING MY GOOD FRIENDS.

SHAKESPEARE



BITS 'N' PIECES

Were you outside of Kuwait on August 2? Do you have the return half of a round-trip ticket left? If you have any information on how a refund can be obtained, please write and let us know so we can inform all of our ku-WAITing for news friends.

MEMORIES

Are you keeping a journal or diary of your experiences since August 2? Some of the families who are keeping notes have found this to be very beneficial psychologically and helps to relieve tension and keep track of the days. Also, when we all return to Kuwait, journals will be a tangible way of expressing to our loved ones our thoughts and feelings while we were apart.

WHO ARE WE?

Our names are Leilani (Leila) Marafie and Sandy Stone. We left Kuwait under different circumstances, but both have loved ones in Kuwait. Leilani and her husband, Abdullateef, were on vacation in Greece at the time of the invasion and were not able to return to Kuwait. Sandy and her husband were in Kuwait at the time of the invasion and she was airlifted out on September 8.

BBC has been providing this service for some time for those in the United Kingdom. I don't have the phone number, but perhaps someone will write and give it to me for the next ku-WAITing for news.

The Department of State in the U.S. will send cables to the Kuwait American Embassy. Call (202) 647-7310 with your prepared 5-line message.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE

The NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE (NOVA) has an excellent booklet which helps people in our situation to cope with the trauma we are going through. Write to them at:

NOVA, 1757 Park Road, N.W., Washington, D.C. or call (202) 232-6682. There is no charge for the booklet and we do urge you to send for it.

KUWAIT FACT

DID YOU KNOW?

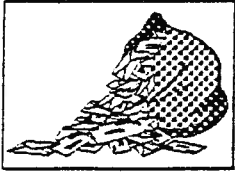
Kuwait ended its agreement signed in 1899 with England and was formally granted independence on June 19, 1961 and became a member of the United Nations in 1963. Kuwait celebrates National Day each year on February 25. Why the difference in dates? The father of independence was Sheikh Abdulla Salem Al-Sabah (the father of Crown Prince Saad Abdulla Al-Sabah). He became Amir on February 25, 1950 and Kuwait National Day has been held on that day since his death in honor of his patriotic work.



KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS!

We have enclosed two lists of names of those we have either addresses and phone numbers for, or just phone numbers. If you would like to have someone's address or phone number, please call our headquarter's office at (702) 363-3445 between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon or 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time). If there is no answer on this line, call (702) 363-4400 and leave a message on the code-a-phone for Sandy Stone, (sorry, but return calls will have to be collect calls due to lack of funding) or write to us at ku-WAITing for news c/o Sandy Stone, 7720 Pheasant, Las Vegas, Nevada 89128. Since our list is confidential, if you do not see a name on the list but know their whereabouts, please call or write so that they can be put on the our mailing list. If you are looking for somebody, let us know and we'll try to help in finding them.

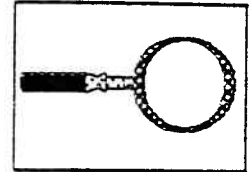
MAIL BAG



We have a list of names with addresses and/or telephone numbers for many of you which will remain confidential, but need your help in locating several women and men we have lost touch with.

Does anybody know what happened to:

Ingrid Pawlouski
Margie Al-Ghanem and 2 (3?) children
David Bromley
Macky and Vic Habib



We need addresses for:

Jerry and Jackie Zandstra
Betty Seago
Averil Stoba
Sharon Shehab

If the address we used to send ku-WAITing for news to you is incorrect, please let us know. If you move, please send us your new address.



SENDING MESSAGES TO OUR LOVED ONES!

In the United States the Voice of America will tape messages which are then broadcast in Kuwait and Iraq. Call (202) 619-3306 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for those of us on the west coast. They request that you have your message prepared before calling. You can read a message up to five lines of written words. You can read it yourself or they will read it for you. It is difficult to do the first time, but your voice reading the message will mean much more to your loved ones. Try not to be too emotional as this is more disturbing to them than a calm and newsy message. Those in Kuwait and Iraq who have radios and can receive VOA are passing the messages along to those who are unable to receive them. We heard that many people are actually taping the VOA messages and playing them back to the person the message is intended for. **DO MAKE A CALL** - it will mean so much to them.

Kuwait. As many as 24 of us can talk together at one time--if there is a need this can be expanded to 48. If you are interested in taking part in the conference call with Leilani, Abdullateef and Lubna, contact our office for screening and the toll-free number.

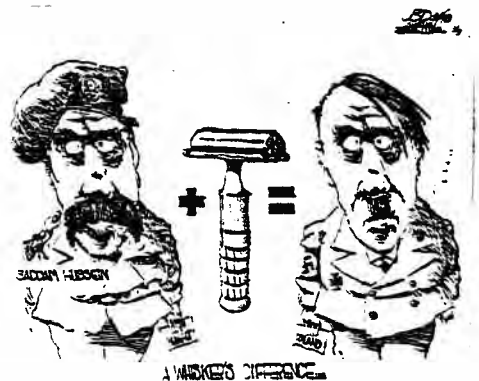
We have heard from many friends in the **UNITED KINGDOM**: **NAOMI AL-HAROON** is busy sending out sample letters for us to send to our Congressmen supporting President Bush's handling of the crisis; she is doing the same in the U.K. for British citizens to send to members of Parliament. **TONY and MAUREEN WILBRAHAM** were released from Baghdad; **KAREN JOHNSON** says husband **ROY** is now in touch with **SANDY STONE'S** husband, **AL**, by phone. Karen gave birth to an 8 lb., 10 oz. baby boy on November 17; proud grandparents are **RUTH AND LEE JOHNSON** in the U.S. **JEAN SEFTON** received a 29-page letter from her husband, Don. **AUDREY MC KENZIE** is planning to visit her husband in Baghdad. In the **UNITED STATES**, happy wives **MARJORIE BRISKEY** and **BARBARA HOFFMAN** have their husbands back after their escapes from Kuwait. **BRENDA RICKERT'S** elated family called to tell us that she is back home, but, like many of us, had to leave her husband behind. We hope to hear from her. **KAREN AL-OWN** goes through the phone book and calls people to ask if they support President Bush and the troop build-up and to get an idea on how Americans feel about the crisis. She has made over 500 phone calls. Keep up the good work, Karen! **DIANE SHIHABI** had a baby girl in September. **SHARON SHEHAB** tells us that her husband, Waheed, is now with her. **NOME CHARCHALIS'** husband, George, was released from Baghdad and came out with Muhammed Ali. **MARY TRUNDY** went to Baghdad and successfully appealed for release of twin brother, John.

FRIENDS

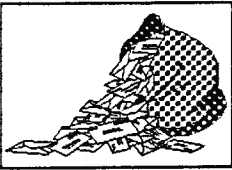
Friends are folks we always like
To tell all our troubles to;
They come along with a song,
And a heart that's staunch and true.
Friends are folks who ease our hearts,
On a day when we are blue;
With pen in hand, they understand,
And may write a line or two.

It's folks like that who do not mind,
Whose warm and infectious smile,
Friendly hug -- a great big tug --
Can make everything worthwhile!

EDNA DE FRANK FASINO



MAIL BAG



VIRGINIA VAN HEST-BASTAKI is in the UK and sent names and addresses of people from Kuwait University. Readers inform us that **DR. BOB BAIMA** is still in Kuwait. **SHIRLEY CARROLL** writes that she and seven children are doing OK thanks to Kuwait Embassy financial assistance. **VALERIE AL-GHANEM** is in the U.K. area. **DONNA SULTAN** writes from the UAE that "I am not sure any nation has ever experienced such loyalty and concern from its expatriate community as Kuwait. That we as Americans can show such support is really a tribute to that land we call home, Kuwait." She also passed on sad news that **MRS. GHAZI SHIHABI** died in early November. **RENEE EBRAHEEM** and **CORRINE KHOURY** finally have their husbands with them. **GAIL ANDERSON'S** husband is back with her and speaking at local schools and writing articles to "set the record straight." **MARGARET DICKENSON** wrote from Canada to say that husband, Lawrence, who was Canada's Ambassador to Kuwait, has set up an "Office to the Canadian Embassy" in Bahrain. We owe the Canadians a debt of gratitude for their assistance on the "Freedom Flights" made out of Kuwait. **BERIT FLATEN** from Norway writes that her husband is a hostage in Baghdad. She wishes all a nice Christmas. **PATRICIA HAMMER** writes that her two children and husband are still in Kuwait.

Thanks to all of our readers for their letters and phone calls which provide us with so much information and encouragement. We are attempting to respond to all of you as soon as possible when you request information on friends, so don't think we have forgotten you. As you may recall from our first Ku-WAITing for News, we assured everyone that we would not give out your address or phone number without contacting you first and we will continue to follow this policy.

Do you know what happened to:

Candy Al-Mutairi
Mike and Linda Anderson
Amina Al-Mulafie
Bassem Housani and Family
Hilda Abdullah
Connie and Sadeq from Fintas
Kathy Knapich
Rita Diember
Shelly from Phil Donahue Show (aired 10/23)

SENDING MESSAGES TO OUR LOVED ONES

Keep sending those **VOICE OF AMERICA** messages. We are getting feedback from Kuwait and Baghdad that they are hearing our messages. Call (202)619-3306

Kuwaitis are Fighting Back

On several occasions people approached me saying something like: "We lost relatives in Vietnam and we do not want to lose any more for your sake. You are asking us to fight for you while you are enjoying our freedom here."

We did not come here to "enjoy" your freedom. Ask any American who had lived in Kuwait before the invasion and he will tell you, believe it or not, that the standard of living in Kuwait is far better than it is in some American cities. You could have walked in the street anywhere in Kuwait in the middle of the night with a million dollars in your pockets without fearing a mugger or a snatcher—we had peace and freedom in Kuwait.

We came here to the States to study to further enhance and develop our country, not to enjoy your freedom, we already had that back home.

Kuwaitis are not sitting idle while Americans are fighting for their freedom. The latest numbers are 7,000 people killed, 12,000 POW's and 10,000–13,000 civilians arrested and are currently under continuous torture and mistreatment. The above numbers are not officially confirmed, but most of the reports I've received reflect similar figures.

Still, these numbers are not discouraging the people inside Kuwait from resisting the Iraqis. Nowadays, an average of 4–10 people are getting executed everyday for reasons ranging from protecting foreigners to the distribution of food and leaflets.

The following quote is from Newsweek, November 12:

Many of the fugitives survive on food and shelter provided by Kuwaiti friends. "I don't think American people understand how many Kuwaitis put their lives on the line for Americans," says Beth Hanken, who returned home last Septem-

ber and whose Kuwaiti husband is still trapped in the Emirate. One family of six, including two small children, was summarily executed when a foreign passport was found in their house. Last month the Iraqis chopped off a man's hand for daring to "feed the enemies of Baghdad;" then they shot him dead.

—barrak

Iraqi Deserters

In the following article The Wall Street Journal interviews several Iraqi soldiers who deserted the army and fled to Turkey:

"It's like a butcher's shop," an army captain says of Kuwait. He and other soldiers interviewed—who requested anonymity because of fears for their families in Iraq—describe an army that is underfed, demoralized and, in the early days of the invasion, on a rampage of rape, pillage and murder.

"We stole money, we stole gold, we stole food," says Iwan, a private in the army. On most days, he says, soldiers' rations consisted of a single roll of barley bread and a half-liter of water. They stole whatever else they could. "What else could we do?" Iwan asks. "You can't eat petrol."

Iwan says the officers in his company raped 20 women—Kuwaiti

and Filipino—then lined them up against a wall and ordered them shot. One officer who refused to follow orders to loot was hanged. Another soldier says he was part of a group that broke into a bank and loaded army cars with cash, gold and gems. A third says he helped loot a hospital of medicine and equipment, including incubators.

The soldiers say they were loaded on trains in Baghdad several days before the Kuwaiti invasion and were told they were headed for "exercises" in the Iraqi desert. Eventually, they found themselves disembarking from trucks in Kuwait, amid burning cars and gunfire.

—The

Wall Street Journal, November 14, 1990

Sensible Argument

No matter how I put it together, it seems to me that there is no way to prevent Kuwait from taking a terrible beating when the shooting starts. Even if the US and other allies force conduct a flank-around and tear up the Iraqi interior behind the lines, I expect the Iraqis in Kuwait to adopt a scorched-earth policy. To me, the fact that Kuwaitis are in favor of an immediate military solution despite the fact that they will suffer the most speaks well for both their bravery and good sense. It is also a powerful argument which the world should hear.

—D. C. Sessions

Voice of KUWAIT

A newsletter published in coop. with
National Union of Kuwait Students-USA
No.10 November 26, 1990 "Long Live Kuwait!"

The Constitution of Kuwait-2

Part II: Fundamental Constituents of the Kuwaiti Society:

Article 7: Justice, Liberty and Equality are the pillars of Society; co-operation and mutual help are the firmest bonds between citizens.

Article 8: The State safeguards the pillars of Society and ensures security, tranquillity and equal opportunities for citizens.

Article 9: The family is the corner-stone of Society. It is founded on religion, morality and patriotism. Law shall preserve the integrity of the family, strengthen its ties and protect under its auspices motherhood and childhood.

Article 10: The State cares for the young and protects them from exploitation and from moral, physical and spiritual neglect.

Article 11: The State ensures care for citizens in old age, sickness or inability to work. It also provides them with services of social security, social aid and medical care.

Article 12: The State safeguards the heritage of Islam and of the Arabs and contributes to the furtherance of human civilization.

Article 13: Education is a fundamental requisite for the progress of Society, assured and promoted by the State.

Article 14: The State shall promote science, letters and the arts and encourage scientific research therein.

Article 15: The State cares for public health and for means of prevention and treatment of diseases and epidemics.

Article 16: Property, capital and work are fundamental constituents of the social structure of the State and of the national wealth. They are all individual rights with a social function as regulated by law.

Article 17: Public property is inviolable and its protection is the duty of every citizen.

Article 18: Private property is inviolable. No one shall be pre-

vented from disposing of his property except within the limits of law. No property shall be expropriated except for the public benefit in the circumstances and manner specified by law, and on condition that just compensation is paid.

Inheritance is a right governed by Islamic Sharia.

Article 19: General confiscation of the property of any person shall be prohibited. Confiscation of particular property as a penalty may not be inflicted except by a court judgement in the circumstances specified by law.

Article 20: The national economy shall be based on social justice. It is founded on fair co-operation between public and private activities. Its aim shall be economic development, increase of productivity, improvement of the standard of living and achievement of prosperity for citizens, all within the limits of law.

Article 21: Natural resources and all revenues therefrom are the property of the State. It shall ensure their preservation and proper exploitation due regard being given to the requirements of State security and the national economy.

Article 22: Relations between employers and employees and between landlords and tenants shall be regulated by law on economic principles, due regard being given to the rules of social justice.

Article 23: The State shall encourage both co-operative activities and savings, and supervise the system of credit.

Article 24: Social justice shall be the basis of taxes and public imposts.

Article 25: The State shall ensure the solidarity of Society in shouldering burdens resulting from public disasters and calamities and provide compensation for war damages or injuries received by any person as a result of the discharge of his military duties.

Article 26: Public office is a national service entrusted to those who hold it. Public officials, in the exercise of their duties, shall aim at the

public interest.

—Voice of KUWAIT

The Invasion: A Chronology of Events

- Iraq criticizes Kuwait's oil policy.

- Iraq accuses Kuwait of stealing oil.

- Iraq masses 100,000 troops along the Kuwaiti borders.

- Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, among others, mediates between the two countries. Mubarak gets assurances from Saddam Hussein that he will not attack.

- Negotiations start in Jidda, Saudi Arabia.

- The Iraqis decided to cut short the negotiations.

- Six Hours later, Iraq invaded Kuwait.

- Iraq announces that it has nothing to do with what is going on in Kuwait.

- Iraq announces that it has sent troops to help an internal "revolution" in Kuwait.

- Iraq announces that it will withdraw its troops on Sunday, the fourth day after the invasion.

- After unsuccessful attempts to recruit Kuwaiti figures in the "revolutionary" government, Saddam decided to appoint one of his relatives as the new president of Kuwait.

- Iraq decides to annex Kuwait and demands that the world should stay out of this "family" matter.

- After a few days of confusion, the Kuwaiti resistance emerges and gives the Iraqis relatively high casualties.

- The Iraqi regime cracks down on Kuwaiti civilians through documented acts of human rights violations.

- Iraq opens the borders with Saudi Arabia allowing Kuwaitis to flee the country. At the same time, mass relocation of Iraqi citizens into Kuwait is taking place.

—An Observer

Worse than a Nightmare

Do you know how it feels to wake up one morning, opening your eyes to find that your country has been invaded and destroyed? Overnight, everything you knew about life and living in your country had been changed. The peaceful, friendly, and supportive people of Kuwait found themselves, on the morning of August 2nd, surrounded by troops, bombs, tanks and machine guns. In just a few hours, the whole country was being looted and raped (an estimated \$4 billion dollars worth being transferred to Baghdad).

When I heard the news coming out of Kuwait, I felt an enormous concern for my family's safety and welfare. Although I am safe, my deep concern for my people in my country has not lessened for a single moment. Sometimes, Images of Kuwait pass in my mind like a slide show, the country that I always loved despite its hot summer and sandy storms. I start wondering if I'll ever be able to go back again and see it as I knew it. I had difficulty recognizing the places pictured of Kuwait after the invasion. It looked so different. Like a gorgeous rose burned by an uncontrollable, mad fire.

It is so difficult to describe the shock I was experiencing. I still feel numb. Sometimes I feel that what happened was just a nightmare. Is this a safe world to live in and for our children and the future generations to inherit? The world will become a big jungle where force is the only language used to communicate and settle differences if such naked aggression goes unpunished. Kuwaiti people refuse to live under a suppressing regime, they are not used to it and would never accept it. We've grown up in a free atmosphere, if our freedom is taken away from us we will suffocate to death. The mutual respect between Kuwait's leadership and the Kuwaiti people has become part of our lives. Replacing this relationship by fear and suppression will

push Kuwaitis to fight until the last drop of their blood has been spilled.

Although it appears to be a Kuwaiti problem, the rest of the free world should take part and undertake the responsibility towards keeping freedom and stopping aggression on peaceful countries. No one in the world has the right to superimpose their will on the Kuwaiti people. They solely have the right to say who runs their country along with the right of choosing their own destiny. I feel so outraged by those who gave themselves the right to talk on behalf of the Kuwaiti people. Who gave them the authority to speak about what should happen to the ruling family in Kuwait or what the Kuwaiti peoples' position should be?!

Kuwaiti people understand the responsibility they have to undertake before the rest of the world. They didn't take advantage of the world's need for this internationally needed commodity by using oil to harm others. We in Kuwait believe that prosperity requires wise utilization of available resources. We were building our country for a better future, while helping other friendly nations build their countries as well.

Individuals who are jealous of Kuwait because of its prosperity should understand two things. First, Kuwaiti people loved their land even before the discovery of oil. This love was so strong that Kuwaitis withstood all the hardships they have encountered; severe weather conditions (American troops in Saudi Arabia know how severe it is), lack of water, very scarce natural resources, and very difficult living conditions, to mention only a few. Kuwaitis were rewarded for their patience and loyalty to their land. Second, the success and prosperity everyone witnessed by visiting or living in Kuwait is not solely due to oil revenues. The cooperation between the government and the people as a result of mutual trust, is one major contributor to the prosperity. Other reasons include future planning through investment, educational advancement

for the people, and many other areas.

They should also know that Kuwait has been a pioneer in offering financial help to under-developed Arab countries. Millions and millions of dollars were donated for direct assistance, as well as opening the door for people who seek employment in Kuwait. Sixty percent of the population in Kuwait are non-Kuwaitis. Most non-Kuwaiti nationals employed in Kuwait are considered major contributors to the economy of their respective countries.

Why should people think that American and international presence in the Gulf area is to protect ruling monarchies? This is what Saddam Hussein like the world to believe. He did not just take over the government, his army committed brutal crimes against innocent people. They raped women in front of their families, humiliated civilians, and looted everything within their reach, even confiscated private properties. Can anyone imagine this thing happening to him or herself? Money, properties and buildings can be replaced, but how about those who were killed for no reason? How about those who were raped? And how about those who were humiliated before others? Or children who have been scarred for life, seeing parents raped and killed before their very eyes? How is it possible to compensate for these crimes? Saddam Hussein has committed the worst crimes and should be dealt with accordingly. The difference between him and any other killer or criminal is that it takes more than a police officer to stop him.

Saddam, with enormous destructive capabilities at his disposal, represents an eminent threat to the whole world. If the international community does not undertake its responsibility by adopting a strong stand against him, it is going to be much harder to deal with him in the future and the prospect of an international chaos is inevitable.

Many have been waiting and waiting to see him overthrown and re-

placed by a descent man who works for the interest of his people rather than his own personal gains.

I want to assure people around the world that the elimination of Saddam will be received as a great relief for the people of Kuwait, as well as the people of Iraq and the rest of the world. I would also like to assure everyone that we believe that, God willing, Kuwait will return to the peaceful, beautiful state it once was.

—C. D.

Independent Kuwait— 3

This is another article that testifies to the independence of Kuwait throughout its history from both Iraq and the Ottomans.

When Pelly [Colonel Pelly, the British Resident in the Gulf] visited Kuwait for the first time on March 3, 1863, he was met at Jahra by Sheikh Mubarak, the second son of the ruler, Sheikh Sabah. Just before he reached Kuwait town on March 4, he was met by Sheikh Abdulla, the eldest son and heir apparent, who accompanied him to the town gate on their way to "a very good home," which had been prepared for Pelly and his companions. "Scarcely had we entered it," says Pelly, "when Sheikh Sabah himself came." This description of Pelly's reception indicates that to a certain degree it was run according to protocol.

The government system of Kuwait and administration of justice were the subject of comments made by Pelly. "The Government is patriarchal," says Pelly, "the Sheikh managing the political, and the Cazee [Qadi] the judicial departments. The Sheikh himself would submit to the Cazee's decision." Punishment was rarely inflicted. "Indeed, there seems little government interference anywhere, and little need of an army." Pelly in admiration of how the Sheikh ran the affairs of the country, retold the following remark which the Sheikh had made to him:

When my father was nearly 120 years old, he called me and said, "I shall soon die. I have made no fortune, and can leave you no money, but I have made many and true friends, grapple them. While other states around the Gulf have fallen off from injustice or ill-government, mine has gone on [flourishing]. Hold to my policy, and though you are surrounded by desert, and pressed by a once hostile and still wandering set of tribes, you will prosper."

Source: The Modern History of Kuwait, 1750-1965, by Ahmed Abuhakima, McGill University, Canada
—barrak

The World's Most Dangerous Man

On June 4, 1990, almost two months before the invasion of Kuwait, the *U. S. News & World Report* magazine's cover story was about Saddam Hussein entitled: "The World's Most Dangerous Man." The article began with the following statement:

With billions to spend and help from the U. S., the Soviet Union and Europe, Saddam Hussein is amassing a truly terrifying arsenal. (p.38)

The report gave extensive coverage on how Saddam managed to build up his military power with the most sophisticated technology regardless of legalities concerning availability. For example, the article reported this story:

A London company that supposedly specialized in exporting mini-hamburgers to the Middle East approached a San Marcos, Calif., electronics firm and inquired about buying high-energy capacitors that could be used to help detonate a nuclear explosion. What would a hamburger outfit want

with capacitors like that, the company owner wondered. He quickly alerted a U.S. Customs agent in San Diego, who posed as an export manager for the firm and proceeded to negotiate the transaction with the three Iraqi government employees of the alleged hamburger firm, Euromac, Ltd. Earlier this year, the sting operation hit pay dirt. All five persons have been indicted in the U. S. and Britain, but the three Iraqis have vanished, and Hussein himself has since boasted publicly that Iraq has obtained the same type of capacitors from another source. (p.44)

Furthermore, the article mentioned that "some wonder about a potential attack on neighboring Kuwait, or on Saudi Arabia." It continued, "What Iraq is, for the time being, is the most dangerous and destabilizing member of the international community."

For Kuwaitis it is too late now, or may be too naive an idea to wish that they had taken these statements as indications of real threats to their very existence. But what remains now, is for the international community to consider the reality of the danger of Saddam, and what it will mean to world order and peace if the most dangerous man in the world is not stopped soon.

—Kuwaitia

All kinds of contributions, free subscription orders, or donations are appreciated. You may e-mail your articles to barrak@tramp.Colorado.EDU or send them to: Voice of KUWAIT, 805 29 St. #354, Boulder, CO 80303, Tel. (303) 443-9847. Please, make donations payable to "Voice of KUWAIT."

Confusion About the Crisis

The Middle East crisis is shrouded in confusion and misperception. Some of the more glaring mistakes are:

1) *Arab public opinion will turn more anti-American as a result of U.S. direct involvement.*

Counterpoint: First, there is no such thing as Arab public opinion any more than there is an Arab nation. The concept "al Watan Al Arabi" (Arab motherland) is more a hollow political slogan than a concrete reality. Second, it is often difficult to discern the true feelings of a Middle Eastern concerning political matters. More likely, one would hear an answer deemed most expedient for the occasion.

Living under the constant threat of interrogation and political oppression, a pragmatic Arab will say what he perceives to be the most expedient. Public expressions of anti-Americanism coming out of Jordan and other Arab capitals are not necessarily an accurate measure of how the majority really feels. Besides, Arab's views concerning America are tinted by the Israel factor. "My enemy's friend is my enemy."

2) *Third World countries are ruled by non-elected rulers. So what if one dictator is replaced by another?*

Counterpoint: A member of the United Nations has been attacked by another. This is different from an internal insurgency, where one faction may overthrow another. Here, righteous indignation of the world community is fully justified. Moreover, it is in the strategic interest of the United States, and the community of nation-states, to maintain stability through respect for the territorial integrity of all nations.

3) *What about Grenada and Panama?*

Counterpoint: First, Iraq is no United States. Second, superpower status brings with it responsibility and prerogatives. There is nothing wrong with acknowledging this.

4) *It is all right for Iraq to have invaded Kuwait, as long as Saddam*

Hussein does not go further—into Saudi Arabia.

Counterpoint: This misperception may be created in some minds when the emphasis is put on farther advances rather than present occupation. In fact, the Iraqis may have already violated Saudi territory, in the southern part of the Saudi-Kuwaiti neutral zone. Very few, the beleaguered Kuwaiti ambassador to the United States among them, seemed to have recognized this fact.

Secondly, remember Hitler in Czechoslovakia and Poland. Appeasing territorial ambitions of dictators serves only to enhance their appetites.

Third, the U.U. Security Council resolution is quite clear: Nothing short of total removal of aggressors of occupied Kuwait must be tolerated. Furthermore, Iraq will likely be asked to pay reparation for damages to Kuwaiti lives and property, including lootings and rapes by its soldiers.

5) *Saddam is a cool-headed ruler fully in control.*

Counterpoint: Aside from megalomania manifested in Saddam's huge portraits and statues all over Iraq, his erratic behavior and gross miscalculations belie this assertion. In fact, it is conceivable that some loose-cannon generals, of whom there are quite a few in the Iraqi army, may have decided to march victoriously into tiny Kuwait, thereby accomplishing what they were denied in Iran. Saddam fol-

lowed, since this coincided with his own ambitions.

After all, Iraq is an underdeveloped country, with an inefficient government apparatus. This is compounded by the many secular and religious opposition groups thirsty for Saddam's blood and waiting to rule Iraq.

Finally, the fact that Saddam has not solved the most important problem of political leadership, the succession issue, leaves him vulnerable and questions his political acumen.

—*Tagi Sagafi-Nejad, a native of Iran, is an associate professor of international business at the Sellinger School of Business and Management at Loyola College in Maryland, and a Middle Eastern Specialist.*

Struggle for Justice

On November 27th, some CU (University of Colorado) Law students organized a rally, calling for the United States to end its support for the Kuwaiti nation, on the grounds that we should not get into "another Viet Nam." I have personally visited Viet Nam last February, and have studied the subject obsessively, and would like to clear up this Viet Nam nonsense once and for all:

The situation with Kuwait today, and the situation with Viet Nam yesterday, are completely different. In Viet Nam, the U.S., along with a few

Voice of

KUWAIT

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No.14 December 24, 1990 "Long Live Kuwait!"

allies such as the Republic of Korea and Australia, stood alone in its battle against the Vietnamese Communists, who were backed at that time with weapons and advisors from the Soviet Union and China. Today, the U.S. is backed up with a diverse multinational force, from countries such as Syria, France, England, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Canada, Italy, Morocco, Pakistan, Argentina, Australia, ...etc. Even the Soviet Union threatened Saddam Hussein to get out of Kuwait or face the dreadful consequences. Our coalition today is even wider than the one sent to Korea by the United Nations. America is not unilaterally deciding to go to war.

People in countries like Viet Nam looked to the United States for help—they were up against two superpowers (later, reduced to one, the USSR). The people I met in Viet Nam last February were overjoyed to meet an American, some of them for the first time. They were not, as some people claim, angry at the American "Imperialists." They would give anything if we would come back and help them overcome the insurmountable burdens placed on them by the Communists and their leech-like bureaucracy. They know the value of Freedom, something they lost when America turned its back on them.

That's why we should make sure not to repeat another Viet Nam today—America should never turn its back on a nation that is fighting for its freedom and sovereignty, no matter how long the tyrants can hold out. America and the rest of the world owes Kuwait justice, and whether or not there is the question of oil involved, it should not make any difference. We should spend more time listening to the Kuwaiti people, and less time listening to a bunch of radical American students, who will never know the hardships that the Kuwaiti people are facing right now.

—Jason Blatt, CU Senior and Chairman of Students for a Better America

Palestinian-Kuwaiti Solidarity Committee

The following text is a statement of the Palestinian-Kuwaiti Solidarity:

The current crisis in the Gulf, precipitated by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on August 2, 1990, has polarized Arab opinion and created considerable confusion over the positions of various parties. This confusion is particularly apparent with regard to the "Palestinian position". As signatories to this statement, we would like to alleviate some of the misunderstandings surrounding what has emerged as the Palestinian position vis-a-vis the Gulf crisis.

The Palestinian-Kuwaiti Solidarity Committee is composed of Palestinians of all walks of life who share a common concern regarding the current crisis in the Gulf and its impact on the Palestinian cause. The following principles and views, shared by many Palestinians, represent our position on the crisis:

1. We unequivocally condemn the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait carried out on August 2, 1990. We consider Iraq's subsequent unilateral annexation of Kuwait to be null and void.

2. We fully uphold the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force. It is our judgment that this principle must be applied consistently and not on a selective basis.

3. We are totally committed against all forms of military occupation, regardless of the identity of the occupied or the occupier. We therefore call upon the government of Iraq to withdraw all its troops from Kuwait immediately and unconditionally.

4. Having been deprived of the right to national self-determination, we cannot, as Palestinians, condone any attempt to deprive others of their basic civil, human, and political rights.

5. We are strong supporters of Arab unity. This worthy objective, however, cannot be imposed by force.

6. Kuwait as with all other nations is not perfect, we would like nonetheless to recognize that Kuwait has been an open and tolerant society which has taken significant strides on the road towards democracy and political reform. The Palestinian community in Kuwait has been historically a dynamic and thriving community which has played a key role in nation-building in Kuwait.

7. The Palestine question is the most important national issue in Arab politics. It should not be jeopardized by allowing it to become a peripheral issue in inter-Arab disputes. In the same respect, the Palestine question should not be used to detract from the need for a total Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and putting an end to the attempted dismantlement of Kuwaiti society.

8. Since World War II, the nation-state system has become a basic fact of Arab politics. This fact cannot be challenged or changed except through the consent of the parties concerned as in the case of the recent unification of Yemen.

9. We are supportive of international legitimacy. We therefore, approve of all United Nations resolutions adopted since August 2, 1990, that seek to end the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. It is our sincere hope that these resolutions will serve as precedents to end other forms of occupation in the region, particularly in Palestine, Lebanon and Syria.

10. Once Iraqi troops are withdrawn from Kuwait, we support the restoration to power of the legitimate government of Kuwait so that the governments of Iraq and Kuwait can embark on political negotiations aimed at finding a peaceful resolution to all outstanding differences that separate them.

—Palestinian-Kuwaiti Solidarity Committee, P.O.Box 3202, Urbana, IL 61801-3202

The Constitution of Kuwait-5

Part IV: Powers

Chapter 3: Legislative Power

Article 79: No law may be promulgated unless it has been passed by the National Assembly and sanctioned by the Emir. Article 80: The National Assembly shall be composed of fifty members elected directly by universal suffrage and secret ballot in accordance with the provisions prescribed by the electoral law.

Ministers who are not elected members of the National Assembly shall be considered ex-officio members thereof.

Article 81: Electoral constituencies shall be determined by law.

Article 82: A member of the National Assembly shall:

1. be a Kuwaiti by origin in accordance with law.
2. be qualified as an elector in accordance with the electoral law.
3. be not less than thirty calendar years of age on the day of election.
4. be able to read and write Arabic well.

Article 83: The term of the National Assembly shall be four calendar years commencing with the day of its first sitting. Elections for the new Assembly shall take place within the sixty days preceding the expiry of the said term, due regard being given to the provisions of Article 107.

Members whose term of office expires may be re-elected.

The term of the Assembly may not be extended except for necessity in time of war and by a law.

Article 84: If, for any reason, a seat in the National Assembly becomes vacant before the end of the term, the vacancy shall be filled by election within two months from the date on which the Assembly declares the vacancy. The mandate of the

new member shall last until the end of that of his predecessor.

If the vacancy occurs within six months prior to the expiry of the legislative term of the Assembly, no successor shall be elected.

Article 85: The National Assembly shall have an annual session of not less than eight months. The said session may not be prorogued before the budget is approved.

Article 86: The Assembly shall start its ordinary session during the month of October of every year upon a convocation by the Emir. If the decree of convocation is not issued before the first of the said month, the time for the meeting shall be deemed to be 9 a.m. on the third Saturday of that month. If such day happens to be an official holiday, the Assembly shall meet on the morning of the first day thereafter.

Article 87: Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding two Articles, the Emir shall summon the National Assembly to hold its first meeting within two weeks of the end of the general election. If the decree of convocation is not issued within the said period, the Assembly shall be deemed to have been convoked for the morning of the day following these two weeks, due regard being given to the relevant provisions of the preceding Article.

If the date of the meeting of the Assembly falls after the annual date mentioned in Article 86 of the Constitution, the term of the session specified in Article 85 shall be reduced by the difference between the said two dates.

Article 88: The National Assembly shall, by decree, be called to an extraordinary session if the Emir deems it necessary, or upon the demand of the majority of the members of the Assembly.

In an extraordinary session, the Assembly may not consider matters other than those for which it has been convened except with the consent of the Cabinet.

Article 89: The Emir shall announce the prorogation of ordinary and extraordinary sessions.

Article 90: Every meeting held by the Assembly at a time or place other than that assigned for its meeting shall be invalid, and resolutions passed thereat shall, by virtue of law, be void.

Article 91: Before assuming his duties in the Assembly or in its committees, a member of the National Assembly shall take the following oath before the Assembly in a public sitting:

"I swear by Almighty God to be faithful to the Country and to the Emir, to respect the Constitution and the laws of the State, to defend the liberties, interests and properties of the people and to discharge my duties honestly and truthfully."

Article 92: The National Assembly shall elect at its first sitting and for the duration of its term a Speaker and Deputy Speaker from amongst its members. If either office becomes vacant, the Assembly shall elect a successor for the remainder of its term.

In all cases, election shall be by an absolute majority vote of the members present. If this majority vote is not attained in the first ballot, another election shall be held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. If more than one candidate receives an equal number of votes in the second place, all such candidates shall participate in the second ballot. In this case the candidate who receives the greatest number of votes shall be elected. If there is a tie in this last ballot, the choice shall be by lot.

The oldest member shall preside over the first sitting until the president is elected.

Article 93: The Assembly shall form, within the first week of its annual session, the committees necessary for its functions. These committees may discharge their duties during the recess of the Assembly with a view to submitting their recommendations to it when it meets.

(To be continued)

—Voice of Kuwait

The Kuwaiti Culture and History—Music

Like its political system, Kuwait's culture is characterized by evolution and flexibility; indeed, one of Kuwait's greatest strengths has been the ability of its people to adapt to the new yet retain the best of the old. In this century, Kuwait's greatest challenge was adjusting to oil and its influx of capital. This brought as many problems as it did advantages, for in a short period of time Kuwait underwent a transformation from a seafaring nation to a modern state. During this period, Kuwaiti society strove to retain the best of its traditions through support of established institutions and the creation of new ones. They did this through planning, dedication and hard work, placing emphasis on the development of social services, education, and health care for its residents and neighbors. Kuwait's society is still evolving, and Kuwaiti music is a good example of this process.

With song and dance, Kuwait's music permeates the whole of society and continually reinterprets Kuwait's main cultural theme, the meeting of desert and sea. It is the expression of the very soul of Kuwait and, although its roots go as far back as the 3rd century a.d., the music itself is living tradition. As a Kuwaiti musical historian said, "it is a continuous process, constantly being added to ... an expression of originality of the people."

Kuwait's musical tradition is vast, but the major elements consist of song, both sea and desert, dance and the characteristic "sharbukah" or clapping—an art form requiring a minimum of three participants who clap simultaneously to three different traditional rhythms. Joining is spontaneous and those who join freely pick any one of the three types of clapping. Drums, tambourines, and the "rabbala" (a single-stringed instrument with a soundbox covered by goatskin) are used most often.

The sea songs are among the most well known genres of Kuwaiti mu-

sic; Kuwait's reputation as a seafaring nation was known and respected throughout the last several centuries. In recent times, in addition to musical traditions being passed down within families, retired pearl divers were given a special center in Kuwait City where they met, danced and told their stories of the sea to younger generations.

The sea chants and songs themselves are varied and represent a high degree of sophistication. Kuwaiti sea captains would hire a lead chanter called "nahham" for their voyages and the songs and chanties that he lead corresponded to the work being performed by the sailors; its rhythm helped coordinate and time their tasks. Most Kuwaiti chanties have an established sequence of chorus repetitions, overture and a song based on one of the two forms of an ancient literary poem. The types and forms of chanties and sea songs are far more complex than we have touched upon in this article, but all of these songs possess a mesmerizing power and beauty. Since they were developed in such close harmony with the sea itself, the songs build up in tempo and rhythm until one actually feels 'on the sea.'

Songs for entertainment are of a different type and are sung in the evenings for relaxation, often accompanied by dance. One of the most famous dances is the "ardah" which dates back to bedouin beginnings. The dance used to be a celebration of victory in battle, but now is more of an expression of the joy of living. In the middle of the dance area is a flag and the men dancing carry swords and move to the music, accompanied by trambourines and goatskin drums.

Similarly, there is a woman's dance called the "freasah," or colt dance. This dance centers around a dummy horse and many of its movements are the same as the ardah. The women dress in men's clothing, for the freasah is a dance which commemorates the achievements of the many Arab wives and sisters who put on men's clothing and rode into

battle with their loved ones.

One memorable account of the place of music in the daily life was given by an English observer earlier in this century. "...as each ship sailed into Kuwait Bay, a red flag flying at the stern and all sails set, it was a lovely sight. She would fire off several shots to announce her return, and then from the shore we would hear on board the sound of drums beating, and singing. Then it was that the families and wives would rejoice, and put up on their low roofs a best and brightly colored dress on a pole and crosspiece, as a sign of rejoicing and thanks for the safe return of their men." As the ships came closer, the women and children ran to the seashore—singing and joyously breaking out into rhythms of the sharbukah clapping.

In modern Kuwait, song and dance are taught in schools from kindergarten on; all schools have musical presentations performed by their students that frequently end up being televised. Classical Arab and Kuwaiti folk music are broadcast daily on the radio and television and, like the top 10 here, everyone knows the latest wedding song, or love song, or—as in the case when Kuwait won the Gulf Soccer Championship—the latest soccer song. Dance and song are part of any desert picnic or gathering by the sea. And now there will be songs about Iraq's invasion and the Kuwait's resistance and Kuwaitis' return home.

—From Kuwait Notes

All kinds of contributions, free subscription orders, or donations are appreciated. You may e-mail your articles to barrak@tramp.Colorado.EDU or send them to: Voice of KUWAIT, 805 29 St. #354, Boulder, CO 80303, Tel. (303) 443-9847. Please, make donations payable to "Voice of KUWAIT."

The Ultimate Solution

Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait has brought the Middle East to the brink of war. If a peaceful resolution of the crisis is to be achieved, the needs of all members involved must be considered with enough flexibility and concern that each one can somehow benefit from the outcome of the situation.

The first requirement is that Iraq withdraws its forces from Kuwait and releases all hostages. The question here is why would Iraq do this? It must gain something in return—probably a long term rental agreement of the uninhabited islands blocking Iraq's access to the Gulf as well as the right to dredge channels for ship traffic around the islands.

But how could Kuwait and its allies give in to such a condition? Although it would not harm Kuwait, it would be seen as "giving in to Saddam." Also the United States and United Kingdom fear an undefeated Iraqi military might reemerge later with nuclear weapons. However, if Saddam permanently left office and abandoned the nuclear reactor (built by the French) that perhaps could be acceptable.

But how could Saddam agree to that? It's safe to assume that he would prefer to "save face." He would most likely be willing to do so if he could claim credit for the realization of the dream of a Palestinian state. Thus he would gain posture in the Arab world, even though he lost power inside Iraq. As many countries have indicated, the time for the resolution of that issue is near at hand.

But how and why would Israel consent to a Palestinian state? Israel's true concerns must be met. Israel's primary concerns are two-fold: security and the freedom for Jews to worship at the Holy sites of Judaism, and the terms of the creation of the state of Palestine must ensure the above.

A proper Israel-Palestine separa-

tion would entail: separate internationally recognized countries of Israel and Palestine mainly along pre-1967 borders. Jerusalem would be an international city with the right for all to travel to and within the city. Citizens of Jerusalem could select which country to be citizens of. The city would have an elected government and govern itself (maybe with some funding from Israel, Palestine, the UN, or other international bodies. Either country or both could have government offices in Jerusalem. The borders of the international city would be settled in the conference. The currencies of both countries would be valid in Jerusalem.

All countries still officially "at war" with Israel would sign peace treaties with it and exchange ambassadors. Palestine would give up the right to have a military and the armaments of its police would be strictly limited. Israel would withdraw from Lebanon and the areas of Syria that it has "annexed," cease aiding factional armies in that country, and cease bombing entirely.

Many other details would have to be worked out, but it could be achieved as part of an overall settlement if Israel were convinced that such a just settlement would remove the threat against her. With the Arab nations arrayed against Israel in order to support the Palestinians rights to the land and with the Palestinians accepting a settlement for a defined portion of that land, the other nations should see their duty to their brethren fulfilled.

—Foxvog Douglas, Finland

Voice of KUWAIT

A newsletter published in coop. with
National Union of Kuwait Students-USA
No.12 December 10, 1990 "Long Live Kuwait!"



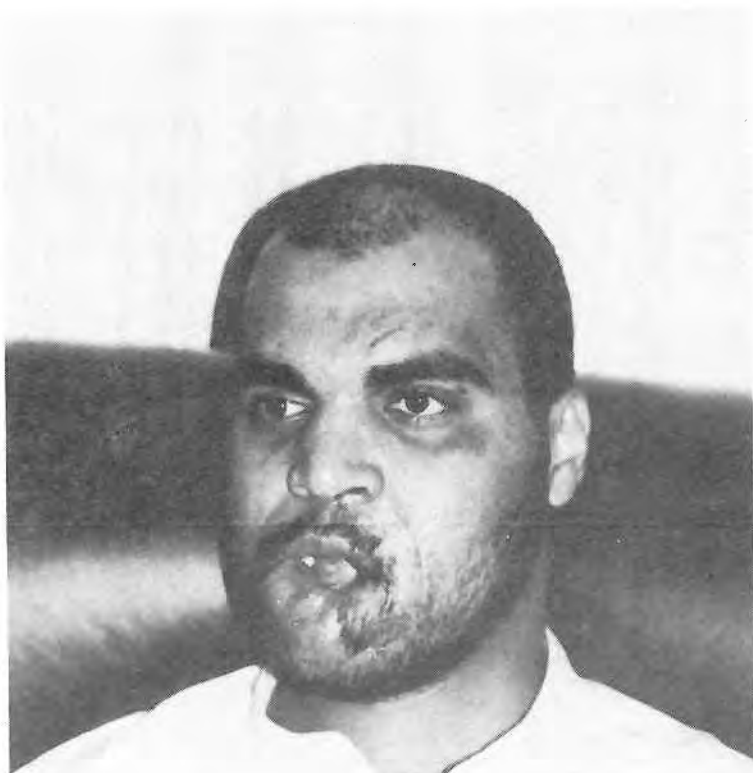
Nuclear Threat

If Saddam succeeded in controlling Saudi Arabia, we would end up fighting a much stronger enemy, and we—the whole world—would suffer economically from an oil drought. Furthermore, a Saddam any stronger than he is now would probably encourage an Israeli nuclear attacks on Iraq—another undesirable outcome. In fact, it is suspected that if he is allowed to remain in Kuwait, or even if he leaves but is allowed to hold on to his weapons of mass destruction and nuclear facilities, there would be a nuclear war with Israel in the very near future.

—John Moore

STOP THE ATROCITIES

**NOW FREE
KUWAIT**



When Wilt Thou Save The People?

When wilt Thou save the people?
O God of mercy, when?
Not kings and lords, but nations!
Not thrones and crowns, but
men!

Flowers of Thy heart, O God, are
they;

Let them not pass, like weeds,
away,

Their heritage, a sunless day.

God, save the people.

Shall crime bring crime forever,
Strength aiding still the
strong?

Is it Thy will O Father,
That man shall toil for wrong?
No, say Thy mountains; No, Thy
skies;

Man's clouded sun shall brightly
rise,

And songs ascend, instead of
sighs.

God, save the people!

When wilt Thou save the people?

O God of mercy, when?

The people, Lord, the people,
Not thrones and crowns, but
men!

God, save the people, Thine they
are,

Thy children as Thine angels fair.
From vice, oppression, and de-
spair,

God, save the people!

—From Ku-WAITing for News (a
newsletter published in Las Vegas,
Nevada), November 5, 1990



Our Message to Saddam Hussein

One has to wonder exactly what message Saddam is getting. He hears that a Democratic Congressman in California is suing to prevent military action taken by Bush. He reads that some scores of Quakers, always delighted to involve themselves in risk-free protests against any action to help those who suffer under the brutal attacks of fascists, have demanded Bush not help Kuwait. He sees that some college boys on the East Coast wish to make Bush a paper tiger, he sees television interviews in which members of the Senate and House of Representatives state they will not allow Bush to take military action to defend Kuwait, but that it should be understood that Bush is simply being allowed to make empty gestures to *appear* credible only.

"We want the U.S. to use military force only as a verbal ploy without any real chance that it will be used. We want Saddam to get the message that we mean business, but that we will not do anything *real* to him. We want him to know that he's just a terrible man, and if he persists, we will tell the world how terrible he is; but let him not at all think that we will actually do anything! It is important that Mr. Bush appear to be credible, just as we wish to be credible by letting Saddam know how bad he is—but that we are all divided. That there is no risk that he will face any real danger but it is important we appear to be credible, all seem to be part of our messages to Saddam.

—B. Singer

Number of Hostages

Country	Aug. 10	Nov. 29
UK	4636	1400
US	3580	700
Germany	900	15
France	530	50
Italy	500	194
Ireland	350	200+

—From The Independent, November 30, 1990

Words of an American Hiding in Kuwait

The following is a transcript of a phone call out of Kuwait by an American in hiding in Kuwait on These words will tell you how everybody in Kuwait, Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis, are feeling and thinking of:

This message is for George Bush, President of the United States of America, from hostages that are hiding in Kuwait.

Mr. President, my name is (...), Social Security Number (...). I am 69 years old, have a mild heart and other medical problems. My home is in (...), New Mexico. I am retired.

I was over here in Kuwait visiting my son at the time of the invasion, and have been trapped here ever since. My wife and daughter in law got out on the first evacuation flight, they were hostages for over a month. The situation in Kuwait is getting worse by the day, we exist only by the help of the Kuwaiti people who are left and the resistance, as do all other hostages that are hiding. If it wasn't for these people none of us could exist. They get us food and medical supplies while threatened by death if caught, and this had happened, Mr. President.

We have sat here not being out of the house since the 18th of August; worse than being in prison for something we didn't do. Sir, you and the rest of the powers have been waiting for resolutions and embargoes to work, but as we see it, they are not. The only thing that is going to get Saddam Hussein out of here is force. That is all he understands. We have watched them digging here in Kuwait City. What are you waiting for? The big bluff doesn't work with this guy. We ask you, Mr. President, to come in with troops and liberate these people and also the hostages. your embassy is deteriorating, Mr. President. I don't know how long they can hold out.

The only way we can get any messages home is through our embassy,

we get one message a week. We ask you, Mr. President, to bring the troops in and liberate these people, where there are few left, and a little country left, we are ready.

It is because of Saddam Hussein we were taken hostages, but on your conscious we remain hostages. The Kuwaiti people need your help to get their country back soon. You may not believe, Mr. President, the stories of brutality coming out of Kuwait, but believe me, they are true.

You may think, Mr. President, all these people don't know anything about military or military conflict. I'll tell you, Mr. President, I was in World War II, my son who is here with me now, is retired from the Military and he was in Vietnam and several other places. He served 27 years with the Military and retired. I have another son who is on standby now, waiting, maybe to come down here.

In closing, Mr. President, I will tell you this one thing before I turn it over to the other people, we sit here day after day not knowing whether we are going to have soldiers come and pick us up or not. It is mind boggling the tension and stress that we undertake here. So, Mr. President, please do your best, get your troops in here, and get this over with. This mad man is breaking the whole world. He is putting the whole world in a giant recession just on the count of him, and the whole world is letting him do it. I think if and when we get back home, Mr. President, look me up and we will sit down and go over a few things. I'll tell you some things that you haven't thought about.

—An American in Hiding

All

kinds of contributions, free subscription orders, or donations are appreciated. You may e-mail your articles to barrak@tramp.Colorado.EDU or send them to: Voice of KUWAIT, 805 29 St. #354, Boulder, CO 80303, Tel. (303) 443-9847. Please, make donations payable to "Voice of KUWAIT."



Ku-WAITing for News

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ISSUE 4, JANUARY 5, 1991

Our fourth edition is dedicated to all those who have remained in Kuwait - the men, women and children who refuse to leave their homeland, the sick who are unable to flee, and the people of various nationalities who have grown to love Kuwait and call her "home". We know you are all fighting for Kuwait in your own way, and we pray for you each day. We salute you, the brave people of Kuwait, whether you are Kuwaiti nationals, or a "Kuwaiti" by adoption. God bless you all!

THOUGHTS OF AN EXILE

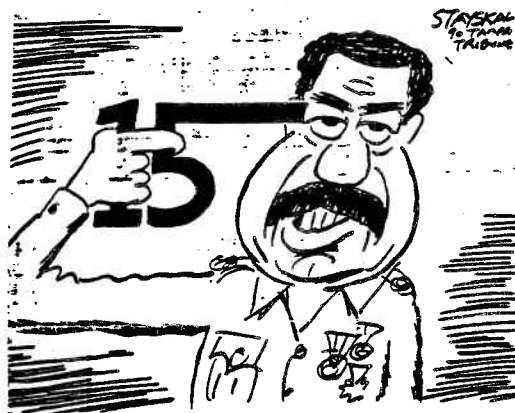
As the days, weeks, and now months have passed since August 2, 1990, the tenacity of the people who called Kuwait home, has become very apparent. Our story is like so many others, and I feel demonstrates how tough the citizens of Kuwait can be. I remember the stark terror I felt - faced with no home, clothes, or means of support - and most terrifying of all, no way to return to our children, trapped in Kuwait! Within minutes I realized that I would have to find the strength within me to cope with a situation I never dreamed of, even in my worst nightmares. Throughout the first five days, we huddled in a hotel, waiting for news. I watched my husband mourn for his beloved home and children - and I began to plan a way to try to exist for the duration of the crisis. This planning process became my way of coping. Like so many others, I dug my heels in and determined that we were going to stay together - safe, not only physically, but mentally. There were many problems to be tackled when we arrived in America - a new social security card, an American drivers license, and a copy of my birth certificate were among the first priorities and of course the problem of finding a job to provide an income. Coming back to the U.S. after almost 8 years in Kuwait also presented me with reverse culture shock. How could I speak to Americans without peppering my language with a few Inshallahs or Shukrans? How could I communicate with people who had no comprehension of what we were enduring? And, of course, there were our overwhelming feelings of depression and guilt to be handled. The worse feeling of all was guilt - why weren't we in Kuwait? Why had we ever left? Those terrible feelings of guilt were the hardest to deal with, because I felt we couldn't discuss them - even with each other! When I look back over the last five months, I realise that we have survived. We are grateful each day that we had the strength to keep trying.

You have all been struggling - and have become survivors also. Daily stories reach us of our friends who are adjusting - women working who have not worked for 15 years or more, children attending American or English schools for the first time - and doing well, and fathers who have had to make the terrible

decision - stay in Kuwait, or join their families in exile, and the American families who have loved ones still within Kuwait finding an inner strength to go on. We have all proved in many different ways, that we can survive! We can persevere, and we can win. Our strength, along with our faith in a FREE KUWAIT is an unbeatable combination!

BELIEVE BY REBECCA R. MARTIN

If you've reached a port of last resort
 A spot where human means can't cope,
 Send forth one beaming ray of hope;
 Call on your Creator, your Maker--
 Wherever you are, whoever you are,
 He'll find you there.
 Accept on faith your call He'll heed;
 Find the answer to your human need;
 Believe the power of prayer,
 Believe your hurt God can repair;
 Believe He'll see you through;
 Believe--you'll find it's true.



KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS!



Ku-WAITing for News Corner: The Wednesday morning conference calls - so important to those of us who participate weekly, are continuing. We are able to conference up to 24 lines. If you wish to participate, please contact Ku-WAITing for News for details. Coming Home Ltd. in conjunction with USA Sprint is providing this service for us for as long as there is enough interest, so please let us know if you wish to participate.

SANDY STONE was reunited with her husband, **AL**, but continues to be involved with Ku-WAITing for News. Sandy was instrumental in organizing Ku-WAITing for News, and we miss her! **KATHY AL-ANZI** and her five children are living in the Dayton area. Kathy informs Ku-WAITing for News that the kids are all going to the same school where she went as a young girl. The school has all 12 grades in one location and they ride the same bus! While the kids are at school, Kathy has dusted off her qualifications and returned to nursing in a large area hospital. **CHERI AL-ARFAJ** writes that her children are keeping busy. The three boys are all swimming and young Anna is going to pre-school. Cheri is working as an occupational therapist with the mentally retarded and mentally ill. **CLAUDIA AL-RASHOUD** and a group of friends in the Los Angeles area are organizing teach-ins to inform people about Kuwait. Claudia says this is to try to counteract some of the anti-war groups incorrect information. The group she is working with is looking for former hostages to be active in these teach-ins. If interested, please contact Ku-WAITing for News for more information. **PAT** and **MOHAMMED ASHKANANI** have been very busy collecting signatures

on a petition to support President Bush's actions in the Gulf and supporting the government of Kuwait. This job has been made more difficult by the need to collect signatures as soon as possible. The fax machine was put to good use and over 2000 signatures have been collected! Pat tells Ku-WAITing for News that they are trying to get an appointment to present the petitions in person to President Bush. The petition is well worth reading, signing and sending! If you are interested in obtaining a copy, please let Ku-WAITing for News know and we will try to arrange for you to receive a copy. Great job! KAROL BADOU has been speaking in public about Kuwait and is doing a fantastic job from everything we hear. She speaks to churches, schools and anyone else who asks. (These are some of the examples of that inner strength mentioned in the article "Thoughts of an Exile".) Karol's daughter, Dalal, a student of ballet for numerous years, has put on toe-shoes and has a part in 'The Nutcracker' in their local town. CAROLYN HUSSAIN is in Florida. Oldest daughter, Thuraya, is in a near-by college. JO DE LANGE writes from Bahrain: "How can evil triumph like this? What is the world community doing to let this man use so much cruelty and no one seems to roar the outrage that should be roared? All the talk is of reason - but the Devil laughs at reason and calls it weakness. One bright light is the dignity of the Kuwaiti population. We feel so useless that we can do so little." HILDA ABDULLAH has contacted Ku-WAITing for News. Friends of Hilda's may contact us for information. DIANE and MUTASEM AL-SHIHABI are in California now along with the children including new baby daughter, Leila. Diane tells Ku-WAITing for News that her new daughter is a blessing! It's wonderful to hear of the birth of new Kuwaiti citizens! KATHY MUQQADAM is expecting the end of January. KIM AL-YOUSIFI is also going to bring a new special life into the world in May. Our Ku-WAITing for News's refrigerator door is really starting to reflect this population explosion - it is adorned with darling pictures of 'Children of the Crisis' - MARIYAM and NOURIAH AL-SHATTI, daughters of CRYSTAL and KHALAF; SHAHEEN, DANA, and new brother, TARIK AL-GHANIM, children of MARGIE AL-GHANIM. Keep sending the children's pictures - your postcards, notes of encouragement, etc! We at Ku-WAITing for News love to hear from all of you. Hearing from our readers is the biggest way you can let us know that you like Ku-WAITing for News. Our 'office' walls are covered with letters, clippings, maps, other publications and everything else we receive from all of you. So write and keep sending the pictures, articles, and any other items of interest! Remember, without input, there is no Ku-WAITing for News!

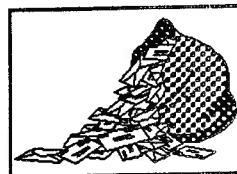
One of our readers is trying to find a PAL/SECAM television and video to purchase. If anyone has any information about where to obtain these items, please contact Ku-WAITing for News.

MAIL BAG

MELANIE SUBRT has joined our list of readers. Melanie is looking for a neighbor from Ahmadi - Karen from 22nd St. North. If you have a daughter named Dana, contact us and we will put you in touch with Melanie. BONNIE AL-AWAHDI is also now receiving Ku-WAITing for News. We welcome Bonnie to our list of readers! SARI AL-AWADHI has written from Finland asking for a copy of the readers list and to receive Ku-WAITing for News. Sari's husband is still in Kuwait, but she is keeping her prayers going strong for a quick return to Kuwait.

We have yet to hear about:

If anyone has any information about the whereabouts of Diana Al-Salem, please contact Ku-WAITing for News. We are also looking for Nancy Al-Qattan and Jon Peterson (a staff member at KU).



SENDING MESSAGES TO OUR LOVED ONES

VOICE OF AMERICA: KATHY AL-OWN is very active in protesting against the VOA Messages from Home being stopped. We have been informed that the messages are no longer being sent and only influence from Congress and Senate members can get the message service started again. Please contact your representatives and voice your desire for "VOA Messages from Home" to continue until the crisis has finished! With the US Embassy in Kuwait being un-staffed, there remain no methods to communicate with our families and friends in Kuwait other than VOA.

WORD FROM KUWAIT

- The clinic in Salwa re-opened and is seeing patients, and the cooperative society store in Salwa is stocked and food, although rationed, is available.
- Kuwaiti's are preparing and stocking small clinics and bomb shelters in homes with basements.
- Volunteers in every aspect are working to keep all the services going to the best of their ability - even the teenagers are truly doing their part.
- Messages are being received from inside Kuwait asking all former hostages to please be very vocal about what is happening in Kuwait.
- Over 200 American men, women and children remain in Kuwait. Over 185 remain in Iraq.
- Food supplies are rumored to be better than August due to the return of goods stolen from Kuwait at the beginning of the crisis.
- Machine gun concrete boxes are being built on all major roads - approximately 150-200 metres apart.

BITS 'N' PIECES

There will be a GULFAMERICA conference on February 24-27, 1991 at the Century Plaza Hotel and Towers in Los Angeles. This is the third series of conferences. These conferences have linked many business and government people from the Arab Gulf and the United States. Former President of the United States, Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford as well as many congressmen have attended past conferences. The upcoming conference is slated to have various congressmen with possibly presidents and foreign ministers attending. Over 200 million dollars of business between companies and governments has been traced to having been initiated at the past conferences between attendees. Looking past January 15th and recognising a present possibility of Kuwait being able to start reconstructing, GULFAMERICA is scheduling a half-day to a day specifically tailored to the issues of business in Kuwait. For those of you wanting to re-establish business ties to the area or feeling a need to network and broaden the scope of your contacts you will find this quite opportune.

Michael Saba is the president of both GULFAMERICA and Coming Home Ltd. In recognition of the plight and financial needs of those individuals stranded by the invasion of Kuwait, GULFAMERICA is offering limited free registrations and special rates for those attending recognised by the Ku-WAITing for News or Coming Home Ltd. networks. For more information, please call 217-352-1661.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL: On January 2, 1991, a peaceful and dignified candlelight vigil was held by several hundred Kuwaiti citizens in front of the White House in Washington D. C. This gathering was held to mark the fifth month anniversary of the invasion of Kuwait. Our East Coast representative, LUBNA, reports that she has never seen a more poised group. The pride and spirit emanating from the crowd was shown in various ways. All marchers were showing their belief in a Free Kuwait by wearing their Kuwait pins, hats, sweatshirts, and carrying Kuwaiti flags. Thanks to all of those who marched for those of us who are unable!

SUPPORT GROUP NEWS: Recently a meeting was held in a Virginia church to help families of Americans who have family members or friends in the Persian Gulf crisis. This meeting was aimed at families of American servicepeople. MARGIE HOWELL received a letter from one woman who attended, ANITA BAKER and we at Ku-WAITing for News want to print excerpts from that letter: "A small group of American military families gathered ... for guidance. To their surprise, they were joined by a dozen Kuwaiti men and women. The strangers introduced themselves. Each outlined their own situation. The counselor outlined strategies for coping day by day - finding supportive friends, calling on spiritual resources, taking time to eat and rest, accepting the rollercoaster emotions of hope and despair. But deep mutual need was working spontaneous magic. When the counselor passed out candy canes decked with yellow ribbons, the Kuwaitis broke out a box of t-shirts with a Kuwaiti logo and yellow bows. Soon the people were clustered in twos and threes, exchanging stories, and showing one another pictures of loved ones." Anita writes that the day ended with the Kuwaitis inviting their new friends to bring their families for a traditional Kuwaiti meal the next week. The Americans immediately spoke of the holiday dishes they wished to contribute. The small group parted, rich and transformed with the homely gift of hope. Once again during this dangerous time of uncertainty and fear, something infinitely precious had been born. Anita was privileged to witness it. Thanks to Margie and Anita for sharing this special story with the Ku-WAITing for News readers!

The DOVE OF PEACE is still flying! Kuwait Airways may be out of Kuwait, but they are still flying. They have announced that starting next month, Kuwait Airways will offer transatlantic service from New York City to London, Cairo, Bahrain and Bombay. The advertisements say "Until we're able to welcome you to Kuwait, welcome aboard." Kuwait Airways has been flying right under Saddam's nose - up and down the Gulf!

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL has released a new report "Human Rights Violations Since August 2, 1990 - Iraq/Occupied Kuwait". Copies of the report are available by writing or calling: Amnesty International, 304 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003, telephone: 202-544-0200. There is a charge of \$5 for each copy.

AMERICANS TO HELP FREE KUWAIT a Boston based group has produced a music tape and video entitled "Sing for the Children". It is on sale in music stores now and all proceeds are to be used to help those in financial need due to the crisis. Be sure and purchase either the video (\$14.95), the record (\$4.99) or the cassette (\$3.99) and help support this good cause. If you are unable to find the video/music, call 617-437-0590 or fax 617-437-0034. Ku-WAITing for News received their copy this week and believe me it will bring tears to your eyes! The music is well-done and the pictures on the video will be something you won't forget!

THE TRUST FOR MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS, in Washington, D.C. has organized a U.S. tour of "Islamic Art and Patronage: Selections from Kuwait, The Al-Sabah Collection". The following itinerary has been published: The Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore - December 9, 1990 to February 17, 1991; Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth - March 1 to May 12, 1991; Emory University Museum of Art and Archaeology, Atlanta - June 19 to September 22, 1991; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond - November 5, 1991 to January 19, 1992; The St Louis Art Museum, St. Louis - February 15 to April 12, 1992.

A newsletter edited and published by Kuwaitis in exile in the Phoenix, Arizona area started publication on December 10, 1990. It is titled "**TOWARDS A FREE KUWAIT**" and is an excellent effort! Those interested in being on their mailing list may write: Towards a Free Kuwait, P. O. Box 1596, Tempe, Arizona 85280. I'm sure they will be happy to add your name!

One last bit - an interesting statistic: 18,000,000 people live in Iraq; 3,000,000 would follow Saddam Hussein to the ends of the earth; 3,000,000 are not capable of making a judgement one way or the other; 12,000,000 dispise him and want him out of power!

ADJUSTING

Layoffs. Hiring freezes. Plant closings. Employment agencies transformed into temporary agencies. Flying home from Spain, I was confident I could easily get a job. Maybe not the job I wanted, but a job. Four months later, I'm still looking for that 'permanent' job. Thomas Wolfe once wrote 'You can't go home again'. You can, but don't expect it to be the same. I realize now the reality of the employment scene has dramatically changed since I left. Computer literacy is a must, especially in the secretarial field. And the employee must be a close match for the position. I've been gone a long time - 13 years. America feels a lot different looking for a job than spending a summer vacation. But I have often wanted to experience once again "normal" American life. Now that is happening. Millions of Americans are out of work. I wrote this to encourage rather discourage any of you having similar experiences. We all had an initial adjustment to Kuwait. For some (like me) there may also be an adjustment to the place we always thought of as "home". (Editors note: thanks to **CATHY AL-ABDULLAH** for sharing her thoughts with us. Thanks also to **LISA AL-ADWANI** for allowing us to print some excerpts of one of her letters to Cathy which follows.)

As American women married to Kuwaiti men, we were forced to develop some inner resources which strengthened our characters. The Kuwaiti men in America are

now in a similar position to that which the foreign wives were in when they first went to Kuwait - though at least they know the language. There is no one for them to talk to (in Arabic), which must be the hardest thing of all. They need other men who have been through what they have and are struggling with the same things; and the only such men are other Kuwaiti men scattered about the US (and the rest of the globe). For us American women, telephones and letters are truly "the next best thing to being there"; but for Arab men, for whom the face-to-face contact is so important, nothing will quite substitute for the physical presence of a trusted relative or friend. We can offer them support, but ultimately, they will have to go through that same painful development of inner resources that we did.

A SPECIAL NOTE

Ku-WAITing for News is very happy to be able to print the following note from Joyce and Rich Draper:

"Ku-WAITing for News gives us an opportunity we have wished for: to convey heartfelt thanks to many unknown friends who remembered our daughter Nancy in thought and prayer after her accident last April in Kuwait.

From the moment we arrived in Kuwait we felt the caring of a close community of people who had chosen Kuwait as their home. We were privileged to meet many of you and to be strengthened by the comforting support of all of you.

Nancy liked to make her own Christmas cards, and, always the message she chose was PEACE. This is our prayer today and every day. May the new year bring joyous reunions with those you love."

THANK YOUS!

Thank you to Kim Dolce, John Carlough, Gulay and Stephen Terney, Joyce and Rich Draper, Carolyn Stritt, and Pauline Hassan for their donations to Ku-WAITing for News.

Ku-WAITing for News is being funded by private donations only at this time. Your contribution, no matter how small, is truly appreciated. All funds received are used to offset the costs of printing and postage. One donation came in the form of stamps.

OUR KUWAITI GUARDIAN ANGELS

Since the return of western hostages who were in Kuwait, you have heard incredible and astounding stories about life-risking assistance provided by Kuwaitis to the men in hiding.

Al Stone of Nevada says "The only reason I was able to stay hidden was because of the brave Kuwaiti people. Kuwaitis were able to persuade Iraqi authorities there were no westerners in our building and the Kuwaitis welded our doors shut to prevent looters from entering our building. We established a code system over the telephone and our Kuwaiti friends visited every other day through a secret passageway and brought supplies. One of our Kuwaiti friends

regularly carted our garbage off in his Mercedes. A Kuwaiti doctor risked his life by coming to our apartment when one of the men in hiding with me became ill. I hope to return to Kuwait soon; I've got to do something for the Kuwaiti people who did so much for me."

Tom Justus of Nevada says "I am concerned about what has happened to our Kuwaiti friends and whether reprisals have been taken against those who were helping us. They made sure we had plenty to eat; we would have been in trouble without the Kuwaitis. I wish there were some way we could help them other than just saying thanks. I want to be number one on the list when we go back."

From Hugh Hardaway of North Carolina "I never had better friends in my life than the Kuwaitis who helped us. They never let us pay for any of the food they brought. The Kuwaitis repeatedly said to me - we are in this together. I want very much to go back and help."

We Americans who have our loved ones home again have no words which can fully express our feelings about the brave actions taken by Kuwaitis who risked their lives to help our men. Inshallah, we will meet our "Kuwaiti Guardian Angels" in person and let them know how much we appreciate what they have done for all of us. We will not forget. We will meet again in Kuwait!

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

BY JANE E. BENNET

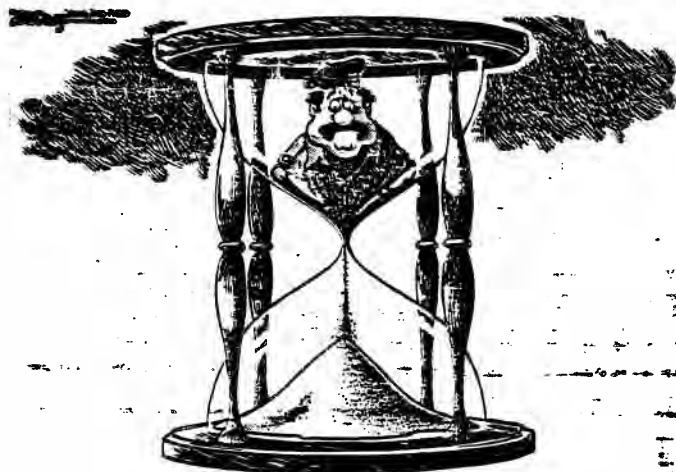
Oh, he is dead . . . dead . . .
Forever is quite done
With the lively feel of April's earth
And the hum of August's sun.

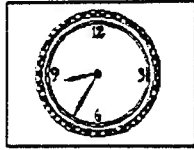
He has seen his share of stars
From the summit of the hill;
And though he was a youth to climb,
He is dead . . . dead . . . and still.

It was his duty, yes . . .
And no one can complain
His loss of lilac scent in wind,
Or the silver taste of rain.

But marking where he lies,
So deep beneath the sod,
Just say he served as country asked--
Do not try to speak for God.

Ku-WAITing to hear from you!
Leilani, Abdullateef, Lubna and Sandy





Ku-WAITing for News

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE
240 MISSION CATALINA #108

LAS VEGAS, NV 89107

TELEPHONE: (702) 877-1117 (WEST COAST)

TELEPHONE: (703) 281-7462 (EAST COAST)

ISSUE 3, DECEMBER 7, 1990

Our third edition is dedicated to all of the little children who have become victims of Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait: the children in Kuwait who have witnessed atrocities committed by Iraqi soldiers and live in constant fear, the children who fled Kuwait with their mothers and had to leave their fathers behind, the children around the world whose military fathers and mothers had to leave them to serve in a faraway land, and the children of countries around the globe who benefitted from the generosity of the Kuwaiti people.

CHILD OF THE STORM

You have weathered many a storm
Atmospheric and emotional
Conscious, subconscious and coastal

Born in the eye
Never knowing when you're going to die
A child of the storm
Looking for a place
Safe and warm

LEO REID, JR.

SUFFER THE LITTLE CHILDREN

"The world has an obligation to remember, each time children in other places go to school carrying their books and pens, that the children of Kuwait are being deprived not only of health care and education but of the simplest basics of life as well." His Highness Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Amir of the State of Kuwait, before the World Summit for Children, United Nations Headquarters, 30 September 1990.

When our flight landed in West Germany at the American military airfield in Frankfurt, the little children clung to their mothers' skirts in fear when they saw all of the soldiers and tanks. Mothers reassured their children that "these are the good soldiers, don't be afraid." Sandy Stone

An American woman on one of the freedom flights out of Kuwait told us that she dyed her 14-year old son's hair black so that he would look more like an Arab in the event Jordanian papers could be found for their planned

escape. His original hair color is bright red! (Black and dark brown hair tint disappeared very fast from the shelves in the markets.)

The children have suffered trauma the same as you and me. Watch them carefully and if you feel they need counselling services, call 1-800-USA-GIVE for your closest counselling service agency.

A KUWAITI SOLDIER

The news came on the set.
Right away, fear struck me.
Where was he! Where was he!
Was he safe?

Without warning they raped our land.
They took our pride as if it were theirs.
Where was he! Where was he!
Was he safe?

With a mighty silence, fear overtook
The soldiers. One hundred fifty taken
Day by day. He knew his turn was soon
So he had to get away.
Where was he! Where was he!
Was he safe?

He and a comrade escaped into the night,
Over a wall, on a six hour flight.
Being pursued through the dark desert night,
They fled toward safety not yet in sight.
Where was he! Where was he!
Was he safe?

Freedom was finally his again.
My stricken fear was silenced.
My father the brave Kuwaiti soldier,
Was back by my side again.

Written by Jenny Sutherland, a young teenage friend who felt deeply for Evelyn Al-Misnad's children.

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS!



Ku-WAITing for News Corner: Through the generosity of "COMING HOME" we have a toll-free line available one morning per week for the purpose of talking to our readers and exchanging information about what is happening in



between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. West Coast time or 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. East Coast time. After these hours you will get a recording and be restricted to a 30-second message as nobody will be there to tend to the recording machine. Send those messages as it is so important for us to do all we can to help keep up their morale as they are getting more and more depressed as time drags on.

PHONE PAL PROGRAM

Many readers have called wanting to know if there is someone in their state they can talk to who has a member of their family in Kuwait or Iraq. We have been successful in matching up people and will be happy to extend this service to any of you who would be interested. Call our office and we'll find you a "phone pal" in your state.

WORD FROM KUWAIT

- Kuwaitis are selling personal possessions to Iraqis to get money to buy food.
- A car bomb exploded in the car of Iraqi officers headquartered at the International Hotel and the blast rattled windows for blocks around the area.
- Some Kuwaiti families are returning to their homes in Kuwait.
- Recent reports from Kuwaitis say that there are approximately 50 checkpoints to the Saudi border and soldiers take something from the families at every checkpoint and burn their passports when they reach the border. Others tell us they had no problem and that it depends on which area you leave from.
- Calls are being made out of Baghdad by Kuwaiti residents.
- Fresh vegetables are being brought into Kuwait by Iraqis.
- Fresh fruit is being brought into Kuwait from Jordan.
- The water is still being purified.
- Some Palestinians are being paid to locate American and British men.
- The curfew was lifted on November 23.
- Men are continuing to meet at Diwaniyas.

BITS 'N' PIECES

WHITE HOUSE COMMENT LINE - Call 1-(202)456-1111 to state your opinion on how you feel President Bush is handling the Gulf Crisis.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE - Applications are being mailed to families whose American breadwinners are being detained in Iraq or hiding in Kuwait. If you are not receiving financial assistance from the American company your husband works for, you may be eligible to receive monthly monetary payments, health insurance and life insurance. If you have not received an application by January 1, call the Kuwait Task Force between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and ask them to connect you to Ed Betancourt.

AMERICAN WOMEN left on December 3 for Baghdad to seek the release of hostages. Our hopes and prayers are with them. Many others are making preparations to go.

OPERATION YELLOW RIBBON is a non-profit, non-political organization which offers volunteer professional counselling for military and hostage families who are trying to cope with this difficult situation and has started a national network to help put families in the U.S. in touch with each other. They now have a toll-free line: 1-800-488-6288. Gay Jacobsen has a son serving in Saudi and is Founder and Chairman. Theresa Murphy has a father in Kuwait and she is Director of Hostage Family Support.

CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT, P.O. Box 21, Falls Church, VA 22040-0021 (202)686-2185, has formed a Women for a Free Kuwait branch and they have many activities involving women and children. Write to Fatima Nazar, Ph.D. for more information.

GULF SUPPORT GROUP is located at Alexandra House, 29-33 Kingsway, London WC2, England, telephone no. 71430-9920. They are doing a newsletter and are also a support group for victims of the crisis. We hear they are also doing a great job in organizing rallies.

Also from the UK, British lawmaker Sir John Stokes is quoted as saying, "I am sick and tired of the mewling and puking of the relatives of hostages in the gulf and of some of the hostages themselves." He may be a "Sir" but he "sirtainly" isn't a gentleman!

KUWAIT EMBASSY - 3500 International Drive, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008. Telephone (202)686-4304 or 4307. If you are having financial difficulty, they will accept collect calls. Thank you, Kuwait Embassy.

KUWAIT TASK FORCE, U.S. State Department, now has two toll-free numbers: 1-800-437-1859 which is manned from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for those who have loved ones in Iraq or 1-800-344-9485 which is manned 24 hours a day for those who have loved ones in Kuwait and for anyone who calls the Task Force after 5:00 p.m. (Remember, these hours are Eastern Time.) Families have also been assigned one contact person within the task force and this has helped us tremendously.

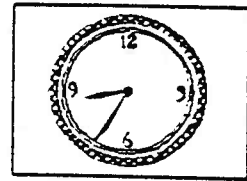
Margie Howell tells us that DELTA AIRLINES has offered a 50% reduction on their routes to those of us who come to Washington, D.C. for official briefings. Call 1-800-241-6760 to book or call Jerry Ellis, 404-765-2667.

THANK YOUS!

Our heartfelt thanks to Gail Anderson, Sarah Abdal, Ruth Bany, Phyllis Mallalah, Lucille Hughes, Les Schroeder, James and Alice Gast, Debbie Harris, Lisa Al-Adwani, Ellis Walker, Naomi Al-Haroon, Merrill Turley, Shirley Bollig, Becky Al-Tabeeekh, Karen Al-Own, Margie Howell, Berit Flaten, Virginia Van Hest-Bastaki and Margaret Dickenson for their generous donations.

Ku-WAITing to hear from you!
Sandy, Leilani, Abdullateef and Lubna
Office - (702) 877-1117

KU - WAITING FOR NEWS



c/o Sandy Stone
7720 Pheasant
Las Vegas, NV 89128
Telephone: (702) 363-3445

This first edition is dedicated to the brave men and women in Kuwait and Iraq who are risking their lives to help those who cannot help themselves. We cannot reveal their identities, but we silently salute these "unsung heroes" and thank them from the bottom of our hearts for what they are doing.

BE STRONG

Be strong!
We are not here to play, to dream, to drift;
We have hard work to do and loads to lift;
Shun not the struggle - face it, 'tis God's gift.

Be strong!
Say not, "The days are evil. Who's to blame?"
And fold the hands and acquiesce - oh, shame!
Stand up, speak out, and bravely, in God's name.

Be strong!
It matters not how deep intrenched the wrong,
How hard the battle goes, the day how long;
Faint not - fight on! Tomorrow comes the song.

Maltbie Davenport Babcock

It has now been over two months since Iraq invaded Kuwait. We have all been patiently ku-WAITing for news of an Iraqi withdrawal so we can return to our homes. We are all refugees under different circumstances. Some of us were in Kuwait during the invasion and were subsequently evacuated to various parts of the world and left behind our husbands and friends; some were out of the country and left behind family members and/or homes and personal possessions; some never lived in Kuwait but have husbands who were working there. Whatever your situation, we have one thing in common - a crisis entered our lives bringing with it emotional trauma and a feeling of helplessness and frustration that we are trying hard to overcome.

What can we do? We can help each other by remaining strong and optimistic about the liberation of Kuwait and all of the hostages. Our lives will never be the same again for we all have stories to tell - stories which will become a part of history. We have been bonded together through the sharing of traumatic experiences and our personal hopes for a resolution to this crisis. **LET'S STAY TOGETHER!**

We would like to hear from you. What are you doing, how are you doing, do you need help, and what news are you hearing out of Kuwait and Iraq? We all have different sources of information and help and by compiling all of our data we can keep each other informed much better than through the news media or the various government agencies in our respective countries. Regardless of how minor you may feel your information is, by piecing it all together we can get a more complete picture of the situation in Kuwait and Iraq. Please share your information with us!



MESSAGE TO SADDAM HUSSEIN!

On Tuesday, October 9, a video taped message recorded by an American woman was delivered to the Iraqi Embassy in Washington, D.C. The message was non-political and appealed to him to release all the civilian hostages being held in Kuwait and Iraq. We are hoping that the tape is delivered to him and that he will view it. It's worth a try. If you wish to write to the Ambassador send your letters to: His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Sadiq Al-Mashat, 1801 "P" N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

KUWAIT EMBASSY

The following information is the latest we have available on how to contact the Kuwait Embassy in Washington, D.C., regarding your needs, whether they be financial or for status updates.

FAX Number:	202-364-2868
Other Numbers:	202-686-4304, 5, 6, 7
	202-966-0702
Citizens for a Free Kuwait:	202-686-2188



Ku-WAITing for News

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240 MISSION CATALINA #108

LAS VEGAS, NV 89107

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EAST COAST (LUBNA) (703) 281-7462

ISSUE 5, FEBRUARY 1, 1991

Our fifth edition is dedicated to the nations and people of the world aligned in their goal to liberate Kuwait. This includes the leaders of those countries, the military strength of Desert Storm, and the people of each nation who support the just cause of a Free Kuwait. May God watch over all of them and their united goal be accomplished soon!

Editor's Note: On January 16, 1991, the liberation of Kuwait began. We at Ku-WAITing for News pray for a quick end to the hostilities, but most of all, we pray for a FREE KUWAIT.

KUWAIT: A ROSE IN THE DESERT

The petals of the beautiful rose growing in the desert were beginning to open when Saddam Hussein crushed it on August 2, 1990.

Kuwaitis, Americans and Europeans are constantly asked "Will you ever go back to Kuwait?" When we respond "yes, I am going back," they look at us with horror and disbelief in their eyes. Families and friends are already beginning to express concern over our sanity.

Why would we want to return to Kuwait? Our answer is easy: many of us are married to Kuwaitis, some of us have children who were raised in Kuwait, and some of us were members of the expat community. We all grew to love Kuwait, although many of us didn't realize the depth of our feelings for her until the invasion. We all worked together and watched Kuwait as it grew into a beautiful and peaceful country. We are sickened and outraged at the destruction of the many years of work in which we all took so much pride as we watched Kuwait grow.

We are all appalled that Kuwait has been slapped in the face when the Kuwaiti people so freely shared their wealth with members of the international community and asked nothing in return. The Kuwaiti people have always been gracious and giving, and we cannot comprehend any reason why they are being punished in such a monstrous way.

We continue to have an overwhelming feeling of resentment for the loss of our freedom and Iraq's violation of human rights when soldiers murdered and raped innocent Kuwaitis, forced the Western community to hide like animals from their hunters, and eventually forced all of us from our homes.

Many people are now helping with the Master Plan to rebuild Kuwait. The Kuwait government in exile had the foresight to establish offices and began this planning soon after the invasion. There is much work to be done before Kuwait is ready for the return of her citizens and the expat community. We want to go back NOW, but we must remain patient. Think ahead to the eventual joy we will feel when we return to a Free Kuwait; think of how wonderful it will be when we reunite with families and friends; think of the pride we will feel when we again work side-by-side toward our common goal of rebuilding Kuwait.

Be patient. The rosebush remains in Kuwait; its roots are the Kuwaiti people. We shall all water and fertilize it with love and care and the beautiful rose will soon bloom again. Sandy Stone

Everyday I think of you
I write these letters in my mind
If only to get a few words to you
Realizing now that I was blind.

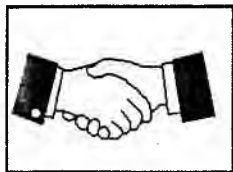
Your shadow and voice still haunt me
As I go about my day
Each memory is clear to me
that time can never fade.

In morning haze I find you,
lingering from my dreams.
And yet, but in an instant,
Reality approaches ...
Shattering my secret dreams of you,
As if by the sound of
A million deafening screams.



A POEM WRITTEN BY MEGHAN MCCABE,
A KU-WAITING FOR NEWS READER

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS!



KU-WAITING FOR NEWS CONFERENCE LINE: We have a toll-free (24-hour a day) conference line - courtesy of **USA Sprint** - for those interested in keeping in touch with friends, and for hearing the latest news out of Kuwait. You may contact either Lubna or Leila for information on this service. Ku-WAITing for News wants to take this opportunity to salute and give a large **THANK YOU** to USA Sprint and especially to the wonderful, courteous, operators! Thanks! You are all very important to us! Those of us who use the conference line also wish to thank Joy Ligon for her wonderful help and guidance. Joy has been named as an honorary "resident of Kuwait" by Ku-WAITing for News. What a great friend she is!

BABY NEWS

Linda Abdul-Raheem is the proud Mom of new daughter, **Khaloud**, born October 18, 1991. **Hilda Abdulla** is expecting in July. **Mary Sanislo** had son **Robby** in June. **Leila**, a darling baby daughter was born to **Brenda Abdul-Hussain** on December 28. **Karla Khaja** recently gave birth to twin boys! Wow! **Carrie Seyam** wrote us the joyous news of the birth of her son, **Yusef**, on October 1. **Amarah**, a new baby daughter was born on October 16 to **Norma Abdal**. **Debbie Harris** sent the Ku-WAITing for News staff a picture of her two adorable daughters, **Aaishah** and **Jinaan**. How wonderful it is to see those innocent faces! That's what this war is all about, not oil! **Debbie** sends regards to all of her friends. Congratulations to all of the new Moms and Dads! Anyone having news of births or pending births, please notify the KFN staff.

MAIL BAG

Thanks to all the readers who sent their Christmas cards to us. The staff of Ku-WAITing for News was truly blessed to hear from our wonderful readers! Those of you who wrote asking for copies of **Pat Ashkanani's** petition to President Bush, will be glad to know that the petition has been sent. Thanks for all your inquiries. **Tammy Franklin** writes that she has faith that God will pull us through all of this. **Tammy** and son, **Yousif**, and daughter, **Halima**, are doing just fine. **Victoria Al-Baaijan** writes that she was scheduled to go to Kuwait in August to join her husband in Kuwait. She sends her hopes that she will meet all of us in a Free Kuwait. From Norway, **Berit Flaten** writes to let her friends know that she really missed celebrating Christmas with them this year. She was lucky enough to have most of her family pictures with her. **Valerie Al-Ghanim** writes from Northern Ireland that she and her children are very active in the "Free Kuwait Campaign" passing out posters, badges, and information to all who wish. Ku-WAITing for News sends their condolences to **Valerie**, **Najla**, **Badreah**, **Bader**, and **Nawaf** on the news of the death of their husband/father in Kuwait. **Ghazy Al-Ghanim** died in September in Kuwait due to no medical care being available. **Tina Al-Qabandi** writes that her four children are occupying most of her time. **Tina** and her husband, **Ibrahim**, are wondering if there is a group of Kuwaiti men who keep in contact with each other. If anyone knows of such a support group, please let our staff know. **Meghan McCabe** has written to the Washington Post to voice her opinion on the fact that captured pilots have had their pictures in the paper, but no photos have been published of the Kuwaiti pilot. **Ann Eid** has a group of 50 pictures of Kuwait as she was - and will be again. **Ann** is seeking a sponsor to exhibit these pictures. She is located in the Washington DC area. Anyone interested in helping may contact Ku-WAITing for News for information. **Mary Al-Olayan** writes "We are all going thru some very hard times now, but I wish all of you the best of luck and to have faith in God and patience. One day we will meet again in our beloved home of Kuwait. Inshallah!" **Patty Fox** is keeping busy speaking at schools, church groups and clubs about Kuwait - the real story, and why the U.S. must stand with Kuwait until Kuwait is free again. **Frances Al-Salim** writes from the U.K. that she would love to hear from her friends in the U.S. or elsewhere. If you want **Frances'** address, please write to KFN staff. Yes, **Frances**, we would love to hear more about friends in the U.K. Write! **Sheryll Mairza** and husband, **Husain**, are grieving over the



passing of his mother in Kuwait on November 13, due to lack of medical care. Our condolences are extended to them and their family. Sheryll writes that her love for Kuwait and its culture and people will remain steadfast and her prayers are never-ceasing. **Diane Al-Tukhaim** writes to KFN "Thank you for knitting the golden thread that holds us together. We've all lost alot.. everything..except our friendships, which would have been lost also if not for you." Ku-WAITing for News has become a life-line for many, including our KFN staff! **Evelyn Al-Misnad** writes that she does different things to control her anger - such as washing down and cleaning every nook and cranny on her car! Evelyn is very active in informing the public about Kuwait and its plight! **Patricia Milns** has written to KFN. She says that KFN helps her in hearing about people who are "in the same boat" as her. **Nancy and John Dennis** have written that their thoughts go back to Kuwait and the positive experiences they enjoyed there. They both continue to hope and pray that things will be settled soon. **Ursula Harlos** writes that although she left Kuwait last January, she and her family are suffering with the fate of Kuwait. Ursula says that there was an Iraqi soldier who ended up in the hospital due to eating a NIVEA sandwich! Can they really be that ignorant? **Susan and Karim Kawmy** are settled in America. They have been leading a nomadic existence for quite a time. Friends may write to KFN for more information. **Monica Whittaker** has been very supportive of KFN and concerned about the welfare of her friends and family inside Kuwait. Chin up, Monica; it won't be long! **Lee and Ruth Johnson** have written to let the staff of KFN know that "we found your support very reassuring when our son, Roy Johnson, was in Kuwait". Thanks for taking the time to write, Lee and Ruth! **Pam Mergy**, a teacher from Kuwait, is working two jobs to keep her busy. Pam is again trying to seek a post overseas for next year. **Carol West**, who was the high school counselor at UAS, is now turning her efforts to college life. She is the house mother for a sorority! Thanks for writing readers! We love hearing from you!

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"No slack is what we'll give Iraq!" A U.S. SOLDIER IN OPERATION DESERT STORM

"Peace between countries must rest on the solid foundation of love between individuals." MAHATMA GANDHI

"The liberation of Kuwait has begun." MARVIN FITZWATER FOR PRESIDENT BUSH

"Just two hours ago, allied air forces began an attack on military targets in Iraq and Kuwait. These attacks continue as I speak. Ground forces are not engaged. This conflict started August 2 when the dictator of Iraq invaded a small and helpless neighbor. Kuwait, a member of the Arab League, and a member of the United Nations, was crushed, its people brutalized."

And later -- "The world could wait no longer." PRESIDENT BUSH ON EVE OF WAR

HOSTAGE UPDATES

Ernie Briskey has written to say "A number of Kuwaiti and other friends, as well as several Kuwaiti's whom I had never met before, were involved in both

sustaining me, and in carrying forth extensive planning that led to my successful escape." Thanks for sharing with us, Ernie.

Eugene and Lucille Hughes say, "We just wanted to write and tell you how grateful we are to the Kuwaiti people for their help and support while we were in hiding in Kuwait. Not wanting to reveal names in print just yet, there are those in Ku-WAITing for News who know who they are and how they helped us by bringing medicine, putting us in touch with a doctor, providing us with food and even cigarettes to those in our apartment. Our hearts go out to all of you in this difficult time and we pray that your loved ones and your country will soon be liberated from the terror and destruction that has fallen upon them. Rest assured we will never forget the beautiful and caring people we met while there.

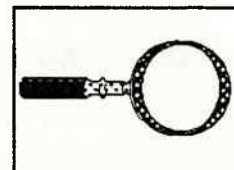
Next issue we will be featuring stories by Don Latham and Jack Rinehart - two former hostages in Kuwait.

Friends are looking for information on the following people:

If you have any information on these people, please contact Ku-WAITing for News so we may advise their loved ones!

Mike & Linda Anderson
Ahmed Zaccariah Al-Ansari
Rhonda Balbaisi
Samar & Dave Checkie
Elizabeth Dunn
Faisal Al-Hasawi
Donna Hussain
Kathy Knapich
Candy Al-Mutairi
Jon Petersen
Lisa & Tom Ulery
Akeel Falah Al-Dhafiri

Nola Anderson (husband Tofeq)
Arlene from San Francisco
Reyadh Ali Ghanem Al-Banna
Rita Diemler
Melody Buera Fajardo
Bassem Housani & Family
Salem Esmail Al-Jumah
Amina Al-Mulafie
Abdul-Aziz Al-Othman
Jawad Al-Tahoo
Fathel Hayder Al-Watheeqi
Ludmila Al-Awadi



SPEAKING OUT

Dear Friends, In the past five months, I have had many calls, as I'm sure many of you have, to speak to groups about Kuwait. I was reluctant at first, but comments like "who cares, women can't even drive a car", spurred me on. There is so little knowledge of Kuwait that when people say they don't know who they are fighting for it is usually true! The news media has managed to use the country's name without giving a face to it.

Now more than ever we must help the American public (and all others) understand who this war is being fought for. We know better than anyone! I have found that with just the minimal of explanations or descriptions, people seem genuinely sympathetic and concerned for Kuwait. Let's get away from the politics and get down to the people. When it's from the heart, it is much easier than you may have expected. Freedom of speech doesn't just mean protesting! Speak up - it is our responsibility.

Sincerely, Karol Badou

WORD FROM KUWAIT

The only word we have from Kuwait is via **SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL FOR KUWAIT**. We thank them for their input and help in presenting these items.

- Electricity and water are available.
- In some areas, soldiers began searching homes which they believed had weapons hidden in them.
- The morale and confidence of the population is high.
- Iraqi Army morale is low and continues to deteriorate.
- Soldiers are fortifying their positions in schools by digging trenches around the schools.
- A missile base in Jeleeb Al-Shuokh was destroyed.
- When jets pass over Kuwait, Iraqi soldiers indiscriminately fire their rifles in the air.

BITS 'N' PIECES

KUWAITI TRANSLATORS: As most of you have probably read or heard, about 350 Kuwaiti men have left the U.S. and gone as volunteer translators to Saudi Arabia. These men, of all ages, have a common bond of wanting to help free their country. Ku-WAITing for News has formed a support group for the wives, mothers and fathers of these men. We have arranged two days a week to meet on the toll-free conference line and discuss any news or problems that a member of the group may have. Deborah Hoffer and Redah Naqi have volunteered to be the conference leaders and to try to establish a liaison with the Kuwait Embassy and the American Army. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Ku-WAITing for News for details.

CNN NEWS FROM BAGHDAD: If you feel as sickened as we do by the propaganda that Peter Arnett is broadcasting from Baghdad on behalf of Saddam Hussein, please phone the White House Comment Line at 202-456-1111 and voice your opinion. Bring Peter home and stop him from being the personal press agent for Saddam!

NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO: On January 15, 1991, our East Coast Rep, Lubna, was asked to attend "A Town Meeting: The Gulf Crisis" at The George Washington University. This program was broadcast to all the member NPR stations throughout the US. Participants included: Congressman Jim Moody (D-WI), Congressman Jim Leach (R-IA), Col. Trevor Dupuy (military historian and author), Ambassador Clovis Maksoud (former Arab League rep to the US and UN), Peter Rodman (Fellow, Johns Hopkins Foreign Policy Institute), and Dr. William Zartman (Professor of Conflict Resolution, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced Int'l. Studies). Dr. Saif Abdullah, Kuwait Outreach, pointed out that UN Resolution 678 only gave Iraq 45 extra days to rape Kuwait without intervention. He pointed out that the 4,000 Kuwaitis killed since the invasion equates to 1 million in US. Congressman Leach and Col. Dupuy supported President Bush. Congressman Moody wanted the sanctions to have longer to work. Thanks for the report, Lubna!

PUBLIC LAW 101-153/THE STEVENS ACT: If you or your spouse or dependent child are US citizens, and you were in Kuwait after the invasion, you may be eligible for certain benefits under this act. This is provided in three parts - monetary, health insurance and life insurance. If you have not received a packet on this program, write: Richard Gonzalez, Kuwait/Iraq/Lebanon Hostage Benefit Program, Room 4817, Washington, D.C. 20520.

WINTER CLOTHING ALLOWANCE: If you are registered with a Kuwait Embassy, be sure you contact them about a winter clothing allowance. You must write a letter to the Embassy requesting this one-time allowance. Be sure and include your family registration number in your letter.

FOLLOW-UP: Meghan McCabe writes that she attended the follow-up meeting at Anita Baker's home with the people from the Presbyterian church in Virginia (Issue 4). Meghan says "It was such a wonderful gathering! Ambassador Howell and his wife walked in the room and there was a rush of warmth. He had arrived from Kuwait two days before, and he had to drive almost three hours to attend the lunch. He is quite a man. You can really feel his devotion to Kuwait and it was very inspiring. He said that he hopes all of us would be able to eat together again in a Free Kuwait!" Thanks for the follow-up story, Meghan!

KUWAIT LINK: A jointly-owned American/Kuwaiti organization. Their purpose since the invasion has been to provide a network of information to Kuwaitis, their friends and families, and to anyone with an interest in Kuwait. No cost and you can contact: 703-739-2635 for more information.

THE RAPE OF KUWAIT by Jean P. Sasson, is now on sale at your local bookstores. It is published by Knightsbridge Publishing at 255 East 49th Street, Suite 25D, New York NY 10017, if you cannot find copies in your area. The cost is \$4.95.

BRAVE PEOPLE

At a time when we are all experiencing what has to be the worst portion of our lives, it sometimes helps to know there are others who are sacrificing much to help return our lives to normal. We hear so much since the start of the war about anti-war rallies, military personnel families who complain about their child's participation in a war for oil, and other similar items. Those are just what reaches the media! The real people are families like that of Robert and Helen Stewart. The Stewarts live outside New York City. They have 6 sons. Mr. Stewart served in the Korean War. Mrs. Stewart is a retired nurse. Son Paul, 33 years old, is a Marine sergeant; Robert, 35, is a paratrooper in the Army; James, 29 is an Army captain. All are currently stationed in Saudi Arabia. Sons Timothy, 30, an Army sergeant, and Alexander, 25, a Spec. 4 in the Army are both scheduled to go to Saudi Arabia. Paul sent the following poem to his mother:

My heart and my soul
I give to our flag,
to defend our policies
we will never lag.
Always faithful, Paul.

Mrs. Stewart is suffering from a brain tumor. She is afraid for her sons, but she would never ask them to compromise their beliefs for her own personal sacrifice. She's a mother, in the true sense of the word! Now that's courage!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Meghan McCabe for her beautiful poems which are featured in this issue of Ku-WAITing for News. Meghan's poems are inspired by thoughts of her fiancée in Kuwait. Karol Badou graciously sent us the open letter to all her friends to publish. Victoria Al-Baaijan submitted the quote from Mahatma Gandhi. Thanks to these special contributors!

Ku-WAITing for News is being funded only by your donations. Your contribution, no matter how small, is truly appreciated. All funds received are used to offset the costs of printing and postage. Contributions were gratefully received this month from Patty Fox, Monica Whittaker, Meghan McCabe, Gail Abbas, Evelyn Al-Misnad, Carol West, Lee and Ruth Johnson, and Karol Badou. Thank you very much!

There are times when I drive alone
when suddenly I hear
Songs reminding me most of you
Like your soft voice
Whispering in my ear.

It's at these times that I am sure that you
are thinking of me still
And I know no matter how far from me
These ears may not really be hearing you,
But my sad heart forever will.

MEGHAN MCCABE

Ku-WAITing to hear from you!
Leilani, Lubna and Sandy



Some Brutal Scenes

The following letter was dated Sept. 30, smuggled out of Kuwait and printed in an English newspaper:

A reign of terror has taken place. Neither gender nor nationality is safe. An Indian national was shot in cold blood crossing the road at Benaid al Gar. Houses were evacuated, then five Kuwaiti girls brought out and shot. They eyewitness was a Palestinian middle-aged man who until now is in a trauma.

Seven young Kuwaiti boys who were helping the doctors at Mubarak hospital for two weeks were arrested and returned days later, shot dead in the head, their bodies riddled with torture marks. On a routine house-to-house inspection they found a Kuwaiti officer in hiding. He was shot in front of his family. His younger brother protested, screaming and shouting, only to be met by a series of bullets.

Arrests are continuous and usually at night. Arrests are aimed at young Kuwaiti boys and ex-National Assembly members. Some are released in two days, some ten days, some a month; others do not return.

Those who return describe the brutality they are exposed to that is even unheard of under Israeli occupation or Hitler's Reich. All are blindfolded, beaten, electrocuted all over the body, particular their private parts. They are locked in unhygienic rooms with other Kuwaitis and some spies. Garbage is thrown on them continuously. The water they are given causes diarrhoea and they are allowed to go to the bathroom only once a day. They are given one small piece of bread to eat once every two hours. Those who have returned describe death-drives where they are linked up for execution and shots are heard in the air. Eight Kuwaiti boys were forced to take a capsule on their release. One of the boys is running a high temperature since and is so traumatized that he refuses to let a doctor near him.

If arms and ammunition are found in the house it is immediate arrest

and torture until death. A group of Kuwaitis arrested and released witnessed the capture of (A...). "They took him in the middle of the night from our cell and we heard him being tortured for four hours. Then there was silence." VIP arrests are kept longer and on release are taken to houses to the al-Sabah families where they show them sex instruments and alcohol bars. Most of these houses are old men's and women's houses; thus an obvious plant. All are requested to sign anti-Sabah confessions.

One group of boys who were released passed a room with Kuwaiti girls nude and raped. The boys removed their dishdashas (local men's dress) and threw them to the girls to wear.

When an arrest is made any inquirers of the person arrested are also automatically arrested. The arrests are always anonymous. These who have returned say that the official policy is that 200 are under suspicion to find the one who is guilty.

I have listed a fraction of what is happening. These are crimes against humanity. Those Kuwaitis staying expect even more, but have no choice since all feel to leave through a border where passports and ID's are taken is worse than holding on.

Immediate release through war is preferred to this slow, contemptuous and corrosive degradation of our body and spirit. The fear is that if more time is spent on resolutions and discussion then ultimately no Kuwaitis will remain alive.

—From Kuwait Notes

Voice of KUWAIT

A newsletter published in coop. with
National Union of Kuwait Students-USA
No.15 January 21, 1991. "Long Live Kuwait"

Save Face

A few hours after Iraq announced (I should say Saddam Hussein announced) it was going to release all "guests" so they could be home for Christmas, since a goodly number of them are Christians, and what it means to them, I heard and saw the Iraqi ambassador say that they (the hostages) "had served their purpose" and now they could go home if they wanted to.

Every human being should be as appalled as I was when he said that! It was gross enough that Iraq took them to begin with, much less treat them as so much cattle in a market! It is disgusting!

His treatment of the Kuwait people defies description. There aren't words to express the ghastly tortures and murders of these people by the Saddam Hussein regime. How can any of us say these people aren't worth saving? The NOW organization has stated this because of *their* view of how women are treated in that region. Shame on this organization!! How small they think—how petty! I'm ashamed of their attitude.

Saddam Hussein should be made to pay for all the crimes he has committed against humanity, not rewarded in *any* way, shape, or form. There are those who say we must let him "save face." He doesn't deserve to be allowed even that much. A man who doesn't care about his own people (check his history and his record) shouldn't expect the courtesy of "saving face."

—J. U.

What Is To Become Of Us?

The Arabs have always prided themselves on having a strong sense of brotherhood and loyalty to one another. The unification of the Arab Nations was once spoken of in smug self-satisfactory tones. Look at us now. We have been blown apart by such tremendous forces that the damage could prove to be irrevocable. When neighbor turns against neighbour, Arabs against Arabs out of envy born from resentment against those who have been graced with more favorable circumstance in life, what hope can be left for the Arab Race, if any hope is left at all? All our self-created illusions were shattered in the early morning hours of August 2, 1990. The Arab world is changed forever.

The Palestinian issue is a bitter and sensitive one for all Arabs. They have condemned Israel on numerous occasions for its role in the Palestinian issue. It cannot be denied that Kuwait has been extremely active in helping the Palestinian cause. How then, can the Palestinian government justify its support of Saddam Hussein's annexation of Kuwait? Especially when the Palestinians have been crying out over the decades against the self-same act that has left them without a country?

I realize that this is a touchy subject to broach. However, this is a topic that has been running through the minds and hearts of every single Kuwaiti. I believe that I speak for the whole Kuwaiti population when I state that upon seeing Yasser Arafat and Saddam Hussein in a victorious embrace after the latter's takeover of Kuwait, I was left stunned, angry, and above all hurt and confused.

Like any other society, the Kuwaiti people have their short comings. Yet not one of these provides sufficient justification for such an outrageous stab in the back. The grumblings of how Kuwait deserves this because it

treated foreigners(i.g. Palestinians) as second class citizens? Poor excuse. Try again, please.

Kuwait has been the number one backer of the Palestinian cause from the very beginning. As small as it is, Kuwait welcomed the largest number of Palestinian refugees, gave them free education and medical services. It has also been the top financial supporter/contributor to the Palestinians and the P.L.O.

I realize that the Kuwaiti government had put the needs of the Kuwaiti before those of the Palestinians and had given the Kuwaitis more privileges, but what else can one really expect? After all, the top priority of any government is the welfare of its own people before others.

The only plausible explanation I have been able to come up with is that in their desperation to retrieve their nation the Palestinians have been blinded to all, and have literally bitten the hand that fed them. Such a strong desire to be reunited with one's country is something any Kuwaiti can identify with.

The Palestinians have been deluded and misled by Saddam's false promises. After all, actions speak louder than words; while Saddam has only talked about the Palestinian plight, Kuwait has physically contributed to it. Surely they must see Saddam for the ruthless creature he is, and know from the past few months that he is not a man of his words? Can it also be possible that his desire to extricate the Israeli nation from Palestine is a guise for his own personal vendetta against Israel for bombing Iraqi nuclear generators back in the early 1980's ??

Let me Make it clear that not all Palestinians condone Hussein's actions. Many Palestinians who were born and raised in Kuwait stand resolute in their condemnation of his aggression. Young Palestinians men have fought and died beside Kuwaiti resistance fighters in defending the country that had been their home. Many Palestinians in Jordan have given shelter to Kuwaiti families and

have helped in smuggling letters in and out of Kuwait. I have nothing but praise and gratitude for them. There is even an organization called "Palestinians for Free Kuwait" that exists in the United States. However, these factors are like a molehill next to a mountain in the face of Yasser Arafat's stand in the whole crisis.

Along with the P.L.O., Yasser Arafat has succeeded in undoing all the work of the Palestinians have done and has caused the Palestinian people take a firm stand and show the world that they do not agree with their government's decision they could end up losing more than they already have. If the Palestinians are satisfied with Saddam as their strongest ally, let them think of what kind of life is offered to them in Iraq.

Sadly, the number of Palestinian people who take pleasure in the Kuwaiti suffering is great. I fail to comprehend how anyone can feel any from of satisfaction at seeing any country raped and destroyed the way Kuwait has been. Having Palestinians chant " Long Live Saddam " on international news does not help much either.

The Palestinian role in the Gulf Crisis can be depicted in a single scenario: they are witnesses to an act of rape and murder: some boo and hiss at the criminal while most cheer him on. Looking into the heart of what is right and what is wrong, I know what I would be doing.

I believe that the major difference between Palestinians and Kuwaitis is that many Palestinians have been raised on hate. This has led to the loss of their ability to distinguish between friend and foe. Kuwait has never been the enemy of the Palestinian people. Never.

Envision the Arab World in the not-too-distant future: the streets are filled with soldiers, hostilities between Arab countries constantly flare up, resentments fester and grow How can we survive as a torn nation that lives in constant fear of one another? What is to become of us?

—Eman Ali Yousef, Kuwaiti.

Former Hostage

I am an American who was evacuated from Kuwait. Up until I met my husband, I had never lived outside the United States or was exposed to different cultures. That's why I write this open letter, not as an authority, but as an ordinary person who has been there and knows from experience.

Why are people crucifying one of the victims in this horrible situation? The Kuwaiti people. Since my return to the States, I have been appalled at statements (some vicious) heard from various people. Statements like, "we should just stay out and let them all kill themselves, they've been fighting for years," "why are we fighting for people who don't believe as we do?" "We are just fighting for oil," "why aren't the Kuwaiti people helping?" I could go on and on, these are just a few.

Most of these statements are ridiculous not to mention cruel and are made by people who obviously don't understand or don't care to understand the reasons. The number one reason here folks is *Human Life!!* Arabs and Americans along with many other nationalities. Who has the right to do what Saddam Hussein has done? No one! Kuwaitis bleed just like we do, they love their families just like we do and have the right to dignity and safety just as we do.

Their lives have been ripped apart along with their families. Separated, maybe to never be reunited again. I have lived in Kuwait for three years and have seen and come to know the Kuwaiti way of life. I am here to tell you, they hold human life sacred no matter what the color of your skin. When the invasion happened, at risk to their own lives, they helped all people whether they be Arabs or foreigners. Even after there were executions for harboring Americans they continued their mission—to help and protect human beings. Not Americans, not British, not French but, em human beings!!

The Kuwaiti people have the right

to decide who they want to run *their* country! Not Iraq or even the United States as I have heard statements made that Kuwait should change their government to be like ours, if we are going to help them return to their homeland. Don't you think that's a form of blackmail!? If the Kuwaitis aren't happy with their government let them solve it among themselves.

Yes, I acknowledge that Kuwait has a lot of oil and *nobody* want Saddam controlling it. But, lets all be honest with ourselves. Who will be the first to give up their car for a bike or return to heating homes and cooking meals from the fireplace? The list could go on and on. We need the oil.

The Kuwaitis are not sitting while we prepare to fight. Their military along with many, many volunteers are on the front line. You have to remember the whole of Kuwait is about the size of Rhode Island. Their army could never match the United States'. They are out there and ready to be first if the shooting starts.

I will say again, I have been their and I have seen what this madman, Saddam Hussein, has done to a peace-loving country and its people. The horror will never leave my mind. Never!! I say to you, direct your anger to the person who deserves it, Saddam Hussein, not the tortured victim. They have been murdered, tortured and ran out of their homes and country. Walk in their shoes and try to feel their pain. Please.

In closing I would like to say, I, as many people all over the world, pray for peace, but if war comes may Allah bless and help us all!!!

—Debbie Harris

Troops Count

The following is the number of the troops in the Gulf military theatre as of December 18, 1990 as stated by the State Department:

Iraq: 510,000

United States: 270,000

Allied Forces (28 countries): 220,000

I mentioned these numbers just to clear out the general perception that the U.S. soldiers are there alone with no one sitting beside them.

—barrak

He Has Spoiled The Dream!

I do not write this out of a desire to defend Kuwait, in which I know neither prince nor pauper, nor out of hatred towards Saddam Hussein, who is strong patriot turned despot until he felt, like all tyrants, that his country had grown too small for him, and that he had to devour another. Iran, however, was too large a bone to swallow, even with the help of fifty billion dollars and the blood of a million martyrs.

Little Kuwait, an easy morsel he could swallow without difficulty, served as an appetizer, whetting his craving for further ravage.

It is only that I feel President Saddam has spoiled our dreams. We had wanted him to be a source of additional strength to the Arabs, not to be crossed out of their accounts or fought to the death by them, with the help of foreigners from Europe and America. Now Arab want to get rid of him, and the foreigners wish to be rid of the Arabs. Americans would not really mind us all turning destitute so long as they could keep the oil fields. and it is Saddam Hussein who has driven the Arabs to this.

If you were to be assaulted and had to fire a shotgun you kept in your desk drawer at the assailant, would anyone blame you? Never. Could any one accuse you of being disloyal to Egypt because you refused to use an Egyptian-made knife and shot him with an American-manufactured gun?

...How could one blame Saudi Arabia then for asking for American help to save its people and wealth? How could one blame her and not Saddam Hussein who forced her to do so?

—Anis Mansur - AL AHRAM, Egyptian daily.

Pan-Arabism (Not to be Confused with Moslem Solidarity)

One possible outcome of the current Gulf crisis is the breaking the back of pan-Arabism, which is essentially a racial/ethnic ideology. Hopefully the richer Arab powers are now realizing that the real struggle is between the "haves" (with low populations—Israel actually fits this category quite well) and the "have-nots" (with high populations). The "haves" have relatively benevolent governments, although they are not necessarily democratic, and do not necessarily follow Western Judeo-Christian values. The "have-nots" are far more susceptible to demagoguery, raising frenzies among the impoverished masses. They currently have more totalitarian governments, and are more susceptible to the establishment of dictatorships. We have seen this in Iran (which became a "have-not" due to its population explosion of impoverished Iranians), in Iraq and Syria, where it was easy for dictators to take power. I fear the same may occur in Egypt, as I am sure Israel fears the same thing.

One can easily see the correlation of interests between the "haves" in the Arab world and the "haves" in the Western world. The US public has great sympathy for the innocent people of Kuwait. I think we have a tremendous appreciation and admiration for the kindness and bravery of the Kuwaiti people who risked, and in some cases lost, their lives protecting Western hostages. At the same time, the Kuwaitis and Saudis must be realizing that they are more prone to being allies of the U.S. than of the uncivilized and brutal pan-Arabist and Baathist regimes. In fact, they may even realize that Israel is a natural ally, although the Palestinian problem represents a serious drawback.

—John Moore

Students Protesters

Why don't we see students protesting against Iraq? Aren't they the "badguy" here?

The following article is a response to the above question, written by Ron Morgan, Texas:

American students are, remember, only 18–20 years old, barely old enough to shave. Many are away from mommy and daddy for the first time in their lives, and I suspect that much of their "protest" is more a reflection of their anti-authoritarian late-teen rebelliousness, than it is any result of serious introspection. Thus, you see all these college kids that are practically "against everything" and run around blindly parroting whatever position is deemed "in" at the moment. One can almost predict the exact words they will say: "I won't go for Texaco!"

I recall many protesters against the Vietnam war who really weren't concerned at all with what was going on, but simply wanted to get caught up in the mass thrill. "Oh, look, Martha, a protest!" and they'd put on their designer hippie outfits and go down to join in the shouting and fun. Then they'd rush back to the fraternity house, don their Calvin Kleins, and head off to a beer bust in their Trans Ams, protected by their Student Draft Deferments.

A couple of years ago, a bunch of students here at U.T. (University of Texas) protested apartheid and got carted away by the campus police. It seems that the Univ. of Texas has some investments in some companies doing business in South Africa. The signs were the usual hype: "UT invests in MURDER!" and so on. I asked some of them just what companies UT had an interest in. What did they manufacture? How many blacks did they employ? None of them knew, nor were they interested in such "boring details." I couldn't help but notice that the protest crowd was almost 100% lilly-white. Where were their "black brothers?" How many of them had black girlfriends? How many of them would go over to Austin's high-crime, high-

black East Side for their Friday night dates, or to "show their love for repressed black people?"

Why didn't these people protest in front of the Chinese Embassy after Tiananmen Square? Why didn't they protest against the Soviets, who were sending over \$100,000,000 a year in military aid to the Sandanistas, including assault helicopters and heavy artillery, while the U.S.-supported Contras got chopped into hamburger as they laid helplessly in the mud with 5 bullets apiece in their antique weapons? Where were these righteous brats when the Soviet Union rampaged into Afghanistan, throwing out kid's toys containing bombs and *deliberately* slaughtering whole civilian villages to "punish" the rebels?

In my book, "college student protesters" in this country have about as much credibility as a fencepost.

—Ron Morgan

Education in Kuwait

The 1989/90 budget figures were as follows:

Ministry of education—KD307.24 million.

Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research—KD21.23 million.

Kuwait University—KD81.55 million.

Latest World Bank figures reveal that 14.2% of Kuwaiti expenditure went on education. This high figure compares favorably with western countries (a comparable percentage for the United Kingdom is 2.2%) and is partly by the fact that 40% of Kuwait's total population is under 15 years of age.

—The Association for Free Kuwait

All kinds of contributions, free subscription orders, or donations are appreciated. You may e-mail your articles to barrak@tramp.Colorado.EDU or send them to: Voice of KUWAIT, 805 29 St. #354, Boulder, CO 80303, Tel. (303) 443-9847. Please, make donations payable to "Voice of KUWAIT."



Ku-WAITing for News

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

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LAS VEGAS, NV 89107

WEST COAST (LEILANI MARAFIE) (702) 877-1117

EAST COAST (LUBNA SHAYA) (703) 281-7462

ISSUE 6, FEBRUARY 28, 1991

Our sixth edition is dedicated to the POW's, MIA's, and KIA's from all nations in the coalition to Free Kuwait. These brave men and women have not made the ultimate sacrifice for a country most of them have never seen, but for an ideal in which they all believe - freedom for all - no matter race, religion, creed or country. Those of us who lost that freedom on August 2, 1990, join in praying for these soldiers.

WHAT WONDERFUL, JOYOUS NEWS! FREEDOM! AS WE GO TO PRESS, A FREE KUWAIT SEEMS ON THE HORIZON! WE AT KU-WAITING FOR NEWS JOIN ALL THE WORLD IN RAISING OUR VOICES TO PRAY FOR A NEW, FREE KUWAIT!

THE DOVE OF FAITH

The sun was rising over the horizon..the darkness..gently kissed the earth "so long". It was to be a sunny day, but that night the evil forces were at work...using the darkness as a cloak, to call upon the hectic god of war and ask him for approval and protection before the evil deed was done. The city was awaking, from the ancient minarets, a voice was calling the faithful to pray. A shot was echoed in the air..and 29 wounded white doves fell to earth, never to arise again. The roses withered..their petals falling quietly to the ground..the holes shot into buildings painted faces, of mothers crying over their heroic sons. The screams of pain were never heard..the bullets were too loud! But Mother Earth was weeping, the wise, old sands of the Kuwaiti desert were whispering tales of death, then tales of torture and of raping! Sands were covering bodies forgotten by time..blood was soaking into the sands..and for each drop there grew a flower, a sad, pretty flower, run over by tanks. Soon, it was dusk, and, the sun was departing, but the beauty of those last, magic rays was covered by the thick smoke, spreading over the horizon. The heavenly Kuwaiti sunsets and sunrises, each one, a painting, uniquely created by the hand of God..were veiled in blood. Time kept on passing..and yet..the horizon was dim. But the 30th white dove was rising, high above, in the war-shaken sky..it was all: love, hope, courage and freedom..it was faith..that had kept it alive. It was light to the war beaten people..gave them will, to keep fighting..for not all had been lost. They had Faith! So, please people, take a minute to hear them, lend a hand, hurry, help, free Kuwait.

MADLENA KRUSHEV

A FRIEND OF KUWAIT

KFN thanks Don Latham for the following article: Perhaps a little background on our group would be helpful. When the war started, my wife and I were being visited by my father and mother in Kuwait. We gave shelter to two Phillipino ladies, and later still to two more Americans, and one British subject. After the ladies were allowed to depart Kuwait, the five men were together for the remainder of the period until we were finally allowed to leave on December 9, 1990. As with all of the Westerners who were in hiding in Kuwait, I have nothing but praise for the Kuwaiti Resistance, and all of our Kuwaiti neighbors. Never have I felt so much concern for life as was shown by the Kuwaitis. Our group decided very early that we would cooperate fully with the Kuwaiti Resistance in any way we could. Most of the Resistance organizations that I have read about have been primarily concerned with the destruction of the enemy at all costs. Indeed, many brave actions were taken against the Iraqi occupation forces by the Kuwaiti Resistance. However, the thing that impressed all of my group was the overriding concern for the lives of others shown by the Resistance. In the very early days of the invasion, there was a lot of anger, and a great deal of violent action by the Kuwaiti Resistance. Any small act of defiance was followed by massive reaction by these totally undisciplined animals. Once the Resistance movement became more coordinated and organized, the pattern changed. We knew that there were still attacks on prime selected targets, but the

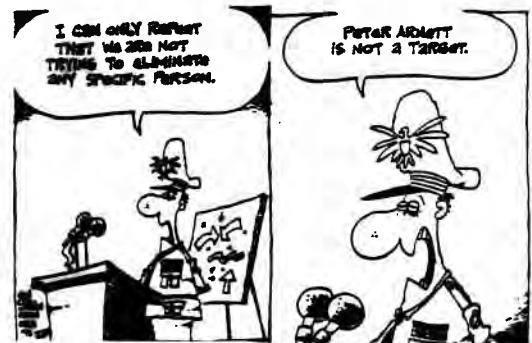
main efforts seemed to shift to life-saving, rather than life-taking. Of course the intelligence gathering was also intensified and refined. The Resistance was able to get me on CNN interviews three times so that I could tell the American people what was really going on in Kuwait. They also arranged to smuggle out nine letters to Congressmen, one to the President of the United States, and one to the British Prime Minister. But the main effort seemed to be one of mercy. The Resistance group, known as "Al-Murab'tune" was able to obtain heart medicine for my Father which was not available in Kuwait at all. The Resistance kept us supplied with food, and any other items we needed. They even came up with three roasting ducks for our Thanksgiving meal. I would like to say here that all of this support was given at the risk of their lives. This was no idle threat. The Resistance actually took me to view the bodies of a family of Kuwaitis who had sheltered an American. It was not pretty, but it did serve to point out the totally inhumane treatment shown by the Iraqi troops. Whenever we would attempt to express our appreciation to our Kuwaiti friends and neighbors, we were told that they felt it was their duty under God to protect us as we were the guests in their country. I have lived and worked all over the world, and never have I been witness to so much concern being shown to complete strangers. It was truly an experience to be saved and remembered for the rest of my life. I have already vowed to return to Kuwait, and if possible, return as much as I have been given by helping to re-build Kuwait as soon as this madman has been ejected. I must emphasize the main aims of the Kuwaiti Resistance as they were explained to me on the day before we left Kuwait. I was told that the main purpose was to supply food, safe houses, and medical care to anyone in Kuwait as needed. In other words, to keep as many people alive until the liberation is complete. These aims will be carried out in conjunction with their continued efforts in intelligence gathering and espionage. May God bless and protect these people who have maintained their dignity and sense of responsibility to their fellow man under the terrible conditions which exist in Kuwait at the present time, under the brutal occupation of the Iraqi invaders.

DONALD M. LATHAM, FRIEND OF KUWAIT

Kuwait was peaceful and sunny,
Until Saddam Hussein ran out of money!
He stepped on its golden beaches overnight,
And brutally murdered very person in sight.
But to cover up his crime,
He promised to free the land of Palestine.
Now he has an evil smile on his face,
Not knowing that he will die in disgrace.
RAMI AL-KHATIB, UNIVERSAL AMERICAN SCHOOL OF KUWAIT
SEVENTH GRADE (NOW AT THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF BUCHAREST)

HOSTAGE UPDATE

Jack Rinehart has been kind enough to tell us some of what happened inside the US Embassy in Kuwait: On July 29, I left my home in Stover, Missouri for my first business trip to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. I awoke on August 2 to hear news reports that Iraq had invaded Kuwait. For the next three weeks, I stayed in the SAS Hotel and attempted to escape twice. After that, I sought refuge in the US Embassy where I remained until December 10. On August 24, water and power supplies to the Embassy were disconnected. The compound was surrounded to block further shipments of food and other supplies. Living conditions became very uncomfortable - we sat in a children's pool during the day and at night, slept outside. In early September, evacuation flights for Westerners were begun. Families with American women or children could be evacuated along with their Arab (other than Kuwaiti or Iraqi) husbands or fathers. This was to be the most time-consuming task in the Embassy, but also the most rewarding. Phone lines were monitored 24-hours daily, by the diplomats and those on guard duty. Calls came in back-to-back from early morning to after midnight each day. Information was recorded on dozens of note pads. With the information gathered each day, the Embassy consular would create a flight manifest on a computer powered by a small gasoline generator. The list was then approved by State Department and Baghdad officials. Very good friends from other Embassies who were free to move about the city met the evacuees at the airport to help insure their safety and make a record of those who boarded the flights. While I found satisfaction in helping those who qualified for evacuation, I also had the responsibility of explaining to many why they would



have to stay in Kuwait. The heart wrenching pleas of people who were terrified to stay but couldn't go was almost more than I could bear. I found it very difficult to explain to many why they would have to leave their husband or other family members behind. Most of my friends on the compound expressed the same frustrations during the evacuation. We wanted so very much to help everyone get out of Kuwait, but it simply wasn't possible. To survive the heat, one extremely creative individual fashioned fans and lights for those monitoring the phones from parts removed from Embassy cars. I usually carried a bucket of pool water to guard duty to occasionally douse myself. I learned to keep the note pads off to one side of me to prevent sweat from dripping on the papers and obliterating the information I was gathering. However, we managed to organize eleven flights to evacuate nearly 2,000 people from Kuwait. Although everyone on the compound contributed to this effort, not enough could be said in praise of the diplomats (American as well as diplomats from other countries and particularly four women in the American Embassy who were free to return to America at any time) that remained in Kuwait to perform this service for the victims of Saddam Hussein's evil desire. After the evacuation flights, most of the calls to the Embassy were from men who were hiding from Iraqi soldiers. I received calls from individuals in air-conditioner ducts, attics and on fire escapes. Some of the calls were infuriating. I received a call from a man reporting an American had suffered gunshot wounds in his hands. Another caller reported Iraqis had kicked down his door and arrested him. I had become very close to some of the people in hiding. Calls reporting that they were being abused or arrested upset me to the point of becoming physically ill. I felt so frustrated and helpless. I wanted to help them, but couldn't. On the brighter side, we were able, in some cases, to get supplies to those in hiding and also helped them communicate with their families in the States. With the help of some very courageous friends throughout the city, some of the men in fairly dangerous locations were moved to safer areas in the city. We had no way to get them to the Embassy, but we did what we could. When I returned home in early December, the press wanted to know about life in the Embassy and the conditions in Kuwait. Many were particularly interested to know if I had been threatened and how I felt in general. I told them that I was "damned mad" about being denied my freedom for such a long period by this evil dictator. I was "damned mad" about the way so many people were being brutalized by him and how his cruel treatment of humanity had now forced good people around the world to put their lives on the line to rid ourselves of him and his inhumane regime.

JACK RINEHART

BABY NEWS

Abdullah Adel Al-Khashan was born January 12, 1991, weighing in at 8 lbs., 15 ounces. Proud parents are Khadijah Sellers and Adel Al-Khashan. Kathy and Adnan Muquddam are pleased to announce the birth of Mishal Adnan Muquddam on February 19, 1991. Mishal weighed in at 7 lb., 4 ounces. Finally, a boy! Claudia and Akram Mirza have been joined by the arrival of Hannah on October 21, 1990. Hannah weighed 7 lbs., 2 ounces at birth. Congratulations to all our new moms and dads! Our Ku-WAITing for News refrigerator is covered with pictures of all the beautiful new babies! Diane Shihabi sent a great picture of Leila. Also received pictures of Abdullah Al-Khashan, and Fatima and Miriam, daughters of Nora Abdul-Aziz. Looks great! Thanks for the pictures!

To the Heroes of Desert Storm:
Dear Courageous Soldiers:
On August 2nd as everyone knows,
Our former brothers became our foes,
They invaded our land at night as we slept,
Over our borders by the thousands they crept.
In helicopters and trucks and in tanks they came,
The evil warriors of Saddam Hussein.
But then YOU came and brought hope to us all,
That Kuwait would be free and Saddam would fall.
We'd like to thank you for your courageous stand,
To expel the Iraqis and free our land.
You're in our hearts this Valentine's Day,
And you're in our prayers EVERY day.
Sincerely,
Grateful Kuwaitis
FROM SOLIDARITY INTERNATIONAL



A FRIEND OF ALL

On January 4, 1991, Dame Violet Dickson died at age 93 in England. She was buried January 15th. Dame Violet had been an integral part of the Kuwaiti and expatriate society for many years. Her death saddens us all, especially when she had been forced, as all of us, to leave her beloved Kuwait. Truly the passing of an era!

FREE KUWAIT, A HOSTAGE WISH

Please, God, don't let this be years
Years of war and tears.
How can a country turn on another
When they are to be as of brothers?
I was there, I saw the pain
I felt the pain...I live the pain.
Although I'm American, I had to hide
I tried to look with an objective eye
But, I can only cry..
When any Kuwaiti dies.
I have two sons, their home destroyed
Their Father is trapped inside.
He is a hero. He did not leave.
He is an example his sons truly need!
Let all the children be free
They are the future of the country.
Let God watch over these little guys
And wipe the tears from their eyes.
Let Fathers and Sons unite, with strength
To guide them, through the nights.
Safe from all the battle sounds,
Safe from any tank or bomb,
Let them be underground.
Save the country of Kuwait
Let the memories dissipate.
Liberate Kuwait, let it be free.
Kuwait is my Home,
America is my country.

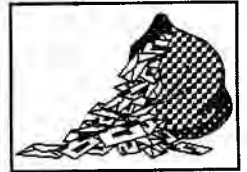
MARIANNE AL-SARRAF



By David Sorey, USA TODAY

MAIL BAG

Shukri and Vicky Al-Mahrous have contacted KFN looking for any other employees from KNPC, especially Kuwaiti male engineers. Shukri is looking to form a support network. Interested? Contact KFN for more information. Lisa Al-Ramly is busy speaking at group, schools and churches. She writes "when I have finished, I have people come up to me to thank me for coming and showing them slides. They all say that I've changed their minds about what Kuwait is like. Kuwait was good to me, now it's my turn to return the favor." Keep up the good work, Lisa! Gay and Suleiman Sakhleh have been speaking also. Gay writes "In these times when we feel quite helpless to do much from here, it is rewarding to be able to reach out to others and help people understand the struggle for a Free Kuwait." Thanks Gay! Margie and Nathaniel Howell are busy touring the south and west US doing some recruiting for the Foreign Service. Margie jokes "See the world as a diplomat and get your fill of tuna fish!" Pauline Hassan has written with the news of daughters Altouf and Eman. These young ladies have gone to Saudi with the Armed Forces/Red Cross as paramedics/translators. Know you will all be keeping them in your prayers! Evelyn Al-Misnad is interested in hearing from any other readers about the Arab-American Anti Discrimination Committee in their area. She has found the president of her local group to be very pro-Iraqi. She is wondering if this same is holding true elsewhere. You may write to Evelyn care of KFN. Debbie Bourahmah is staying in touch with KFN staff. Like all of us, Debbie is praying this will all be over soon. Madlena and Olga Krushev send regards to all their friends. Madlena sends best wishes for Kuwait National Day to all and hopes that the next one will be celebrated in Kuwait by all! Kathleen



Al-Reiahi sent copies of her children's weekly reader papers about the Gulf Crisis. These papers outline why troops from the U.S. and other countries are at war. Kathleen says these papers really help her children. Anyone want copies - write KFN, we'll send to you. Charlotte Al-Abdalmohsen writes that all who receive KFN should read Job:20 in the Bible to see what God has in store for Saddam Hussein. Thanks, Charlotte! Cyndi Qabazard is planning to make two quilts to donate to the museum in Kuwait and to present to the Amir. She is asking mothers of children from Kuwait to draw a picture of Kuwait, with special reference to the invasion, on a 12" x 12" piece of white cotton with permanent fabric markers with their name and date at the bottom. Leave a 1-1/2" border all around. If you have any questions, call Cyndi at 415-383-7832. Finished squares can be mailed to: Cyndi Qabazard, 15 Underhill Rd., Mill Valley, CA 94941. Cyndi and Fadel have been very active with speaking engagements, rallies, and even supporting other families monetarily! Good, rewarding work! Suzann and Netham Al-Othman write to KFN, "I feel that God is watching over all our loved ones and friends still within Kuwait." "We continue to pray for all who remain in Kuwait and for all those who have a bond to the people and country," writes Sarah Zamoon. Debby Lynn Willis writes that she and husband, Jerry, have been very active since August 2nd. They have spoken with hundreds of congressional people, appeared on C-SPAN, etc. Debby wants to get in touch with others in the Orlando, Tampa, or St. Petersburg area. "We too meet with stares and opened mouths when we say that we will return to Kuwait at the first opportunity to be of help to the Kuwaitis. People act as if we should be mad at the Kuwaitis because their country was invaded," writes Debby. Anyone interested in contacting Debby and Jerry may write to KFN. Jon Petersen from Kuwait University, contacted KFN. Friends of Jon may write to him via KFN and we will be happy to forward letters. Anne Haddad writes that her family is praying for all those who are connected with Kuwait and so drastically affected by the events of the past six months. Maureen Al-Dakheel, like so many of us, was very sorry to have the conference line discontinued. She writes that it was a wonderful support being able to talk to others who are in the same terrible situation. Sari Al-Awadhi writes from Finland that oldest son, Osama, said "Hurray, soon our home will be free." So many brave children! Brenda Fathalla has been busy speaking at school and church groups. She also keeps busy running the children to all their activities - Ahmed to basketball, Karim to Cub Scouts, etc. Brenda also sends her prayers for all the brave people who are fighting for freedom. "We pray for them all, and hope the day will soon arrive when they are reunited with their families." Thanks for those encouraging words, Brenda! Patricia Millns is wanting to have any of her former watercolor students contact her. She suggests a new course by post! Ha! Ha! Good idea, Patricia. Any of her students who want to contact Patricia may do so through KFN. Jane Hassounah has sent news that she and her husband and children have adjusted, but "ache" to return to Kuwait which was her home for 13 years and her husband's for 31 years. Inshallah, very soon, Jane! Ann and Hugh Hardaway are happy to be together again, but Kuwait is on their hearts and minds constantly! Ann has been very supportive of the Kuwaiti plight throughout her time waiting for Hugh's release. Good friends of Kuwait! Carol Hite, a teacher from ASK, sends her hopes and prayers that the war will be over soon with Kuwait once again free! We received a very special letter from Nancy Bengali who shared the news with us of her sons Richard (U.S. Marines) and Mark (U.S. Navy) being assigned to the Gulf. Nancy writes, "I am very sad that my boys are going there soon, but I look at it this way: If I were still in Kuwait I would feel good that "help" was on the way to save me from the Iraqis, who are tearing down a country that I and my family had so many good times in. And to save so many Kuwaitis who have stayed behind to guard their belongings." We all will say special prayers for Nancy's sons, so that one day she can "tell her grandchildren that their fathers helped to free Kuwait (and Panama)!" June, Alan, and Meg Heard are also sharing their family members to help in the effort to free Kuwait. Their 19 year old son/brother, Phil is on the front lines in the 1st Marine Division, along with their new son-in-law, Mike Al Ebrahim. Please remember them in your prayers. June tells us that Lloyd and Joyce Austin along with Ed and Dianne Harmon have been in Saudi working 6 & 7 days a week to prepare for re-entry into Kuwait. Lloyd is President of Getty Oil Company, and Ed is the Finance Manager. Marianne Al-Sarraf is busy working with Kuwait Outreach and taking care of sons Jamal and Hamadi until she is able to return to her husband in Kuwait. Be sure and read Marianne's poem in this issue. Leticia Al-Essa has settled in Switzerland where her husband is continuing his work. Nice to hear from you, Leticia! Monna and Bob Hansen sent a very nice letter describing their escape from Kuwait. What a trip! Monna and Bob have settled in Tulsa and are very grateful for their safe home! Claudia Al-Rashoud has been very busy in Southern California. She has promised us a report next month on the rally February 25 in Los Angeles. Sounds exciting!

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"He probably sleeps in the same room with Peter Arnett."

AN AMERICAN MILITARY BRIEFER WHEN ASKED BY REPORTERS IF
SADDAM HUSSEIN MIGHT BE HIDING IN BUILDINGS USED BY CIVILIANS.

"I have more cheese growing on me than Kraft."

MARINE SGT. PATRICK BRADY, STATIONED IN THE MIDDLE EAST,
WHO HASN'T HAD A WARM SHOWER IN A MONTH.

"The liberation of Kuwait has now entered a final phase."

PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH, FEBRUARY 23, 1991

Top 10 Promotional Slogans for the Al Rashid Hotel from "Late Night With David Letterman"

10. Just two minutes from where the freeway used to be.
9. Fireworks every night.
8. Hide under the same table as Bernard Shaw used to.
7. As seen on smart bomb TV.
6. Goats stay free.
5. Norm Crosby appearing nightly in the Ali Baba room.
4. Minnesota Viking memorabilia in every room (Oops, that the Ahmad Rashad Hotel).
3. Not affiliated with the Al Rashid School of Broadcasting.
2. Wake-up calls courtesy of the U.S. Air Force.
1. Free moustaches for the kids.

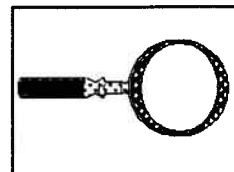
Rock Music Used to Urge Iraqis to Surrender: Broadcasts through concert-sized speakers are part of a U.S. psychological war campaign to undermine Iraqi morale and encourage defections. "Dear soldier," the brief message says. "If you desire a hot meal, better treatment and your personal safety, give yourself up to the American armed forces." Obnoxiously loud rock music is used along with the dropping of leaflets showing B-52 bombers and containing instructions on how to surrender. Early reports on February 24, 1991, show numerous enemy prisoners of war holding these leaflets.

Friends are looking for information on the following people:

If you have any information on these people, please contact
Ku-WAITing for News so we may advise their loved ones!

Gazi & Theresa Abdul-Rahim
Nola & Tofiq Anderson
Ludmila & Yusuf Al-Awadi
Reyadh Ali Ghanem Al-Banna
Dr. Brian Bethell
Akeel Falah Al-Dhafiri
Jackie Dokhli
Melody Buera Fajardo
Faisal Al-Hasawi
Bassem Housani & Family
Marilyn Hyatt
Elizabeth Al-Kaaoud
Kathy Knapich
Fareed Musmar
Mohammed Radwan
Dr. Shamsuddin
Lucy Topalian
Fathel Hayder Al-Watheeqi

Dr. Ali Akbar
Hussain M. Ashkanani
Rhonda Balbaisi
Deenia Bashir
Dave & Samar Checkie
Rita Diember
Elizabeth Dunn
Debbie Fayad
Martha Homaithe
Donna Hussain
Salem Esmail Al-Jumah
Dr. Salah Khaffagi
Sarah (Patty) Al-Matrouk
Hassan Qattan
Adel & Haitham Yacoub Al-Sarrafi
Jawad Al-Tahoo
Lisa & Tom Ulery



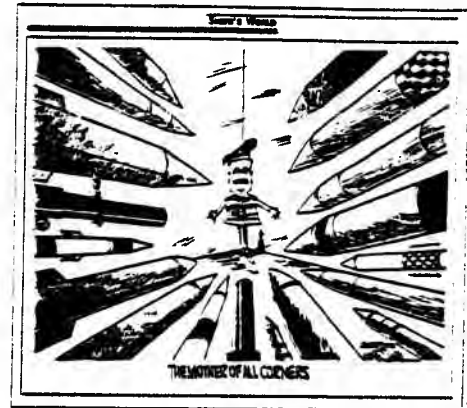
SPEAKING OUT

How many of you were waiting for your Kuwaiti citizenship when the government extended the waiting period from 5 to 15 years? I would have been due for mine now, but instead will have to wait 10 more years. Part of the reasoning for extending the waiting period was because of some evidence of problems with foreign marriages. If you all can recall, approximately one year ago the Arab Times gave a week long series on bad foreign marriages, making western (European and American) wives look very bad. But I think the time has come that our loyalty and love to our husbands and Kuwait has proven obvious, as many women are out there doing everything they can for Kuwait and raising Kuwaiti youth, many of us single-handedly. I'm sure our Kuwaiti Ambassador to the U.S. is well aware of this, and perhaps those of you interested in your Kuwaiti citizenship could write a letter to the Ambassador asking him to affirm to Kuwait's leaders that we deserve our Kuwaiti citizenship without a long waiting period, after all we've been through and are doing for Kuwait.

KHADIJAH SELLERS

OH YOU SADDAM!

Oh you Saddam with your old army of men
We can beat you with our bare hands.
Oh you Saddam with your carelessness
You better think before you try doing this.
Oh you Saddam there is a whole world after you
I think you should be saying Boo Hoo Boo Hoo.
Oh you Saddam you get out of Kuwait
Or else we'll charge in your gate.
Oh you Saddam why don't you give up soon
I would say to go home without a boom.
AMINA MAHDI ABDAL, 8 YEARS OF AGE



BITS 'N' PIECES

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY - REPORT OF CLAIMS BY U.S. NATIONALS AGAINST IRAQ: KFN has asked that this form be mailed to everyone on our mailing list. We felt that it was important for all of you to have the opportunity to let the Department of Treasury how large a task was ahead for them. Please be prompt in submitting your claims. Remember, the submission of a claims report does not constitute the filing with the U.S. Government of a formal claim for compensation. This is for planning purposes only! If you have any questions, or did not receive a claims form, call 202-535-4026. **KU-WAITING FOR NEWS CONFERENCE LINE:** We are very sorry to announce the end of the toll-free conference line. USA Sprint felt they could no longer support this much-appreciated line. Our thanks to them for the line for the time we did have it. This conference line was a much-needed psychological support for approximately 50 women. We all miss our daily contact with our friends in exile. **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HOTLINE:** A Community Relations Service has been established with a toll-free number 1-800-347-4283. The hotline hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (or you may find a recorder in use). This hotline is available for reporting of any incidents involving defamation of Arabs or Arab/Americans, etc. **SCRIPTURE HOTLINE:** A toll-free number has been established where you can call to hear scriptures relating to peace. The number is 1-800-488-0848. The **GULFAMERICA CONFERENCE** scheduled for February 24-27, 1991 has been postponed. The new conference dates will be determined by the organizing committee upon recommendation of the majority of the participants from the Gulf. **CITIZENS FOR FREE KUWAIT** - contact Samir Hawana, 202-686-2185 for promotional items (press kits, buttons, books, shirts, etc.); call collect! **NEED AN AMERICAN FLAG** - call 1-800-289-1492 - they send COD or you can use a credit card. Prices range from \$18.50. **AMERICAN-KUWAITI WOMEN'S LEAGUE**, P. O. Box 319, Cypress, CA 90630. This group was started to promote and enhance friendly ties between Kuwaiti and American women and to disseminate accurate information about the crisis. They provide background information about Kuwait and Kuwaiti women in particular. They have been working to establish a bond of mutual understanding and cooperation. When the women of Kuwait return to their homes, they will face the monumental task of helping to re-build their country and also to help their sisters who remained in Kuwait. Anyone interested in joining this group, submitting ideas or projects, counseling services, etc., is invited to write for enrollment forms or information. **KUWAITI-AMERICAN SOCIETY**, P. O. Box 381, Woodbridge, VA 22194-0381 is interested in receiving stories

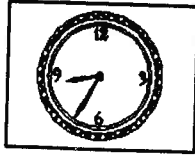
from any KFN readers about the history of Americans in Kuwait, or American-Kuwaiti relationships. This can be your own personal story, from any angle. This group is trying to put together a collection of stories that show the Kuwaitis and Americans have ties that are deeper than oil.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following readers for their kind donations: Leticia Al-Essa, Sharon Justus, Ilse Mohrke-Embaireg, Diane Shihabi, June & Alan Heard, Robert & Katherine Hansen, Nancy & M.R. Bengali, Pat & Hasan Haidar, Kathryn Nelson & Abdulla Al-Benali, Ann & Hugh Hardaway, Joy Ligon, Marilyn Carpenter, Brenda Fathalla, Carolyn Husain, Anne Haddad, Pam Mergy, Margie & Nathaniel Howell, Sarah Zmoon, Debby Lynn Willis, Charlotte Al-Abdulmohsen, William & Corinne Khouri, Nabeel & Debra Bourahmah. Once again, you have made it possible for us to continue sending Ku-WAITing for News to all our readers around the world. All of us at Ku-WAITing for News would like to thank all our readers for their support throughout the past six months. We are happy to announce that the Embassy of Kuwait has sent a generous contribution to our efforts. We will continue to publish KFN until we all return to Kuwait, so keep writing and sending your articles. Without your input, there can be no newsletter! Special thanks to Rami Al-Khatib for his poem and cartoon, Amina Mahdi Abdal, Madelyn Krushev, and Marianne Al-Sarraf for their poems. A personal "thank-you" to all the dear friends who sent birthday wishes to Leilani! Your cards, notes, flowers and wishes for the day made it the best birthday ever! Most of all, thank you all for your letters, poems, pictures, jokes! You, our readers, have made our burden easier to bear just by picking up your pen and writing!

Ku-WAITing to hear from you!
Leilani, Lubna and Sandy





Ku-WAITing for News

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

240 MISSION CATALINA #108

LAS VEGAS, NV 89107

WEST COAST (LEILANI & ABDULLATEEF MARAFIE) (702) 877-1117

EAST COAST (LUBNA SHAYA) (703) 281-7462

ISSUE 7, APRIL 1, 1991

LIBERATION EDITION #1 CONGRATULATIONS ON THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADAN!

Our seventh edition of Ku-WAITing for News is dedicated to you - our readers and friends over the past seven months. Without all of you, we would not have been able to continue our efforts, however little they have been. You have provided the strength for each of us at Ku-WAITing for News to rise each morning and face each day - one at a time. We are proud of each of you for how you have survived and conquered against a foe more deadly than all - that foe was desperation! You have each truly blessed our lives. We are proud to call you "friends".

Many readers have asked if we are going to continue Ku-WAITing for News now that Kuwait is liberated. Yes, we will continue to publish until we are able to return to Kuwait. Please don't stop writing to us. We need your letters, calls, comments to keep going. Remember, this is your newsletter - we just collate the information and mail it out!

RAMPANT EMOTIONS!

It feels so wonderful - like a fresh spring day, a new party dress, or a long awaited wedding! It happened so suddenly, yet it had been so long awaited and prayed for. Did any of us anticipate a victory of this magnitude? Did any of us predict a victory of such swiftness? But happen it did - swiftly and of such an over-whelming magnitude to make it seem almost unbelievable. Victory! How sweet! Kuwait is free!

I find it very difficult to convey to all of you my feelings. I am sure you have been asked repeatedly over the past weeks - how do you feel? I feel numb, joyous, wonderful, inspired, awe-struck, sad, happy, confused, etc., etc., etc.! Just pick a word and it will probably encompass one of the feelings which has coursed through me over the past seven months and throughout the sweet days of victory. Are my feelings normal?

I know that I am not the only one going through this gambit of emotional surgings. So many of you have called and expressed the same feelings to me. You have all been so generous to share your joys and sorrows with me, along with your news of long awaited loved ones. I have learned so much during these months, but the most important thing I have learned is that one cannot survive without friends. Each and every one of you have become very special to me. Over the past seven months we have shared our sorrows, worries, and the few joys we were able to have. You have shared with me the births of your adorable children, and the deaths of some of your beloved family members. But no matter what, we have truly all been blessed to have gained something so wonderful out of something so terrible - friendships that will last. These friendships have been based not just on our common plight, but on our common love of Kuwait, her culture, community, people, and our way of life there.

My grateful thanks go to each of you. You are truly special people! I am a better person for having communicated with all of you, and received your letters, cards, and telephone calls in return. I look forward to seeing all of you when we return to Kuwait, Inshallah.

LEILANI MARAFIE

KUWAITI ARMY OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I swear in the name of Almighty God; I swear in the name of Almighty God; I swear in the name of Almighty God, and upon my word and honor as a soldier in the Kuwaiti Army, to be faithful to the State of Kuwait, trustful of its rights, loyal to its beloved Amir, obedient to all rightful orders issued to me by my superiors, which I will execute over land, at sea or in the air - within or outside our country - where I will dedicate myself and talents in the service of Kuwait. I will protect its flag and safeguard its independence and the security of its territories, I will be an adversary to all its enemies and at peace with all who are at peace with it, I will uphold my honor, I will preserve and never relinquish my weapons until I die. God is my witness in my pledge.

WAR

May Daddy is far away across the sea
He says he'll soon come back to me
They tell me that he is in a war
They think I don't understand, I'm only four.
I think a war must be bad.
Cause it's taken away my special Dad
Mom watches the news, I see them fight
Sometimes I cry in my bed at night.
Sweet Daddy - Oh how I miss you
I wish I could tell you, I wish you knew.
Goodbye for now, but don't forget
I'll love you forever
Hugs and kisses from Adam, your "little-bit".

BY: BRENDA D. AL-MUTAWA



HOSTAGE UPDATE

HOSTAGES OF THE MIDDLE EAST (H.O.M.E.) is a self-help group for the returned British people who were living in Kuwait and Iraq prior to the invasion of Kuwait. The main aims of the group are to keep people in touch with their friends, organise reunions for the returned hostages, produce a newsletter giving news, advice and information and to help with problems of finance, housing and claims against Iraq. Full membership is open to anyone holding a British, Commonwealth or Irish passport who was in Kuwait or Iraq on the 2nd of August (by accident or design) or would have been but for reasons of business or vacation. Membership information can be obtained by writing to: Hostages of the Middle East, Suite 7, Bell House, 165A Wood Street, Walthamstow, London E17 3LX.

READERS COMMENTS

I have had this inner drive to express what I feel about post-war Kuwait. No words can express the emotions we felt upon seeing the first glimpses on television of a liberated Kuwait. For many of us born and raised in the U.S., we have spent all or most of our adult years in Kuwait, married to Kuwaiti men, and raising Kuwaiti children. During those years we experienced highs and lows as we tried to understand the culture and people of Kuwait. For most, this seven months has reconciled us as to how deeply we feel about Kuwait, its people and our families there. We have come to realize we are American-Kuwaiti. Kuwait has been woven into the fabric of who we are. Our

roots are in America, but our branches extend to Kuwait; both cultures a part of our inner existence. Kuwait will never be the same. The invasion and the suffering it has wrought will forever be ingrained in those who cherish her. For some, the pain has been far more excruciating than for others. However, one degree or another, all who love Kuwait have been scarred. Let us not forget the hard working people of old who dove for pearls in the Gulf, worked as sailors, fishermen, and traders. What would they want for Kuwait now and expect of her people? Don't allow the seeds of hatred germinated by Saddam Hussein to be sown on Kuwaiti soil and in Kuwaiti hearts. Don't allow Saddam Hussein to win in the end. Remember the Kuwait and its people of old who built Kuwait through respect, understanding and trust in an atmosphere of civility. Don't allow Iraqi tactics to rule and guide through a post war reconciliation of differences. Let us all work together in an atmosphere of trust toward a common goal; a better Kuwait. God bless Kuwait, its people, and all who love her and fought for her liberation.

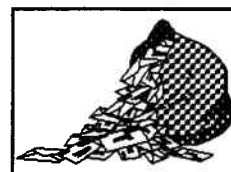
KATY AL-KHABBAZ

BABY NEWS

Amal Saleh Al-Qadeeri was born to parents Saleh Al-Qadeeri and Mia Ponzo on the day of Kuwait's final freedom, February 27, 1991. She weighed in at 9 lbs. and was 19" long. Daughter, **Jihan**, was born to **Pam and Abdulla Al-Baqsam** on September 9, 1990, in Kuwait. Congratulations!

MAIL BAG

KFN was sad to learn of the sudden death of **Dr. Robert G. Hansen** in Tulsa, Oklahoma on March 18, 1991. Dr. Hansen worked for the Ministry of Health in Kuwait in the Dental Planning and Teaching Division. He is survived by his wife, **Monna**. Cards of condolence may be sent to Monna via KFN. Our prayers are with her during this sorrowful time. **Valerie Al-Ghanim** writes from Ireland that she is still trying to do her "bit" with The Support Group for the Troops. She is very anxious to return to Kuwait and to see all of her friends there again. KFN continues to receive new readers. We are happy to welcome **Mary McGee** this month. Mary was working with the Center for Child Evaluation and Teaching. She is now working as a school psychologist in a small elementary school in New York. **Patricia Millns** has now moved from the U.S. to U.K. She hopes that her next move will be to Kuwait. Patricia writes that "our prayers are answered now that a Free Kuwait has happened". Thanks for keeping in touch, Patricia. **Bea Moulder** has written to KFN. Bea and her husband lived in Kuwait for five years. She was on holiday at the time of the invasion, and he escaped through Saudi Arabia on August 6. We are sorry to learn of Mr. Moulder's death on October 3, 1990. Like so many, Bea lost her personal possessions in the invasion. Most precious of all, she lost the pictures of her husband. With all of her own sorrow, Bea has taken the time to send a message to Kuwait and her people to "live in peace and be rebuilt as great or greater than they were". Thanks for writing, Bea! **Brenda Lee Al-Saffar** sent in the following excerpt from U.S. News and World Report: There is at least one intruder that strikes terror into the heart of Saddam Hussein, and it's not part of the high-tech arsenal which rained destruction on Iraq. Saddam, it seems, is horrified by cockroaches. This is according to a Thai woman who once worked as a maid at the presidential palace in Baghdad. She says Saddam appeared fearless about the prospect of a war. Roaches, she says, were the only thing he was "extremely afraid of." Thanks for sharing that, Brenda! Ku-WAITing for News staff are always happy to hear that our readers like the work we do. **Vicky Al-Mahrous** writes "thanks for all your hard work and tremendous efforts. Each one of us who receives KFN appreciate it". Thanks for the words of praise, Vicky. **Diana Al-Salem**, in Bahrain, has been keeping in touch with KFN. Diana sends her thanks to the ladies who escorted her younger children from Kuwait during the evacuation. "These special people were a blessing taking these kids through one hell of an experience. God bless them all!" Diana is especially



grateful to **Debbie Hoffer** and **Kathy Clancy** and all the others who helped with her children and others whose mothers were out of Kuwait at the time of the invasion. Diana has been very active in Bahrain these past months. She helped organize an "Arabian Nights" night for the troops at the 47th Field Hospital. Diana says, "the men and women are so curious about Kuwait and were thrilled to be dressing up as "Arabs" and having their photos taken in the simulated Kuwaiti home atmosphere." Diana has been doing work in the triage unit of the hospital. She has also been helping in the Kuwaiti Embassy in Bahrain with the media/press committee. Good work, Diana! **Tammy Franklin** has received word about and talked to her husband, **Abdulhameed Qambar**, from inside Kuwait that he and his family are okay. A dear friend of his, **Nasar Al-Attar** had been missing since the beginning of the invasion. Abdulhameed has received word that Nasar is safe and well in Saudi Arabia. **Dorothy & Gordon Prehm** have received word that their daughter, **Katherine Prehm** is alive and well. So many stories will be coming out of Kuwait about special people, but Katherine's will surely be among the most powerful. Katherine was visiting friends in Kuwait and not only refused to leave, but turned resistance fighter. One of the jobs that Katherine was involved with was running an underground ammunition depot. Their job was to bury weapons and bullets in the back yard and then dig them up as needed. I know Dorothy and Gordon are relieved to hear that Katherine is safe. We are all proud of her and her actions during this crisis! A job well done! Anyone living in Oregon and interested in forming a support group can contact **Pam Al-Baqsam** for more information. As usual, you may contact Pam through KFN staff. **Maureen Al-Dakheel** received a telephone call from her husband, **Abdullateef**, on March 4. He and all his family are fine. Maureen is very grateful, and we are very happy for her and Abdullateef. **Leona & Ibrahim Banat** and children are living in Northern Ireland and send best wishes to all fellow exiles and hope to see them all again in freed Kuwait at the earliest possible opportunity. Leona and Ibrahim would love to hear from **Sarah & Mehdi Abdal**, **Maria & Adel Al-Ibrahim**, and **Marie & Mahmoud Ghanoum**. The Banat's can be contacted through KFN. **Naomi Al-Haroon** write to us from London about the media being under fire for being a puppet of the Iraqi propaganda war. She writes there has been much controversy over the reported bombing of the bunker in Baghdad and the civilian casualties. Many subscribers of the London papers wrote in to protest the lack of coverage of the suffering of the people in Kuwait at Iraqi hands. This same opinion was expressed by many world-wide. Thanks for keeping in touch, Naomi. **Brenda Al-Mutawa** generously contributed her poems to this month's issue. Be sure and read them! Brenda has spent the occupation period at the University of South Florida working on her degree in Elementary Education. She is looking forward to continuing her happy life together with her husband, **Mustafa**, and sons **Adam** and **Sami**, in Kuwait. **Berit Flaten** sends word from Norway that her husband is waiting to return to Kuwait to reopen the Norwegian Embassy. Her husband had returned to Baghdad after New Year's to help at the Embassy there. Thanks for keeping in touch Berit! **Debbie Turner** and husband **Doug Clark** along with their son have resettled in Washington state, but are still missing Kuwait. Their son thought of it as home. Both Debbie and Doug are ESL teachers. Hope they will be able to return to Kuwait now that freedom has been obtained. Former hostage, **Stan Davies** is now receiving KFN. Stan wrote to us that he spent many happy years living in Kuwait - then five and a half harrowing months in hiding! He continues, "there was no celebration on leaving, just regret to leave some of the most courageous and self-sacrificing people to the mercy of armed rabble. I hope to be able to return to Kuwait soon and give to a people some small token of the inspiration which has been deeply installed in so many of us. Kuwait will never be the same again -- only better!" Thanks for sharing with us, Stan!

Graciano



THE INVASION

We were in Kuwait when the Iraqis invaded.
We stayed in our house we sat - we waited.
The bad people began to loot and steal
I heard Mom and Dad say "this can't be real".
One day the neighbors came to say
The Iraqi's are looking for all Americans today.
Momma said we'd play a game of cat and mouse.
We'd have to be quiet as mice around the house.
I asked Mom, "Why do the cats want us?"
She said "Honey - sometimes life isn't just."
The day came for us to be evacuated.
It meant leaving my Daddy - Momma debated.
I asked "But Mommy, why can't Daddy go?"
She said, "He says he must stay and I want you to know
He's staying to protect Kuwait and our home.
Your Daddy will be safe - he's made of stone!
We need to be strong - we should pray
We'll ask God to protect Daddy and bring us together one day."
We look to the day when Kuwait will be FREE.
A little boy needs his Daddy - Don't you agree?

BY: BRENDA D. AL-MUTAWA

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"These Iraqis were no soldiers, just thieves."
AN AMERICAN GENERAL SEEING THE DESTRUCTION NORTH OF KUWAIT CITY

"There is another way for the bloodshed to stop. That is for the Iraqi military and the Iraqi people to take matters into their own hands, to force Saddam Hussein, the dictator, to step aside, and to comply with the United Nations resolutions, and then rejoin the family of peace-loving nations."
PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH

"We have just taken one of the most eerie and somber tours imaginable - a brief drive through the heart of Kuwait City, a city stripped of its wealth and seemingly its humanity."
BRIAN JENKINS, CNN REPORTER

"The Iraqi Army is in full retreat, although there is some fighting going on. Tomorrow, when the sun comes up, the question in my mind is whether the enemy is going to be there."
LT. GEN. THOMAS W. KELLY, CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

"Hah! As far as Saddam Hussein being a great military strategist, he is neither a strategist, nor is he schooled in the operational art, nor is he a tactician, nor is he a general, nor is he a soldier. Other than that, he's a great military man. I want you to know that."
GENERAL NORMAN SCHWARZKOPF

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS

Friends are looking for information on the following people:

If you have any information please contact Ku-WAITing for News so we may advise their loved ones!

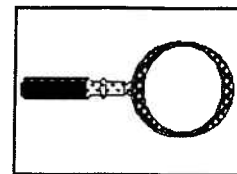
Nola & Tofiq Anderson
Ludmila & Yusuf Al-Awadi
Reyadh Ali Ghanem Al-Banna

Hussain M. Ashkanani
Rhonda Balbaisi
Deenia Bashir



Dave & Samar Checkie
 Akeel Falah Al-Dhafiri
 Jackie Dokhli
 Melody Buera Fajardo
 Faisal Al-Hasawi
 Bassem Housani & Family
 Marilyn Hyatt
 Elizabeth Al-Kaaoud
 Sarah (Patty) Al-Matrouk
 Fareed Musmar
 Mohammed Radwan
 Dr. Shamsuddin
 Lucy Topalian

Dr. Ali Akbar
 Rita Diember
 Elizabeth Dunn
 Debbie Fayad
 Martha Homaithe
 Donna Hussain
 Salem Esmail Al-Jumah
 Dr. Salah Khaffagi
 Fathel Hayder Al-Watheeqi
 Hassan Qattan
 Adel & Haitham Yacoub Al-Sarraf
 Jawad Al-Tahoo
 Lisa & Tom Ulery



SPEAKING OUT

If any of you have comments to make to CNN about their coverage of Kuwait, you can call their Atlanta office on (404) 827-1500 and ask for Public Information. Your comments will be recorded and passed on to the producers. One of our readers, Claudia Al-Rashoud, called on March 9, complaining that we were still not getting much news about conditions in Kuwait. Claudia writes, "I told them that since that country had been cut off from the outside world for nearly 7 months, now that they were inside Kuwait we want to know what is happening there. I said we want more interviews with people, we want to know how people survived during the Iraqi occupation, and how they are managing now, without electricity and water, and how are they getting their food. I told them they should tell us about the children who survived the Iraqi occupation. I said that we were hearing plenty about the psychological effects of the war on children in America, who were thousands of miles away from the fighting, but what about the psychological damage done to the Kuwaiti children who witnessed atrocities and who had to listen to the bombing? And what happened to the schools? And when will the children be able to go back to school? And what about the National Museum? Show us what they did to it. I complained that there so many stories to tell, but we were only getting the same old news over and over." A few days later, CNN aired a report on the National Museum and on living conditions in Kuwait and the lack of services. So maybe it does help to call and voice your opinions. Let's continue to monitor the media: television, radio and newspapers. As Claudia points out, "we are better qualified authorities on Kuwait than many of the so-called Mideast experts, so when you see a report which you know is biased, condescending, or completely false, don't hesitate to write in or pick up the phone and challenge the reporter. We have all seen how much misinformation the media has disseminated during this crisis." Thanks for writing, Claudia!

BITS 'N' PIECES

KUWAITI MONTHLY SUPPORT CHECKS: The Kuwait Embassy has tentatively announced plans to cease support checks at the end of May. If you feel this decision is premature, please fax your request for support to continue to the attention of Mr. Mohammed Al-Subaihy at 202-686-4308.

KUWAITI VOLUNTEERS: As you have probably noticed on the headline of this issue of KFN, Abdullateef has once again re-joined the staff of KFN. Leilani Marafie was rejoined by her husband, Abdullateef, on March 15. He was in Saudi Arabia working as a translator with the U.S. Forces. Yousef Al-Shaya, son of Lubna and Abdulrahman, is in Kuwait, and still serving as a translator. We at KFN are very proud of all the Kuwaiti Volunteers who served helped to liberate their country. Congratulations on a job well done.

KUWAIT CHILDREN'S GROUP: Dr. Robert Morris and his daughter Anna, a former student of the American School of Kuwait (6th grade), have contacted KFN with the idea of forming a support group for children. Anna has missed her friends

terribly and would really like to re-establish those ties and keep in touch with other children from Kuwait. Interested parents/children may write to Dr. Morris and Anna at KFN. We will be glad to forward your letters to them.

PAINTING FOR KUWAIT: Barbara Longsworth Al-Hadhoud has written expressing her desire to contribute to the rebuilding of Kuwait through her art. Her hobby of painting and other arts and crafts helped her develop the idea of sharing her love of Kuwait with others. Barbara's idea is for others who are interested in donating their talents to join her in painting pictures to donate to the schools, hospitals and orphanages of Kuwait. She feels this would serve as good medicine for those who are finding it hard to relieve their anxiety in waiting for the return to Kuwait. If you can help by contributing your artistic talents, please contact KFN for further information.

QUILT FOR KUWAIT: Cyndi Qabazard is planning to make two quilts to donate to the museum in Kuwait. She is asking mothers of children from Kuwait to draw a picture of Kuwait, with special reference to the invasion, the liberation, or subjects along similar lines. The picture should be drawn on a 12" x 12" piece of white cotton with permanent fabric markers with their name and date at the bottom. Leave a 1-1/2" border all around. This is a way that all the children of Kuwait can show their solidarity and love of the country. Finished squares can be mailed to: Cyndi Qabazard, 15 Underhill Rd., Mill Valley, CA 94941.

KUWAIT AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP COUNCIL

On February 25, 1991, the KAFC held a solemn commemoration of Kuwait's 30th National Day at the Baldwin Park Hilton in southern California. Under the circumstances, the evening could obviously not be one of celebration, but it was felt that the occasion should be marked by showing solidarity with the civilian population inside Kuwait and by expressing thanks to all those involved in Operation Desert Storm. The program began with a short reading from the Holy Quran which was followed by a moment of silence for all the victims of the Iraqi invasion and occupation. Speakers included Kuwaiti and American members of the Kuwait American Friendship Council as well as members of a group called Desert Storm Support. Topics included "Life in Iraqi-occupied Kuwait", "The Role of Kuwaiti Women Before and After the Invasion", and "Kuwait, Yesterday and Today". A very special part of the program was presented by Kuwaiti and American children. An American high school student spoke about the youth of today and their hopes for the future, including the hope that the young people in Kuwait would soon regain their freedom. Kuwaiti students from ages 9-15 then gave their personal viewpoints on the Iraqi invasion. They had all worked hard in preparing and writing their own speeches. A 15-year old boy had been particularly eloquent in his presentation during the rehearsal. At the time of the invasion he was visiting his brother who is studying in California. But the long months of worrying and waiting for news of his parents and other family members inside Kuwait all came to a peak that National Day evening. After introducing himself he was unable to go on and buried his face in his hands. While the poor young man felt terribly upset about being unable to give his speech, his gesture of sorrow and despair proved more effective than any words. There couldn't have been a single person in the audience who didn't want to reach out to him and comfort him. He illustrated a vital message which we have been trying to convey to the media and the public every since this conflict began: that what was at stake was much more than oil, it was the fate of a people, their suffering and the loss of their freedom. At the end of the presentations all the American and Kuwaiti children, from ages 1-17, joined hands and stood on stage. Behind them, on a huge screen stretching across the room, the video "Sing for the Children", which had been especially produced for the Kuwaiti children by The Americans to Help Free Kuwait, was shown and the children on stage sang along with the chorus. The video shows scenes of Kuwaiti children in exile, of demonstration marches and of the destruction of Kuwait. Together with the group of children on stage it was especially moving. The day also

included an exhibition of photographs of Kuwait before and after the invasion. More than 300 people attended the event, along with reporters and cameramen from 7 different television stations and radio and newspaper reporters. (The 15-year old Kuwaiti boy gave an excellent interview to a Los Angeles radio station after the program.)

To close on a personal note. Our commemoration of Kuwait's National Day had been a very emotional evening. Like everyone else who had been following those chilling reports of stepped-up campaign of atrocities against the Kuwaiti people and the rounding up of Kuwaiti civilians by the Iraqis, I was becoming more and more desperately worried. I was still awake at 2:00 a.m. when Leilani Marafie called me. She said she had received news that the liberation of Kuwait City was underway and that already the Kuwaitis were celebrating in the streets. I immediately turned on CNN. At 3:00 a.m I received the best news I could have hoped for. An amateur radio operator from Dubai was on the line and was very excited and happy to tell me that he had just spoken to my husband in Kuwait and that he and his family were safe. "He says to tell you, don't worry, everything is o.k. now, and in'shallah he will soon be talking to you himself," he said. Sure enough, at 5:00 a.m. the following day I was able to have a brief conversation with my husband through the same radio operator in Dubai who linked us through a "phone patch" to a radio operator in Kuwait.

I felt very fortunate to receive such wonderful news so early on. I knew that in the days to come there would still be many people who would sit with their eyes glued to the television screen, in the hope of seeing the faces of their loved ones. In the meantime, I hope you have all received good news from Kuwait, however I know that unfortunately, not all our stories will have happy endings. We have all had to draw on our reserves of patience and strength during these long difficult months. Now, when we try to comfort those who have suffered the horrors of the Iraqi occupation, those qualities will be needed more than ever.

CLAUDIA FARKAS AL-RASHOUD

CAPTIVES IN KUWAIT!

To the "noble" Iraqi women:
"We witnessed their disgrace,
Ladies of Basara,
Who came shopping at our ruins
In their modest ruins."

To the "noble" Iraqi soldier:
"The pillars of our peace
Were pock-marked by artillery
As we endured an endless
Procession of pests
Gnawing rapaciously
At our morning."

BY: PAULINE HASSAN

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following readers who contributed to the effort of printing and publishing Ku-WAITing for News: Pauline Hassan, Debbie Turner, Brenda Al-Mutawa, Enid & Roy Tidwell, Gordon & Dorothy Primm, Bea Moulder, Mary McGee, Claudia Al-Rashoud, and Vicky & Shukri Al-Mahrous.

Ku-WAITing to hear from you!
Leilani, Abdullateef and Lubna

Arnett





Ku-WAITing for News

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

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FINAL EDITION!

Our eighth edition of Ku-WAITing for News is dedicated to all those who perished in the struggle to free Kuwait. God be with them and their families.

LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Several readers have approached the staff of Ku-WAITing for News with questions about the possibility of filing claims against Iraq for damages sustained during the invasion and occupation of Kuwait. Hopefully most of you who are American citizens were able to file a preliminary statement with the U. S. Department of Treasury outlining losses. Whether anything will come of that is very unsure at this time. On your behalf we have contacted a highly respected law firm. Enclosed with this issue is an outline of the proposed representation from the firm of Hughes Hubbard & Reed. This representation is open to any citizen of the United States or those with immediate family members who are U. S. citizens. We hope that you will all take advantage of this unique opportunity to obtain representation as a group. The outline gives some interesting points of the scope of potential claims, prospects for recovery, the role of Hughes Hubbard & Reed, staff background and resources, and expenses and fees. One of the suggestions from HH & R is that upon returning to Kuwait, each potential claimant take as many pictures as possible of damage to property, inventory items missing or stolen, or in any other manner document loss.

Any person interested in joining this group in protecting our long-term interests in claims against the Iraqi government, should fill in the enclosed form and return it to Ku-WAITing for News. As you will notice in the outline, there is a fee of \$25,000 to retain this prestigious firm. This fee would be divided amongst those wanting to participate. It may seem like a large expenditure, but divided amongst all of us, it would be a small amount to help protect our vital interests. You are welcome to contact Leilani Marafie at 702-877-1117 or Cyndi Qabazard at 415-383-7832 for more information. Those who return the form will be contacted with further details once we have compiled all the forms.

Good luck to all of you in your future endeavors, and we look forward to seeing each of you in Kuwait.

MAIL BAG

Margie and Nat Howell have been very busy traveling across the country. They were lucky enough to visit many friends from Kuwait in their travels! She writes "we covered 25 states and over 9,500 miles". Nat will be Ambassador-in-Residence at the University of Virginia starting in June. Best of luck to two great people! Letters from friends would be welcome at the Howell residence: 991 N. Quantico St., Arlington, VA 22205. Margie and Nat also send us word that Dorothy Scudder is ill. Get well cards can be sent to: Dorothy Scudder, Oak Crest Health Center, 2944 Greenwood Acre Drive, De Kalb, IL 60115. Her spirits are high, but she is confined to bed most of the time. Please send your get well cards soon! Thanks to all of you who sent your messages of condolence to Monna Hansen on the death of her husband! We forwarded all of your cards, and I'm sure Monna has been in touch with each of you. Joanna Skaff and family have relocated to Washington State. Sure they are enjoying the rain there! Meghan McCabe has received word that her friends in Kuwait are all well. Meghan has been a strong supporter of Ku-WAITing for News, and we are very pleased that she had such good news! Sar Al-Awadhi and children were reunited with husband and father, Ibrahim Al-Awadhi. Sari writes that he had so much to tell them after his stay in Kuwait. It was a real test of survival! And we agree with Sari, they are all truly heroes! Leilani and



Abdullateef Marafie were visited by their son, Mohammed-Jawad, over the past three weeks. Mohammed celebrated his 15th birthday at Disneyland! Ann Crosser is interested in hearing from friends, especially those from the Gourmet group. Friends of Ann may write to Ku-WAITing for News, and we will forward your letters. Fritz and Derin Cameron wrote a heart-warming letter about their love of Kuwait. They are thankful it is free again. They write, "Our hearts go out to those whose losses have been far greater...You may not even know who we are; but we think of you often and keep you in our prayers. God Bless You." Thanks for those warm thoughts! Olga and Madlena Krushev have heard from all their friends in Kuwait, and are grateful to report that all are well! Thanks for sharing with us! Houroup Abu Jamra writes "I would like to say a word of thanks and appreciation to the country that offered so much to us. Living in Kuwait offered us the chance to live and get acquainted with many nationalities. We established friendships with people of different backgrounds that helped us grow and understand the world better. Also most every family living and working there was able to help support an old mother or father in another country, take care financially of a sick relative, or help out less fortunate family members living in other countries." What a wonderful tribute to Kuwait! Houroup and his family lived in Kuwait for 22 years! Thanks for writing! Lubna Shaya has been joined by her husband, Abdulrahman, and son, Yousef. Sons Naseem and Khalid have been keeping their mother company while Yousef was serving with the Kuwaiti volunteers in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Sally Abdal was reunited with husband, Mahdi, and then they all went to attend a homecoming in Pennsylvania. Sometime this summer they plan on getting married again! What a wonderful time to renew their vows! Great idea! Best of luck to the bride and groom! Jan and Basem Al-Hafi are happy over Basem obtaining US citizenship. Congratulations to Basem! Marilyn Hayat has written to KFN. Marilyn is well and in England. Cathy Clancy received word that husband Anwar Haddad is alive and well. Rhonda Abdulgafoor will be reunited with husband Bader and son Mohammed soon. Evelyn Al-Misnad writes from Colorado about Project Love. A group of citizens in Denver donated 2-1/2 tons of humanitarian aid to help the Kuwaiti people. People wishing to write thank-you notes may send them to: Project Love, Attention: Linda Atz, Director, 1550 S. Federal Blvd., Suite N, Denver, CO 80219. Hope by now Eveyln has had some success in getting these items to Kuwait. Patricia Millns is trying to organize an exhibition of paintings of Kuwait - proceeds would go to children's organizations in Kuwait. Patricia can be contacted at: Flat 2, 27 St. Saviourgate, York YO1 2NQ, England. Frances Al-Salim sent a very newswy letter from England. She writes that her husband's family is all well, that Julie Al-Hajji heard that her husband, Abdul is well, that Julie Al-Faharn had good news from her husband in Kuwait - Saud hopes to come out for holiday, that Susan Qabertzard is nearing her delivery date, that Heather Ibraheem heard all her in-laws were well, and that Wendy Showaish's husband, Talal has returned to Kuwait to help BBC make a film on the liberation of Kuwait. Thanks for sending so much on all that great news from England, Frances.

EYES OF THE INVASION

My eyes are closing now and I
can't keep them open much longer.

Before, they were open
and swollen
and filled with tears.

Later, they were dry
from crying so often

Now, they want to shut
to keep me safe from
the pain and the suffering.

Their closing saddens me
because soon
I will feel no more of anything
and nothing at all will affect me.

MEGHAN MCCABE



BITS 'N' PIECES

FAWCO: News comes from Angela Eliopolos and Margie Howell of a \$1,000 donation set aside by FAWCO for the American Women's League. Margie suggests that a thank-you note from members of the AWL would be appropriate. The address to send your thank-you notes to is: Ms. Lucy Laederich, V.P./FAWCO Foundation, 28 Rue Barque, Paris 75015, France. This money has been set aside to re-establish AWL in Kuwait.

HEALTH IN KUWAIT: Ku-WAITing for News is interested in hearing from any readers who might have information about the long-term effects of the oil well fires presently raging in Kuwait. Clippings and articles in your local newspapers or magazines would be helpful.

THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF KUWAIT: Don Holt in Utah and Donna Sultan in Kuwait are now accepting applications from students for the opening of ASK grades K through 12 in September. Interested parties may contact: Don Holt, (801) 546-3037, 1616 East Gentile Street, Layton, UT 84040, or Donna Sulta, KEO, Zahra Complex, Mezzanine Level, Salmieh, Kuwait, 571-4173.

DO YOU KNOW: Anyone having word on the whereabouts of Captain Salah Al-Jeemaz, a pilot in the Kuwaiti Air Force is kindly requested to contact Ku-WAITing for News. Captail Al-Jeemaz was stationed at William AFB from June 1985 until June 1986 and one of his old classmates is looking for him. Thanks!

MY LOST LAMB

Before this, you were my sheperd.
You watched me, and took care of me,
and protected me.
You never let me stray too far.
You always brought me back to where I belonged.

And now, you are my lost lamb.
And I must search much harder to find you
and to bring you back.

For all your years of kindness;
how else could I ever give this back to you?
And how could I ever forget?

MEGHAN MCCABE



THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following readers who contributed to the effort of printing and publishing this final edition of Ku-WAITing for News: Jan and Basem Al-Hafi, The Abujamra Family, and Robert and Derin Cameron.

All of the staff at KFN would like to take this final opportunity to thank all of our readers for your support. You have been our strength and given us courage to continue day-to-day. Thank you!

Ku-WAITing to hear from you!
Leilani, Abdullateef and Lubna

REPRESENTATION BY HUGHES HUBBARD & REED
OF U.S. CITIZENS WHO HAVE INTERESTS IN KUWAIT
AS CLAIMANTS AGAINST IRAQ

The following is a brief description of the approach Hughes Hubbard & Reed ("HH&R") would take to represent United States citizens (or those with immediate family members who are U.S. citizens) who lived in or who otherwise have interests in Kuwait, in prosecuting their claims against Iraq. As previously discussed, we envision a two-phased approach. The first phase involves a consulting arrangement which is described in greater detail in the following pages. The second or "advocacy" phase would involve the actual prosecution of individual claims against Iraq. With regard to this second phase, due to the fact that procedures for recovery have not yet been established, any detailed discussion outlining a course of action would be premature. However, HH&R, through its participation in the first phase, may be able to play a critical role in the development of procedures and mechanisms most favorable to the prosecution of claims in the second phase.

Set forth below is information of interest to a prospective claimant concerning the types of claims potentially compensable, the prospects for recovery, how HH&R can assist in advocating the institution of recovery mechanisms most favorable to individual claims, the background of the uniquely qualified professionals who would be involved in the representation and a fee arrangement which would enable HH&R to commence the contemplated representation.

The Scope of Potential Claims

The scope of damages suggested by individuals living in Kuwait extends far beyond direct injuries to persons and property. These individuals may also seek reimbursement for all extraordinary expenditures incident to the Iraqi aggression - i.e., displacement costs, as well as consequential damages to commercial interests proximately resulting from the aggression. All such damages are potentially recoverable, if established with sufficient certainty.

Direct damages are the most obvious type of damages sustained and include personal injuries, wrongful deaths and property damage. The terror and physical manifestations of emotional distress induced by kidnappings, hostage taking, illegal transfers and brutal treatment of civilians are all appropriate subjects for damage claims. Physical damage to buildings and homes as a result of the aggression also represent a form of direct damages.

Incidental damages are also potentially recoverable. Incidental damages are all extraordinary expenditures which individuals in Kuwait had to make to defend and protect themselves and their family members living in Kuwait, or to replace items which they were forced to abandon in Kuwait (e.g., the cost of replacement housing).

Consequential damages are damages which, in this situation, are primarily commercial in nature. The war brought economic life in Kuwait to a halt, with injurious consequences for Kuwaiti commercial interests. The tourism industry was seriously affected. Cancelled bookings and tours have injured hotels, restaurants and the national airline, while depriving Kuwait of foreign exchange earnings. The war also caused foreign commercial interests to breach contracts and turn away from business and investment opportunities in Kuwait. Confidence in the stability of the region is not likely to return in the near future. While damages of this type are difficult to establish, the commercial interests of individuals living in Kuwait still have a sound legal basis for recovery.

Prospects for Recovery

The prospects for winning actual monetary recoveries appear to be significant. Shortly after the invasion of Kuwait, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 661 of August 6, 1990, which led to the blocking of Iraqi assets held abroad. An estimated \$5 billion are potentially available to compensate those injured by Iraq. In addition, Iraq's crude oil production capabilities were largely unharmed by the war. The attachment of future export revenues may be an essential element of any claims settlement. Strict enforcement of the United Nations trade embargo continues, and Iraq's only oil export pipelines pass through the territories of Saudi Arabia and Turkey. The Government of Iraq will have little choice but to make concessions in this regard, and already international efforts are under way, pursuant to the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 688 and 689 of April 5th and 7th, to establish an international commission for fixing damages.

The overall legal and political circumstances support the initiation of legal action against Iraq at this time. The defenses traditionally raised by sovereign states will likely be unavailable to Iraq. The international political environment is very favorable for the assertion of such claims. Iraq may be unable to assert sovereign immunity or the act of state doctrine in defense of its actions. By conceding to the demands of the Security Council, Iraq has arguably already executed an

effective waiver. As a practical matter, consent to jurisdiction and waiver of these defenses will be a necessary prerequisite to Iraq's participation in any claims settlement mechanism established by the international community. If Iraq refuses to cooperate willingly in compensating its victims, the United States and the states concerned will be still less willing to recognize these sovereign privileges in international and domestic fora.

The Role of HH&R

As the prosecution of claims against Iraq is a currently debated political issue subject to change, it is important to monitor the situation carefully and offer input where appropriate. During the first phase of representation, HH&R can provide current, up-to-date information on the framework being established to prosecute claims. HH&R would monitor closely relevant developments within the United States government, the United Nations and foreign governments and effectively intervene and influence those developments where necessary. The ability to influence the development of the mechanism for the settlement of claims against Iraq may be of fundamental importance to the ultimate disposition of such claims. The ability to recover for claims is affected by characteristics, such as venue, competence, composition and procedures, of any tribunal or commission established. HH&R can help to ensure that the interests of its clients are effectively represented to key decision-makers in the United States and in relevant foreign governments.

It is also important to identify assets available to satisfy judgments. There are an estimated \$5 billion in blocked Iraqi assets, out of which certain funds will be more accessible to potential judgment creditors than others. We will consult with those having expertise in such investigations.

During the second phase of representation, once a mechanism for recovery is in place, HH&R would document damages, research and develop innovative legal theories necessary to prosecute the types of damages sustained (for example, with sufficient creativity, we may be able to develop a theory of liability applicable to those private companies that sold dangerous technologies to Iraq), develop a strategy on how to best present the claims to obtain a favorable judgment, negotiate the right to recover, and, finally, litigate the claims before the appropriate forum. HH&R would initiate all legal actions necessary to establish and preserve the interests of its clients in the assets previously identified. HH&R's

Hughes Hubbard & Reed

lawyers possess unique expertise in multilateral and intergovernmental negotiations, as well as extensive litigation experience in all manner of international fora. Where legal action in United States courts or foreign domestic courts is required, HH&R will be able to rely upon its traditional strengths in these areas.

Staff Background and Resources

Hughes Hubbard & Reed is a firm of two hundred and fifty lawyers, with offices in New York, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., Miami and Paris. A detailed firm resume is enclosed for your reference. Apart from the acknowledged general excellence of its practice, HH&R possesses exceptional and uniquely relevant talent in the areas of public international law, international claims, United Nations practice and governmental affairs. While the full resources of the firm would be available to its clients as required, HH&R would anticipate handling this matter principally in our Washington office with the following team of lawyers:

Abraham D. Sofaer - Judge Sofaer is a former federal judge and served as Legal Adviser to the Department of State from 1985 until joining HH&R last year. During his tenure at State, he was the government's focal person for all international claims matters. Judge Sofaer has represented the United States before the International Court of Justice and personally negotiated the settlement of claims arising out of Iraq's Exocet missile attack on the U.S.S. Stark. He secured Iraq's agreement to pay \$27 million, the highest per capita wrongful death settlement in international legal history. During the Stark negotiations, Judge Sofaer established a frank and effective working relationship with the highest officials in the Iraqi Foreign Ministry, which has continued to the present. The people of Kuwait are probably familiar with his role in facilitating the settlement of the Taba dispute and the Ras Burqa claims.

Allan Gerson - Mr. Gerson is a war crimes expert and an experienced Justice Department litigator. He is also a professor of International Law at George Mason University. He was Deputy Assistant United States Attorney General for International Law and National Security Affairs, and has served as Chief Legal Counsel to the United States Mission to the United Nations during the Reagan administration.

Judge Sofaer and Mr. Gerson are supported by an outstanding team of young litigators at the associate level, who possess exceptionally strong backgrounds in public international law and fluency in many languages.

Hughes Hubbard & Reed

Expenses and Fees

At this time, a consulting arrangement is the most appropriate form of representation because it enables HH&R to actively represent the interests of individual claimants in monitoring the ever-changing developments and influencing the formation of a mechanism for claims recovery. This mechanism, once established, will determine the types of claims recoverable and the location and forum for the claims process, which will in turn dictate whether and to what extent an individual's claims are compensable. As this is a crucial phase, we propose an opening fixed fee arrangement of \$25,000, to enable us to commence work, to be followed with discussion of the appropriate fee arrangements for the second phase, once HH&R's expenditure of legal counseling time appears to be running substantially in excess of the fixed fee. Once the second phase is reached in which claims are to be documented, presented, negotiated and/or litigated, we may proceed on a contingency fee basis or a hybrid fee arrangement, assuming our ability to enter into satisfactory arrangements with a sufficient number of claimants (taking account of the potential monetary recovery), and that the nature of the claims mechanism then in place and the resulting role of HH&R are appropriate.

LEGAL REPRESENTATION

NAME OF U.S. CITIZEN: _____

PERMANENT ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

OTHER ADDRESS: _____

OTHER TELEPHONE: _____

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

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