

U.S. administrator says Iraq rebels ‘must be dealt with’

By JIM KRANE
Associated Press Writer
BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq’s two main guerrilla fronts appeared “eerily quiet” on Monday, the U.S. military said, as residents of besieged Fallujah left their homes to shop and a rebel Shiite Muslim militia stuck to a cease-fire it called in the south.
Spain’s new foreign minister, meanwhile, said his country’s plans to withdraw its troops from Iraq should not harm its longterm relations with the United States.
Foreign Minister Miguel Moratinos also said the government of Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero will honor Spain’s pledges at the recent Iraq Donor’s Conference and help in Iraq’s reconstruction and transition to democracy.
“We’re not washing our hands” of the situation, Moratinos said in

an interview Monday in the El Pais newspaper.
On Sunday, the top U.S. administrator in Iraq, L. Paul Bremer, insisted that the threat of insurgents who want to “shoot their way to power” must be stopped. He said Iraqi security forces were not up to the job and defended the continued heavy presence of U.S. troops even after an Iraqi government takes over June 30.
In Fallujah, once incessant gunfire has given way to quiet amid two days of direct negotiations between the Americans and Fallujah leaders. An Iraqi delegation entered Fallujah for new talks Monday, in which the Americans did not appear to be participating.
“There seems to be a serious attempt by the people of Fallujah to get their house in order,” Marine Lt. Col. Brennan Byrne said.
The Army, meanwhile, said it

was in no hurry to take the southern city of Najaf from Shiite followers of radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. The Army was beginning to rotate 2,500 soldiers from their position outside Najaf, replacing them with 2,000 seasoned troops from the force that has been occupying Baghdad for nearly a year.
Al-Sadr on Sunday called a two-day cease-fire to mark the anniversary of the death of the Prophet Muhammad. He also ordered a halt in all attacks on Spanish troops based in Najaf after Spain’s prime minister decided to withdraw his country’s forces from the country as soon as possible.
Al-Sadr’s office called on Iraqis to “maintain the safety of the Spanish forces until their return home” and urged “the governments of the other armies taking part in Iraq’s occupation to follow the Spanish government’s example.”
As many as 40 Iraqi fighters have been killed in almost a week of skirmishes on the outskirts of Najaf,

Army Col. Dana J. H. Pittard said. No Americans have been killed in the fighting, but four have died in attacks on convoys in the area since the 2,500-member task force deployed Tuesday.
Army shelling near the restive town of Baqouba Sunday night killed a family of four, when artillery pounded their farmhouse, said Nasir Kadhim, the mortuary director at Baqouba hospital.
At least 40 more Iraqis were killed over the weekend — mostly in fighting near the Syrian border — bringing the Iraqi death toll in April to around 1,100, including civilians, insurgents and police.
The weekend’s fighting pushed the April death toll for American troops to at least 99 killed in action. It has been the deadliest month since the U.S.-led invasion began in March 2003.
Until now, the single-month record for U.S. troops killed was 82, in November. Around 700 U.S. servicemen have died in Iraq.

On Saturday, five Marines and five soldiers were killed in combat. Pittard, the commander of U.S. Army forces encircling Najaf, said al-Sadr’s militia — along with other insurgents — “has for the most part been contained in Najaf.”
He said the Army was in no rush to take the Shiite holy city while negotiations with the rebels continued.
“We can wait,” Pittard said. “They will still be there. Ultimately we still want Iraqis to solve this problem.”
The Spanish military compound in the holy city’s center — which had been undergoing regular mortar and rocket attacks — reported that Sunday night was “oddly quiet.”
Pittard said his task force would on Tuesday begin returning to its previous zone northeast of Baghdad.
The replacement troops from the Army’s 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, operating under com-

mand of the 1st Armored Division, began arriving in Najaf on Monday.
In Fallujah on Monday, Byrne, the Marine battalion commander, said the western city remained “eerily quiet” for the second straight day.
Marines encouraged shopkeepers to resume selling food, and Byrne said civilians were being allowed to flee through a pair of checkpoints.
Some 5,000 left Fallujah on Saturday. A third of the city’s residents already have fled during the Marines’ 15-day siege.
In an unusually blunt speech in Baghdad on Sunday, Bremer said the recent surge in fighting shows that Iraq’s beleaguered security forces “need outside help” to fight anti-U.S. guerrillas here.
“Early this month, the foes of democracy overran Iraqi police stations and seized public buildings in several parts of the country,” he said. “Iraqi forces were unable to stop them.”

K-State research targets children’s eating habits

MANHATTAN — Carrots would seem to have little to do with a computer.
That’s not so, however, in seven counties in Kansas in which computers are being used to assess children’s eating habits, said Elaine Johannes, Kansas State University Research and Extension youth and community development specialist with the Community Health Institute.
The assessment targets 180 third through fifth graders enrolled in the United States Department of Agriculture’s Family Nutrition Program.
The students are at the ages when children typically begin making their own food choices, she said.
Preliminary data from the computer-like game survey identifies carrots as the most frequently eaten vegetable and apples as the most frequently eaten fruit. Bananas placed second among the fruits, and students also indicated that they are most likely to eat the fruits and vegetables at home.
“We’re finding that students participating in the current assessment are eating two fruits and vegetables, rather than the five recommended for health,” Johannes said.
“The assessment is a pre-program test,” said Johannes, who added that the students will be re-tested at the conclusion of the FNP educational effort.
“Increasing the intake of health-promoting fruits and vegetables is critical. They are vitamin- and mineral-rich, and can replace foods that are higher in calories and fat that contribute to obesity,” Johannes said.
“Learning to recognize a recommended portion ^ or serving size ^ also is important,” she said. “The

students’ concepts of what constitutes a serving vary, and a few report eating several times the recommended serving.”
Why test children’s eating habits to learn what many already suspect?
“FNP is a nutrition education program. If nutrition educators can help children learn to make healthier choices, they also help them improve their health and reduce health risks associated with obesity heart disease and some cancers are examples,” she said.
Eighty-five of Kansas’ 105 counties currently participate in the FNP program; those participating in the current survey are Franklin; Kiowa; Leavenworth; Reno; Republic; Wallace; Washington, and Wyandotte Counties.
Kansas is only the second state to use “FIRSt,” short product for “Food Intake Recording Software System”, a dietary software system that measures fruit and vegetable servings that children eat. It was developed by a team led by Tom Baranowski, professor of behavioral nutrition at the Children’s Nutrition Research Center in the Department of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine.
“The game is visual and the children think it’s fun,” Johannes said.
“The laptop computers being used in the survey also are interesting to students and allow them to practice their computer skills,” she said.
The nutrition evaluations are supported by a grant from the USDA FNP Program and conducted by K-State Research and Extension’s nutrition educators and Community Health Institute.
For information on the nutrition program, visit extension’s web site: www.oznet.ksu.edu

State releases violations at food service locations

TOPEKA — The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has issued administrative orders assessing civil penalties against several food service establishments for violations of the Kansas Food Code or for operating without a license, said Sharon Watson, public information director at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.
Penalty assessment letters were mailed to: Golden Corral, 1601 SW Wanamaker, Topeka; Fieldhouse Sports Café, 9617 W. 87th St., Overland Park; United Vending & Food Services, 2101 W. 6th Ave., Emporia; Smokey G’s, 105 E. Jackson, Iola; Hunam Express, 1116 Moro Street, Manhattan; Golden Corral, 2830 W. 18th Ave., Emporia; Perkins Family Restaurant, 1711 W. 23rd, Lawrence; Bambino’s Italian Café, 1801 Massachusetts, Lawrence; Gitty Up & Go, 2406 S. 51st St., Kansas City; and IHOP, 2273 S. 9th St., Salina.
“The department seeks to work constructively with licensed establishments to ensure compliance with the Kansas Food Code which protects the public from the risk of foodborne illness,” Watson said.
Whenever a food safety inspector identifies a violation, the inspector immediately notifies the person in charge and advises them on the proper way to make a correction. Violations are often corrected in this manner during the inspection. Where critical violations are not corrected with the inspector on-site, an unannounced follow-up inspection is conducted.
When an inspector documents

the same Food Code violation(s) on consecutive visits to the same establishment, it is the department’s policy to issue fines. The fine for an individual violation can range up to \$500 per violation for each day the violation is documented. All fines are subject to appeal as governed under the Kansas Administrative Procedures Act.
By statute, an establishment has 20 calendar days from the date the order was mailed, plus three days for mailing to file for an appeal or to pay the fine. The departments purpose in issuing this advisory is to promote awareness of the Kansas Food Code requirements.

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