Bush sends U.S. troops to Saudi Arabia

Irani-born professor says action will prove to be a 'fat mistake'

By Steve Jones

When President Bush sent U.S. combat forces to Saudi Arabia to assist in fighting off a possible invasion by Iraqi troops, he committed a mistake that will not only harm the Middle East, but the United States as well, according to a Cal Poly professor who was born and raised in Iran.

"Sending military forces into Saudi Arabia is going to be a fatal mistake," said Manzar Foroohar, a history professor. "We may accomplish our short-term goals, but in the long term it's going to prove to be a very bad mistake."

Last Thursday, Iraq invaded the tiny Persian Gulf country of Kuwait. After reports surfaced that Iraqi troops were massing at the Kuwait-Saudi Arabia border, Bush on Tuesday committed the U.S. to a multinational force forged to forestall an invasion of Kuwait. "We are compelled to act," he said. "This is our responsibility."

In a televised speech Wednesday morning, Bush said that his decision to deploy U.S. forces into the Middle East is part of a U.S. effort to "confront aggression.

"President Bush says he's doing this (sending troops) to stop aggression," Foroohar said. "But the U.S. never lifted a finger when Israel was doing the same thing (as Iraq). It's hypocrisy." Another result of U.S. presence will be increased anti-American feelings in the Middle East, Foroohar said.

"This will result in more hostage crises, more airplane bombings and generally more anti-American sentiment in the Middle East," she said.

The current problems with Iraq are a direct result of U.S. foreign policy more than 10 years ago, Foroohar said. When Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein first came into power, "nobody took him seriously either politically or militarily." Foroohar attributed Iraq's decision to invade Kuwait to "the artificial borders created by the United States."

"Iraq, the middle eastern country of the Arabian world has deep roots, going back to the U.S. government) will be overthrown," she said. "Going to a private school and pay these fees."

Foroohar attributed Iraq's decision to invade Kuwait to the "American policy of U.S. presence will be increased anti-American feelings in the Middle East, Foroohar said."

"The artificial borders created by the United States are going to be a fatal mistake," said Foroohar. "We may accomplish our short-term goals, but in the long term it's going to prove to be a very bad mistake."
Oil companies should be condemned

By Bill Evans

The price of gas at the pump has risen drastically since Iraq, under the guidance of Saddam Hus­sein, invaded Kuwait a week ago. Is this a justified response from oil companies and independent sta­tion owners, or just another excuse to gouge the American consumer? Just as the history of the oil industry’s behavior, as well as the facts of the present situation, will help figure this out.

A year ago this spring, America suffered the worst oil spill in its history when the Exxon Valdez punctured its hull on a leaky reef off Alaska. The amount of oil lost in the spill and delayed by the pipeline is a negligible percentage of the coun­try’s oil supply, but the incident translated into significantly higher prices at the gas pump.

Well, this certainly gives support to the idea that the oil companies have a history of price gouging. Now let’s take a look at the current situation.

Less than 10 percent of America’s oil supply comes from Iraq and Kuwait combined. Japan receives a slightly larger percent of their overall oil supply from that area, and international business experts report that its economy can handle the loss without price increases. If this is so, then why should American consumers be expected to pay higher prices when this country gets even less of its oil, percentage wise, than Japan?

Oh, I wonder why. Could it be that the oil barons are taking advantage of another crisis to line their own pockets?

What it boils down to is that Americans are pay­ing higher prices for oil that won’t hit the market for another two weeks. The gas that is at the pumps now was paid for weeks and months before this current crisis in the Middle East came into focus. The only possible reason to raise the price at the pumps now is to fatten profits.

Meanwhile at the pump, some independent sta­tion owners are saying they are raising prices in response to price increases at other stations. This doesn’t make sense. If one station is offering lower prices, people will flock to it and buy more from it. Isn’t the whole idea of economic competition, one of the hallmarks of this country, the concept of trying to sell more than the other guy?

All hopes of social responsibility in the oil in­dustry are not lost, however. On Wednesday, Atlantic Richfield Company voluntarily decided to freeze prices for one week. This could be a promising development, but consumers need more assurance that they will not be victimized by the greed in the oil industry.

The oil companies should be forced by the gov­ernment to lower prices to preinvasion standards. Their behavior over the past week is nothing short of scandalous.

Bill Evans is a journalism junior. This is his first quarter writing for the Mustang.
Annual Mid-State Fair returns to Central Coast for 45th year

By Deborah Holley

Summertime on the Central Coast for the past 44 years has included an old-fashioned country fair, and this year is no exception.

The 45th annual Mid-State Fair in Paso Robles opened Tuesday and continues through Aug. 19. The spectacular shows and exhibits promise to draw the largest crowds ever during the fair's 13-day run.

Carolyn Mason, a fair spokesperson, said that attendance this year probably will top all previous records, as over half a million people are expected to pass through the gates.

"The fairgrounds are beautiful, the flowers are all planted and blooming, the exhibits are up, and we have lots of great entertainment both paid and free," Mason said.

Known as the "Entertainment Center of the Central Coast" because its top-name entertainment that can't be beat anywhere, the fair is actually the largest entertainment event of its kind in the country, she said.

This year, paid grandstand entertainment schedule is more than $400,000 on livestock.

The fair's theme this year, "There's No Stopping Us Now!", reflects that the fair really does reflect that the fair really does have something for everyone.

"Some of the free shows this year used to be grandstand entertainment," she said.

Additional acts appearing include the comic-relief team of Williams and Ree, Charlie Rich, Roy Clark, Louise Mandrell and the Charlie Daniels Band. The free shows are covered by the admission price, which is $5 for adults.

In the commercial buildings, companies from all over the state will be displaying, sampling and selling their products, and many will offer special discounts to fair-goers.

Eighty-five food vendors will sell everything from ethnic and gourmet food to traditional country fair staple items such as corn dogs, caramel apples and cotton candy. For fair-goers over the age of 21, beer and margaritas will be available.

The fair also boosts the addition of vinyl, mesh screens for fair-goers.

Hours for the fair are 9 a.m. to midnight daily.

From page 1, not house instructional classrooms, Bailey said it will benefit students by allowing instructors to have more space and privacy.

However, not all students and professors are happy with the destruction of the ivory and pine trees that once grew where the building is to be located.

"I think the trees are better than any building," said Neil Looney, a history major.

Kathy Hoy, a business major, said the School of Science and Mathematics is fairly small and that maybe the building should house offices for a larger school or include multiple departments.

Allan Cooper, a professor in the School of Architecture, said he has yet to view the site because he could not bear to look at it once he heard about the destruction of the trees.

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61 NORTH BROAD ST.
SLO trash system will offer choice of three garbage rates

By Bridget Meaney

People living in single-family residences are getting the opportunity to decide how much they want to pay for garbage.

The San Luis Obispo City Council discussed two critical aspects of the solid waste issue during its meeting Tuesday evening.

One aspect deals with the amount of waste going into the landfill by half within Stall Writer.

The other aspect deals with the possibility ofbilling users directly.

Elliott said some bugs in this system," he said. "We want to pay for garbage.

The San Luis Garbage Co. also will do an additional pickup for $4.

One resident spoke out against the new rate system.

"We have to do with these critical issues now," he said. "We wanted something quick and easy."

The San Luis Garbage Co. also will hold a clean-up day twice each year — once in January and again in June — where they will pick up bundles of trash and yard clippings. The San Luis Garbage Co. also will do an additional pickup for $4.

One resident spoke out against the new rate system.

"We've replaced a simple system ... with a bureaucracy," said Ralph Jacobsen, a resident of San Luis Obispo. "I think it (the rate system) is with a lot of extra expenses."
County response to pesticide exposure uplifts its employees

By Tina M. Ramos

County administrators and employees agreed Monday to look for alternative building sites for county offices following an incident in which some employees were exposed to pesticides used to kill cockroaches.

About 40 employees working for the Assessor's Office, Technical Services and County Clerk offices walked from their workplaces in the Sperry Building on Monterey Street in May because of headaches, abdominal pains and nausea. They claimed that these problems started after the county sprayed the pesticides in the building in March. The building also houses Hudson's Grill, Osos St. Subs and Ross and Crown restaurants.

After being exposed to the pesticides Sufritin, Diazinon and Pyrevacan, many employees experienced continued headaches, sore throats, coughing and fatigue. Several employees maintain the building is still a health hazard.

In spite of the agreement to look for alternative building sites, many employees said they are upset about the way the situation was handled.

County administrators held an informal meeting Monday to discuss various issues and concerns and to bring the employees up-to-date on recent developments, said County Administrator Robert Hendrix.

In the meeting, trading turned into a tense standoff between county administrators and angered workers who claimed their concerns were ignored.

"I sense we are in for a safety of our employees," Hendrix said. "We want the building comfortable for everybody.

Deputy County Administrator Lee Williams said Bob Rossi, a local developer and the landlord of the building, will handle all future pest control for the entire building. The county has stopped spraying pesticides in all work areas since March.

County Risk Manager Art Glumini said that on June 13, a non-toxic product named Magnetic Beach Food was applied in the building. Hendrix said that the product has so far been very successful in eliminating the need for spraying.

In accordance with recommendations from the San Francisco General Hospital's Occupational Health Center, the building will be cleaned, the carpets removed and walls re-painted with sealant paint to block off any chemicals in the walls.

Employees, meanwhile, said they believe the building will not be safe even if the recommendations are instituted. Many employees said that they have been affected by pesticides in the building and, due to their fear, they have refused to work there.

"This is affecting our everyday life," said Wanda Waltz from the Assessor's Office. "We have started going through hell with this building."

County Administrator Hendrix said he maintains that the offices were sprayed only on March 5, but county employees said they were affected by the odors coming through the ventilation system from the spraying that occurred two weeks later in the restaurants below.

Glumini said Dr. G.B. Bowland from the County Health Department is willing to set up tests for employees, and the county will pay the costs.

But employees said they feel this comes a little too late for most of the ones who have been exposed to the pesticides and have been feeling sick for five months.

"Not once have we heard you are sorry," Waltz said. "All medical costs so far are coming out of our pockets."

County Assessor Dick Frank said, "We have lost all faith in county administration and in your landlord. We want nothing to do with your promises."

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SLO Transit repairs disabled access equipment on city buses

By Erika Dills

The San Luis Obispo Transit system recently has completed repairs of the disabled access equipment on all of the city buses.

"We've been out of circulation on three of our six buses for the last three years," said Transit Manager Harry Watson. "But, as of July 23, all of the buses have been fully operating."

In the same month that the city buses were fixed, President Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act, which, in part, calls for "accessible public transportation."

Watson said that this happened "only by coincidence" and that it was just a matter of "great timing" and opportunity on behalf of SLO Transit.

"I had been researching this problem for the last four months ... and I was able to find a company in California that still made parts for our now-defunct lifts," Watson said. "They said, 'we can not only get you the parts, but we can train your mechanics to fix them, too.' "

Watson said by repairing the existing equipment, the cost to the city was only $4,500, rather than the estimated $60,000 it would have cost to replace the lifts.

Cal Poly political science major Sherry Swenson worked as an intern with SLO Transit on this project. Swenson said this project was particularly meaningful to her because she has cerebral palsy, which requires her to use a wheelchair.

Swenson said that because of her disability, she has been able to see TRANSIT, page 8

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Foreign students experience SLO life

By Marn Wildfeuer

Students from six countries are attending a little Ban Luis Obispo culture to prepare them for home stays with American families.

High-school aged kids from Hong Kong, Iceland, Italy, Belgium, Spain and Paraguay are staying at Cal Poly and learning English. The program is sponsored by AFPS, formerly called American Field Services, which is a non-profit organization that arranges international student exchanges.

"The reason why the group stays at Cal Poly is to prepare the kids for their home stays and to work on their English skills," said Sue Ward, site director and program coordinator for the kids for their home stays and Santa Barbara region, which includes Cal Poly.

The 102 students' English skills range from never having spoken English to having studied it in school for several years, according to Edie Morrison, director of student affairs for the AFPS program at Cal Poly.

The students study English from 8 a.m. to noon each day. Their afternoons are free, or they can attend a computer skills class in the Macintosh labs on campus, Morrison said.

In addition to participating in educational programs, the students have gone on a number of field trips this summer. The group has visited Hearst Castle, Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant and Santa Barbara's Fiesta Parade.

The students have been discussing customs that are acceptable here in the U.S. that may not be in their home country and vice versa," he said.

On Friday, the students will spread out across California, Nevada and Arizona to begin their home stay experiences, Morrison said. Students from the same country go together to different families or are placed together with students from different countries.

"We've found that students won't speak English as readily as if they have a friend close by," he said.

Most of the host families have spent most of their own children on an AFPS program, Morrison said. However, some families apply to be hosts because they want to learn about different cultures.

"I'm teaching, a student from Hong Kong, said the opportunity to come to the United States is a "fantastic" one and that she is doing things she would never be able to do in Hong Kong such as talking on the air at KCPR-FM and using a Macintosh computer.

From page 1 putting the Turkish government in jeopardy.

She said the Turkish government's cooperation with the West will be the perfect opportunity for Moslem fundamentalists, who have long sought political control of this region, to rally the people against the existing government.

U.S. officials said Tuesday that Egyptian and Moroccan troops were to join U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia. But Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak denied his troops would join the United States in Saudi Arabia. Foreign aid- assisted Mubarak's decision not to send troops to Saudi Arabia to the U.S. military presence and the four of an Arabic backlash.

The State Department estimated that 3,500 Americans, mostly oil workers, are still stranded in Iraq and Kuwait because the main roads and airports are closed. Another 29 Americans are being detained in a Baghdad hotel. But Margaret Tutwiler, the chief spokesperson for the State Department, would not classify them as hostages because discussions between U.S. and Iraqi officials are still underway regarding their status.

intelligence reports stated that part of Iraq's stockpile of chemical weapons were seen being transported toward the border. In addition to the 90,000 troops, the United States is said to have 100 aircraft and dozens of ships in or on their way to the Middle East.

"Standing up for our principles will not come easy," Bush said in his televised address Wednesday morning. "It may take time and possibly cost a great deal."

Associated Press and Los Angeles Times contributed to this story.
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**FIRE**

From page 6
ture clear of flammable vegeta-

tion, which McFadden said is a

protection mandated by law.

McFadden and CDF workers
draw wildland fields as fuel

with a great potential for

burning.

The rest of the state is also very
dry, according to Karen

Terry, CDF information officer.

"According to the Palmer

Drought Index, a scale that

measures air moisture along

with wildland fuel, we have the
drytest year in 1985 when the

index began," she said.

Currently, the said, 61 percent

of the state is covered with

flammable, undergrowth level.

The tour stopped west of

Atascadero to view Eagle Ranch,

a 20- to 40-acre area, proposed

as a controlled burn site.

"This is very similar to the

Painted Cave fire," said Mike

Hicks, Atascadero fire chief. "If

we are able to break up the fuel,

we can prevent the possibility of

a major fire."

The danger area lies just

beyond some residential houses,

which Hicks said could be in

danger if a fire were to break out

in the area.

The burn could be scheduled

for fall of this year if approved,

according to Ben Parker, an

employee of CDF in San Luis

Obispo.

"For a controlled burn, CDF

must) pick a time of year when

the fuel level is high enough to

control and the moisture level

high enough to keep the fire from

getting out of control," Parker

said. "This is generally done in

late spring or late fall."

The tour was arranged for

Assemblyman Rusty

Areias, who spoke at the Eagle

Ranch site.

Areias is currently chairman of

the Assembly Committee on

Earthquake Preparedness and

Natural Disasters, a new state

committee created as a result of

the Oct. 17 San Francisco quake.

In the next few years, we

want to develop a comprehensive

state disaster plan," Areias said.

He said the plan would include

fire safety standards, controlled

burn guidelines and reinforce-

ment of buildings to prepare for

earthquakes.

Areias said he didn't know

where to get the money for these

plans in the budget so there are

other problems the state faces.

Areias still has two more fire

tours planned on Aug. 17 in San

Diego County and on Aug. 24 in

Alameda County, said Carol

Thorp, legislative assistant for

Assemblyman Mike McGuire.

Plans for county fire funding

will start to be drawn up after

the tours are completed. Because

the Legislature goes out of ses-

sion in September, Thorp said a

dbill will not be proposed until

January, when the new session

begins.

**BUDGET**

From page 1

have just been told that it can be

no more than $51.7 million. This

would be on top of the original

$71.2 million reduction.

"When budget cuts for state

universities were first proposed

in January, CSG budget officers

begun developing different scen-

arios... plans. The CSG Board of

Trustees approved a 4.5 per-

cent increase to meet their share

of the budget cuts."

In April, the Department of

Finance announced that there

was a $1 billion revenue short-

fall from state income taxes.

During budget sessions in July,

the governor and the Legislature

approved an additional 5.2 per-

cent budget for non-revenue short-

fall. This is what led to the 10 per-

cent, Ramirez said.

Currently, the revenues from

the 5.2 percent fee increase are

designated to go back to the

state. CSG Chancellor Ellis E.

McCune would like these reve-

nues to go back to the CSG

system and is discussing this

possibility with the Department

of Finance, Ramirez said.

The Legislature also passed a

$500 fee increase for non-resident

students for next year, he said.

Lottery funds that are suppos-

ed to fund extra activities such as

field trips of Trustees, have been

re-appropriated statewide for

financing of in-

structional equipment and library

volumes, Ramirez said.

Rabine said revenues for

fall for faculty and staff have

been frozen for six months, he said.

Employees also are supposed to

receive a raise in their salaries on

the anniversary of their hiring date.

These salary increases will not be

given until Jan. 1 of next year.

There have been no budget ad-

justments for price inflation of

instructional materials, com-

puters and other items, Ramirez

said.

"There has been great price in-

flation, particularly in technical

cities and arts," he said. "We are

purchasing budgets have been vir-

tually stagnant. As a conse-

quence, it affects our ability to

teach and provide services.

"These are the worst budget cuts

I've seen in the 15 years I've

been here," Ramirez said. "I was

around when Proposition 13 was

passed, and we had to make mas-

sive cuts. But this year we're get-

ting progressively worse ever

since."

"Eighty-five percent of our

budget is personnel," he said. "Cuts

hurt people — faculty, staff, stu-

dents."

Department of Education workers

have been pushing state campuses
to increase the price of meals, but a

time they have been reducing their

funding base, Ramirez said.

Marianne Biasotti also con-

tributed to this article.