

If you miss your copy of the Daily Star today, please don't hesitate to call the Circulation Manager immediately on Tel: 246023-4 (PABX), 863035, 863036. The Daily Star is at your service day in and day out.

The Daily Star

Let us devote our efforts to ensure free and fair polls on February 27. Cast your vote judiciously and allow others to exercise their rights.

VOL. 1, NO. 5 REGD. NO. DA 781

MAGH 4, 1397 BS.

DHAKA FRIDAY JANUARY 18, 1991

RAJAB 1, 1411 HURI

12 PAGES: PRICE TAKA. 3.00

Inside today International

Very successful, says Major



British Prime Minister John Major said allied forces operations against Iraqi targets were continuing and they had been very successful. Page 5.

Editorial

Tough Times Ahead for Refugees

The plight of refugees trying to seek asylum in Europe is getting worse. The treatment given to them once they reach Europe becomes more and more unsympathetic. Page 4

Magazine

A lookback at major world events



1990 - a year history moved into the fast track. A lookback at the major world events of the past year. Page 9-11

Business

Political consensus

Planning Adviser Prof Rehman Sobhan pleads for a political consensus to reverse the process of economic degeneration, eradicate poverty and sustain democracy. Page 6

NEWS BRIEFS

Freedom near, says Kuwaiti Prince

NICOSIA, Jan 17: Kuwait's Crown Prince told fellow Kuwaitis today, that liberation of their homeland was near, hours after US and allied planes bombed targets in Iraq and the occupied Emirate. "We are all witnessing fateful, decisive days culminating our just struggle to liberate our dear homeland from the brutal Iraqi aggression", Sheikh Saad Al-Abdulla al-Sabah said in a message to Kuwaitis under occupation, reports Reuter.

AL stays away from 8-party meet

The scheduled meeting of 8-party Alliance to resume negotiation for a joint panel of candidates could not take place Thursday as Awami League stayed away. Leaders of all other components came to the meeting venue last night to resume talks, but Awami League leader Mohammad Nasim regretted their absence, reports UNB.

18,000 tonnes of bombs dropped

Republican Guard decimated : US

14 enemy planes downed : Iraq

Two Iraqi bases near Jordan in flames

Massive raid on Iraq



Graphic showing the presence of forces in the Gulf region. —APP

Hundreds of allied warplanes blasted Iraqi targets Thursday, clobbering the military machine that invaded Kuwait 5/1-2 months earlier, US military officials said, report news agencies.

The onslaught began at 2:30 a.m. in Baghdad (2330 GMT Wednesday) when hundreds of American, British, Saudi and Kuwaiti warplanes began hitting targets throughout Iraq and occupied Kuwait.

US warships in the Gulf joined in with Tomahawk cruise missiles.

A second wave of air raids, this time including French planes, began at about 9:30 a.m. (0630 GMT) Thursday.

The attacks were the first in a long series of bombardments intended to cripple the Iraqi military and sap the country's will to fight, according to US military officials.

There were no ground battles, US military officials said. One US plane was shot down in the initial attacks, according to US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney.

British Defence Secretary Tom King said, one British Tornado GR1 experienced engine fire and was missing with its two crewmen.

French Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevènement said four French planes were hit by anti-aircraft fire and one pilot was slightly injured, but all planes and flyers returned safely to their bases.

The huge air campaign against Iraq involved more than 9000 sorties in the first half-day of war.

According to Reuter, in Jordan residents said two military bases near Iraq's western

border were in flames after being hit by US planes.

US officials said there was scant resistance as planes from the United States, Britain, Saudi Arabia and the remnants of the Kuwaiti Air Force streaked over Iraq and Kuwait. One estimate in Washington said they dropped at least 18,000 tonnes of bombs. Targets included key installations in the heart of the Iraqi capital, including Presidential Palace, Defence Ministry, Baghdad Airport, and oil refinery and the headquarters of Saddam's ruling Baath Party.

"Iraq can still avoid further destructions by an immediate withdrawal from Kuwait, the US told the Security Council during a briefing last night on air operations in the Gulf."

Saddam defiant

Saddam remained defiant. He repeated a message to US President George Bush that Iraq would not yield and calling on Bush to withdraw his forces from the Gulf. Saddam said on Baghdad Radio: "mother of all battles has started."

Reports from Nicosia say: Iraqi President Saddam Hussein braved allied bombing raids on Thursday to tour the streets of the Iraqi capital, Baghdad Radio reported.

Saddam visited the air force and air defence headquarters reported badly damaged in the US-led blitz that began during the night.

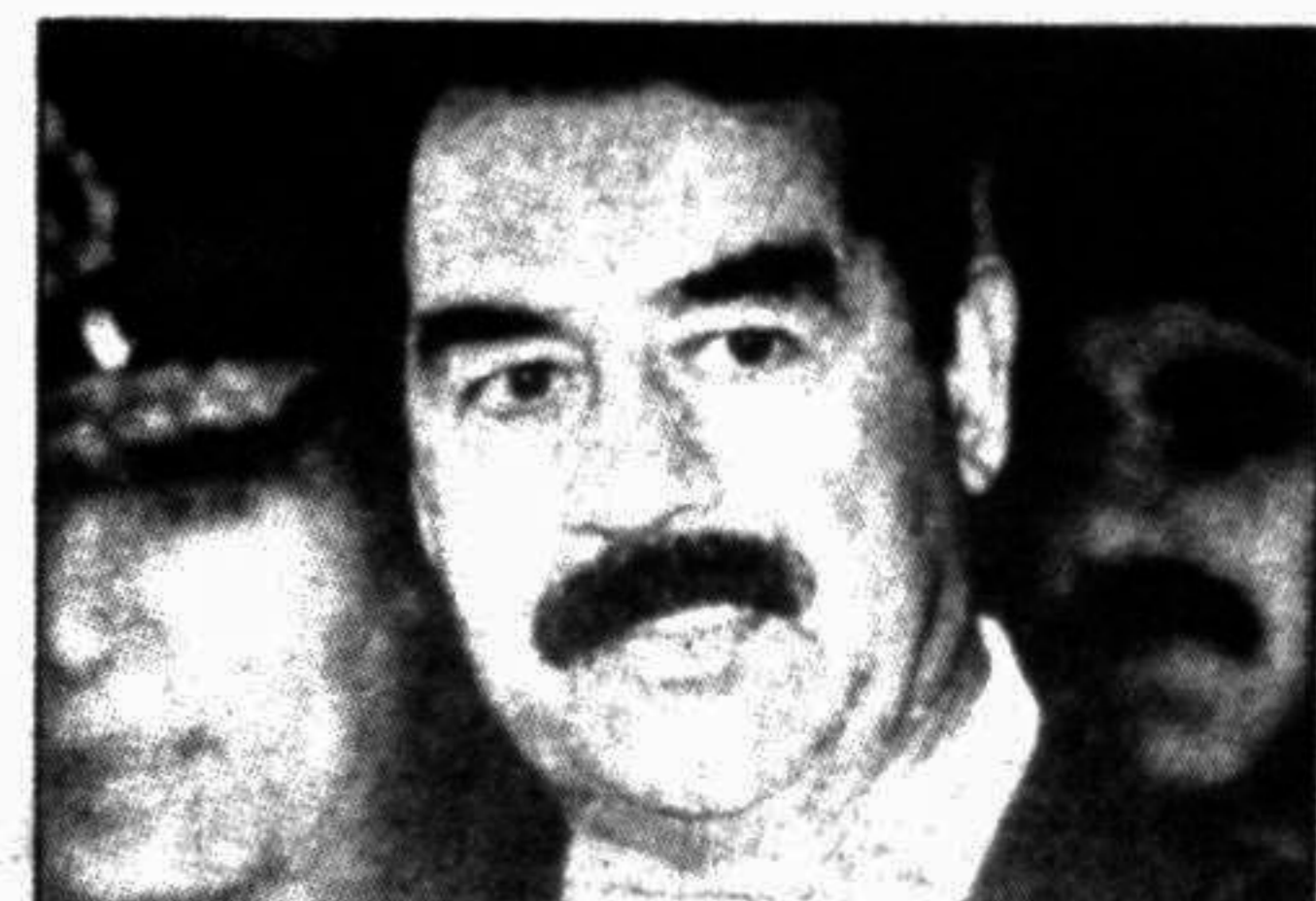
The Kuwait government-in-exile said 12 of its planes made an independent daylight attack on Iraqi targets.

US defence officials said the See Page 10 Col. 2



Things going well : Bush

WASHINGTON, Jan 17: Forces to drive Iraqi troops from Kuwait had prayed the loss of life would be held "at an absolute minimum", reports launched by U.S. and Allied See Page 10 Col. 5



Saddam vows victory

NICOSIA, Jan 17: the Army in Baghdad targeted air bases and densely populated regions, reports AFP. "The enemy planes only hit air attack which according to See Page 10 Col. 2

Tension, protests, panic-buying in city

A STAR Report
Tension and panic-buying of essentials gripped the city after war broke out in the Gulf region. Several demonstrations were held condemning attack on Baghdad. Hearing news bulletin the radio, anxious people started calling the newspaper offices for latest information in the Gulf. The newspapers, The Daily Star included, brought out telegrams in the morning with the last news about the war. Relatives of stranded Bangladeshis, estimated at 4.5 lakh in the Gulf, expressed concern over the armed conflict in the Gulf. In a press briefing at the Foreign Office, a official spokesman said the Bangladeshis living in the Gulf were safe so far. There was mad rush for fuel in city's filling stations. People was seen buying essential commodities in anticipation of steep rise in prices. See Page 10 Col. 6

One lakh Bangladeshis trapped in war zone

By Reazuddin Ahmed

About one lakh Bangladeshi nationals are trapped in the war zone of Baghdad, Kuwait and Dahrhan, Dammam and Al-Khobar of Saudi Eastern Province.

There are about 450,000 Bangladeshis working in different Middle Eastern countries including Saudi Arabia, occupied Kuwait and Baghdad, according to Foreign Ministry sources.

Over 3000 Bangladeshis are trapped in Kuwait and 500 in Baghdad. Over 70 thousand

people live in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia bordering Kuwait and Iraq.

Bangladesh Foreign Secretary told newsmen yesterday that our nationals are being taken to safer places inside Saudi Arabia. The Foreign Ministry has not received any news about casualty of Bangladeshis, he said.

According to a Foreign Office source, over two lakh people are working in the Saudi Eastern Province were moving to Jeddah, Makkah,

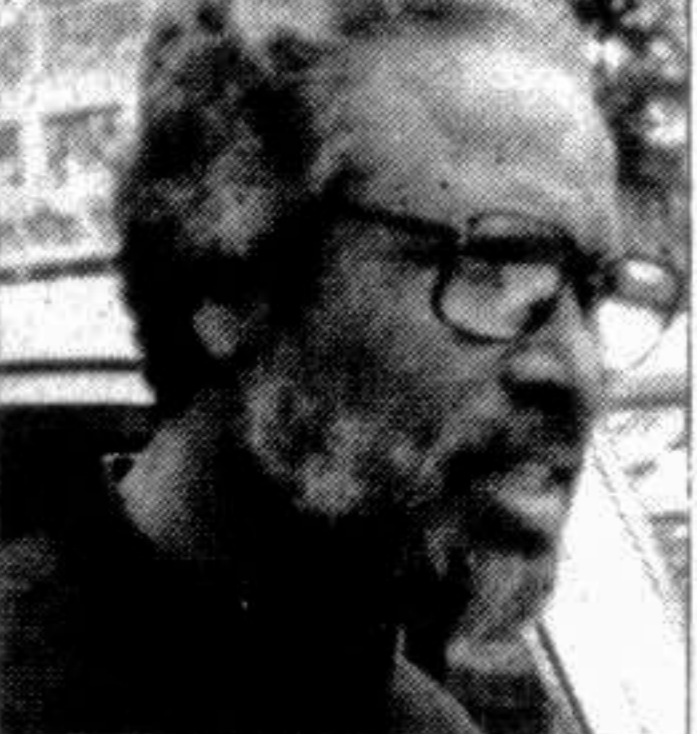
Madinah, Yanbu and also to Riyadh. Riyadh is however within the Iraqi missile range.

Bangladesh Embassy in Riyadh has opened a special cell to extend help to our nationals. Bangladeshis sources told The Daily Star that the Saudi government was helping Bangladeshis and our people were buying gas masks at concessional prices.

Dahrhan, Dammam and Al-Khobar are very vulnerable to Iraqi air and missile attack. See Page 10 Col. 5

Kader Siddiky arrested

By Staff Correspondent



Awami League leader Kader Siddiky was arrested yesterday morning from Jhenidah after expiry of the date of his one-month entry permit. Kader Siddiky, who went into self-exile in India returned to Bangladesh after 15 years on an Indian travel permit. An armed battalion, led by DIG K.I Chowdhury, from Dhaka, went to Jhenidah to See Page 10 Col. 7

All nominations of Ershad found valid

All the five nomination papers of ousted President Ershad, rejected earlier by the Returning Officer of Rangpur, were declared valid by the Election Commission yesterday. Jatiya Party sources said, reports UNB.

The former President, who remains interned under Special Powers Act, had filed nominations from five out of six constituencies in his home district to contest the February 27 parliamentary elections.

But all his nomination papers were cancelled by the See Page 10 Col. 1

Leaders call for peace thru' talks

By Staff Correspondent

Political parties expressed deep concern yesterday over the outbreak of war in the Gulf and appealed to all concerned for immediate stoppage of hostilities. In separate statements, leaders of the parties called for pull out of all foreign troops from Middle East and demanded withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. They urged world community to find a peaceful solution of the Gulf crisis through diplomatic process.

Awami League chief Sheikh See Page 10 Col. 2

Bangladeshis safe, says Foreign Office

By Staff Correspondent
Bangladesh nationals in the Gulf countries are safe. Steps have been taken to remove Bangladeshis from vulnerable points near Saudi-Iraq and Saudi-Kuwait borders to safe areas.

The Bangladesh contingent of 2300 troops and medical personnel is in a defensive position, about 25 kilometres inside Saudi territory, and is not engaged in the offensive against Iraq, Foreign Secretary Abdul Ahsan told newsmen yesterday. See Page 10 Col. 8

Moscow backs US attack on Iraq, Beijing calls for restraint

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 17: The Soviet Union early today backed the United States-led attack on Iraq but said the final objective should be to liberate Kuwait and not to destroy Iraq, reports Reuter.

The UN Secretary-General expressed sorrow at the outbreak of war. Iran said it was "sad" the Gulf crisis had resulted in a military conflict and Cuba said the Security Council had turned into a rubber stamp for US policy.

With sorrow and some reluctance, many nations backed the U.S.-led attack on Iraq as

a necessary evil. But angry anti-war protesters marched by torchlight in Germany and wept at a midday sit-in in Australia.

Perhaps the most favourable reaction to war's outbreak was on world financial markets, which surged on the apparent initial success of the overnight air strike against Iraq. Oil prices, which had been expected to rise, dropped instead.

Around the world, allies of the United States not participating in the attack -- including Japan and South Korea --

strongly supported the action. Longtime foes such as Cuba and North Korea denounced it.

Most Middle East governments reacted cautiously. In the Soviet Union, which approved the UN Security Council resolution allowing force against Iraq after January 15, armed forces were put on high alert along the nation's border with Iraq early Thursday.

President Mikhail S Gorbachev gave a national address to "express our deep sorrow that military confrontation could not be averted."

He reassured western allies that "the Soviet Union will go on cooperating with other countries and the United Nations." But he urged US President George Bush to make one last attempt to contact Saddam Hussein.

China, another UN Security Council member which abstained from the vote, urged restraint among the warring nations.

Among the strongest allies, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said he learned of the attack with "deep dismay."

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন
আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের সম্মানিত করদাতাগণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, ১৯৯০-৯১ইং আর্থিক বৎসরের ৩য় কিস্তির কর, রিভেটসহ পরিশোধের শেষ তারিখ আগামী ৩১/১/৯১ইং।

উক্ত তারিখের মধ্যে বকেয়াসহ চলতি আর্থিক বৎসরের ৪ (চার) কিস্তির কর একত্রে পরিশোধ করিয়া হাল সনের ২ (দুই) কিস্তি করের উপর শতকরা ৭.৫০ টাকা হারে রিভেট সুযোগ গ্রহণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হইল।

উল্লেখ্য যে, আগামী অর্থ বৎসর হইতে বকেয়া করের উপর শতকরা ১৫.০০ টাকা হারে সারচার্জ আদায় করা হইবে। সুতরাং সম্মানিত করদাতাগণকে রিভেট তারিখের মধ্যে কর পরিশোধ করিয়া সারচার্জ এড়ানোর জন্য পরামর্শ দেওয়া হইল।

মেয়র মহোদয়ের আদেশক্রমে
বাস/-
প্রধান নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তা
ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন

ডিসিসি/পিআরডি/২২৮/৯০-৯১
D-1