

NEWS/OBITUARIES

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Strife in Iraq is civil war

By CHARLES J. HANLEY
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq

Deep within the Pentagon, they're trying to piece together a picture of an Iraqi civil war. What would it look like? Donald Rumsfeld asks.

Here on the streets of Baghdad, it looks like hell.

Corpses, coldly executed, are turning up by the minibus-load. Mortar shells are casually lobbed into rival neighborhoods. Car bombs are killing people wholesale, while assassins hunt them down one by one.

Is it civil war? "In Iraq it is no longer a matter of definition — 'civil war' or 'war' or 'violence' or 'terrorism.' It is all of the above," said one familiar with all of the above. Beirut scholar-politician Farid Khazen, a witness to Lebanon's 1975-1990 civil war.

Phebe Marr, a historian of Iraq, hesitates to put a name to what's happening today, a chaotic mix of

ANALYSIS

anti-U.S. resistance, Sunni-Shiite communal bloodshed, Islamic-extremist terrorism.

"But it's civil strife," said the Washington-based Marr, "and it's getting extremely serious."

It's only a term from a dictionary, defined as a war between opposing groups of citizens of the same country.

But once media headlines begin referring to the "Iraq civil war," it will mark not only an escalation of vocabulary, but of international concern.

Some aren't ready for the label. "It's not a state of civil war yet, but we're on the verge of it," said Baghdad political writer Jabir al-Jabari. "Iraq is in the first steps toward civil war," agreed Bassem al-Sheik, editor-in-chief of Baghdad's al-Dustur newspaper.

Rumsfeld said in Washington on Tuesday he doesn't believe a

civil war has begun here, but that intelligence analysts are trying to look for a way to characterize what are the ingredients of a civil war, and how would you know if there was one, and what it would look like.

Specialists might tell them not to waste their time: Iraq was there long ago.

"By the standard that political scientists use, there's been a civil war going on in Iraq since sovereignty was handed over to the interim government in 2004," said Stanford University's James Fearon, who has done detailed studies of modern internal conflicts.

One threshold political scientists use is a casualty toll of 1,000 dead, "and this conflict is way over that," Fearon said.

Besides the more than 2,000 U.S. dead here, at least 33,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed since 2003, says the British anti-war group Iraq Body Count, whose count, drawn from media

reports, does not subdivide the deaths into categories.

American military analyst Stephen Biddle says U.S. policymakers make a mistake if they miss the nature of the conflict, which in Iraq is already a civil war between rival ethnic and sectarian groups.

Washington should work to broker peace by allocating power and resources, that is, oil revenues, along those same lines, said Biddle, of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Marr, author of the 1985 book "The Modern History of Iraq," takes a long view and sees revolution where others see civil war.

With the 2003 U.S. invasion, she said, "we have brought about two revolutions in Iraq."

One was a change of leadership, the toppling of President Saddam Hussein.

The second is a revolution in the nature of the Iraqi state: Will it survive, or break up into separate Shiite, Sunni and Kurdish entities?

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.

Frank David Friedersdorf Sr.

Frank David Friedersdorf Sr. was born Jan. 10, 1939, in Columbus. He passed away March 1, 2006. He was a resident of Colorado Springs, Colo., after growing up in Franklin.

Frank is survived by his wife Patricia; his children, Melanie (John) Humphrey, David Friedersdorf, Heidi (Cliff) Ferre, Gretchen (Aric) Berquist and Matt (Erica) Friedersdorf; and four precious grandchildren, Samuel and Elizabeth Ferre and Abigail and Andrew Berquist.

Frank also is survived by his mother, Lola Fox Friedersdorf; siblings, Max (Priscilla) Friedersdorf, John L. (Marge) Friedersdorf Jr., Barbara Hamilton and Betty (Fred) Winslow. He was preceded in death by his father, John L. Friedersdorf Sr.

Memorial services were conducted at Springs Harvest Fellowship in Colorado Springs, Colo., on March 6. Condolences can be sent to the family at www.legacy.com/gazette.

GREENWOOD
George Lane

George Lane, 79, died Tuesday, March 14, 2006, at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. He was a resident of Greenwood.

Survivors include his wife, Marciel (Huntsman) Lane of Greenwood; a daughter, Vicky Lane of Greenwood; an adopted daughter, Kay Buehrer of Greenwood; two sons, William G. (Rosann) Lane of Bloomington and Richard N. (Rosalie) Lane of Wilmington, Ohio; three brothers, Hoyt, Mark and Bob Lane, all of Shelbyville; two sisters, Vi Broughton and Judy Eads, both of Shelbyville; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Mary (Sinclair) Lane.

The Rev. Steve Parker and Doug Lane will conduct a service at 11 a.m. Friday at Evangelical Methodist Church, 268 E. Washington St. in Shelbyville. Friends may call from 2 to 8 p.m. today at Carmony-Ewing Funeral Home, 819 S. Harrison St. in Shelbyville.

Burial will be at New Boggstown Cemetery in Boggstown. Dere-miah-Frye Mortuary, Greene &

Greenwood
George Lane, 79
Whiteland
Dorothy Helen Trisler, 76
Elsewhere
Frank David
Friedersdorf Sr., 67

Harrell Chapel, in Bloomington is handling arrangements.

WHITELAND

Dorothy Helen Trisler

Dorothy Helen Trisler, 76, passed away Tuesday, March 14, 2006, at her residence in Whiteland. She was a longtime resident of Johnson County, living in Edinburgh for several years.



TRISLER

She was born April 3, 1929, in Columbia, Ky., to the late Clarence and Bertha (Lewis) McGaha. She married Raymond R. Trisler on Dec. 26, 1952. He survives.

Other survivors include five children, Angela (Kevin) Fry of Fort Wayne, Michele (Steve) Marcum of Dayton, Ohio, Rick (Sunny) Trisler of Whiteland, David (Donna) Trisler of Franklin and Julie Trisler of Whiteland; nine grandchildren, Shelia Gottschalk, Brian (Misty) Gottschalk, Paul Marcum, Olivia Marcum, Sierra Trisler, Sydney Trisler, Christopher Trisler, Samantha Trisler and Johnathan Trisler; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in passing by seven sisters, Oneida McGaha, Beatrice Yates, Callie Johnson, Mary Bryant, Juanita Buchanan, Lucille Johnson and Shirley Rodan; and an infant brother.

She attended school in Edinburgh. She was a homemaker.

Dorothy was a loving wife and a wonderful mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday at Flinn and Maguire Funeral Home, 2898 N. Morton St. in Franklin. Mark Myers will conduct a service at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Rest Haven Cemetery in Edinburgh.

Census

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

figures are calculated using administrative records and estimates for births, deaths and net migration.

Johnson County's population is estimated at 128,436, which is a 11.5 percent increase over the population measured by the 2000 Census, making it the 11th-most populous county in the state.

According to the estimates, Johnson County has been the fifth-fastest-growing county in the state since 2000. The county's population grew 2.2 percent between July 2004 and July 2005.

Counties that are growing more quickly include Hamilton

with nearly 32 percent growth, Hendricks with 22 percent, Hancock with 14 percent and Boone with 13 percent from the 2000 Census.

Hamilton County, with a population estimate of 240,685 is one of the 20 fastest-growing counties in the United States.

Flagler County, Fla., north of Daytona Beach, grew by 10.7 percent, making it the fastest-growing county in the country for the second straight year.

Others in the top five: Lyon County, Nev., outside Carson City and Reno; Kendall County, Ill., about 45 miles southwest of Chicago; Rockwall County, Texas, east of Dallas; and Washington County, Utah, which is closer to Las Vegas than to Salt Lake City.

That doesn't mean they are the most populous counties.

Many of the counties are still relatively small, with populations under 100,000. But they are growing at rates far exceeding the national growth rate of about 1 percent a year.

Thirteen of the 20 fastest growing counties are in the South, four are in the West and three are in the Midwest. The Northeast had only one county among the 100 fastest growing: Pike County in northeastern Pennsylvania, which ranked 72nd.

"We've been going west forever," Frey said of the country's migration patterns. "Movement to the South has tended to occur more after World War II."

Marc Perry, head of the Census Bureau's population distribution branch, said fast-growing counties need jobs within commuting distance.

"Most people who move are within the working ages," Perry said. "There has to be a job supporting that move."

Commuters are long for some, he said, but in many places, jobs are moving outward as well.

"People aren't necessarily commuting all the way into Manhattan," he said. "But now that New York has suburbanized most of northern New Jersey, people can commute part of the way in."

Rural America has been adding population for about 30 years, after losing residents for much of the first half of the 20th Century, according to a study released Wednesday by the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire.

Much of those gains have been on the "fringes of metropolitan areas," the study said.

Franklin

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

For instance, an alternative school should be a positive substitute as opposed to a place where students are sent to be punished, high school teacher Kristin Schuetz said.

The middle school program would likely be for seventh- and eighth-graders and have the goal of moving students back into a traditional school setting.

DERAILING DROPOUTS

Research indicates that students who don't graduate from high school are more likely to be unemployed, smoke cigarettes, drink alcohol and abuse drugs.

A committee of Franklin teachers, counselors and administrators found that high school dropouts are 72 percent more likely to be unemployed and earn 27 percent less money than those who graduate. The committee also found that 82 percent of adult prison inmates are high school dropouts.

High school students could choose either to stay in the school until they have enough

credits to graduate or to go back to the high school.

Both schools should have separate facilities and staffs and include components such as student contracts, service learning, mentoring and regular staff development.

Now the committee will visit other programs and decide on details such as cost, size, staffing and transportation, Schuetz said.

It would also like to add community members to the committee.

Finding a way to connect with students who need extra support is crucial in getting more students to graduate.

"We're losing a lot of good kids, and we want to save those kids," said committee member and girls basketball coach Walt Raines.

"We don't want them to fall through the cracks."

The school board has approved a list of goals that calls for opening an alternative high school by the fall of 2007 and an alternative middle school by the fall of 2008.

Clark-Pleasant was the first county school to open an alternative school with Clark-Pleasant Academy in August. Center Grove started a program for younger high school students in January.

Break

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

on most cruises but will need to drive to Florida or Texas to catch the boat, said Ian Santamaria, travel agent and owner of Greenwood Travel and Cruise.

Other families planned their break last year or have standing plans every year, such as Mallary Pittman's family.

They spend every break at their home in St. Petersburg, Fla., sunning on the beach and spending time with neighbors they've gotten to know during the years, the Greenwood Community High School sophomore said.

Florida and Mexico are popular spots, as usual, but most

EARLY BIRDS

Families start planning their vacation as early as the week after they return from break. Other people wait until August when their children return to school for the year. Don't wait until the last minute. Plan ahead to get the best vacation, flight and hotel possible, said Ian Santamaria, travel agent and owner of Greenwood Travel and Cruise.

people are seeking different parts of Mexico because of the hurricanes in Cancun last year, said Sandra Wicks, owner of Four Seasons Travel Agency in Whiteland.

Families who booked their vacation in advance were forced to seek out another part of the country, such as Puerto Vallarta, said Suzanne Decellis, vice president of travel services for AAA.

Spring break is one of the busiest traveling times of the year, she said.

Most people are just looking to reach warm weather, Decellis said. But for families on a budget, sunny weather will be hard to find, she said.

The closest drive is Myrtle Beach, S.C., but the weather there likely won't be warm enough to spend the week on the beach, she said.

Next is Florida, but families still need to drive south into the state to reach temperatures in the 80s, she said.

Other vacation destinations are only a few hours away, but don't plan on sunny, warm weather, she said.

Olivia Russell, a sophomore at Greenwood Community High School, knows she won't be sun-

ning on a beach for her break.

Her family is traveling to Spring Mill State Park in southern Indiana. They plan to stay in the lodge and spend a few days hiking and enjoying the outdoors.

After her short trip, she will use the rest of her break to sleep in and catch up with friends from Center Grove.

Other families, such as Beth Bendel's, use their break to take trips they wouldn't otherwise have the time for.

Bendel and her father plan to go to New Orleans with a group from Our Lady of the Greenwood Catholic Church.

The Greenwood Community High School sophomore won't get to spend every morning sleeping in, but she is excited to work with her father painting and repairing houses, she said.

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Mike Deppe

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As we continue to grow, my first priority is to make sure that Edward Jones always provides exceptional service to every investor in Franklin who chooses to do business with us. To that end, I'm pleased to announce that Mike Deppe has joined our team. He is anxious to continue the Edward Jones tradition of service and to put his knowledge and expertise, as well as the full resources of our firm to work for you.

I'm pleased to be working with Mike and feel sure you will be as impressed with his professionalism as I am. Should he contact you, I know you will extend the same warm welcome you have always given me. If we can be of service at anytime, please call or stop by the office.

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