

cc: S. tranern

BRADENTON, FLORIDA 34210

13th August 90

AUG 27 ANSD

Dear Brian:

Have/ taken the liberty of forwarding to you an article by Sandra Mackey in today's local paper, and the first two paragraphs of the most understandable, revealing of ALL read - seen - the past week! - C-SPAN - CNN - all-news all-stations!

Do have Miss Mackey on C-SPAN --- ?

My most deeply felt apologies - for my recent letter to you - somehow, "Yurken" - gets my norm of low-key, euphoric nature at the boiling point. Too smart-mouth, too many years as a guest of C-SPAN.

C-SPAN - is - as all callers confirm - the best of all cable TV.

Cordially

Sorry! - about the last of the 'electrics' -- types as it will!

27 00-90

AUG 20 REC'D

U. S. Alters the Mideast Equation

The injection of U.S. troops into Saudi Arabia serves the dual purpose of stopping any move Iraq might make into the kingdom and any move the House of Saud might make to negotiate with Saddam Hussein.

Hanging over Washington's strategic planning of the last week is the reality that Saddam Hussein does not have to invade Saudi Arabia to get what he wants out of the Saudis. Underlying every briefing was the knowledge that as long as Hussein left the monarchy in place, the House of Saud would seek accommodation rather than confrontation. The reason goes beyond the obvious imbalance of military forces into the history and psyche of the Saud family.

The legendary Abdul Aziz, the first in the current Saud line, was known as the "Bedouin king." Coming out of the central Arabian peninsula, his roots and experiences lay in Bedouin culture and tradition. Between 1901 and 1924, he pursued a kingdom, ranging across deserts and mountains leading an army drawn from the largely Bedouin population of the central Arabian peninsula. In the end, he succeeded in molding a host of disparate tribes into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia using the tactics and philosophy of the Bedouin.

Despite the popular conception of fierce desert warfare, the Bedouin through the generations raided their enemies rather than engage them on the field of battle. In these attacks, the aggressors pressed their raid only as long as they met little or no opposition. The moment the invaders sensed staunch resistance, they withdrew to fight another day.

In Bedouin wars, peace was won through negotiation, not conquest. The conquering hero held no place in the value system of Bedouin culture. Rather, it was the man who brought the warring parties into his tent to hammer out a compromise acceptable to all parties who emerged as the powerful leader.

In this tradition, Abdul Aziz defeated his rivals but then drew them into his new kingdom through a series of concessions or outright gifts. For Abdul Aziz, the enemy outside posed a greater threat than the enemy inside.

Since Abdul Aziz's death in 1953, the House of Saud has run its foreign policy on the principles of its founder. The only change came after the oil embargo of 1973 delivered into the hands of Abdul Aziz's descendants enormous amounts of money to buy off Saudi Arabia's enemies. Acutely aware that the kingdom's small forces ruled out military confrontation with a foe, the House of Saud has "paid and prayed."

Hence, they have channeled money into almost every Arab country at odds with Saudi interests and every political movement that might threaten the kingdom's fragile existence. During the Iraq-Iran war, the House of Saud paid what amounted to protection money to Saddam, thereby contributing significantly to the strength of the Iraqi army that now threatens them.

But there is another side of Saudi Arabia's pay-as-you-go diplomacy.

The House of Saud and the Saudi people desperately crave stability in the Middle East. Stability protects their oil income but, even more, regional stability extends to the Saudis a grace undemanding of their energies. The Saudis want nothing more than to be left alone.

Consequently, the House of Saud has followed a remarkably consistent foreign policy. Since 1973, Saudi money, influence and mediating efforts have concentrated on maintaining stability. Especially under King Fahd, Saudi Arabia has time after time brought quarreling factions within the Arab world "into the tent" seeking to forge a consensus acceptable to all parties.

Sandra Mackey

in Bedouin power balance

The United States has been a major beneficiary of Saudi diplomacy. By keeping the radicals at bay, the House of Saud has both mitigated the extremist anti-Western forces among the Arabs and kept oil prices and production at levels at which the West could live.

That was before Saddam came out of the Iraq-Iran war as the greatest Arab military power in modern times. Thus, by simply keeping his army sitting on the border of Kuwait, Saddam threatened to win dominance over the Saudis. Unless Saddam was prepared to topple the monarchy, the House of Saud was likely to do everything possible to get Saddam "into the tent" to strike a bargain.

The consensus that would emerge would have its immediate and long-term results. In the short term, the world might breathe a sigh of relief as it became clear that Saddam intended to stay on the Kuwait side of the line drawn by the United States.

But over the long term and in subtle ways, the Saudis would have let Saddam have his way within the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and the Saudis, as the champions of Middle East stability, would have stood aside as Saddam pursued his own vision of the Arab world.

The movement of U.S. troops into Saudi Arabia has altered the scenario. Washington, by standing between the Saudis and the army of Saddam, also stands between the Saudis and capitulation to Iraq.

For the House of Saud, the question remains what price it may ultimately pay for abandoning the way of the Bedouin.

COX NEWS SERVICE

Mackey, author of *The Saudis: Inside the Desert Kingdom*, specializes in Middle East issues. She wrote this essay for *The Atlanta Constitution*.

Forecast



TWO-DAY

Partly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of rain.

High in the low to mid-90s. Tonight: Partly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of rain. Low in the low 70s. Tuesday: Partly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of rain. High in the low to mid-90s.



EXTENDED

Partly cloudy and hot Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with a chance

of afternoon and evening thunderstorms each day. Highs will be in the low to mid-90s. Lows will be in the mid-70s.

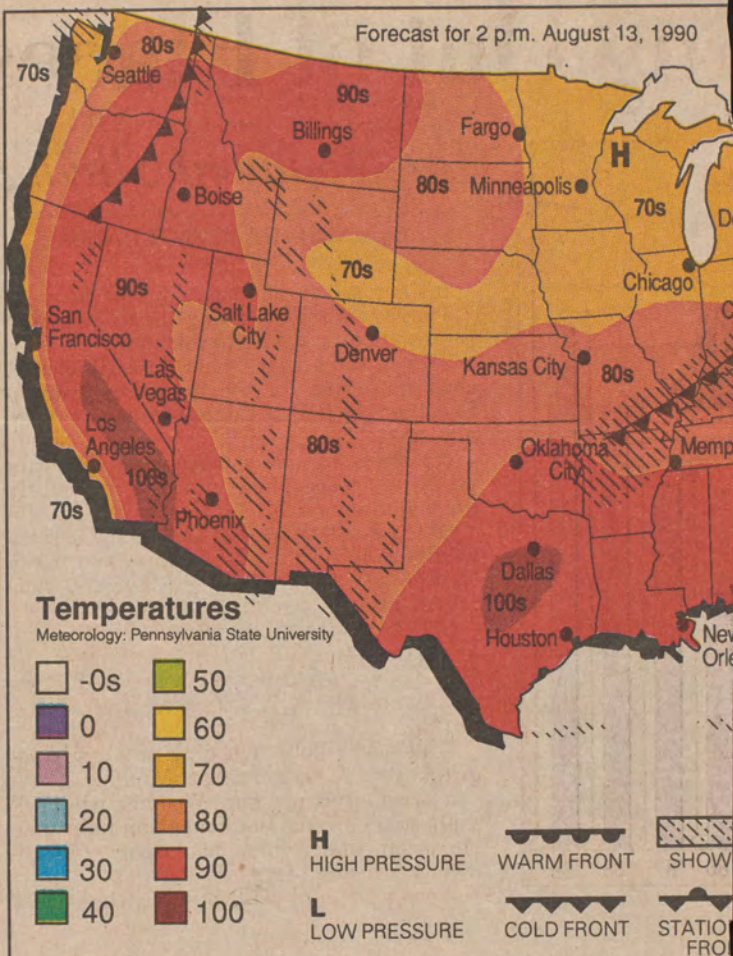
AROUND THE U.S.

Thunderstorms will erupt over Arizona, New Mexico and Southern California as the remnants of Hurricane Diana drift west. Lightning will exacerbate the danger of fires in the West. Thunderstorms will extend from the Southwest to the central Mississippi Valley. A few storms could reach New England. In Nome, Ala., today is likely to be the 25th consecutive day with readings of 60 degrees or more, breaking the town's all-time record.

Boating

The National Outlook

Forecast for 2 p.m. August 13, 1990



Area Tides

SARASOTA BAY TIDES
ALL TIMES ARE DAYLIGHT SAVING
MEASUREMENTS ARE FROM MEAN LOWER LOW WATER

HIGH		LOW		HIGH		LOW		HIGH	
5:09a	2.6	1:57p	0.4						
6:01a	2.6	3:42p	0.3						
7:15a	2.7	5:12p	0.1						
8:40a	2.7	6:19p	0.0						
10:01a	2.7	7:12p	0.0						
11:10a	2.8	7:55p	0.0						
2:19a	1.6	6:05a	1.5	12:05p	2.8	8:27p	0.2		
2:20a	1.6	7:05a	1.3	12:58p	2.7	8:55p	0.3		
2:25a	1.7	7:53a	1.1	1:40p	2.6	9:17p	0.6		
2:33a	1.8	8:40a	0.9	2:26p	2.4	9:35p	0.8		
2:45a	2.0	9:26a	0.7	3:10p	2.2	9:53p	1.0		

Difference in Tide Times at Nearby Points

Highs 29 minutes earlier; lows 1 hour 26 minutes earlier
 Highs 26 minutes earlier; lows 58 minutes earlier
 Highs 22 minutes earlier; lows 27 minutes earlier
 Highs 24 minutes earlier; lows 40 minutes earlier
 Highs 41 minutes later; lows 18 minutes later
 Highs 3 hours, 16 minutes later; lows 2 hours, 54 minutes later
 Highs 27 minutes earlier; lows 1 hour, 5 minutes earlier
 Highs 2 hours, 44 minutes later; lows 2 hours, 25 minutes later

RAIN TABLE

Month	1990
January	.16
February	4.33
March	1.66
April	1.00
May	1.95
June	5.07
July	8.02
August	.44
September	
October	
November	
December	
Totals	22.62

SOLUNAR TABLE

A.M.		
MINOR	MAJOR	MINOR
	Monday Aug.	
11:55	5:45	
	Tuesday Aug.	
12:25	6:40	12:25