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TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2005

M1 M2 M3 M4 M5 V1 V2 V3 V4

Weather

Today: Partly sunny, hazy.
High 88. Low 72.
Wednesday: Thunderstorm,
humid. High 88. Low 72.

Details, B8

128TH YEAR No. 205 5 DC

From Memos, Insights Into Ally's Doubts On Iraq War

British Advisers Foresaw Variety of Risks, Problems

By GLENN FRANKEL
Washington Post Foreign Service

LONDON — In the spring of 2002, two weeks before British Prime Minister Tony Blair journeyed to Crawford, Tex., to meet with President Bush at his ranch about the escalating confrontation with Iraq, Foreign Secretary Jack Straw sounded a prescient warning.

"The rewards from your visit to Crawford will be few," Straw wrote in a March 25 memo to Blair stamped "Secret and Personal." "The risks are high, both for you and for the Government."

In public, British officials were declaring their solidarity with the Bush administration's calls for elimination of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. But Straw's memo and seven other secret documents disclosed in recent months by British journalist Michael Smith together reveal a much different picture. Behind the scenes, British officials believed the U.S. administration was already committed to a war that they feared was ill-conceived and illegal and could lead to disaster.

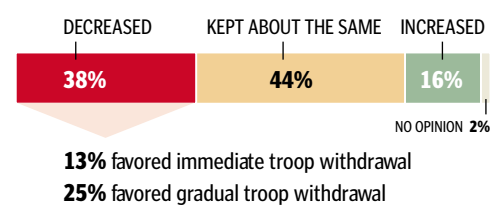
The documents indicate that the officials foresaw a host of problems that later would haunt both governments — including thin intelligence about the nature of the Iraqi threat, weak public support for war and a lack of planning for the aftermath of military action. British cabinet ministers, Foreign Office diplomats, senior generals and intelligence service officials all weighed in with concerns and reservations. Yet they could not dissuade their counterparts in the Bush administration — nor, indeed, their own leader — from going forward.

"I think there is a real risk that the administration underestimates the difficulties," David Manning, Blair's chief foreign policy adviser at the time, wrote to the prime minister on March 14, 2002, after he returned from meetings with Condoleezza Rice, then Bush's na-

See BRITAIN, A10, Col. 3

Two Americans die in helicopter crash north of Baghdad. | A12

Q: Do you think the number of U.S. military forces in Iraq should be increased, decreased or kept about the same?



Survey Finds Most Support Staying in Iraq

Public Skeptical About Gains Against Insurgents

By RICHARD MORIN and DAN BALZ
Washington Post Staff Writers

As President Bush prepares to address the nation about Iraq tonight, a new Washington Post-ABC News poll finds that most Americans do not believe the administration's claims that impressive gains are being made against the insurgency, but a clear majority is willing to keep U.S. forces there for an extended time to stabilize the country.

The survey found that only one in eight Americans currently favors an immediate pull-out of U.S. forces, while a solid majority continues to agree with Bush that the United States must remain in Iraq until civil order is restored — a goal that most of those surveyed acknowledge is, at best, several years away.

Amid broad skepticism about Bush's credibility and whether the war was worth the cost, there were some encouraging signs for the president. A narrow majority — 52 percent — believes that the war has contributed to the long-term security of the United States, a five-point increase from earlier this month.

The findings crystallize the challenges facing Bush this evening in his nationally televised address from Fort Bragg, N.C., an event the administration sees as a critical opportunity for the president to restate the case for his Iraq policies. The goal is to reinvigorate public support for a war that has grown unpopular over time

See POLL, A10, Col. 1



Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist leaves his home in Arlington yesterday for the Supreme Court. Rehnquist, 80, who has thyroid cancer, did not announce his retirement, as many had expected.

Court Declines Reporters' Appeal

Two reporters who refused to tell a grand jury about their sources may go to jail.

NATION, A7

Town Wins Domestic Violence Case

Supreme Court finds no guarantee of specific police action after a complaint.

NATION, A4

MIND AND CULTURE | Psychiatry's Missing Diagnosis

Racial Disparities Found in Pinpointing Mental Illness

Last of three articles

By SHANKAR VEDANTAM
Washington Post Staff Writer

John Zeber recently examined one of the nation's largest databases of psychiatric cases to evaluate how doctors diagnose schizophrenia, a disorder that often portends years of powerful brain-altering drugs, social

ostracism and forced hospitalizations.

Although schizophrenia has been shown to affect all ethnic groups at the same rate, the scientist found that blacks in the United States were more than four times as likely to be diagnosed with the disorder as whites. Hispanics were more than three times as likely to be diagnosed as whites.

Zeber, who studies quality, cost and access issues for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, found that differences in wealth, drug addiction and other variables could not explain the disparity in diagnoses: "The only factor that was truly important was race."

The analysis of 134,523 mentally ill patients in a VA registry is by far the largest national sample to show

broad ethnic disparities in the diagnosis of serious mental disorders in the United States.

The data confirm the fears of experts who have warned for years that minorities are more likely to be misdiagnosed as having serious psychiatric problems. "Bias is a very real issue," said Francis Lu, a psychiatrist

See PSYCHIATRY, A16, Col. 1

INSIDE

Pentagon Limits Contractor's Work

D.C. firm will get no further awards under 2002 deal. CEO steps aside as links to lawmaker are probed.

BUSINESS, D1

Pesticide Testing

EPA draft rule would permit agency to consider human tests of pesticides, without some safeguards earlier recommended by National Academy of Sciences.

FEDERAL PAGE, A13

Sunscreen Flaws

Most sunscreens block just the sun's rays that cause sunburn, not the potentially long-term skin-damaging UVA rays.

Miss America moves to cable. | Style, C1



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ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rader Pleads Guilty To 10 BTK Murders

In chilling detail, Dennis L. Rader describes committing murders that terrorized Wichita for decades.

NATION, A3

Bobb Defends Contracts

D.C. City Administrator Robert C. Bobb says he never ordered anyone to give his former associates contracts.

METRO, B1

Nats Caught in a TV Rundown

Rights to Air Games At Center of Dispute

By TIMOTHY DWYER
Washington Post Staff Writer

There have been times in this inaugural season of the Washington Nationals when Mel Proctor and Ron Darling, the TV voices of the team, have sat in the booth talking into their microphones and thinking this crazy thought: No one out there was watching.

"Well, it was so strange early in the year when we were doing games that nobody was seeing," Proctor said. "That was one of the weirdest things I've ever done. Like this one night I gave out my cell phone number on the air and I said, 'If anybody's watching anywhere, call this number.' And the only one who called was the tape operator from the truck."

By now, they're used to the complaints. "We always ride the Metro back when we're at home," Darling said, "so invariably the question we get all the time is, 'Where are you guys on TV? What channel are you on? Where are you going to be tomorrow?' And literally, we don't have many answers."

A team enjoying surprising success in a city eager to embrace baseball for the first time in 34 years, the Nationals on many nights can be watched on TV only by the 185,000 subscribers to RCN, a small ca-



BY RICKY CARROTT — THE WASHINGTON POST

Because of a legal battle between Orioles owner Peter Angelos and Comcast, many fans are unable to tune in to Nats games.

ble provider, and the 1.3 million customers of DirecTV, a satellite subscription service. Millions of other potential viewers are unable to watch the new team because of a dispute between two formidable and now estranged business partners — Baltimore Orioles owner Peter Angelos and Comcast Corp., the giant communications company that provides cable service to two-thirds of the households in the Washington-Baltimore region.

See NATIONALS, A3, Col. 1