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*MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2003

CAPTURED!

SADDAM HUSSEIN 'CAUGHT LIKE A RAT' BY THE U.S.

How they caught him

Six hundred American troops moved into position on Saturday targeting two houses in Adwar, Iraq, and ... someone big. The man they found hiding was Saddam Hussein.



AP The U.S. Army released this picture of the hole where Saddam Hussein was found Saturday.

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Locals comforted by news

From Barksdale Air Force Base to area churches, local residents responded with emotion Sunday to the news of Saddam Hussein's capture. "The world is a better place," said Rochelle Massad, a member of St. Mark's Cathedral.



Jessica Leigh/The Times Shreveporter Pat Dyas said she is thrilled with the capture. She has a son who is currently deployed in the war.

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Many Iraqis express relief

A balmy day in December became a moment in history in Iraq as residents from the ethnically mixed Mosul to the capital, Baghdad, and cities around the south heard the news — and then saw it — that the former dictator had been captured.



AP Members of the Iraqi Communist Party celebrate the capture of Saddam Hussein.

Arrest won't stop insurgents

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A closer look at a dictator

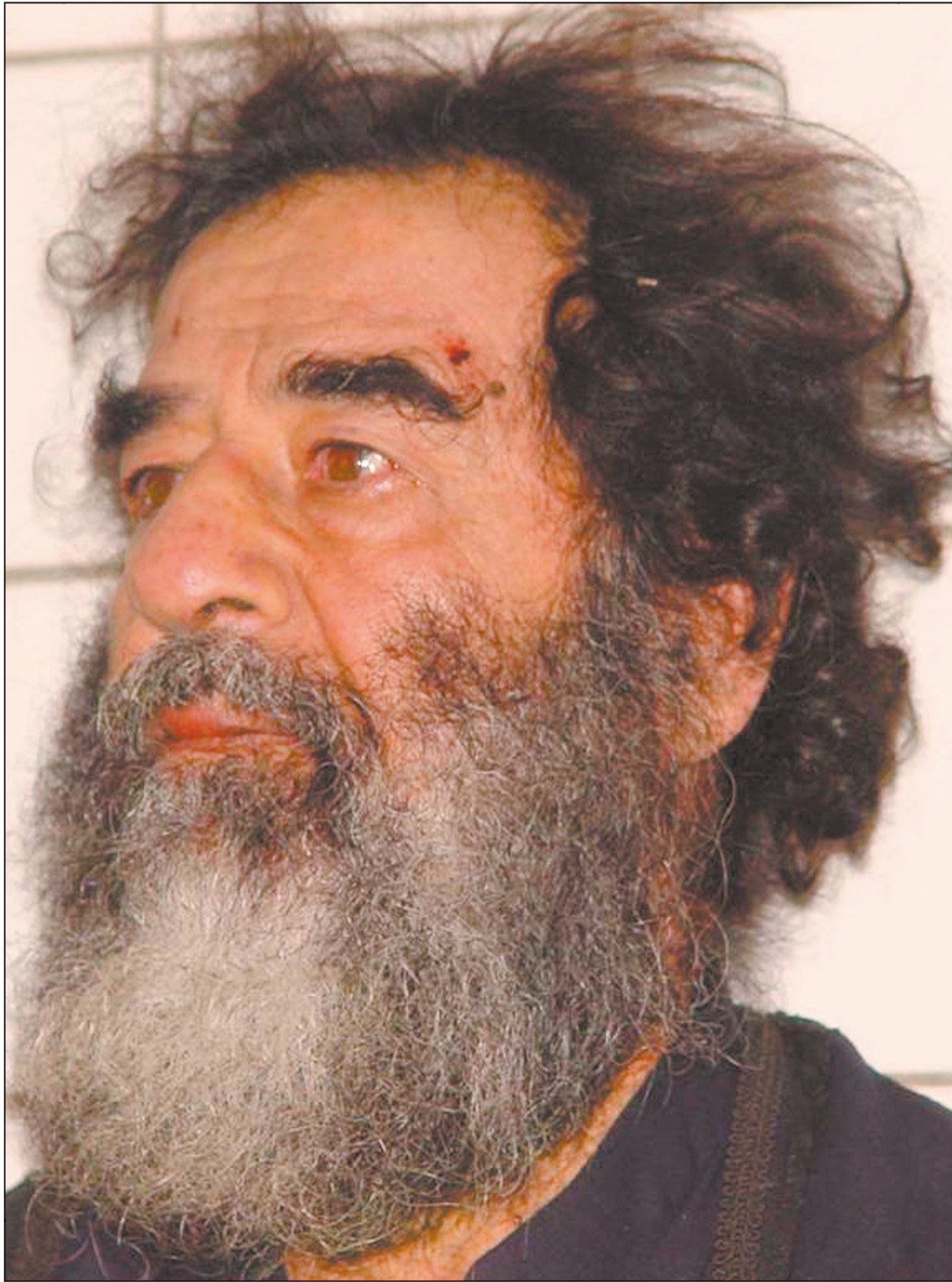
The image that emerged Sunday of Saddam Hussein contrasted to the life of one of the world's most despised dictators.



AP Saddam waves to supporters in this 1995 photo.

Iraqis want trial in Baghdad

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The U.S. Army released this image of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Sunday after he was taken into custody. U.S. soldiers discovered him hiding underground near Tikrit.

By Christopher Torchia
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Cornered alone in a cramped hole near one of his sumptuous palaces, a weary, disheveled Saddam Hussein was seized by U.S. troops and displayed on television screens worldwide Sunday, a humiliating fate for one of history's most brutal dictators.

The man who waged and lost two wars against the United States and its allies was armed with a pistol when captured in a Styrofoam-covered underground hide-out, but did not resist, the U.S. military said. In the broadcast images, he resembled a desperate fugitive, not an all-powerful president who had ordered his army to fight to the death.

"Ladies and gentlemen, we got him," U.S. administrator L. Paul Bremer told a news conference. "The tyrant is a prisoner."

"He was just caught like a rat," said Maj. Gen. Raymond Odierno, whose 4th Infantry Division troops staged the raid. "When you're in the bottom of a hole you can't fight back."

Whether Saddam's capture would curtail Iraq's insurgency, however, was unclear. President George W. Bush cautioned that more anti-coalition attacks were expected, and Odierno said the lack of communications equipment in the hide-out indicated

■ See CAPTURED 2A



AP Saddam Hussein is shown after his beard was shaved Sunday.

Saddam's fall

MARCH 20: U.S. forces invade Iraq.

JULY 22: Sons Odai and Qusai killed by U.S. forces.

SATURDAY: 4th Infantry soldiers capture Saddam, who was hiding in a hole.

New foreign, domestic chapters ready to open

Presidential candidates temporarily mute criticism

By Chuck Raasch
Gannett News Service

NEWS ANALYSIS

What's next for Bush, Iraq

"You will not have to fear the rule of Saddam Hussein ever again."

George W. Bush, U.S. president

WASHINGTON — The pictures of a dirty, dazed and disheveled Saddam Hussein, pulled literally from a hole in the ground, could not have been starker or more powerful images for the Bush administration, for doubters among the Iraqi people and for reluctant bystanders in the international community.

But the picture gets a bit fuzzier as George W. Bush's foreign policy and presidential politics are recalibrated in a newly affirmed post-Saddam era.

Saddam's capture could open a new moment of international cooperation on Iraq's reconstruction, especially on issues like debt relief or aid. Or it could cause further hunkering down between the United States and its allies against those who were unwilling to support the war last spring. Most notably in the latter camp are France, Germany and Russia, whose leaders praised Saddam's capture by U.S. forces near Tikrit. But all three countries might be shut out of the business

people and the American people."

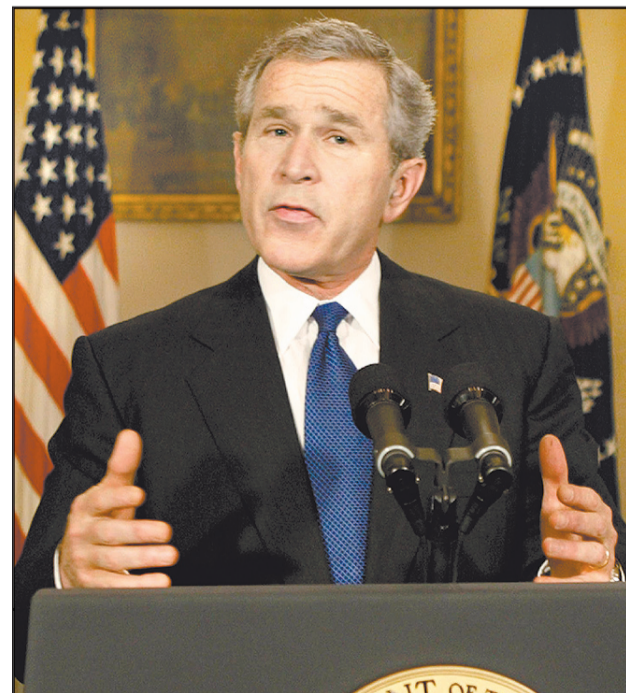
The toughest Democratic Iraq rhetoric on Sunday was not leveled against Bush, but by one Democrat against another.

The most hawkish Democrat presidential candidate, Sen. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut, used Saddam's capture to attack front-runner Howard Dean, who has emerged as a contender in large part from his opposition to the war.

"If Howard Dean had his way," Lieberman said, "Saddam Hussein would still be in power today, not in prison, and the world would be a more dangerous place."

Dean, the former governor of Vermont, was more muted, arguing that the capture was a "great day" for the Iraqi people and a new opportunity to "bring the (United Nations), NATO and other members of the international community back into this effort."

Perhaps the toughest critic of Bush was Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., who said the capture could



AP After announcing to the nation the capture of deposed Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, President George W. Bush continues his address in the Cabinet Room of the White House. He said Saddam's capture marks the end of a "dark and painful era" in Iraq, but cautioned that it does not mean the end of violence in the war-torn nation.

■ See CHAPTER 5A

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