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Antiway Protests Fail to Sway Bush on Plans for Iraq

President Bush dismissed antiwar protests today as a factor in his plans for confronting Iraq and pressed ahead with a strategy to persuade reluctant allies that United Nations weapons inspections would not secure the disarmament of Saddam Hussein.

In his first public comments about the antiwar demonstrations by millions of people over the weekend in the United States and abroad, Mr. Bush said his overriding goal was to protect the American people and that leadership sometimes involved bucking public opinion.

"Size of protest — it's like deciding, well, I'm going to decide policy based upon a focus group," Mr. Bush said in response to a reporter's question at the White House. "The role of a leader is to decide policy based upon the security, in this case, the security of the people."

Administration officials said the United States planned to submit a proposed new resolution on Mr. Hussein's failure to

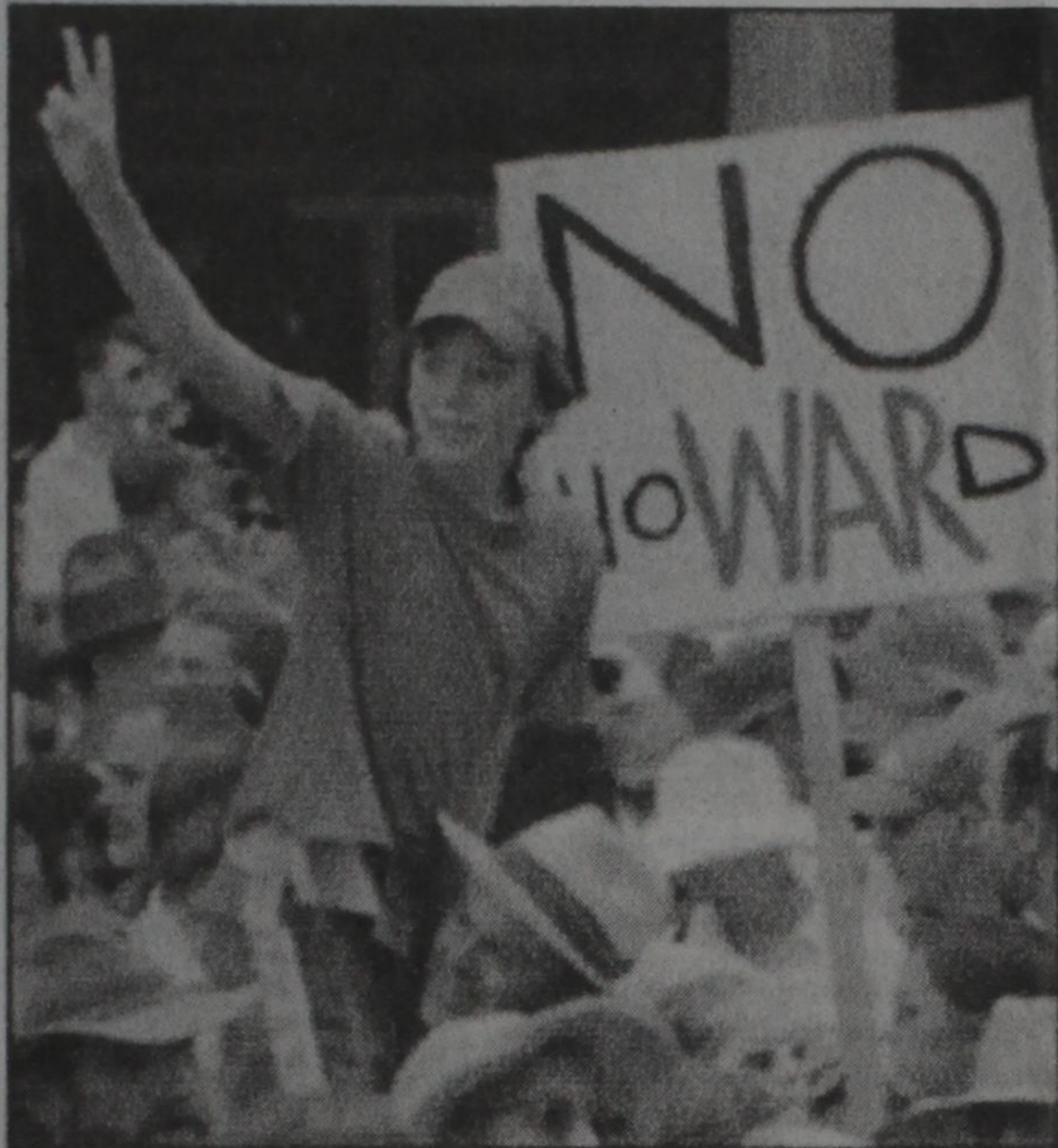
disarm to the United Nations Security Council, probably at the end of this week or early next week after the conclusion of a United Nations debate about Iraq that began today.

A statement from the European Union on Monday that explicitly if reluctantly supported the use of force against Iraq as a last resort raised British and American hopes that the Security Council could ultimately be won over. Officials said the European acceptance of the principle that force might be necessary, in combination with possible critical statements about Iraq's cooperation over the next several weeks by Hans Blix, one of the chief United Nations weapons inspectors, could ultimately provide the basis for backing of force by Security Council members, including France.

The new resolution is expected to be a short, straightforward assertion that Iraq has defied calls by the United Nations to give up its weapons of mass destruction and now faces the "serious consequences" threatened in the previous resolution, officials said.

Both Jacques Chirac, the French president, and Gerhard Schröder, the German chancellor, have this week criticized the idea of a second resolution. France has made it clear that it will oppose the measure.

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Comentarios

By Bidal Aguero

Change in Lubbock has never come very easy. This week as Lubbock LULAC celebrates a week of activism Change was brought to mind as Jaime Garcia reflected on the many battles that LULAC encountered during its long history since its inception in Lubbock in the late 1950s. He recounted on when the late Dr. Armando Duran, Jorge Moreno and others fought for the "Little School of 400" which later developed into Headstart and fought for Hispanic teachers to be hired by the LISD. We were reminded of how it took 10 years to bring desegregation and single member districts to Lubbock. Certainly LULAC was at the forefront of both these issues. Garcia personally reflected on how Chicanos were shunned from participation in fraternities and organizations at Tech and the struggles a handful of Hispanics has to overcome in order to survive the unfamiliar world of post-secondary education.

It is somewhat ironic that as we remember these times we can now boast that one of our own is now a regent at Texas Tech. As David Lopez is welcome to the upcoming LULAC "Bring out Your Best" awards banquet, LULAC and others who have gone through those tough changes should realize that the struggles are not over. Ahead of us and at the forefront of issues that will be encountered by Hispanics and all disenfranchised people in education are threatening fights including raising tuition costs, school vouchers and affirmative action. These issues, all of which are brought to use under the guise of budget cuts will undoubtedly be the issues that LULAC and other civil rights organization will tackle in the future in order to overcome the obstacles to be put in front of our young people as they strive to progress in education.

We congratulate LULAC as it celebrates this week and joint with all the City of Lubbock as we give thanks for their accomplishments throughout the years that have positively contributed to the progress of Hispanics in West Texas. Write Bidal at eleditor@llano.net

Aznar busca el apoyo de Fox para un ataque estadounidense en Iraq

CIUDAD DE MEXICO -- México recibirá el jueves al presidente del gobierno español, José María Aznar, en una visita interpretada como una gestión por sumar apoyo para un ataque estadounidense a Iraq, mientras el propio Washington presiona para obtener el favor de su vecino.

Tanto México como España son miembros no permanentes del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas, de 15 miembros, y Estados Unidos necesita votos para atacar a Iraq, al que acusa de fabricar armas de exterminio y de ocultárselas a la ONU.

México ha insistido a lo largo de las últimas semanas que su posición es muy clara: apoyar el desarme de Iraq, a través de medio pacíficos y bajo la guía del Consejo de Seguridad.



Aznar

España, por su parte, ha sido uno de los países europeos que ha apoyado la política de línea dura del presidente estadounidense, George W. Bush, contra Iraq, lo que le ha valido críticas dentro y fuera de su territorio.

"Esperamos muestras de solidaridad en nuestros esfuerzos por desarmar a Iraq", dijo el embajador estadounidense en este país, Tony Garza, en declaraciones a la prensa mexicana.

"Vamos a respetar la posición de cualquier país, pero lo que más queremos es que el apoyo sea de México, que entienda nuestra posición", agregó.

El presidente mexicano, Vicente Fox, se mantenía firme en su posición de evitar una guerra pese a que su país es altamente dependiente de Estados Unidos, destino del 90 por ciento de las exportaciones mexicanas.

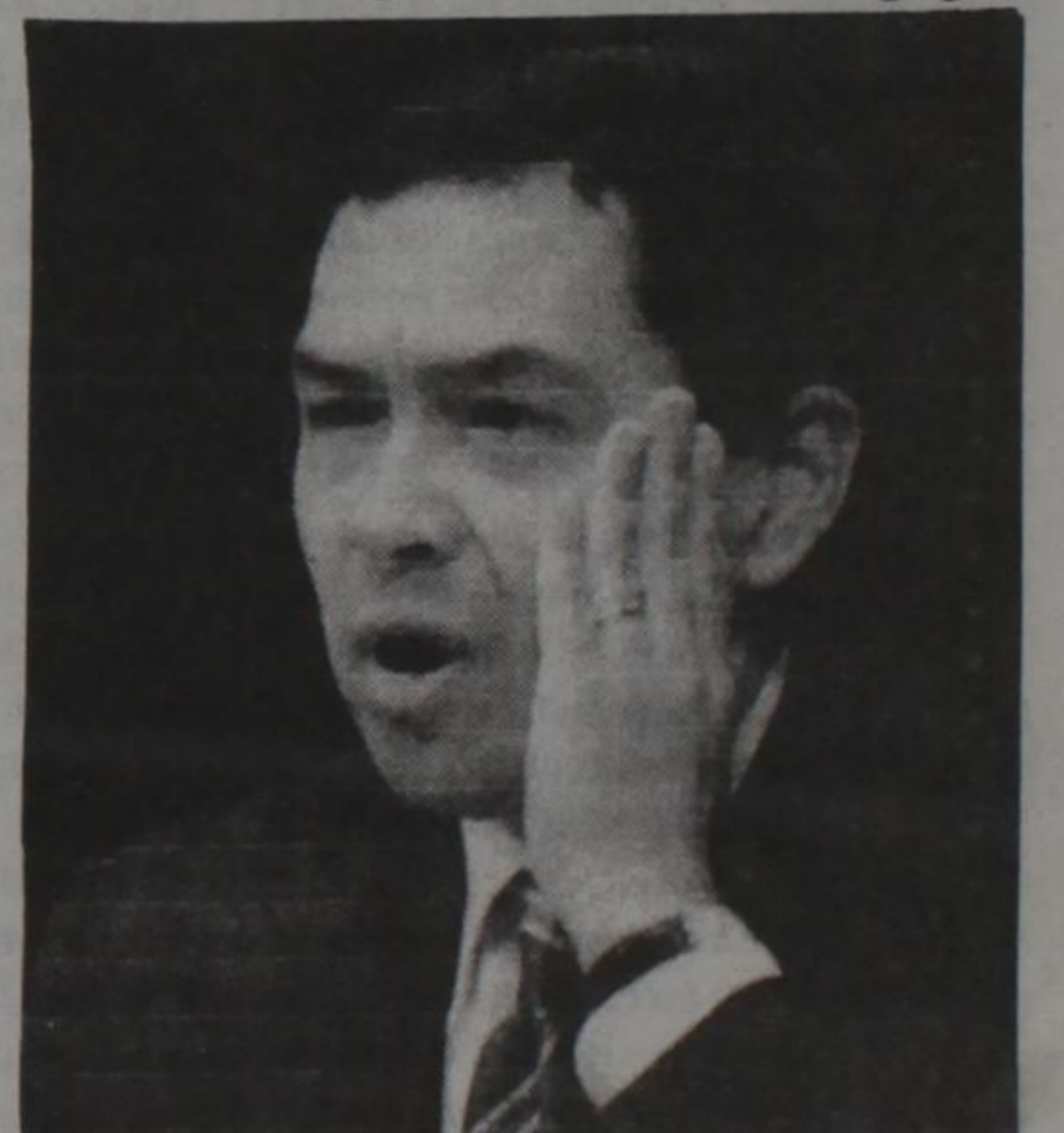
Pero el mandatario también dijo que Aznar, cuya visita se extenderá hasta el viernes, vendrá "más a escuchar y ver alternativas que a tratar de vender su posición".

"Estamos en contacto directo con todos los actores involucrados en la búsqueda de la paz y del desarme", aseguró Fox el miércoles en un acto oficial.

Al término de su visita a México, Aznar volará a Estados Unidos para reunirse con el presidente Bush en su rancho de Texas.

NCLR makes plea for civility in debate over Estrada nomination

The National Council of La Raza is troubled by the increasingly strident tone of the debate over Miguel Estrada's nomination to the U.S. Court of Appeals. While NCLR remains neutral on the nomination itself, we urge those who are engag-



ing in name-calling and accusatory language to instead focus on the substantive issues and merits of this nomination. In particular, since the Latino community is clearly divided on the Estrada nomination, we find the accusation that one side or another is "anti-Latino" to be particularly divisive and inappropriate.

It bears repeating that poll after poll has shown that Latinos are united on a broad agenda that includes a decent education for its children; access to health care; respect and decent wages for hard work; commitment to the civil rights of immigrants, Latinos, and all Americans; and increased diversity within government through the appointment of a greater number of Latinos to decision-making and policy-making positions. At the end of the day, it is the Latino community itself that will determine the measure of any policy-maker's commitment — based on actions and results — to its well-being.

Remains of Women Found in Mexican Desert

The remains of three women were found in the desert outside of Ciudad Juarez, the latest victims of a string of killings in the rough Mexican border town, a special prosecutor said Tuesday.

The bodies were discovered Monday in a region where other victims have been located in the past, said Angela Talavera, a special prosecutor appointed to investigate the killings.

Esther Chavez, a rights activist who has closely followed the decade-long series of killings, said there were indications the bodies belonged to women aged between 16 and 18 who were reported missing between September and early February.

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