

August 17, 2002, [The New York Times](#)

**ON IRAQ, BUSH'S FORCES ARE SPLIT**, by Anthony D'Amato

To the Editor:

Re "Warning Shots on Iraq" (editorial, Aug. 16):

Condoleezza Rice, the national security adviser, feels that the United States has no choice but to take action against Saddam Hussein. I agree entirely with her statement to the BBC that "this is an evil man who, left to his own devices, will wreak havoc again on his own population, his neighbors and, if he gets weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them, on all of us."

But in saving the unfortunate and powerless citizens of Iraq against their tyrant, we must go out of our way to avoid acts of military negligence that could result in the targeting of the very people we are trying to save. Not to do so would be a war crime.