

'Chemical Ali' trial on hold

by UPI

BAGHDAD - The trial of Saddam Hussein's cousin "Chemical Ali" and other top aides has been put on hold until Oct. 21. The final witness before Thursday's adjournment was Emma Nicholson, a member of the European Parliament from Britain and author of a book on the Marsh Arabs, the Kuwaiti news agency KUNA reported. She described visiting refugee camps in Iran for Iraqi Shiites after the 1991 Gulf War. "During my visits to the refugee camps, I saw many, many, many people with injuries," she testified. "I am not a medical professional but the injuries were caused by bullets, bombs, chemical weapons and the high impact of houses tumbling." Ali Hassan Al-Majid got his nickname from his alleged role in Saddam's chemical weapons program. He and 14 other top members of Saddam's government could face the death penalty or long prison terms if convicted on charges of crimes against humanity. Majid has already been sentenced to death in another trial.

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