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IRAQ

Feared general quizzed on Kurds

'Chemical Ali' first to appear in court

By JAMER N. YACUB
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The former general known as "Chemical Ali," indicted last year for allegedly poisoning thousands of Kurds, looked haggard and leaned on a cane in a court Saturday as Iraq's U.S.-backed government opened the pace of legal proceedings against Saddam Hussein's henchmen before next month's critical elections.

The appearance of both Ali Hassan al-Majid and Saddam's top defense minister, Gen. Safwan Hamid Ahmad, before a tribunal of judges were the first in a series of interrogatory hearings that



al-Majid