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**Secretary Colin L. Powell**

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**QUESTION:** The kidnapers, or the supposed kidnapers of Mr. Johnson have now released a list of demands, they say, for his release. They include the Saudi Government releasing criminals; he makes some comments about Prince Bandar. Do you know anything about this and do you have any update on it?

**SECRETARY POWELL:** I haven't seen the list and so I wouldn't comment until I have seen the list. But we don't do this kind of negotiation with criminals.

**QUESTION:** One more question, Secretary, on the terror report and the continued controversy surrounding it. How could the State Department have gotten the information so wrong from the CIA? Do you have anything else? Can you give us an update?

**SECRETARY POWELL:** We've had meetings on this over the weekend. And I met with the head of the Terrorist Threat Information Center earlier today and my own staff and went over the basis for the errors. And it's understandable errors were made. It's not anything that's mysterious. And I think we'll be able to reconcile the data over the next couple of days and then we'll make a full announcement.

**QUESTION:** Can you tell us about your meeting with King Abdullah?

**SECRETARY POWELL:** It was very, very, very good. We reviewed the Middle East peace plan, Prime Minister Sharon's recent statements, the work we're doing with the Palestinians. We talked about the outcome of the G-8 meeting last week and the reform and modernization efforts. And, of course, I briefed him on the situation in Iraq and how we have been planning for the transition to the new Iraqi government and the standing up of our new embassy at that time.

And on the terror report, we'll have the -- I think we'll have the corrected data in a couple of days and it's narrowing down.

**QUESTION:** You understand how those mistakes were made. Are you still upset?

**SECRETARY POWELL:** Yeah, I have an understanding of how the mistakes were made. And now what we have to do is make sure that we've got it fixed and we've got the right data. And it will not be as shocking as people are speculating upon.

**QUESTION:** One more thing --

**SECRETARY POWELL:** But we're going to put it out, and it's going to be right when we do.

**QUESTION:** How concerned are you that these people who are taking such prominent positions in the Iraqi government are getting shot down? Two more over the weekend, it's just --

**SECRETARY POWELL:** Well, it's very troubling. But it means that there are murderers out there who don't want to see Iraq go into a brighter future with a political system based on democracy. They want to go back to the past. And people in the world should reflect on the fact that there are Iraqis who want to take their country into a brighter future and they're willing to stand up and be put at risk by these individuals. And I regret any loss of life, but when people see these kinds of incidents, they ought to realize that there are Iraqis who are standing up and they want to lead. They want to lead their people to a better life, reconstruction of their country. And I hope that they will enjoy the support of all the Iraqi people and these murderers can be isolated and defeated and Iraq can keep moving in the right direction.

Thank you.

**QUESTION:** Thank you very much.

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