

DECLASSIFIED
PA/HO Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
June 21, 2006



Department of State

IRAG TELEGRAM



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82 ACTION NEA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-08 L-04

NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 AID-28 (

COM-08 E-15 FRB-02 TRSY-11 XMB-06 CEA-02 INT-06 OEF-01

RSR-01 /182 W

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R 161730Z OCT 70
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2190
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

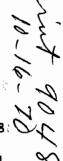
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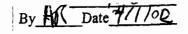
SUBJECT: DISMISSALIOF HARDAN TIKRETI

1. IRAGI REVOLUTIONARY COMMANDE COUNCIL! OCTOBER: [5: DISMISSED: VICE: PRESIDENT: HARDANE ABD: AL GHAFFAR: AT TIKRITI FROM!
ALL: OF HIS "MILITARY AND CIVILAIN: POSITIONS" - HARDANE WHO: WAS: ON: OFFICIAL MISSION TO SPAIN WHEN DECISION: TAKENE. HAD: WHAT LOCAL PRESS TERMED "STORMY SESSION"WITH: REPS: FROM IRAGI EMBASSY WHEN HE! TRANSITED BEIRUT LAST NIGHT.
REPORTEDLY EMBASSY OFFICIALS ADVISED HIM: NOT RETURN BAGHDAD. BUT TO NO: AVAIL.

2. THOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL EXPLANATION OF HARDAN'S DISMISSAL WE HAD BEEN HEARING RUMORS RECENTLY OF DEEP TROUBLE WITHIN RULING BAATH PARTY LEADERSHIP!

OVER THE FAILURE OF TRADI TROOPS IN JORDAN TO INTERVENE!





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ON FEDAYEEN SIDE FURING THSIE SEPTEMBER CLASH WITH JAA.

HARDAN, WHO WENT TO MAFRAGE DURING CRISIS, APPARENTLY

PLAYED DECISIVE ROLE, IN KEEPING IRAGI FORCES: FROM

INTERVENING, EVEN THOUGH GOT HAD OFFICIALLY PLACED ITS

UNITS AT ARAFAT'S DISPOSAL. IN BEIRUT, MICHEL AFLAG,

FOUNDER OF BAATH PARTY , STRONGLY CRITICIZED GOT FOR!

REMAINING ALOOF AND DIRECTED STRONG ATTACK AGAINST HARDAN AND:

THE MILITARY WING OF THE PARTY. DURING FIGHTING, ARAFAT'S

SENT TELEGRAM TO PRESIDENT AHMAD HASAN AL BAKE SAYING:

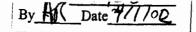
"HISTORY WILL NOT FORGIVE THOSE WHO FAILED SUPPORT FEDAYEEN

BEING MASSACRED BY JORDAN ARMY".

3. THERE HAS LONG BEEN SCHISM BETWEEN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN WINGS OF RULING BAATH PARTY IN BAGHDAD. HARDAND. FORMER HEAD IRAGI AIR FORCE, HAS APPARENTLY ENJOYED BAKR'S SUPPORT. HOWEVER, IRAQ'S FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE: IN JORDAN CIVIL WAR GAVE STRONGMAN SADDAM HUSAYN AT TIKRITI, ASSISTAN SECGEN OF BAATH BARTY AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF RCC. LONG AWAITED OPPORTUNITY ASSERT HIMSELF: AND: OTHER: CIVILIAN. "HAWKS!" AT EXPENSE MILITARY "DOVES" . OBSERVERS HERE! BELIEVE BAKR OPTED MAKE HARDAN SCAPEGOAT RATHER THAN GET INTO OPEN CONFLICT WITH CIVILIAN WING OF PARTY: . QUESTION NOW IS WHETHER: BAKR CAN RETAIN NOMINAL LEADERSHIP OF PARTY AND GOVERNMENT OR WHETHER SADDAM WILLEREPLACE HIME THOUGH BETTING HERE ABOUT EVEN. WE INCLINED FEEL SADDAM'S PENCHANT FOR ANONYMITY WILL KEEP HIM FROM OVERTLY ASSUMING POWER IN BAGHDAD .

4. THE REGIME IN BAGHDAD HAS HAD SURFEIT OF PROBLEMS!
LATELY. GOVERNMENT LACKS FUNDS EXECUTE DEVELOPMENT.
PROJECTS AND HAS EXERTED INCREASING PRESSURE ON IPC TO
INCREASE OFFTAKE. MARCH II SETTLEMENT OF KURDISH
PROBLEM JEOPARDIZED BY GOI DECISION POSTPONEL
CENSUS, SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 25, TO DETERMIN AREAS
WHERE KURDS ARE IN MAJORITY AND SHOULD HAVE AUTONOMY.
IRAQI DINAR HAS DROPPED FROM \$2.80 TO \$2.20 ON BETRUT
OPEN MARKET. GOI EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY WITH POLANDED
OVER PROJECT EXPLOIT MISHRAG SULPHUR DEPOSITS.

5. EVIDENCE OF TROUBLE WITH IRAGI BAATH SURPRISES FEW OBSERVERS HERE AND MOST EXPECT HARDAN'S:



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CAMPAGE

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DISMISSAL IS ONLY FIRST OF MANY CHANGES TO COME. BUFFUM