



Iraq Governance Update

An agreement between the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) and the Iraqi Governing Council announced over the weekend outlines the process of restoring Iraq's sovereignty and the adoption of a permanent constitution. The agreement was outlined in a letter signed by Iraqi Governing Council President Jalal Talabani and CPA Administrator Ambassador Paul Bremer.

New Agreement Will not Directly Impact Security

"The number of troops on the ground is not related directly to the coming into power of a new Iraqi government. It will be related to the security situation on the ground. We will still have a fight against terrorists here that we have to fight with our Iraqi friends. So the number of troops will not be determined by the fact that there's a new government. It will be determined by the conditions on the ground. ...An interim constitution [in Iraq] will embed in it a lot of the principles that we would like to see in a permanent constitution: a bill of rights, equal opportunity for all people, equality of all individuals, freedom of worship. And that will then be the platform on which a new Iraqi provisional government will be elected in the summer."
- Ambassador Paul Bremer, CNN Late Edition, November 16, 2003

"We have agreed with the Governing Council yesterday that there will be a side agreement dealing with our mutual security interests, which we will also negotiate between now and the end of June. As one of the Governing Council members puts it, they want the American occupation to end, but the American presence to continue. So our presence here will change from an occupation to an invited presence. I'm sure the Iraqi government is going to want to continue to have Coalition forces here for its own security for some time to come... They recognize the value that the continuation of Coalition military forces has for Iraq's stability. They live in a very rough neighborhood. We've got thousands of terrorists in this country now. And they're not going to be gone by June."

- Ambassador Bremer, ABC This Week, November 16, 2003

The Governing Council-CPA Agreement Includes the Following:

- **Establishes a "Fundamental Law"** to be drafted by the Governing Council (GC) in consultation with the CPA. It will be approved by both the GC and CPA, and will formally set forth the scope and structure of the sovereign Iraqi transitional administration. Elements of the "Fundamental Law":
 - A Bill of rights, to include freedom of speech and religion; a statement of equal rights of all Iraqis, regardless of gender, sect, and ethnicity; and guarantees of due process.
 - Federal governance of Iraq, to include governorates and the separation and specification of powers to be exercised by central and local entities.
 - Statement of the independence of the judiciary, and a mechanism for judicial review; a statement of civilian political control over Iraqi armed and security forces; a statement that Fundamental Law cannot be amended and an expiration date for Fundamental Law. Timetable for drafting of Iraq's permanent constitution by a body directly elected by the Iraqi people; for ratifying the permanent constitution; and for holding elections under the new constitution. Drafting and approval of the "Fundamental Law" is scheduled for completion by February 28, 2004.

- **The CPA and the GC are to reach an agreement on Iraq's security.** This agreement will cover status of Coalition forces in Iraq and giving wide latitude to provide for the safety and security of the Iraqi people. Approval of bilateral agreements is scheduled for completion by the end of March 2004.
- **Selection of Transitional National Assembly.** Fundamental Law will specify the bodies of the national structure, and will ultimately spell out the process by which individuals will be selected for these bodies. However, certain guidelines must be agreed to in advance. The transitional assembly will not be an expansion of the GC. The GC will have no formal role in selecting members of the assembly, and will dissolve upon the establishment and recognition of the transitional administration. Individual members of the GC will, however, be eligible to serve in the transitional assembly, if elected according to the process below.
 - Election of members of the Transitional National Assembly will be conducted through a transparent, participatory, democratic process of caucuses in each of Iraq's 18 governorates.
 - In each governorate, the CPA will supervise a process by which an "Organizing Committee" of Iraqis will be formed. This Organizing Committee will include 5 individuals appointed by the Governing Council, 5 individuals appointed by the Provincial Council, and 1 individual appointed by the local council of the five largest cities within the governorate.
 - The purpose of the Organizing Committee will be to convene a "Governorate Selection Caucus" of notables from around the governorate. To do so, it will solicit nominations from political parties, provincial/local councils, professional and civic associations, university faculties, tribal and religious groups. Nominees must meet the criteria set out for candidates in the Fundamental Law. To be selected as a member of the Governorate Selection Caucus, any nominee will need to be approved by an 11/15 majority of the Organizing Committee.
 - Each Governorate Selection Caucus will elect representatives to represent the governorate in the new transitional assembly based on the governorate's percentage of Iraq's population. The Transitional National Assembly will be elected no later than May 31, 2004.
 - Restoration of Iraq's sovereignty will follow the selection of members of the transitional assembly, which will meet to elect an executive branch, and to appoint ministers. By June 30, 2004 the new transitional administration will be recognized by the Coalition, and will assume full sovereign powers for governing Iraq. The CPA will dissolve.
- **The process for adopting of a permanent constitution** and timeline will ultimately be included in the Fundamental Law, but need to be agreed in advance, as detailed below.
 - A permanent constitution for Iraq will be prepared by a constitutional convention directly elected by the Iraqi people. Elections for the convention will be held no later than March 15, 2005.
 - A draft of the constitution will be circulated for public comment and debate. A final draft of the constitution will be presented to the public, and a popular referendum will be held to ratify the constitution. Elections for a new Iraqi government will be held by December 31, 2005, at which point the Fundamental Law will expire and a new government will take power.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Afghanistan, May 1, 2003

"[W]e clearly have moved from major combat activity to a period of stability and stabilization and reconstruction...activities. The bulk of this country today is permissive, it's secure. It is clear...that's the case by virtue of the fact that we see people returning to their country from all across the globe...in large numbers. They are voting with their feet; they are saying that the circumstance here is something they want to be a part of, and that's a good thing."

*- Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld
Kabul, May 1, 2003*

A New Phase in Afghanistan

- The President of the United States, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and General Tommy Franks, in consultation with Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai, have concluded that the situation in Afghanistan has moved from a period of major combat activity to a period of stabilization and reconstruction.
- There are still dangers and pockets of resistance in certain parts of the country. The US will continue to work with the Afghan government and the new Afghan national army to see that areas of resistance are dealt with promptly and efficiently.
- Long-term stability in Afghanistan and the well being of the Afghan people are a vital part of winning the global war against terrorism, and are a top priority for the United States and its Coalition partners.

The Coalition will continue to support the Afghan interim government, and work to enable its institutions and the Afghan people to become self-sufficient.

- In an expanding reconstruction effort, The United States, its Coalition partners and Afghan officials, are in the process of rolling out Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs). The PRTs will build close relationships with Afghan leaders and citizens in each region, help link regional leaders to the central Afghan government, and coordinate with international humanitarian organizations.
- Three teams are currently operating in Afghanistan, and have been well-received. The PRTs will be deployed to eight regions throughout Afghanistan.
- The teams include international and interagency personnel trained in a variety of disciplines – including humanitarian, medical, security, military and linguistic. Each team will be tailored to meet a region's unique needs.

The Coalition will work aggressively to rid Afghanistan of terrorists, their weapons and safe havens – wherever they may be.

- The Coalition will continue aggressive operations to destroy terrorist elements and deny them the ability to coordinate and move freely in Afghanistan. As the Afghan National Army (ANA) continues to become more capable, its security responsibilities will expand to different regions of the country and will eventually come under command of the Afghan government.

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US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Mass Grave Sites in Iraq – May 30, 2003

Many gravesites have been identified in Iraq, providing further evidence of the former regime's atrocities. The Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance (ORHA) is working to help grieving families search for lost relatives and preserve evidence for future prosecutions against the perpetrators by the new Iraqi government.

ORHA is working with Coalition members, international organizations, nongovernmental organizations and local Iraqi leaders to implement the following measures:

▪ **Step One: Public Awareness and Site Assessment**

- ORHA has initiated a media campaign and is working with local and religious leaders to explain to the public why it is necessary to preserve the grave sites.
- A team of U.S. forensic experts has arrived to assess the sites and determine security needs. They will work with other Coalition assessment teams.

▪ **Step Two: Security and Support**

To strike the delicate balance between the interests of families searching for loved ones and broader justice issues, ORHA has instituted the following approach:

- At sites such as al Hillah where extensive digging has already begun, ORHA will deploy humanitarian response teams. The teams will work with local leaders to coordinate an orderly digging process; encourage detailed examinations of personal effects; assist in implementation of a system to keep records of identified remains; implement a process for providing death certificates and conducting witness interviews; and facilitate documentation of information found at the sites.
- Military at these sites will help inform the families of the importance of careful exhumation, and provide them with water, shade, plastic bags, gloves and masks.
- At sites that have not been subject to extensive digging, ORHA will hire local Iraqis to guard the graves, and deploy humanitarian response teams to meet with families who appear at the site to explain the problems with uncoordinated exhumation and inform them of ORHA's plans to assist in identification and reburial of remains.
- Forensic investigative teams from the Coalition will follow the assessment teams to conduct exhumations of grave sites. They will be coordinated out of ORHA offices and will hire and train local Iraqis to help.

▪ **Step Three: Identification**

- ORHA will work with existing Iraqi organizations to establish an Iraqi Committee on Missing Persons (ICMP), which will collect the records of Iraqis who have disappeared and compile a national database to integrate the information with findings of the forensic investigative teams.
- In connection with ICMP, ORHA will create a national outreach program for families.

▪ **Step Four: Prosecution**

- Prosecution of crimes against humanity committed by the former regime will be conducted through an Iraqi-led process assisted and supported by the international community as needed.
- To ensure that prosecutors have access to evidence, ORHA will form an evidence coordination team. The team will create centralized and systematic warehouses for the storage, documentation and preservation of evidence.
- The teams will train local experts in handling and preservation of forensics evidence.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Progress in Iraq – May 15, 2003

- **The Iraqi people, now free from Saddam's terror, can look forward to a new beginning.**
 - Life is getting back to normal for many Iraqis. People are going about their business; they are going about their lives.
 - Shi'a are able to honor their religious traditions for the first time in decades.
 - Town councils and local politicians are meeting openly and freely selecting leaders.
 - The water quality in Basra is better than it has been in years.
 - More Iraqis today have access to electricity than ever before.
 - The U.N. mission has agreed that the U.N. will use oil-for-food funds to purchase the Iraqi cereal crop, which is already being harvested. This will help give income to Iraqi farmers.
 - The U.S. is implementing a pay plan for civilian government workers.
- **The U.S. and Coalition will continue to address the law-and-order problem in Baghdad, and are working hard to improve security in Iraq.**
 - Saddam's regime created the conditions for lawlessness. Before his reign ended, he released 100,000 prisoners – some political but some violent criminals – onto the streets. It's time these people were put back in jail, and that's where we will put them.
 - In the past 48 hours, hundreds of suspected criminals have been arrested.
 - Jails have been opened and two courts are operating.
 - The Coalition has started aggressive patrols at night in Baghdad; there were 300 separate patrols last night.
 - Police are coming back to work and are being trained.
 - Experts are on their way from the Pentagon and the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance to join Coalition forces at the mass gravesite found near Tikrit. They will work to preserve forensic evidence for prosecuting crimes against humanity. Coalition forces are being sensitive to Iraqis searching for lost loved ones among the victims.
- **After decades of oppression, Iraqis deserve a stable and secure government.**
 - Coalition administrators are meeting with and seeking input from Iraqis of many backgrounds, including those who have lived inside the country under Saddam's regime and those who have lived outside Iraq.
 - The goal is a stable, safe, peaceful and prosperous Iraq with a government that represents all Iraqis, whether they are Suni or Shi'a, from the north or south.
 - The Coalition Provisional Authority banned the Ba'ath Party on April 16. The U.S. will continue to seek and identify Ba'athists who used their power to repress the Iraqi people, remove them from office, and bring Ba'ath party officials to justice for their crimes.
 - We want to empower responsible, decent Iraqis who are technically competent to help restore essential services and repair infrastructure in Iraq.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, March 25, 2003 - AM

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/ natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

▪ **Mission Objectives Are Being Achieved**

- ***US and Coalition forces continue to make progress on all military objectives, and according to planed timelines.***

- U.S. Apache helicopters attacked Republican Guard forces arrayed around Baghdad in preparation for a ground assault.
- Coalition forces have crossed the Euphrates river and are advancing on Baghdad.

- ***Coalition forces have flown approximately 7,000 sorties so far.***

- There were approximately 1,500 sorties yesterday.
- 80 percent of all US bombs and missiles are precision-guided to avoid civilian casualties and collateral damage.

- ***Efforts to communicate with the Iraqi people and the Iraqi military continue.***

- We are broadcasting on five radio frequencies 24 hours a day.
- Leaflet drops continue.
 - Last night alone 120,000 more leaflets were dropped, stressing import of not using WMD nor supporting the use of WMD.
 - Messages include the information that we can see any movements or attempts to use such weapons; that no one benefits from such use; and that perpetrators will be held accountable.

- **The True Nature of the Iraqi Regime Is Being Revealed for All the World to See:**

- ***Brutal treatment of captured POWs.***

- Lies about Iraqi adherence to Geneva Conventions, which they have blatantly violated;

- ***Tactics designed to hold the civilian population hostage, such as:***

- The use of women and children to protect military assets from attack;
- Fayadeen infiltration of regular Iraqi forces to prevent surrender and defection;

- ***The mining of waterways to prevent delivery of humanitarian assistance.***
 - Regime continues to try to mine waterways clandestinely. A civilian Iraqi dhow, subsequently discovered to be a minelayer, was destroyed by Coalition forces.
 - ***Torching of oil fields, which is a terrorist attack on the future of the Iraqi people;***
 - Trenches filled with oil ring all of Baghdad, and are prepared to be ignited.
 - Such actions prove the Iraqi regime is prepared to do whatever it takes to protect itself.
 - ***False reports about Coalition attacks on civilians, mosques, and cultural centers;***
 - Military equipment, such as a MiG 23 fighter, was towed into a cemetery to protect it from attack.
 - ***Iraqi military disguised as civilians.***
 - False acts of surrender, in flagrant violation of the laws of war, to attack Coalition forces.
 - Iraqi military disguised as civilians in trucks who then join battle.
 - ***Reporters in Baghdad are compelled to attend Iraqi briefings.***
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- **Humanitarian Relief Assistance Update**
 - ***Coalition forces are poised to open massive channels of humanitarian aid for the Iraqi people.***
 - Millions of meals, medicine and other supplies are pre-positioned and ready for distribution.
 - ***The port of Umm Qasr port in Southern Iraq is being secured.***
 - US and Royal Marines will ensure the flow of food and aid, potentially the largest humanitarian operation in history, within 48 hours.
 - British forces decide to move against militia fighters who have prevented them from securing the southern Iraqi city of Basra.
 - ***The Iraqi regime has a history of creating humanitarian crises that increase the suffering of the Iraqi people and make the provision of relief much more difficult.***
 - There is evidence that the regime is doing such things now.
 - For instance, Iraqi armed forces are disguising themselves as civilians and using civilian transports, making it impossible for Coalition Forces to tell the difference and thereby endangering civilians.
 - ***We recognize the extent to which Iraqi civilians rely on the infrastructure for vital services.***
 - Through our humanitarian mapping program, we have gone to great lengths to work with humanitarian organizations and others to identify and locate humanitarian, key infrastructure, and cultural and historical sites for protection to the extent possible.

- ***Iraqi civilians and prisoners of war injured in the conflict are being treated aboard the U.S. hospital ship Comfort in the Gulf.***
 - Fortunately, relatively few Iraqis are displaced so far.
- ***Stockpiles of humanitarian food and medicine are ready to be moved into Iraq.***
 - The US is sending 110,000 metric tons of food (worth approximately \$90 million) to the region.
 - \$60 million for relief preparations have been provided to international and nongovernmental organizations for relief preparations.
 - \$40 million has been provided to the World Food Program for logistics preparations.
 - 3 million humanitarian daily rations (HDRs) have been deployed to Kuwait and other locations to meet emergency food needs. This is the largest shipment of HDRs ever forward-deployed for contingency use.
 - A 62-person civilian disaster response team (DART) is being deployed to assess needs and coordinate aid. It is the largest operation of its kind ever.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on **Chemical & Biological Defense Readiness**, March 2003

- **US Soldiers and other US service members have the best chemical and biological defense training and equipment in the world.**
 - Over the past six years, the Army has developed and fielded 19 new chemical and biological defense systems, to include detectors and individual protection systems such as the suit and mask. Five new biological detectors have been produced. The equipment has undergone extensive testing.
 - Chem/bio suits (referred to as the Joint Service Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology) are lighter than the Gulf War predecessor, dissipate heat more quickly and protect against all known or suspected chem/bio agents.
 - Every soldier deployed is issued two suits. Before issuance, each suit is checked three times for defects, and there are zero defects in the stockpile.
 - Each soldier's individual mask is validated for fit and serviceability when it is issued to the soldier.
 - **One of the hallmarks of Army training is the integration of nuclear, biological and chemical training at the team and unit levels.**
 - Nuclear, biological and chemical defense tasks are routinely reviewed as part of other tasks.
 - Commanders tailor training to the unit's mission.
 - **Chem/bio detection equipment is better than in Desert Storm.**
 - We have fielded new chem/bio detection systems with improved capabilities for both chemical and biological agents.
 - False positives are still possible in very limited circumstances but we have techniques and procedures to confirm or deny the presence of chemical and biological agents.
 - **There are sufficient quantities of new protective chem/bio suits.**
 - All forces deploying to support current operations have two chem/bio suits with two suits available in contingency stocks.
 - Follow-on forces will draw from contingency stocks as an interim measure while production increases.
 - The suits can be laundered up to 6 times for personal hygiene during its wear life of 45 days or total service life of 120 days.
 - **The military is prepared in the event of chem/bio casualties.**
 - Medical personnel receive additional training and equipment to support the care and treatment of chem/bio casualties.
 - We are deploying a Medical Surveillance System that will greatly enhance our ability to track and identify early-on any use of chem/bio agents.
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US Department of Defense

Talking Points on **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, March 26, 2003

"We cannot know the duration of this war. Yet we know its outcome: we will prevail. The Iraqi regime will be disarmed. The Iraqi regime will be ended. The Iraqi people will be free. And our world will be more secure and peaceful."

President George W. Bush
The Pentagon, March 25, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

▪ **Mission Objectives are Being Achieved**

- US and Coalition forces continue to make progress on all military objectives. We are committed, on track, and confident of the final outcome.
- Coalition forces continue to focus on targets of military significance, such as surface-to-surface missiles, and key command and control, communications, and intelligence targets.
 - Over 1400 combat and combat support missions were flown over Iraq today.
 - To date, Coalition forces have used over 600 Tomahawk missiles.
 - 80 percent of all US bombs and missiles are precision-guided to avoid civilian casualties and collateral damage.
- The Ba'ath Party headquarters in Basra has been destroyed.
- Iraqi television and telecommunications facilities, used by the Iraqi regime to issue military orders and instructions, have been degraded.
 - Coalition aircraft struck the Iraqi state-run television channel.
 - The air strikes also targeted government communications and satellite links. The strikes used Tomahawk cruise missiles fired from U.S. Navy ships and bombs dropped by coalition aircraft.
- **The brutal nature of the Iraqi regime continues to be revealed for all the world to see:**
 - Military equipment placed beside a 2,000-year old ruin, marked with the international symbol designating it as an historic landmark.
 - Trenches filled with oil ring all of Baghdad; six have already been ignited.
 - The mining of waterways, to include the use of civilian dhows, to prevent delivery of humanitarian assistance.
 - Iraqi citizens being marched out in front of irregular formations while they are firing.

- Iraqi civilians are being killed on the battlefield by Iraqi military.
 - Iraqi paramilitaries shooting into the town of Basra, primarily with mortars primarily, in total disregard for the people living there.
 - US Marines recently discovered an Iraqi hospital in An Nasiriyah, flying a flag marked with a Red Crescent, which was used as a staging area for paramilitary forces, and as a storage facility for Iraqi military uniforms, weapons, including a cache of AK-47 assault rifles, ammunition and a T-55 tank.
 - Misuse of a protected symbol, such as a Red Cross or Red Crescent, is a violation of Geneva Convention and may subject persons to prosecution as war criminals.
 - This behavior is more akin to that of global terrorists than of a nation.
- **Humanitarian Relief Assistance Update**
 - The port of Umm Qasr in Southern Iraq is now clear, and humanitarian assistance is beginning to enter Iraq.
 - The British ship, Sir Galahad, moved into the Khor Abdallah river Tuesday night with 211 tons of food and 101 tons of bottled water and will move up to Umm Qasr shortly.
 - US and Royal Marines will ensure the flow of food and aid, potentially the largest humanitarian operation in history.
 - Millions of meals, medicine and other supplies are ready for distribution. The US is sending 110,000 metric tons of food to the region.
 - \$60 million for relief preparations have been provided to international and nongovernmental organizations.
 - \$40 million has been provided to the World Food Program for logistics.
 - 3 million humanitarian daily rations (HDRs) have been deployed to Kuwait and other locations, the largest shipment of HDRs ever forward-deployed for contingency use.
 - A 62-person Civilian Disaster Response Team (DART) is being deployed to assess needs and coordinate aid. It is the largest operation of its kind ever.
 - **Finding and eliminating Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities is one of the key objectives of Operation Iraqi Freedom.**
 - The recent discovery of over 3,000 chemical suits, masks, and atrophine injectors at an Iraqi hospital in An Nasiriyah underscores our belief that Iraq not only possesses WMD, but also the will to use them.
 - The US military is prepared to deal with the potential effects of WMD. (see attachment.)
 - We have repeated warned Iraqi officers and military personnel not to use chemical weapons of Coalition forces, not to support a dying regime, and not to be hunted down for the rest of their lives for war crimes, which is what we would do. If they do, they will be hunted down, found, and punished.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, March 29, 2003 - AM

"We are degrading Iraqi forces, particularly by air...and we will engage them with the full weight of our combat power at a time and place of our choosing."

General Richard B. Myers

March 28, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

Mission Objectives are Being Achieved

- **Operation Iraqi Freedom is proceeding as planned -- the Coalition is making daily progress and achieving results on the battlefield.**
- **There is no pause in operations or the Coalition's advance across Iraq, and the movement of supplies continues uninterrupted to all combat units.**
 - There have been harassing attacks against the Coalition supply lines, but all attackers have been defeated and the attacks are becoming less frequent. Supply convoys are well-protected by attack helicopters and armored patrols.
- **Australian, British and U.S. air forces continue to successfully engage targets, and have total air dominance -- the targeting process is sophisticated, deliberate and precise.**
- **Coalition attacks continue to isolate the Iraqi regime, its forces and command & control network. In the past 24 hours:**
 - U.S. warplanes destroyed 9 Ba'ath Party headquarters locations, including a building near Basra where 200 party members and paramilitary leaders were believed to be meeting.
 - Close air support was provided to ground forces operating in As Samawah and Ar Rutbah, where Coalition troops successfully attacked a commando headquarters building, capturing 50 Iraqi troops and confiscating ammunition, gas masks and radios.
 - American-led air forces dropped 1,000-pound bombs in an attack on Iraqi Republican Guard units circling Baghdad, and destroyed missile sites and fuel depots in the area. U.S. Apache helicopters also attacked the Medina Division of the Republican Guard near Karbala.
 - Tomahawk cruise missiles damaged the Information Ministry and state-owned broadcast facilities in Baghdad.
 - Coalition forces interdicted Iraqi units on the northern and western approaches to Basra.
 - Repair of Iraq's oil infrastructure is ongoing: Coalition members are working to extinguish 3 remaining oil well fires in southern Iraq.

- **Coalition members continue communication with Iraqi forces to encourage surrender, and Tribal Iraqis are assisting in the liberation of Iraq.**
 - Leaflet drops continue: 32 million have been dropped so far, and additional Commando Solo broadcasts have gone on the air in Iraq.

Saddam Hussein continues to employ the terrorist tactics of a coward, showing his weakness and desperation.

- **Saddam's terrorist attacks against U.S. troops have no operational effects: our troops are trained and prepared to counter these threats.**
- **On an ongoing basis, Saddam and his forces have demonstrated that they:**
 - Place no value on human life.
 - Hide behind women and children, using them as human shields.
 - Terrorize and murder civilians.
- **Coalition ground forces report that Iraqi civilians are being forced to fight Coalition forces against their will.**
- **Iraqi forces continue to position military equipment in civilian areas.**

Humanitarian Update:

- **12 humanitarian aid distribution centers now open in Umm Qasr.**
- **The UN Security Council voted unanimously Friday for a resolution modifying the Oil for Food program to help jump-start resumption of food shipments.**
 - The new resolution will help get food supplies to the Iraqi people quickly. Sixty percent of Iraqis rely on rations as their sole source of food.
- **The United States is currently providing \$140 million to international aid agencies to help the Iraqi people with relief and post-conflict rehabilitation, and is providing 610,000 metric tons of food, worth \$300 million.**

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US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, March 29, 2003 - PM

“Thanks to our fighting forces, the regime that once terrorized all of Iraq now controls a small portion of that country. American and coalition troops have continued a steady advance, and are now less than 50 miles from Baghdad. We are now fighting the most desperate units of the dictator's army. The fighting is fierce and we do not know its duration, yet we know the outcome of this battle: The Iraqi regime will be disarmed and removed from power. Iraq will be free.”

President George W. Bush
Weekly Radio Address, March 29, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

Mission Objectives are Being Achieved

- **Since the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom 10 days ago:**
 - Coalition forces have unleashed on Saddam's forces approximately 675 Tomahawk missiles and 6,000 precision munitions.
 - Ground forces have advanced 200 miles into Iraq and are within 50 miles of Baghdad.
- **There is no pause in operations or the Coalition's advance across Iraq, and the movement of supplies continues uninterrupted to all combat units.**
 - There have been harassing attacks against the Coalition supply lines, but all attackers have been defeated and the attacks are becoming less frequent. Supply convoys are well-protected by attack helicopters and armored patrols.

Disinformation Update

Report: Due to supply route attacks by the Iraqi forces, U.S. troops are not getting the food and supplies they need; ground forces are outrunning their supply lines.

Ground Truth: Ground forces are receiving adequate amounts of logistical support that continues to build over time. When a mechanized or armor unit pushes forward rapidly in the field, the units with ammunition and supplies follow behind. There is a period of time that it takes to keep the supply train moving, but the current rate of re-supply is robust.

Report: The continuing flow of U.S. troops into the region indicates that the U.S. did not have adequate forces on hand at the start of the operation.

Ground Truth: Current troop deployments to the Gulf region are part of the previously planned force flow.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, March 23, 2003

- **The outcome of Operation Iraqi Freedom is inevitable: the end of the Iraqi regime.**
 - Operation Iraqi Freedom is proceeding according to the coalition timeline and is achieving key objectives.
 - Increasing numbers of Iraqi military are surrendering or deserting their posts.
 - U.S. officials are appealing to senior-level military leaders in Iraq for their surrender.
 - But there are still many unknowns -- significant resistance may still be ahead.

- **US and Coalition forces continue to focus on their mission, which is to:**
 - End the regime of Saddam Hussein;
 - Identify, isolate, and eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities;
 - Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq;
 - Collect intelligence on terrorist networks and on Iraq's illicit WMD activity;
 - Secure Iraq's oil fields and natural resources for the Iraqi people;
 - End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief and assistance;
 - Help the Iraqi people create the conditions for a rapid transition to representative self-government that does not threaten its neighbors and is committed to the territorial integrity of Iraq.

- **Mission Objectives are Being Achieved**
 - Coalition forces have taken control of Basra, Iraq's second most populous city.
 - U.S.-led forces continue aerial bombardment of Baghdad.
 - The U.S. Army has taken Nassiriyah, a major crossing point over the Euphrates, northwest of Basra.
 - U.S. Marines have seized an Iraqi Naval base on the Persian Gulf near the town of Az Zubayr. The base was taken Sunday without resistance.
 - A Patriot missile hit an incoming missile at Camp New York in Kuwait. There were no reports of injuries.
 - Tank reinforcement has been sent in to Umm Quasr to help Coalition forces maintain control of the key port city and quell pockets of resistance.
 - Special Forces continue searching for WMD and ballistic missiles, including Scuds.
 - The country's southern oil fields have been secured for the Iraqi people.

▪ **Disinformation Alert**

Report: Al Jazeera Television reports claims by Iraqi medics that 50 people were killed in Basra when U.S. F-16 warplanes bombed the city. Footage includes a shot of a child with the back of its skull blown off. The Iraqi Information Minister, in a televised broadcast, claimed 77 civilians were killed, 366 wounded.

Ground Truth: There is no way to independently verify such claims. Military spokesman at Allied headquarters in Qatar have declined comment, saying "That is considered an ongoing operation and until it is over we're not going to go out there one way or another on that." U.S. forces go to extraordinary lengths to avoid civilian casualties. The application of force is designed to be so precise that it avoids in every way possible the exposure of non-combatants.

Report: Al Jazeera's Arabic web site accessible to Middle East users posted graphic photographs of injured and killed women and children in Basra with a caption reading U.S. forces were cleaning up throughout the city, implying the injuries to the children were part of the military's plan to end resistance after the majority of forces have moved through.

Ground Truth: U.S. forces have not and do not purposely harm innocent civilians. The commonly used military phrase "mopping up" resistance has been translated in a such a way that it reads as though U.S. forces are purposely injuring civilians to quiet them. Central Command has been notified to alert personnel to the translation sensitivities of this phrase.

Report: Missiles that landed in southwest Iran were fired by Coalition forces.

Ground Truth: Iran (IRNA news agency) said on Sunday the missile was probably fired by Iraqi forces. A Defense Ministry spokeswoman said Sunday the missiles were most likely fired by Iraqi forces.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, March 23, 2003 - *PM*

- **The Iraqis' treatment of POWs blatantly violates the Geneva Convention, but it will not deter us from the mission.**
 - People who treat POWs badly will be treated as war criminals.
 - Any Coalition combatants held by the enemy must be considered Prisoners of War (POW) and be treated in accordance with the Geneva Convention.
 - Article 13 of the Geneva Convention states: "[P]risoners of war must at all times be protected, particularly against acts of violence or intimidation and against insults and public curiosity."
 - The U.S. is currently holding more than 2,000 Iraqi POWs. They are being treated humanely and in accordance with the Geneva Convention. They are being given food and water, and have access to medical care.
- **The outcome of Operation Iraqi Freedom is clear and inevitable.**
 - The outcome of this operation will be the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime.
 - The objective is clear: end the regime as quickly as possible and with as few casualties as possible.
 - The war's duration depends on the Iraqi leadership -- they should follow the Coalition instructions to surrender. Resistance is futile.
 - U.S. officials are appealing to military personnel in Iraq for their surrender.
 - There remain many unknowns -- significant resistance may lie ahead.
 - Those who use or carry out orders to use weapons of mass destruction will be tracked down and punished.
- **Operation Iraqi Freedom is proceeding ahead of schedule.**
 - Progress is being made in the air, at sea and on land. Coalition forces are continuing their push to Baghdad and are ahead of schedule.
 - Coalition forces are controlling the approaches to Basra, Iraq's second largest city.
 - U.S.-led forces continue aerial bombardment of Baghdad and special operations activities in the area.
 - Special Forces teams are in the north, south and west.
 - The country's southern oil fields have been secured for the Iraqi people.
- **Coalition forces have struck specific regime targets in Baghdad, not the city or the Iraqi people. Targets include:**
 - The Baghdad Government Control Center
 - Special Security Office Headquarters

- Republican Guard Headquarters Building
 - Iraqi Intelligence Headquarters
 - Baghdad VIP Compound, a command and control center
 - Baghdad Presidential Palace near Diwan, a command and control center
 - Taji Air Defense Sector Headquarters near Baghdad
-



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, March 24, 2003

" I am pleased with the progress that we're making in the early stages of the war to rid Iraq of its weapons of mass destruction and to free the Iraqi people from the clutches of a brutal dictatorship ... It is evident that it's going to take a while to achieve our objective, a long course. We're determined and we're making good progress."

President George W. Bush
March 23, 2003

- **Operation Iraqi Freedom Mission Objectives**

- End the regime of Saddam Hussein
- Identify, isolate, and eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities
- Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq
- Collect intelligence on terrorist networks and on Iraq's illicit WMD activity
- Secure Iraq's oil fields and natural resources for the Iraqi people
- End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief and assistance
- Help the Iraqi people rapidly transition to a representative form of self-government that does not threaten its neighbors and is committed to the territorial integrity of Iraq

- **Mission Objectives are Being Achieved**

- US bombing continued in Baghdad for the fourth day.
- US and Coalition forces control the majority of Iraqi airspace; maritime forces are preventing Iraqi mining of key waterways, and de-mining other areas, so humanitarian assistance can be deployed; and US ground forces are closing in on Baghdad.
- Military operations have made rapid, and sometimes dramatic, progress toward our objectives, and goals are being met according to planned timelines.
- Bombing has been careful and precise. Targets include armored formations, command post bunkers, combat systems in revetted positions, palace guard facilities, and tanks and fighter aircraft. We remain committed to minimizing the effects of targeting on Iraqi civilians or infrastructure.
- We continue to communicate with Iraqi people and forces. Over 28 million leaflets have been dropped -- five million more than during all of Desert Storm. The leaflets have different themes and are targeted to different areas, units or populations.
- The intelligence community has collected massive amounts of information on Iraqi chemical weapons, including reports that indicate that chemical weapons capabilities have been dispersed, and selected commanders have been given permission to use them as they see fit.
- We are doing our best to persuade others that it is in their best interest not to use chemical weapons on Coalition forces, not to support a dying regime, and not to be hunted down for the rest of their lives for war crimes, which is what the US would do.

- We have let them know in no uncertain terms that if chemical weapons are used against US or Coalition forces, they will be hunted down, found, and punished.
- **Operation Iraqi Freedom is going well, but dangers still lie ahead**
 - Since departing Kuwait, US and Coalition forces have penetrated more than 150 miles into Iraq.
 - The going will get tougher as we get closer to Baghdad, and stiff resistance may still lie ahead.
 - Nevertheless, the outcome is inevitable.
 - We will continue with precision and care until the Iraq regime is removed and we have found and dismantled their WMD capabilities.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, March 25, 2003 - AM

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/ natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

▪ **Mission Objectives Are Being Achieved**

- ***US and Coalition forces continue to make progress on all military objectives, and according to planned timelines.***
 - U.S. Apache helicopters attacked Republican Guard forces arrayed around Baghdad in preparation for a ground assault.
 - Coalition forces have crossed the Euphrates river and are advancing on Baghdad.
- ***Coalition forces have flown approximately 7,000 sorties so far.***
 - There were approximately 1,500 sorties yesterday.
 - 80 percent of all US bombs and missiles are precision-guided to avoid civilian casualties and collateral damage.
- ***Efforts to communicate with the Iraqi people and the Iraqi military continue.***
 - We are broadcasting on five radio frequencies 24 hours a day.
 - Leaflet drops continue.
 - Last night alone 120,000 more leaflets were dropped, stressing import of not using WMD nor supporting the use of WMD.
 - Messages include the information that we can see any movements or attempts to use such weapons; that no one benefits from such use; and that perpetrators will be held accountable.

▪ **The True Nature of the Iraqi Regime Is Being Revealed for All the World to See:**

- ***Brutal treatment of captured POWs.***
 - Lies about Iraqi adherence to Geneva Conventions, which they have blatantly violated;
- ***Tactics designed to hold the civilian population hostage, such as:***
 - The use of women and children to protect military assets from attack;
 - Fayadeen infiltration of regular Iraqi forces to prevent surrender and defection;

- ***The mining of waterways to prevent delivery of humanitarian assistance.***
 - Regime continues to try to mine waterways clandestinely. A civilian Iraqi dhow, subsequently discovered to be a minelayer, was destroyed by Coalition forces.
- ***Torching of oil fields, which is a terrorist attack on the future of the Iraqi people;***
 - Trenches filled with oil ring all of Baghdad, and are prepared to be ignited.
 - Such actions prove the Iraqi regime is prepared to do whatever it takes to protect itself.
- ***False reports about Coalition attacks on civilians, mosques, and cultural centers;***
 - Military equipment, such as a MiG 23 fighter, was towed into a cemetery to protect it from attack.
- ***Iraqi military disguised as civilians.***
 - False acts of surrender, in flagrant violation of the laws of war, to attack Coalition forces.
 - Iraqi military disguised as civilians in trucks who then join battle.
- ***Reporters in Baghdad are compelled to attend Iraqi briefings.***

- **Humanitarian Relief Assistance Update**
 - ***Coalition forces are poised to open massive channels of humanitarian aid for the Iraqi people.***
 - Millions of meals, medicine and other supplies are pre-positioned and ready for distribution.
 - ***The port of Umm Qasr port in Southern Iraq is being secured.***
 - US and Royal Marines will ensure the flow of food and aid, potentially the largest humanitarian operation in history, within 48 hours.
 - British forces decide to move against militia fighters who have prevented them from securing the southern Iraqi city of Basra.
 - ***The Iraqi regime has a history of creating humanitarian crises that increase the suffering of the Iraqi people and make the provision of relief much more difficult.***
 - There is evidence that the regime is doing such things now.
 - For instance, Iraqi armed forces are disguising themselves as civilians and using civilian transports, making it impossible for Coalition Forces to tell the difference and thereby endangering civilians.
 - ***We recognize the extent to which Iraqi civilians rely on the infrastructure for vital services.***
 - Through our humanitarian mapping program, we have gone to great lengths to work with humanitarian organizations and others to identify and locate humanitarian, key infrastructure, and cultural and historical sites for protection to the extent possible.

- ***Iraqi civilians and prisoners of war injured in the conflict are being treated aboard the U.S. hospital ship Comfort in the Gulf.***
 - Fortunately, relatively few Iraqis are displaced so far.
- ***Stockpiles of humanitarian food and medicine are ready to be moved into Iraq.***
 - The US is sending 110,000 metric tons of food (worth approximately \$90 million) to the region.
 - \$60 million for relief preparations have been provided to international and nongovernmental organizations for relief preparations.
 - \$40 million has been provided to the World Food Program for logistics preparations.
 - 3 million humanitarian daily rations (HDRs) have been deployed to Kuwait and other locations to meet emergency food needs. This is the largest shipment of HDRs ever forward-deployed for contingency use.
 - A 62-person civilian disaster response team (DART) is being deployed to assess needs and coordinate aid. It is the largest operation of its kind ever.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, March 25, 2003 - PM

“This war is an act of self-defense. It is also an act of humanity. Coalition forces are eliminating a regime that is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of its own people—and which is pursuing weapons that would enable it to kill hundreds of thousands more.”

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld

March 25, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

▪ Mission Objectives are Being Achieved

- It is now been five days since the ground war began, and four days since the air war began. We are still closer to the beginning than to the end.
- Coalition forces are closing in on Baghdad and will not stop until Saddam Hussein and his regime have been driven from power. Ground forces have traveled over 200 miles in less than two days.
- The campaign is on track and proceeding according to planned military timelines.
- The Iraqi regime's defeat is certain. All that is unclear is the number of days it will take.
- In recent days, the world has witnessed further evidence of their brutality and their disregard for the laws of war.
 - Their treatment of Coalition POWs, which is a violation of the Geneva Conventions.
 - Acts of treachery on the battlefield, including:
 - Dressing forces as liberated civilians,
 - Sending out soldiers feigning surrender with the goal of ambushing Coalition forces.
- The outcome of this conflict is certain: Coalition forces will prevail. Nevertheless, the campaign may grow more dangerous as Coalition forces close in on Baghdad and the regime is faced with its own certain death.

▪ The Campaign is Working

- With each passing day, the Iraqi regime is losing control over more of the country.
- Iraqi forces are capitulating by the hundreds. The total is now in excess of 3,500 POWs; thousands more from disbanded units have simply left the battlefield.
- The Iraqi people are rising up, recognizing 1) that the Coalition campaign is aimed, not at them, but at the Iraqi regime, and 2) that Coalition victory is assured and liberation is at hand.

▪ **Voices of Freedom**

- “ ‘They told me that Saddam Hussein is not allowing anyone to leave Baghdad,’ he says. ‘I don't fear the Americans. I was in Baghdad in the war in 1991 and I saw how surgical an operation it was. Saddam Hussein has persecuted everyone except his own family -- Kurds, Arab Shiites, Turkoman - everybody has suffered. But our country was a rich country and we can be rich again.’” -- *Financial Times Information*, 3-21-03.
- “These are US Marines being greeted if not with garlands, with hand shakes by residents of the town in the deep-south corner of Iraq.” -- CBS News, 3-21-03.
- Ajami Saadoun Khlis, whose son and brother were executed under the Saddam regime, sobbed like a child on the shoulder of the Guardian's Egyptian translator. He mopped the tears but they kept coming. ‘You just arrived,’ he said. ‘You're late. What took you so long? God help you become victorious. I want to say hello to Bush, to shake his hand. We came out of the grave.’” --*The Guardian*, 3-22-03.
- “...The return of the Americans to Safwan was also an occasion for hope, even if mixed with wariness. ‘Saddam finished!’ shouted another young [Iraqi] man, who gave his name as Fares. ‘Americans are here now.’ His friend, Shebah, added, in broken English, ‘Saddam killed people.’” --*The Washington Post*, 3-23-03.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, March 28, 2003 - PM

“The contrast could not be greater between the honorable conduct of our forces and the criminal acts of the enemy. Every Iraqi atrocity has confirmed the justice and the urgency of our cause. Against this enemy we will accept no outcome except complete victory.”

President George W. Bush

Veterans of Foreign Wars, March 28, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

▪ **Mission Objectives are Being Achieved**

- **Operation Iraqi Freedom is just over one week old. In that brief period of time, Coalition forces have made remarkable progress.**

- In less than a week, despite brutal sandstorms and 80 mile-per-hour winds, Coalition forces have advanced more than 200 miles across Iraqi territory, and are now just south of Baghdad. By comparison, a similar accomplishment during the 1991 Gulf war took about 38 days to complete.
- We now have air supremacy over 95 percent of the skies, and 35 to 40 percent of the country.
- Coalition forces have secured the southern oil fields of Iraq to protect the resources, and the future, of the Iraqi people.
- In the North, the 173rd Infantry (Airborne) has been deploying, and Coalition forces have launched successful attacks on terrorist targets.
- In the West, we are patrolling the skies and preventing attacks on neighboring countries.
- The port of Umm Qasr has been demined, and humanitarian relief is flowing into the country. The British ship *Sir Galahad* has now docked, and is off-loading 200 metric tons of humanitarian aid.

▪ **Coalition forces increase; Iraqi forces surrender; and the brutality of the regime continues to grow.**

- **Each day, more coalition forces flow into the country, and more Iraqi forces surrender, capitulate, and disobey the regime's orders. As a result, the regime is becoming increasingly desperate.**
 - Death squads, who report directly to the Hussein family, have been deployed to Iraqi cities to terrorize civilians, prevent them from welcoming coalition forces, and compel them to fight.

- In an attempt to blend in with the civilian population, they dress in civilian clothes and operate from confiscated homes.
- They conduct sadistic executions on sidewalks and in public squares, cutting out the tongues of those accused of disloyalty, and beheading women with swords.
- They don US and UK military uniforms to fool regular Iraqi soldiers into “surrendering,” then execute them as an example to others contemplating defection or capitulation.
- **These “Fedayeen are not martyrs, as the name implies, but cowards who cower under civilian clothes and behind the children they use as shields to protect them.**
 - These are deplorable acts that only reinforce the urgent need to remove the Iraqi regime.
 - Even as the Iraqi regime deploys death squads to slaughter its own citizens, coalition forces are working to save Iraqi lives.
 - There are those who suggest that because Coalition forces are not destroying Iraqi cities and citizens, this somehow reflects a lack of will or determination.
 - To the contrary, it is the surety of our might – and our victory – that will enable us to win the war and remove the regime without unnecessary loss of life.
- **Defeat of the Iraqi regime is inevitable; they will be held accountable for their conduct in this war.**
 - POWs under your control must be treated according to the Geneva Convention.
 - Any Iraqi officials involved in the mistreatment, humiliation or execution of POWs will pay a severe price once Saddam Hussein is gone.
- **US forces in the Middle East have only one target: the Iraqi regime.**
 - Our purpose is: the disarmament of Iraq, the discovery and destruction of all WMD, and peace and stability in the region.
 - **We have no interest in any other nation in the region, and no other nation is a target of the US, provided they in no way:**
 - Aid, abet, or support the Iraqi regime, either directly or by proxy;
 - Interfere with Coalition military operations in Iraq;
 - Permit safe passage or provide assistance to Saddam Hussein or members of his regime;
 - Permit the transfer or transit of weapons of mass destruction, WMD-related items or personnel;
or
 - Provoke attacks on US or coalition forces by others parties.
 - **We consider any shipments of supplies and military equipment, including the delivery of night vision goggles, that cross the border from Syria into Iraq a direct threat to the lives of Coalition forces, and a hostile act.**
 - We will hold the government of Syria responsible for such shipments.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, March 26, 2003

"We cannot know the duration of this war. Yet we know its outcome: we will prevail. The Iraqi regime will be disarmed. The Iraqi regime will be ended. The Iraqi people will be free. And our world will be more secure and peaceful."

President George W. Bush
The Pentagon, March 25, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

▪ **Mission Objectives are Being Achieved**

- US and Coalition forces continue to make progress on all military objectives. We are committed, on track, and confident of the final outcome.
- Coalition forces continue to focus on targets of military significance, such as surface-to-surface missiles, and key command and control, communications, and intelligence targets.
 - Over 1400 combat and combat support missions were flown over Iraq today.
 - To date, Coalition forces have used over 600 Tomahawk missiles.
 - 80 percent of all US bombs and missiles are precision-guided to avoid civilian casualties and collateral damage.
- The Ba'ath Party headquarters in Basra has been destroyed.
- Iraqi television and telecommunications facilities, used by the Iraqi regime to issue military orders and instructions, have been degraded.
 - Coalition aircraft struck the Iraqi state-run television channel.
 - The air strikes also targeted government communications and satellite links. The strikes used Tomahawk cruise missiles fired from U.S. Navy ships and bombs dropped by coalition aircraft.
- **The brutal nature of the Iraqi regime continues to be revealed for all the world to see:**
 - Military equipment placed beside a 2,000-year old ruin, marked with the international symbol designating it as an historic landmark.
 - Trenches filled with oil ring all of Baghdad; six have already been ignited.
 - The mining of waterways, to include the use of civilian dhows, to prevent delivery of humanitarian assistance.
 - Iraqi citizens being marched out in front of irregular formations while they are firing.

- Iraqi civilians are being killed on the battlefield by Iraqi military.
 - Iraqi paramilitaries shooting into the town of Basra, primarily with mortars primarily, in total disregard for the people living there.
 - US Marines recently discovered an Iraqi hospital in An Nasiriyah, flying a flag marked with a Red Crescent, which was used as a staging area for paramilitary forces, and as a storage facility for Iraqi military uniforms, weapons, including a cache of AK-47 assault rifles, ammunition and a T-55 tank.
 - Misuse of a protected symbol, such as a Red Cross or Red Crescent, is a violation of Geneva Convention and may subject persons to prosecution as war criminals.
 - This behavior is more akin to that of global terrorists than of a nation.
- **Humanitarian Relief Assistance Update**
 - The port of Umm Qasr in Southern Iraq is now clear, and humanitarian assistance is beginning to enter Iraq.
 - The British ship, Sir Galahad, moved into the Khor Abdallah river Tuesday night with 211 tons of food and 101 tons of bottled water and will move up to Umm Qasr shortly.
 - US and Royal Marines will ensure the flow of food and aid, potentially the largest humanitarian operation in history.
 - Millions of meals, medicine and other supplies are ready for distribution. The US is sending 110,000 metric tons of food to the region.
 - \$60 million for relief preparations have been provided to international and nongovernmental organizations.
 - \$40 million has been provided to the World Food Program for logistics.
 - 3 million humanitarian daily rations (HDRs) have been deployed to Kuwait and other locations, the largest shipment of HDRs ever forward-deployed for contingency use.
 - A 62-person Civilian Disaster Response Team (DART) is being deployed to assess needs and coordinate aid. It is the largest operation of its kind ever.
 - **Finding and eliminating Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities is one of the key objectives of Operation Iraqi Freedom.**
 - The recent discovery of over 3,000 chemical suits, masks, and atrophine injectors at an Iraqi hospital in An Nasiriyah underscores our belief that Iraq not only possesses WMD, but also the will to use them.
 - The US military is prepared to deal with the potential effects of WMD. (see attachment.)
 - We have repeated warned Iraqi officers and military personnel not to use chemical weapons of Coalition forces, not to support a dying regime, and not to be hunted down for the rest of their lives for war crimes, which is what we would do. If they do, they will be hunted down, found, and punished.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Weapons of Mass Destruction – June 13, 2003

- **There has never been a question of Saddam Hussein's possession of weapons of mass destruction.**
 - In the '90s, Iraq admitted having produced 8,500 liters of anthrax and several tons of VX. What we didn't know was the location or how far the Iraqi WMD program had progressed since 1998, when the inspectors were forced to leave.
 - Iraq admitted producing 6,500 chemical bombs containing an estimated 1,000 tons of chemical agent – none of which has ever been accounted for -- and it is widely believed that significant quantities of chemical agents were stored in secret facilities.
 - In 1998, former President Clinton said Saddam Hussein possessed 5,000 gallons of botulinum, 2,000 gallons of anthrax and 177 Scud warheads and bombs filled with biological agents.
- **In addition to the Iraqi government's own admission, Iraq's ability to produce WMD has been known for years.**
 - In 1996, former CIA Director John Deutch testified before the Senate that the Iraqi regime possessed chemical and biological weapons and could deliver them by missile, aircraft or artillery.
 - In 2001, German intelligence reported that Saddam Hussein was three years away from being able to build nuclear weapons and that by 2005, would have a missile that could reach Europe.
 - In February, the French president proclaimed there were probably WMD in Iraq and emphasized the need to find and destroy them.
 - Former president Clinton described Iraq's "offensive biological warfare capability" in February 1998 and said the world had to address the kind of threat Iraq posed.
- **The Iraqis have never been forthright about their possession and development of WMD, and have had more than enough time to hide them. It will take a long time and much effort to find them.**
 - In January Hans Blix reported "no convincing evidence" that the stocks of anthrax Iraq admitted having had in its possession were ever destroyed. Blix said there was "strong evidence" that Iraq actually had produced more anthrax than it had admitted and that at least some of the stockpile had been retained.
 - UN inspection teams found documents indicating a higher quality of VX nerve agent than Iraq had reported. There were also indications the VX had been weaponized – directly contradicting Iraq's previous claims.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on the Iraq Survey Group, June 2, 2003

- **The Iraq Survey Group (ISG) represents a significant expansion in the hunt for weapons of mass destruction (WMD). It will build on the ongoing efforts by the 75th Exploitation Task Force in a deliberate, thorough and long-term process.**
 - The ISG will consolidate the efforts of the various intelligence collection operations currently in Iraq under one national-level headquarters, based in Baghdad.
 - The ISG will be staffed by 1,300 to 1,400 people from the U.S. government, the United Kingdom and Australia.
 - The ISG will have a powerful intelligence analytical element forward deployed in the region, connected to an interagency intelligence fusion center in the Washington, D.C. area.
 - Army Maj. Gen. Keith Dayton will lead the ISG at its main headquarters in Baghdad.
 - The analytic center and media processing center will operate from Qatar, which already has a well-developed theater of operations.
- **The first priority of the ISG is to search for and eliminate WMD.**
 - In addition, the ISG will collect and exploit documents and media related to terrorism, war crimes, POW and MIA concerns, and other issues related to the former Iraqi regime.
 - The ISG will interrogate and debrief both friendly and hostile individuals, and it will exploit captured materiel. For instance, a truck driver who transported materiel to sites or a guard at a facility may yield as much valuable information as a regime official.
 - As Maj. Gen. Dayton has stated, the goal of ISG is to put all the pieces together in what is appearing to be a very complex jigsaw puzzle.
- **The ISG will place a greater emphasis on going to places where the intelligence community believes there is a likelihood of finding something or someone who knows about Iraq's WMD capabilities.**
 - There will be a decreased emphasis on fixed sites off the master site list the 75th Exploitation Task Force has been working from to date.
 - We know a lot more now through interviews than we did in January, when the site lists were originally developed.
 - The effectiveness of the ISG lies not with the number of searchers (between 200-300), but rather the process by which the searching will take place – the synergy of combining the intelligence disciplines with the analytic-based requirements.
 - The ISG will take the new information, refine it, and work to link the various pieces that the operations commanders have not had an ability to connect.



US Department of Defense

Deployment of the 3rd Infantry Division – July 17, 2003

Following is the most recent deployment status of the 3rd ID:

Number of 3rd ID Troops Deployed to Iraq:

- The Division deployed a total of 16,500 soldiers to Iraq during the fall of 2002 and the winter of 2003 before Operation Iraqi Freedom, and the Division continued to grow in-theater.

Current Redeployments of the 3rd ID:

- About 9,000 soldiers from the division will have redeployed back home by the end of this week.

3rd Infantry Redeployment Timeline:

- There are two brigades remaining in Iraq -- the Division's 1st and 2nd Brigade Combat Teams, based at Fort Stewart, Ga.
- It is the intent of the Department of Defense to have soldiers of the 3rd Infantry Division out of Iraq and moving home by September, pending international or U.S. replacements.
- As always, the security situation could affect deployments or redeployments.

More Information Is Forthcoming

- More specific information on the redeployment of the 3rd ID will become available in about a week, when we learn more from the Army, Marines and Coalition countries about rotational plans for troops in Iraq.
- It is very important to ensure that every soldier, sailor, airman and Marine know what their end dates are.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points – Iran Earthquake: December 29, 2003

U.S. Military Assists Earthquake Relief in Iran

- The U.S. military is participating in international relief efforts to alleviate the suffering of the Iranian people following the earthquake in Bam.
- The U.S. military will assist the Iranian people, despite differences with the Iranian government. Our differences have never been with the Iranian people. Instead, it is the Iranian government's decision to support terrorism, to pursue weapons of mass destruction, and to deny human rights to the people of Iran that are the obstacles to improved relations between our two countries. Support for the relief effort includes:
 - From the United States, the U.S. Air Force flew Fairfax County, Virginia, Search & Rescue teams, two civilian medical teams from Boston, Mass, and various disaster support experts as well as their equipment into Kerman, Iran. They departed December 27-28.
 - Additionally, U.S. Central Command flew 8 C-130 flights carrying 150,000 lbs of humanitarian relief and medical supplies from stocks in Kuwait to the people of Iran.
 - Medical teams, rescue squads, disaster support experts and their equipment were transported from the U.S. using a C-5 and one C-17. The C-5 flew from its home station, Dover AFB, Del., and the C-17, from Charleston AFB, S.C., left from Westover ARB, Mass.

Iraq Update

- The number of attacks against coalition elements continues the downward trend that began in the middle of November, but coalition forces remain poised to adjust to any upward activity on the part of the enemy, while forces in the area of operations remain offensively oriented and continue to obtain actionable intelligence for future operations.
- The Coalition anticipates and is prepared for the number of attacks to increase in the weeks ahead, as the date draws nearer for the transition of power.
- Operation Iron Grip (1st AD, Baghdad) continues. Coalition forces are using a wide variety of ordnance to attack specified targets in use or used in the past by the enemy. The intent of this large-scale precision operation is to capture or kill individuals conducting actions against the coalition forces and the Iraqi people.
 - As a result of recent operations, 1st Armored Division captured, 66 prisoners of which 21 are considered significant, including a major general associated with Saddam Hussein, individuals with links to a large terrorist organization, known bomb-makers, cell leaders, senior planners for the former regime, and several Fedayeen members from a cell in Baghdad.
 - In addition to capturing prisoners, the task force seized 60 122mm rockets, 34 AK-47s, six other rifles, three shotguns, 11 pistols and large quantities of improvised explosive device-making material.
 - In Mosul, soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) fought suspected members of the Ansar Al Islam terrorist group Dec. 28 during a cordon and knock operation, killing three terrorists and confiscating two rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) launchers, 11 RPG rounds, eight grenades, two AK-47s with 1,100 rounds, one 9-millimeter sub-machine gun, \$30,000 worth of Iraqi dinar and nine religious books with anti-Coalition content.
 - In Tikrit, an Iraqi citizen provided information that led to the discovery and subsequent destruction of 580 57-millimeter rockets by soldiers of the 4th ID.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points – Iraq Update – Dec. 8, 2003

Operations Update

- **Fourth Infantry Division repels coordinated ambushes, kills 54 enemy attackers.**
 - Two convoys moving into Samarra in northern Iraq were attacked on the afternoon of Nov. 30 with improvised explosive devices, small arms, mortars and rocket propelled grenades.
 - Soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division and Task Force Ironhorse repelled the ambush attempts, killing 54, wounding at least 18 and capturing eight. Some of the dead attackers were found wearing Saddam Fedayeen uniforms.
- **101st Airborne uses actionable intelligence to go after the enemy.**
 - Coalition forces detained eight individuals in intelligence-based raids and searches in Operation Eagle Curtain.
- **Third Armored Cavalry Regiment (3rd ACR) continues Operation Rifle Blitz.**
 - Iraqi police and recent Civil Defense Corps graduates worked with 3rd ACR soldiers to establish checkpoints and conduct patrols around Al Qa'im, in western Iraq near the Syrian border. Two enemy personnel were captured.

Security Forces Update

- More than 400 recruits have been identified for the next class of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps, which begins Dec. 9. Soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division 3rd Brigade are helping screen candidates in Hillah.
- The number of Iraqis contributing to the security of their country continues to increase. More than 145,000 now serve in the security forces, including 68,000 as police, 53,000 in the Facilities Protection Service, 11,000 in the Civil Defense Corps and 12,000 as Border Police.

Reconstruction Progress in Iraq

- More than 14,000 reconstruction projects have been completed, a rate of almost 100 a day.
- Soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) worked with Iraqi engineers to construct the Hawler International Airport in Irbil, which opens today. It is the first major airport to open in northern Iraq.
- A UK-sponsored station in Al Basrah is set to begin airing a weekly program on democracy and human rights. Al Nahrain's FM and AM radio will define a new concept, such as the constitution, during the broadcast each Friday.

➤ **Education**

- Student supply kits have been delivered to secondary schools and almost 90 percent of schools have received revised textbooks.
- More than 1,750 schools were rehabilitated by the end of November.
- Teachers are now earning 12 to 25 times their previous salaries under Saddam's rule.
- More than 64,000 teachers and 5,000 principals and school administrators are to be trained in modern teaching methods.
- The Fulbright Scholarship program restarts in January. The first ever U.S./Iraq Bi-National Fulbright Review Committee met Nov. 19 to evaluate hundreds of applications.
 - Twenty students will receive scholarships for this premier international exchange program.

➤ **Electricity and Oil**

- The Ministry of Electricity continues its planned fall maintenance program. The maintenance is schedule to end in time for cooler winter months, when the demand for electricity for heating increases.
- Electrical generation hit a post-war high of 4,417 megawatts on Oct. 5, meeting the initial goal of 4,400 MW.
- Daily crude production is about 2.1 million barrels per day.
 - Since June, oil sales have generated more than \$3.3 billion in revenue for Iraqi reconstruction.

➤ **Finance**

- More than 80 percent of bank branches operating before the war are open for business.
- The currency exchange that began Oct. 15 is proceeding well. Two-thirds of the new dinars expected to be exchanged before the January deadline are in circulation.

➤ **Health Care**

- Public health spending is 26 times higher than the amount spent during Saddam's reign.
- Doctors' salaries are eight times higher.
- Three million of the 4.3 million children under age five have been vaccinated.
- 20,000 children are receiving required vaccinations each month during the monthly vaccination program.



Setting the Record Straight

Report: *The Pentagon wants to cut the pay of its troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.*

Ground Truth:

- **The Defense Department will ensure that U.S. men and women in uniform continue to receive full compensation for service in high-threat areas.**
- **If legislative authorization for Family Separation & Imminent Danger allowances expires, DoD will use other authority available to the Department to make up for any potential shortfalls.**
- **Background:**
 - **After the President's budget was submitted in April, Congress authorized an increase in both the Family Separation Allowance (on a worldwide basis) and Imminent Danger Pay, and legislated the increases to expire on September 30, 2003.**
 - **The Defense Department is aware that many U.S. soldiers will continue to serve in high-threat areas at the time these allowances are set to expire.**
 - **DoD is working to ensure that those serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and other high-threat areas continue to receive full and fair compensation.**



Setting the Record Straight

Report: *The morale of U.S. troops in Iraq is suffering -- their living conditions are terrible and they don't understand the mission or the justification for being in Iraq.*

Ground Truth:

- Morale among U.S. troops in Iraq remains high. Two key indicators -- re-enlistment and mission effectiveness -- point to continued dedication on the part of American service members to Operation Iraqi Freedom.
- Scores of troops have chosen to re-enlist while serving in Iraq. More than 150 members of the U.S. Army recently re-enlisted during a ceremony at one of Saddam's palaces in Mosul; 25 Marines recently re-enlisted in Ad Diwaniyah. These re-enlistments have occurred despite the hardships of Operation Iraqi Freedom: friends lost in combat, dust storms, freezing nights and hot days.
- Gunnery Sgt. Rodney Brown, a Texas native who recently committed to another 4 years with the Marine Corps, said "I did this for my Marines, for what we have been through together. It means a lot after what we've been through to (reenlist) here." See: [Combat reenlistments](#).
- Military operations -- including Soda Mountain, Sidewinder, Desert Scorpion and Ivy Serpent -- are a testament to the dedication and motivation of U.S. service members in Iraq. These operations have included **190 raids** resulting in the capture of **1100 detainees**, the seizure of **4,500 mortar rounds**, **1600 rocket-propelled grenades**, more than **1,500 rounds of ammunition** and thousands of other weapons and military equipment. In addition, more than **8,000 tons of Iraqi ordnance** have been secured or destroyed since the end of major combat operations.

Report: *No one knows when our troops are coming home, and there are no plans to bring them back.*

Ground Truth:

- The U.S. Army recently released a rotation plan for key elements of the American military force in Iraq, including return dates for the 3rd Infantry Division (Sept./Oct. 2003), 3rd Armored CAV Regiment (Mar/April 2004), 82nd Airborne Division (Jan. 2004), 101st Airborne Division (Feb./Mar. 2004), 4th Infantry Division (Mar./April 2004), the 173rd Airborne Brigade (April 2004), and 1st Armored Division (Feb./Mar. 2004).
 - Return of the total force depends in large part on the Iraqi people. The U.S. is committed to staying in Iraq to facilitate the formation of a representative government. Iraqis must write a constitution, hold an election and establish a sovereign Iraqi government. The U.S. is prepared to stay in Iraq as long as it takes to get a sovereign government in place, and not a day longer. It's up to the Iraqi people.
-

Report: *American troops in Iraq have become "sitting ducks". There needs to be more U.S. troops in Iraq to keep Americans there safe.*

Ground Truth:

- It is impossible to eliminate casualties, and every American death is a great loss. But U.S. troops are hardly "sitting ducks." American forces continue to conduct combat operations against Iraqi dead-enders, capturing top former regime members, securing tons of ammunition and debilitating the enemy's ability to attack.
 - To keep Iraq stable and secure in the long-term, the U.S. is enlisting the Iraqi people and giving them a greater role in their own security. There are almost 34,000 Iraqi police on the streets. Of these, about 5,700 are in Baghdad, and another 4,500 will be available when background checks are complete. An aggressive campaign is underway to recruit more than 34,000 additional men and women for police service over the next two years.
 - The U.S. is also working with the Governing Council to create an Iraqi civil defense corps. Training has begun for this new civil defense corps, with battalions eventually in each of Iraq's 18 governorates. This will become a force over the next year of 7,000 men and women. These local forces will work with Coalition forces to attack criminals, dead-enders and terrorists.
 - The Iraqi military force trained by the Coalition is expected to grow to 12,000 over the course of the next year and to 40,000 within two years.
-

Report: *Iraqi "guerrillas" are intent on driving out American forces.*

Ground Truth:

- Those launching attacks in Iraq include criminals, foreign terrorists and regime remnants; there is no evidence of national coordination.
- The U.S. also continues to find non-Iraqis fighting in that country. These terrorists are killed when necessary and captured when possible.
- Attacks are being carried out by Saddam's dead-enders and by known terrorist groups such as Ansar al-Islam.
- The attacks are often against Iraqis -- not Americans. The Jordanian embassy bombing was a clear act of terrorism that was an attack on innocent Iraqi civilians.



US Department of Defense

NATO Assumes Peacekeeping Role In Afghanistan – August 12, 2003

NATO Takes Command in Afghanistan.

- In its first mission outside Europe, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) formally assumed a leadership role Monday in the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), a UN-mandated force tasked with helping provide security in and around Kabul, Afghanistan.
- NATO troops will continue to assist the Afghan Transitional Authority (ATA) in maintaining security in Kabul and the surrounding area so that the ATA, as well as UN personnel, can carry out their work in a secure environment.
- NATO has already played a significant role in support of ISAF, with NATO member countries providing 95% of the troops involved.
- Neither ISAF's name nor mission will change. The operation will continue to operate under the United Nations mandate and the ISAF banner, and the Alliance will continue to welcome non-NATO contributors.

The NATO Commanders.

- The Supreme Allied Commander Europe, General James Jones, has appointed German Army Lieutenant-General Götz Gliemeroth as the Commander of the new NATO mission to Afghanistan, and Canadian Army Major-General Andrew Leslie as the Deputy Commander.
- Both officers assumed their new appointments on 11 August 2003, when NATO took the lead of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) from the German-Netherlands Corps in Kabul.
- Lt. Gen. Gliemeroth previously commanded NATO's Joint Headquarters Center in Heidelberg, Germany. Maj. Gen. Leslie is the Commander of Regular and Reserve Force army brigade groups in Canada's Land Forces Central Area, based in Toronto.

The International Force.

- ISAF participating nations as of August 11, 2003 ([Source: www.nato.int/](http://www.nato.int/))

Albania
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia

Lithuania
Luxemburg
Macedonia
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway
Poland
Romania
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
UK
US



- **September 11th ushered in a new age of asymmetric warfare.**
 - Instead of battling conventional threats posed by large armies, navies and air forces, the United States and its allies are now facing cyber terrorists, suicide bombers, low-intensity warfare and the threat posed by weapons of mass destruction.
- **The United States and its allies must take the war to the terrorists and fight them where they are, or Coalition countries will be fighting terrorists at home.**
 - The battle in Iraq is central to winning the global war on terrorism.
 - The Coalition is committed to defeating the terrorists and regime remnants in Iraq.
- **The Iraqis are engaged in securing their own country.**
 - Liberated from Saddam's regime, Iraqis are coming forward and cooperating with Coalition forces.
 - More than 50,000 Iraqis are defending their own country as part of a new:
 - Iraqi army;
 - Police force;
 - Border control;
 - Facilities protection service, which will guard fixed sites such as banks, universities and ministries; and
 - Iraqi civil defense corps, which will have a battalion in each of the 18 governances.
- **Iraq is on track to create a sovereign government. The Iraqi Governing Council is responsible for:**
 - Appointing a cabinet. An announcement should be ready in about two weeks.
 - Approving a budget for 2004. The budget should be approved by the end of September.
 - Begin the process of drafting a new constitution. A 25-person team has been named to decide how the document will be written. The document will be voted on by the Iraqi people.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Update on Iraq – Aug. 26, 2003

- **The war in Iraq is part of the global war against terrorism.**
 - Recent terrorist bombings confirm that America's enemies are engaged in a war on freedom, and they will target all people living in freedom -- including women, children, or relief workers.
 - The ultimate goal of the terrorists is to impose a system based on tyranny and oppression, and they terrorize free people to break our spirit and our resolve. But the U.S. cannot and will not shrink from this fight. The freedoms and the way of life we hold sacred are at stake.
 - In a speech nine days after the September 11 attacks, President Bush said, "Our war on terror begins with al Qaeda, but it does not end there. It will not end until every terrorist group of global reach has been found, stopped, and defeated."
 - Confronting Saddam Hussein was also essential. His regime posed a threat to the security of the United States and the world. This was a regime that pursued, had used, and possessed weapons of mass destruction.
 - Saddam had links to terror; had twice invaded other nations; defied the international community and 17 UN resolutions for twelve years; and gave every indication that he would never disarm and never comply with the just demands of the world. That threat could not be allowed to remain -- and grow.
 - Saddam's removal means people everywhere need no longer fear his weapons, his aggression, and his cruelty. The war on terror is greatly advanced by ending this source of instability in the world's most volatile region.
- **There is a large international contingent helping in Iraq.**
 - Currently there are 136,000 U.S. troops and 22,000 Coalition troops in Iraq.
 - 44 countries have offered military support in Iraq.
 - 28 countries have publicly committed troops.
 - The United Kingdom is leading a multinational division; Poland is leading another and the Coalition is working to field a third multinational division.
- **Iraqis are contributing to their own security.**
 - Iraqis are coming forward with intelligence. After the deaths of Uday and Qusay there was a spike in information from Iraqis, who now feel free to share what they know about the former regime.
 - Currently more than 50,000 Iraqis have been trained by the Coalition and are armed. More are being trained each day; they are part of the police force, the border patrol and the army.
 - These Iraqis will help secure their own country and their presence will put an Iraqi face on the security situation.
- **The questions of whether there are the sufficient number of U.S. forces, and the balance between the active and reserve component, are constantly being evaluated.**
 - Military intelligence, rather than more combat troops, will be key to routing the enemy.
 - Commanders in the field are in the best position to determine troop strength. The Secretary of Defense and Gen. Myers have made clear that commanders will be provided the resources needed to complete the mission.



Setting the Record Straight

Report: *The U.S. has failed to adequately involve the international community in securing and rebuilding Iraq.*

Ground Truth:

- 30 countries have contributed a total of more than 22,000 forces toward security in Iraq.
 - Iraqis are taking an ever-larger role in their country's security. An Iraqi civil defense corps is being raised; 12,000 Iraqis will be trained this year for the new Iraqi army; and 34,000 Iraqi police have been hired and trained.
-

Report: *The U.S. needs more troops in Iraq.*

Ground Truth:

- Troop strength in Iraq is best determined by commanders in the field. Currently there are 139,000 U.S. troops and 22,000 Coalition troops in Iraq. To date, the commanders on the ground have not asked for additional troops in Iraq. The situation is constantly monitored, and adjustments can be made to meet evolving conditions.
 - Also, there are more than 50,000 Iraqis under arms that are working in coordination with the Coalition. There are 35,000 Iraqi volunteers in the police force, and more than 2,300 Iraqi Defense Corps volunteers that work closely with Coalition divisions.
 - Rather than looking at the numbers of troops, it is helpful to look at results. Recent operations, including Soda Mountain, Sidewinder, Desert Scorpion and Ivy Serpent have included almost 200 raids that netted more than 1,100 detainees, and thousands of mortar rounds and weapons. U.S. troops are continuing to conduct operations against enemy dead-enders.
-

Report: *Rather than deliver a blow against global terrorism, the Coalition in Iraq has created a "safe haven" for terrorists.*

Ground Truth:

- Iraq is at the center of the global war on terrorism. Wherever terrorists are found -- including those operating in Iraq -- Coalition forces will capture or kill them.
- Iraq and the region will not be safe or prosperous until the terrorist threat there is eliminated.
- Under Saddam Hussein, Iraq was listed as one of seven state sponsors of terror by the U.S. State Department.

- Iraq agreed to provide chemical and biological weapons training for two Al Qaeda associates starting in December 2000.
- Senior Al Qaeda associate Abu Musab al-Zarqawi traveled to Baghdad in May 2002 for medical treatment along with approximately two dozen Al Qaeda terrorist associates. This group stayed in Baghdad and other parts of Iraq and plotted terrorist attacks around the world.
- A safe haven in Iraq belonging to Ansar al-Islam -- a terrorist group closely associated with Zarqawi and Al Qaeda -- was destroyed during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Saddam also provided safe haven for terrorist groups such as the Iranian Mujahedin-e-Khalq and the Abu Nidal organization.
- Facilities in Northern Iraq run by Zarqawi and Ansar al-Islam included Al Qaeda poisons/toxins laboratories and planning centers for attacks against France, Britain, Spain, Italy, Germany and Russia.
- Abu Musa Zarqawi, the Al Qaeda associate with direct links to Iraq, oversaw those responsible for the assassination of USAID officer Laurence Foley in Amman, Jordan, last October.
- Saddam Hussein's Iraq provided support to Palestinian terrorist groups, including the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, Hamas, and the Palestine Islamic Jihad. This support included payment to the families of Palestinian suicide bombers.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Liberia – August 15, 2003

U.S. service members in Liberia are helping West African peacekeepers secure the flow of food and humanitarian aid to the Liberia people.

- There are several hundred U.S. troops supporting African forces in Liberia, including a Marine rapid-reaction force.
- The U.S. objective is to help ease the delivery of humanitarian aid and support to the Liberian people. Other potential activities of U.S. troops in Liberia may include:
 - Assessing the readiness of West African Economic Community Military (ECOMIL) forces from the various contributing countries.
 - Providing training to West African forces if required.
 - Assisting ECOMIL with security and stability in the Liberian city of Monrovia, including air and naval support if required.
 - Providing rapid-reaction capabilities in the event that ECOMIL forces require assistance.

West African forces are growing in order to provide stability and security in Liberia. The U.S. role will be limited.

- The U.S. role will be limited in time and scope as multinational forces under the United Nations assume responsibility for peacekeeping, and as the United Nations oversees a political transition in Liberia.
- The United States remains in close coordination with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the ECOWAS units assigned to the Multinational Interim Force. ECOWAS plans to continue to build up the Multinational Interim Force over the next several weeks.
- There are currently more than 700 Nigerian forces on the ground; a second Nigerian battalion will deploy in the coming week.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, April 6, 2003

"It's a shame that this brutal regime continues to send young men out to die for a lost cause, a hopeless cause. But the end of this regime is here. ...I hope the Iraqi people understand this evil leader and his regime is not going to survive this time. There is a sort of fear that he has come back so many times before, but he is not going to make it this time."

*-Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz
"Fox News Sunday", 4/6/03*

"Either [Saddam] is dead, or he is alive and the world's worst general."

*- Gen. Peter Pace, Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
ABC News "This Week", 4/6/03*

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

Coalition Tightens Control Over Baghdad

- US air supremacy over Baghdad continues as US planes fly around-the-clock missions designed to support the U.S. ground invasion of the capital city.
- 3rd Infantry Division forces are approaching Baghdad from the southwest; 1st Marine Expeditionary Forces are coming from the southeast.
- A night-time travel ban by Iraqi authorities of civilians and vehicles in and out of Baghdad will not stop the US military from accomplishing the mission.
- Seven thousand US troops are positioned at the Baghdad International Airport, establishing a base of operations and repairing the airport's infrastructure.
- 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines seized one of Saddam's palaces south of Baghdad.

Coalition Successes Continue Across Iraq

- Efforts to remove remnants of the Iraqi regime from Basra, Samawah, Najaf, and Karbala are ongoing. Encounters with regime forces have decreased while support from local populations has escalated.
- Deliberate work by UK forces in Basra has weakened the grip of the regime. British forces have destroyed Iraqi armored units and are engaging bunker positions in the city.
- V Corps controls the corridor from Karbala to Baghdad, beyond Baghdad International Airport, and 1st Marine Expeditionary Forces control the corridor from Salman Pak to Baghdad in the east.

- A raid by 1st Marine Expeditionary Forces destroyed a training camp near Salman Pak yesterday, responding to information gained from captured Iraqi POWs who said it had been used to train foreign terrorists.

'Chemical Ali' Compound Hit in Coalition Air Raid

- A Coalition air mission struck a compound believed to house Ali Hassan al-Majid, a cousin of Saddam Hussein. Known as "Chemical Ali," he is suspected of ordering the 1988 gas attacks that killed thousands of Kurds in the northern Iraqi village of Halabja. The body of al-Majid's bodyguard has been identified.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 3, 2003 - PM

The course is set. We're on the advance. Our destination is Baghdad and we will accept nothing less than complete and final victory.

- President George W. Bush
Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune
April 3, 2003

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No Deal for Saddam.

There is no question but that some governments are discussing...some sort of...a deal. And the inevitable effect of it...is to give hope and comfort to the Saddam Hussein regime, and give them ammunition that they can then try to use to retain the loyalty of their forces...with hope that one more time maybe he'll survive, one more time maybe he'll be there for another decade or so; for another 17 or 18 U.N. resolutions. ...[T]here is not a chance there is going to be a deal. It doesn't matter who proposes it, there will not be one.

- Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld
Pentagon Press Briefing
April 3, 2003

Coalition forces continue to close on Baghdad; there will likely be difficult days ahead.

- It is day 14 of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Coalition forces are closing on Baghdad. They have taken several outlying areas, and are closer to the center of the Iraqi capital than many American commuters are from their downtown offices.

The military strategy is working.

- There may be difficult days ahead, but the regime is under increasing pressure.
- The coalition has
 - Secured the majority of Iraq's oil wealth for the Iraqi people.
 - Secured key roads and bridges leading to Baghdad.
 - Has arrived near the regime's doorstep—all in less than two weeks.

It is becoming increasingly clear to Iraqis who is a friend and who is an enemy of Muslim people.

- While coalition forces have taken extraordinary measures to protect innocent civilians in this war, Saddam Hussein has sent death squads to massacre innocent Iraqi Muslims.

Saddam Hussein has killed more Muslim people than perhaps any living person on the face of the earth.

- The day is fast approaching when his murderous rule will end.
- The Iraqi regime is running out of real soldiers.
- Soon all that will be left are war criminals.

Liberation Update

Excerpt from an interview with Essam Al-Ghalib, an Arab News correspondent, NPR, 4-1-03

Renee Montagne (NPR): "Speaking to people who live in Basra, were you able to ascertain what their feelings were about Saddam Hussein, about the American-led troops?"

Mr. Al-Ghalib : "When we went in [Basra] there was a humanitarian relief truck from the Kuwaiti Red Crescent Society. Along with it were a lot of media, a lot of cameras. So as we went in, people were shouting loudly this chant that we've heard many, many times, which was, 'Without blood, without souls, we will die for you, Saddam.'

"And this struck me as being a little odd. So I took this 19-year-old aside, away from the cameras and asked him, 'Why are you guys chanting this, especially [when] all the relief is coming from Kuwait?' They said, 'On camera we have to always show our support for Saddam because if the U.S. or the U.K. troops decide to withdraw, then Saddam is going to come and he's going to slaughter families and individuals of those who have voiced any opposition [to] him.'"

Defend America

For up to the minute news and information about **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, click or visit: www.defendamerica.mil





US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 3, 2003 - AM

"There is increasing evidence that the regime cannot control its forces or the Iraqi population in most of the country."

*- Gen. Vincent Brooks
CENTCOM Press Briefing
April 3, 2003*

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The Coalition is attacking and destroying Iraqi forces around Baghdad as U.S. ground forces approach the Iraqi capital.

- The 1st Mechanized Division is isolating regime units southeast of Baghdad in Ad Diwaniyah and Al Kut, where 52 Republican Guard soldiers surrendered to Coalition forces.
- Fifth Corps penetrated the Karbala gap (between Karbala and Lake Razazah) that was defended by two Republican Guard divisions. U.S. forces there seized and crossed a bridge over the Euphrates that had been rigged by the Iraqis for demolition. They are pushing toward Baghdad.
- In the past 24 hours Special Operations forces continued to operate freely throughout Iraq, conducting operations against targets of opportunity, and moving into the area between Tikrit and Baghdad where they are effectively denying Iraqi forces freedom of movement.
- Special Forces also raided two Ba'ath party headquarters and the Tharthar palace outside Baghdad, a known residence of Iraqi regime leaders. Intelligence documents were retrieved and are being analyzed.
- British forces remain firmly in control of the northern approach to Basra. British forces captured a motorcycle courier carrying maps of Iraqi artillery positions, which were subsequently destroyed. British forces also found and destroyed three Iraqi Ababil-100 missiles.

Iraqi Forces Continue to Violate International Law

- Human Rights Watch reports today that Iraq has "violated international humanitarian law by storing anti-personnel landmines inside a mosque in Kadir Karam in northern Iraq, and placing them around the mosque before abandoning the area on March 27th." For more information see: [Iraqi Landmines Found in Mosque - www.hrc.org](http://www.hrc.org).

Iraqi Cleric Urges Cooperation with Coalition Forces

- A prominent Shiite cleric in the holy city of An Najaf has issued a statement urging Iraqi citizens to remain calm and not to hinder the progress of U.S. forces. Grand Ayatollah Sistani, who had been under house arrest by the Iraqi regime, issued the "fatwah" today. A U.S. commander called it "a very significant turning point and another indicator that the Iraqi regime is approaching its end."

Disinformation Alert

- U.S. Central Command has reliable information that the Iraqi regime may be planning to begin anonymous bombing campaigns in several Baghdad Shiite neighborhoods in an attempt to falsely accuse the Coalition of this destruction for propaganda purposes. This action would represent the latest chapter in a long history of aggression against innocent Iraqis by a regime that uses violence, torture, murder and hunger as tools of terror and control.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 2, 2003

"A dagger is clearly pointed at the heart of the regime right now, and will remain pointed at it until the regime is gone."

- Gen. Vincent Brooks
CENTCOM Press Briefing
April 2, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

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Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves Iraq's territorial integrity.

Coalition Making Progress, But Tough Fighting Lies Ahead

- The Coalition conducted simultaneous attacks over the last 24 hours against regime targets in Baghdad and throughout the country -- engaging Republican Guard divisions defending the outskirts of Baghdad and fighting irregular forces throughout southern Iraq.
 - The First Marine Expeditionary Force attacked and destroyed the Republican Guard Baghdad division near the town of Al Kut and crossed the Tigris River.
 - Fifth Corps attacked a combination of the Republican Guard's Medina and Nebuchadnezzar divisions -- action continues near Karbala along the Euphrates River.
 - Fifth Corps units also cleared An Najaf of Iraqi paramilitary forces and were welcomed by thousands of Iraqi citizens.
 - British forces continue securing the Al Faw peninsula and the Rumailah oil fields while destroying any remaining resistance in the south. They also captured five Iraqi missiles near the Ash Shuaybah Airport.

Army PFC Jessica Lynch Rescued

- Yesterday Coalition Special Forces rescued Army private Jessica Lynch from Iraqi regime captivity. PFC Lynch was taken from a hospital where she was being guarded near An Nasiriyah in southern Iraq.

Iraqi Regime Continues to Violate International Law and All Norms of Decency

- There is an emerging pattern with Iraqi forces:
 - Iraqi forces holed up in the Ali Mosque in An Najaf are firing at Coalition troops. Against international laws of war, Saddam's forces are using the mosque as a military fortress. Coalition troops have not returned fire -- instead, they continue to work to avoid civilian casualties and protect Iraq's holy sites.

- Iraqi forces continue to use civilians as human shields -- positioning military equipment and command and control centers in residential areas.
- Iraqi forces store weapons near or inside hospitals and schools -- often where children are present.
- These tactics are meant to elicit a response allowing the regime to claim that Coalition forces are destroying schools and hospitals.

Cowardly Enemy Tactics No Match for Coalition's Humanity

- In contrast to the Iraqi regime's brutality, the Coalition continues to help the Iraqi people:
 - Within a few days, two American ships will deliver more than 50,000 tons of wheat -- enough to feed 4-5 million Iraqis for a month.
 - Coalition Special Forces seized the Hadithah Dam to prevent its destruction by the Iraqi regime. The dam could have flooded the Euphrates River toward Baghdad in the area of Karbala, causing significant loss of life.

Liberation Update

"People rushed to greet [U.S. soldiers in Najaf] today, crying out repeatedly, 'Thank you, this is beautiful!' Two questions dominated a crowd that gathered outside a former ammunition center for the Baath Party. 'Will you stay?' asked Kase, a civil engineer who would not give his last name. Another man, Heider, said, 'Can you tell me what time Saddam is finished?' ...Asked what else the people wanted, residents pointed to a building from which they said rocket-propelled grenades were launched, and asked the military to remove them."

- *New York Times*, April 2, 2003

"I was shocked when I first met a pro-war Iraqi in Baghdad - a taxi driver taking me back to my hotel late at night. I explained that I was American and said, as we shields always did, 'Bush bad, war bad, Iraq good.' He looked at me with an expression of incredulity. As he realized I was serious, he slowed down and started to speak in broken English about the evils of Saddam's regime. Until then I had only heard the President spoken of with respect, but now this guy was telling me how all of Iraq's oil money went into Saddam's pocket and that if you opposed him politically he would kill your whole family."

- Daniel Pepper, who traveled to Iraq as a human shield,
The Sunday Telegraph (UK), March 23, 2003

Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 1, 2003 - PM

"The majority of Iraqis do not support the regime. Their obedience is based on fear -- and that fear is beginning to slip away as coalition forces advance..."

"There will be no outcome in this war that leaves Saddam and his family in power. Let there be no doubt. The only thing we are willing to discuss with Saddam Hussein's regime is the time and place of their total and unconditional surrender."

**Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld
April 1, 2003**

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

"We are coming ... and we will not relent until your country is free." - Sec. Rumsfeld, 4/1/03

- Day and night, coalition air power is degrading Iraq's command and control with strikes that are powerful, sustained and precise.
- The regime is losing its ability to communicate, and is forced to use couriers—and they report that coalition forces are advancing rapidly.
- To prevent the regular army from surrendering or defecting, Iraqi death squads now depend on executions to maintain a climate of fear.
- A growing number of Iraqi intelligence operatives around the world have been arrested; others are ignoring their orders to attack coalition targets and are waiting for the regime to collapse.
- Coalition aircrews are now delivering devastating air attacks on the Republican Guard divisions ringing Baghdad—decimating Saddam's last lines of defense.
- Coalition forces are coming from the north, the south, and the west, and the circle around Baghdad is closing.
- Iraqi officials have resorted to spreading rumors that the Coalition has entered into cease-fire negotiations, that there is a third-party "peace plan," that we do not intend to finish the job.
- They are lying. There are no negotiations taking place with Saddam Hussein. There will be no outcome in this war that leaves Saddam and his family in power.

Brutality of the Iraqi Regime

- U.S. Marines from Task Force Tarawa secured a hospital in An Nasiriyah, Iraq, March 25, 2003, where they discovered Iraqi troops, uniforms, weapons, ammunition and equipment. See photos at: www.DefendAmerica.mil - Photo Essay - Hospital

Humanitarian Update:

- The ship Yellow Rose, currently in port at Galveston, Texas, is on-loading 28,500 metric tons of wheat bound for the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr.
- Once the Yellow Rose departs port, the ship Free Atlas will tie-up in Galveston to load another 28,000 metric tons of wheat for the people of Iraq.
- Together, these two shiploads will provide enough wheat for about 4-5 million Iraqis for one month.

Disinformation Update:

Report: *Exaggerated reports of hundreds of Iraqi civilians deaths and thousands of injured continue.*

Ground Truth: These reports are not verified. Coalition forces do not target civilian populations, and make every effort to minimize civilian casualties, which are an unavoidable part of war. The Iraqi regime, on the other hand, clearly places no value on human life and has demonstrated its willingness to shed civilian blood by, among other means, conscripting young male teens to fight for the regime; forcing civilians, including children and babies, out in front of Iraqi forces, and shooting women in the back.

Defend America

For up to the minute news and information about **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, click or visit: www.defendamerica.mil





US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 30, 2003

“You have rescued a nation, liberated a people, deposed a cruel dictator, and ended his threat to free nations ... Unlike many armies in the world, you came not to conquer, not to occupy, but to liberate ... You've unleashed events that will unquestionably shape the course of this country, the fate of a people and, very likely, the future of this entire region.”

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld

Address to the Troops, Baghdad, Iraq, April 30, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

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Operation Iraqi Freedom

- As military operations in Iraq wind down, Secretary Rumsfeld toured the region to thank US and Coalition forces for their skill, courage and dedication to duty.
- The Secretary told assembled forces in Basra and Baghdad that scenes of the Iraqi people celebrating their newfound freedom will take their place in history alongside the liberation of Paris and the fall of the Berlin Wall.
- The accomplishments of Operation Iraqi Freedom were remarkable:
 - Ground forces took Baghdad in less than a month – possibly the fastest march on a capital in modern military history;
 - The air campaign was powerful, sustained and precise – never before had so much firepower been directed at one regime with such devastating military damage and so little civilian destruction; and
 - The unprecedented combination of power, precision, speed, and compassion will mark the Iraqi conflict as a turning point in the history of combat.
- Just as remarkable was what did not occur:
 - Neighboring countries were not hit with Scud missiles;
 - The vast majority of Iraq's oil fields were not burned;
 - There were no huge numbers of fleeing refugees;
 - There was no large-scale collateral damage;
 - Bridges and dams were neither blown nor broken.
 - There were no massive civilian casualties or major damage to civilian, cultural, or holy sites.

Stabilization and Reconstruction Continues

- In the south, the al Basrah oil refinery has restarted operations and will begin refining propane, benzene, and gasoline for the Iraqi people. Propane is the principal fuel for cooking in Iraq.
- Two major water plants in al Basrah have been repaired, improving efficiency from a pre-war level of 35 percent to 80 percent or greater.
- Water is now flowing to 85 percent of Baghdad, and power plants are generating 450 megawatts of electricity daily. This has enabled the operation of the substations at all sixteen water treatment plants, 24 of 26 wastewater treatment plants, and 11 of 12 major public hospitals.
- Also in Baghdad, US forces hope to resume television and radio broadcasts by this week's end.
- Stability and security in Iraq increases daily, but threats to Coalition forces remain. In Fallujah, soldiers from the Army's 82nd Airborne Division came under fire for the second day in a row when civilians attacked a convoy with rocks and weapons. US forces exercised their inherent right to self defense by returning fire. There were no US casualties.

House of Cards Continues to Collapse.

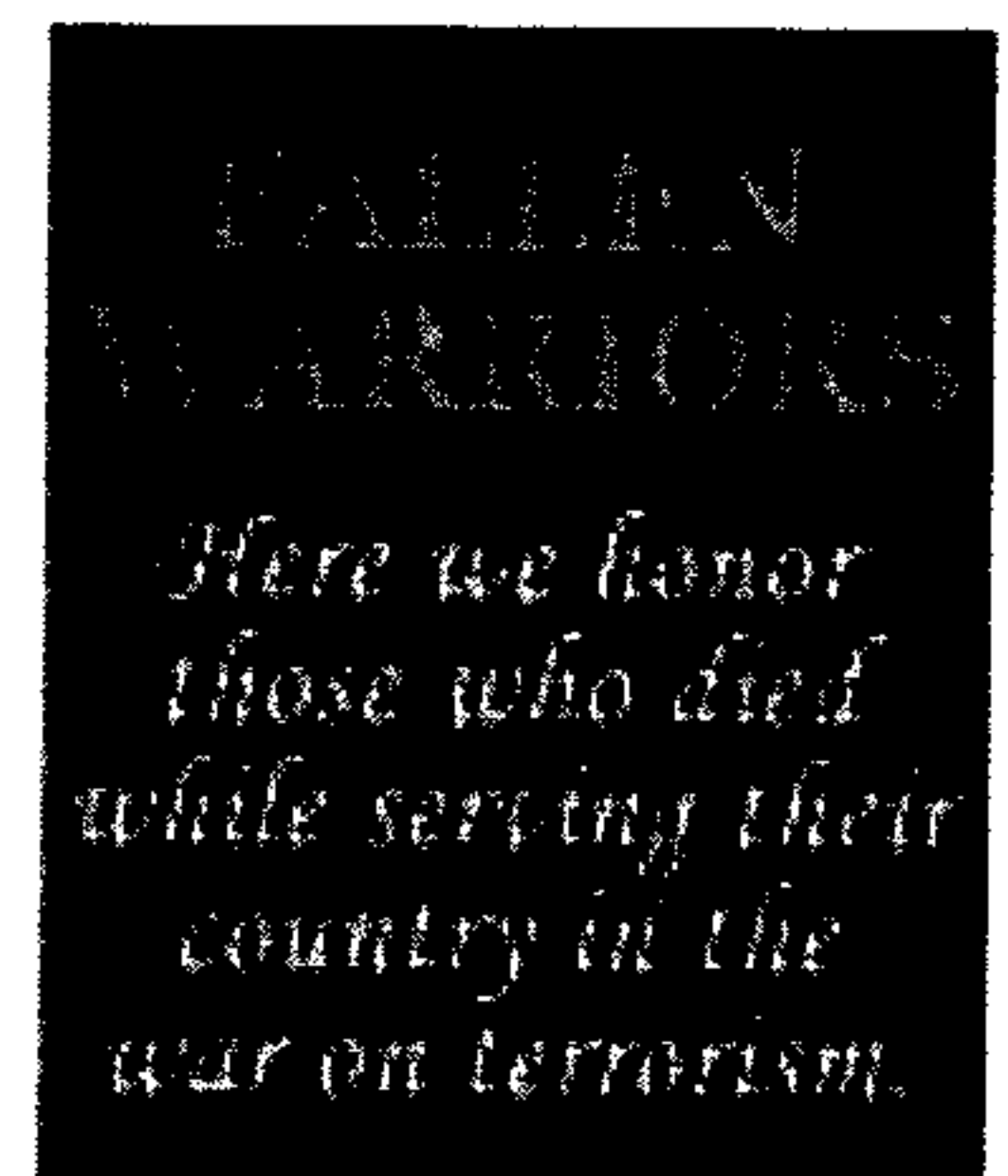
- The number of former regime officials in Coalition custody continues to grow.
- One more card in the deck of Iraq's 55 "Most Wanted" is now in Coalition custody -- Husam Muhammad al-Yasin, the former National Monitoring Director and Number 49.
- Ending the regime of Saddam Hussein and capturing its leaders remains a key objective of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

We Remember

"We will never forget the men and women who have fallen in service to America. We owe them our freedom. And we pray that their loved ones will receive God's comfort and God's grace ... May God bless our country and all who defend her."

President George W. Bush, April 14, 2003

For a complete listing of those killed in action in **Operation Iraqi Freedom** click: [Fallen Warriors](#) or visit www.defendamerica.com.





US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 16, 2003 - AM

"Free nations across the world have different institutions that reflect their unique cultures and their traditions. What they share in common are certain principles that undergird those institutions: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, individual rights, equal justice under law, checks and balances, protecting minorities against the tyranny of the majority, and ultimately a government that is chosen by and answers to the people. The [Iraqi] Interim Authority will be a stepping stone in that process."

- Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld
Pentagon Press Briefing, April 15, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

Operation Iraqi Freedom Continues

- It is day 27 in the operation. The Coalition continues to secure population centers in Iraq and is responding to the Iraqi peoples' needs by working with local leaders to restore public works and resources and rebuild the Iraqi infrastructure.
- In the past 24 hours, Coalition Special Operations Forces and U.S. Army 3rd Infantry Division troops in southern Baghdad apprehended the terrorist Abu Abbas, sometimes referred to as the "Secretary General" of the Palestinian Liberation Organization. Abbas was a key planner of the 1985 hijacking of the Italian cruise ship *Achille Lauro*, in which a U.S. citizen was killed.
- Coalition forces have secured the towns of Dahuk, Irbil, Kirkuk and As Sulaymaniyah, allowing a freer flow of humanitarian aid into the region.
- In Al Kut, local Iraqis led Coalition forces to a weapons cache of more than 2,000 mortar shells and hundreds of rockets.
- Army V Corps continued operations to cut off escape routes out of Iraq and secure population centers in central and southern regions of the country.
- In central Iraq, the Iraqi 12th Armored Brigade guarding the main road between Jordan and Baghdad surrendered to Coalition forces in Ar Ramadi, where remaining organized regime resistance has been quelled.
- The 1st Marine Expeditionary Force continues to operate in Baghdad, seeking out remaining pockets of regime resistance and conducting joint patrols with Iraqi citizens to restore order in the city. Uncleared areas of the city are suspected to harbor armed regime loyalists.
- Coalition forces are distributing leaflets, broadcasting messages via TV and radio, fielding loudspeaker teams and working with local Iraqi leaders in efforts to discourage looting. Reports indicate that looting in most areas has been dramatically reduced.
- In increasing numbers of Iraqi cities and towns, local leaders have regained control of their institutions:
 - In Al Amarah, Iraqis again control their local government institutions.
 - In Irbil, Iraqis have reopened schools.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 15, 2003 - AM

"Iraqis are gaining confidence in their safety from the previous regime and its oppression. The Iraqi people have gone beyond celebrating their new-found freedom to beginning to work with the Coalition to repair the infrastructure, the government and public works in their country."

- Brigadier General Vincent Brooks
Deputy Director of Operations, CENTCOM
April 15, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

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Operation Iraqi Freedom Continues

- It is day 26 in the operation. The Iraqi regime's major military capabilities throughout the country have been destroyed. In the past 24 hours military action has focused on removing remnants of the regime's armed forces and leadership, and providing humanitarian aid to the Iraqi people.
- There are still hazards to Coalition troops.
 - In Ar Rutbah in western Iraq, local citizens helped Coalition teams locate 3 regime death squad members and a weapons cache of 80 surface-to-air missiles.
 - In Baghdad, U.S. forces found a weapons cache of 91 cases of TNT and plastic explosives, 6 homemade bombs, and 23 cases of rocket-propelled grenades.
- Across Iraq, Coalition forces are reporting a steady decrease in looting and lawlessness as communities organize themselves with Coalition support.
 - Ad Diwaniyah: Local administrators here are starting a city council, and two former generals have volunteered to start a police force.
 - Karbala: A local leadership council has been formed.
 - As Samawah: A local police force has been formed with 150 volunteers.
- Coalition special operations forces are providing humanitarian assistance, and continuing their work to secure Mosul, Irbil and Kirkuk in northern Iraq.
- In the north, the last oil well fire in Iraq has been extinguished.

Coalition Members & Free Iraqis Meet to Discuss Iraqi Self-Governance

- At a meeting today in An Nasiriyah, Coalition members will host a group of free Iraqis for an open discussion of Iraq's future. The priority is a rapid transition to Iraqi self-governance.
- The Coalition is committed to an Iraqi government that preserves Iraq's territorial integrity, utilizes resources for its own people, and poses no threat to its neighbors -- a government that holds elections, respects the rule of law, and has a policy of decency toward its own people.

Humanitarian Update

- Coalition humanitarian and reconstruction efforts continue to focus on medical care, food, water, infrastructure and local governance.
- The Coalition is currently trucking fresh water to areas near An Najaf, Karbala and Kirkuk, where local citizens received 700,000 liters of water on Monday.
- To increase the flow of aid, the Coalition is working to clear the port of Az Zubayr, north of Umm Qasr, that is blocked by 36 derelict Iraqi vessels.
- A relief ship from the United Arab Emirates is on its way to Iraq with 700 tons of boxed rations, bottled water, family first aid kits, 4 water tankers, an ambulance, 2 trucks, 2 cars, and 12 volunteers.
- According to the UN International Organization for Migration, nearly all of the 30,000 Iraqis who fled to the Iranian border to escape fighting in Baghdad and An Nasiriyah have returned home.

Defend America

For up to the minute news and information about **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, click or visit: www.defendamerica.mil.





US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 14, 2003 - PM

“As Saddam's regime of fear is brought to an end, the people of Iraq are revealing the true hopes they have always held. It should surprise no one that Iraqis, like all people, resent oppression and welcome their own freedom. It should surprise no one that in every nation and every culture, the human heart desires the same good things: dignity, liberty, and a chance to build a better life.”

President George W. Bush

Radio Address to the Nation, April 14, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

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▪ **Operation Iraqi Freedom Continues**

- Coalition forces continue to root out remaining remnants of the Iraqi regime in Saddam's home town of Tikrit.
- Elsewhere, Coalition land forces are engaged in setting the conditions for a stable Iraq. This involves, among other things, securing significant amounts of weapons, surface-to-air missiles, ammunition, aircraft, and vehicles.

▪ **Operational Objectives Update**

End the Regime

- The regime of Saddam Hussein has been defeated.
- It's leaders are either dead or have surrendered or fled.
- Baghdad is free of regime control; as is most, if not all, of the country.

Find and Eliminate WMD

- Now that military operations are winding down, the search will continue for Iraq's WMD, systems and facilities.
- Iraq's chief scientist has recently surrendered and, as Iraqis feel free to do so, they will come forward with information about Iraq's chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons programs.
- We will not rest until all Iraq's WMD infrastructure has been found and eliminated.

Sever Iraq's Links to Terrorism

- With the end of the Iraqi regime, terrorists have lost their chief sponsor and ally in Iraq.
- Terrorist camps have been taken out in both the north and the south.
- Intelligence continues to be gathered on Iraqi links to terrorism.

Secure Iraqi Oil for the Iraqi People

- Iraqi oil fields in both northern and southern Iraq have been secured by Coalition forces.
- Well over 800 of the 1,000 oil wells have been physically inspected. The rest will be completed in the next few days.
- The one remaining oil fire in the southern oil field of Rumaylah has been extinguished.

End UN Sanctions and Deliver Humanitarian Relief

- Food, water, and medical supplies are now flowing freely into Iraq from Coalition nations and other countries.
- The first humanitarian flight carrying supplies from Kuwait and the International Red Crescent landed in Baghdad International Airport last week.
- At the urging of the US and the UK, UN sanctions are being lifted so more aid can flow into Iraq.
- The World Food Program is delivering over one million tons of food, enough to feed the entire Iraqi population for several months.

Restore Stability and Help the Iraqi People Transition to Representative Government

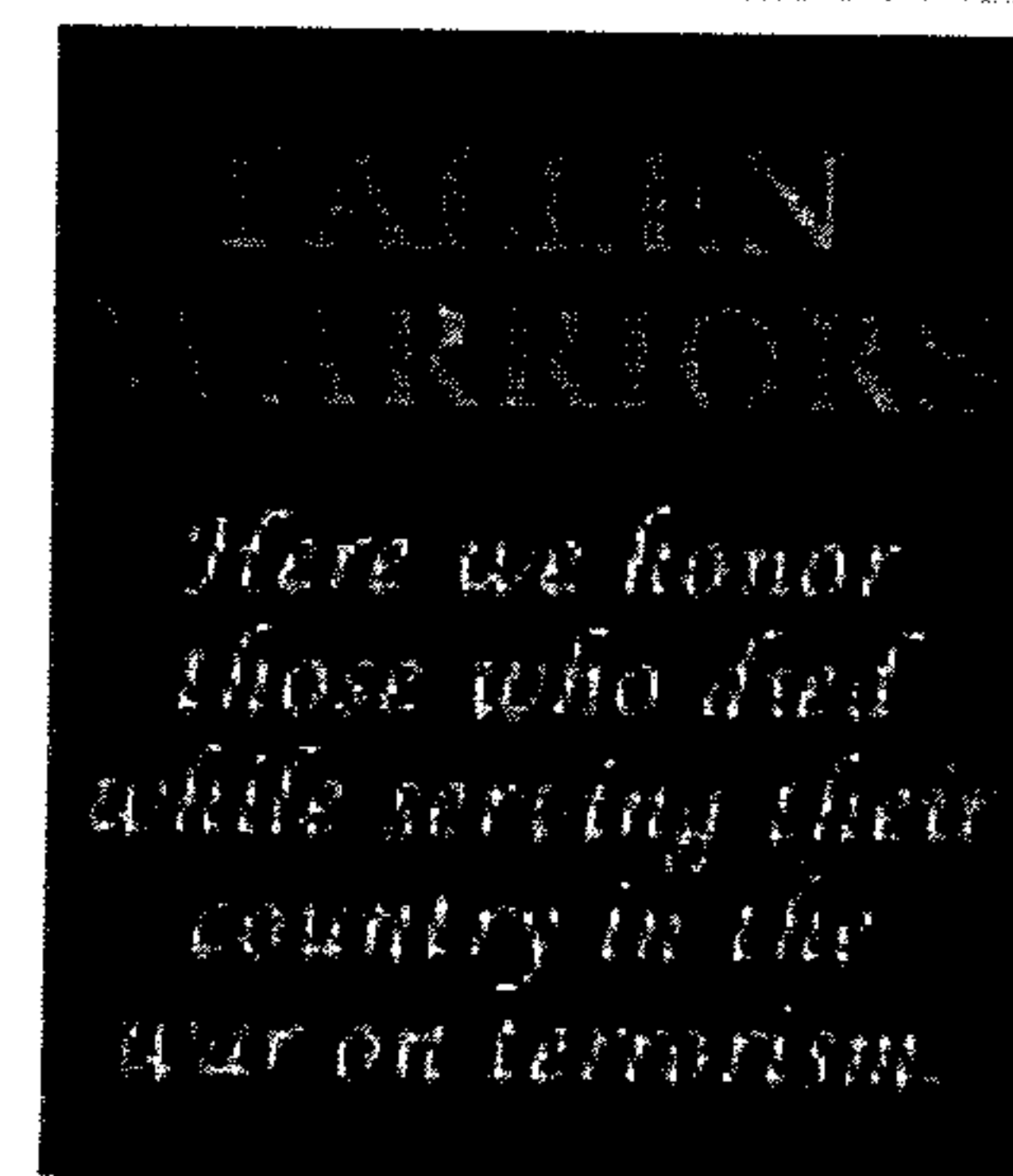
- Coalition forces are focusing on creating the conditions for long-term stability throughout the country. Most Iraqis are staying home and have enough food to survive for some time.
- With the help of the Iraqi people, existing infrastructure is being repaired and capabilities restored. Iraqi railroads are being used to move supplies north. Power and water service is being restored with the help of military engineers and local Iraqis.
- Efforts continue to reestablish reliable medical care throughout Iraq.
- Coalition forces are working with local authorities and police forces to patrol the streets, and looting is tapering off.
- Civil affairs teams are on the ground, and Coalition members and Iraqis will meet tomorrow in An Nasiriyah to discuss the future of Iraq and the Iraqi Interim Authority. This will be the first of several meetings as the Iraqi people chart their future free of the oppressive rule of Saddam Hussein.

We Remember

The forces of freedom are locked in a mortal struggle with those who oppose all that freedom represents. The task of this generation, as President Bush has so eloquently stated it, is to provide the response to aggression and terror, to lift the dark threat of violence from our people and our future. We have no other choice, he said, because there is no other peace. The advance of human freedom now depends on us.

While we cannot bring our loved ones back, we can remember and celebrate who they were, how they lived their lives, and how their lives were lost – in a struggle dedicated to the eternal truth of freedom and the human spirit. May God grant them His loving peace.

For a complete listing of those killed in action in Operation Iraqi Freedom click: [Fallen Warriors](#).





US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 14, 2003 - AM

"We still have fighting to do...our troops are still being killed and wounded, and God bless them. They're doing such a wonderful job. We then have to make this transition...through this period of some disorder to a period of order. And the opportunity [exists] for the Iraqi people to fashion their future. And it's not going to be the United States that's going to be fashioning their future. [Iraqis] are going to fashion their future. And they have an opportunity here to be liberated, be free, and fashion an Iraqi solution to how they want to live their lives. And that's a wonderful thing. "

*-Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld
NBC's Meet the Press, 4-13-03*

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Operations Update

- The Coalition continues to remove remnants of the Iraqi regime, and is working toward creating long-term stability in Iraq.
- Special Operations Forces and other Coalition ground elements have secured the oil fields in northern Iraq, and with the cooperation of Iraqi oil workers are evaluating oil facilities for future use. All oil fields and facilities in Iraq are now under Coalition control.
- In the past 24 hours, a U.S. Marine task force advanced north from Baghdad to Tikrit, meeting little resistance in the towns of Baquba and Samarra along the way. The task force has successfully isolated the approaches to Tikrit from the north, west and south, and a presidential palace there has been secured.
- In Baghdad, Coalition engineers are working with Iraqis to restore full water and power services to the city. Iraqis and Coalition soldiers are conducting joint patrols of Baghdad to help restore order.
- About 1,500 Baghdad civil servants, including many ranking police officers, gathered to discuss returning to their jobs. Many said they wanted to show they could build a democracy after Saddam's regime is gone.
- U.S. Marines have taken control of Al Kut, where they destroyed thousands of mortar rounds, grenades and long-range artillery shells left behind by Iraqi soldiers.
- Saddam Hussein's half-brother and Ba'ath Party member Watban Ibrahim Hasan Al-Tikriti was taken into Coalition custody April 13.

Seven U.S. service members recovered by Coalition forces

- From the 507th Maintenance Company: Sgt. James J. Riley, 31, of Pennsauken, N.J.; Spc. Shoshana N. Johnson, 30, of El Paso, Texas; Spc. Edgar A. Hernandez, 21, of Mission, Texas; Spc. Joseph N. Hudson, 23, of Alamogordo, N.M.; and Pfc. Patrick W. Miller, 23, of Walter, Kan.
- Apache pilots from the 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment at Fort Hood, Texas: Chief Warrant Officers David S. Williams and Ronald D. Young.
- The U.S. is still concerned about its missing service members in Iraq, and will continue searching until they are found.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 11, 2003 - PM

“Now, as their fear of the former Iraqi dictator lessens, the true sentiments of the large majority, I believe, are surfacing, and I think it is clear that most welcome Coalition forces, and see them not as invaders or occupiers, but as liberators.”

Secretary Donald Rumsfeld

April 11, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

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Operation Iraqi Freedom Continues:

- Coalition forces are continuing to stabilize cities and thoroughfares around Iraq and to focus combat operations in those areas where resistance continues.
- More than 1,000 sorties have been flown during the past 24 hours, and air support to ground forces in and around Baghdad continues as they clear and secure the remainder of the city.
- In the north, Coalition ground and Special Operations Forces are securing Kirkuk and Mosul, and degrading regime forces in and around Tikrit.
- Coalition ground and sea forces are maintaining security on the Al-Faw peninsula, the port city of Umm Qasar, and Basra, as well as the southern oil fields.
- We will continue to strike key leadership targets when and where they are found.

The Message of Freedom is Penetrating in the Middle East

- Recent images of cheering Iraqis embracing Coalition forces and celebrating their newfound freedom are being broadcast throughout the world, including parts of the Arab world.
- Arab viewers are watching Iraqis waving American flags and thanking US and Coalition forces for risking their lives to free them from tyranny.
- Our message has been consistent: the people of Iraq were never the enemy of the United States. Our enemy, and the enemy of the world, is the Iraqi regime.
- Today, people of the region are hearing this same message – the message of the liberated people of Iraq.
- Access to free information is critical to the building of a free society. We are working to expand the free flow information to the Iraqi people by:
 - Moving a ground station to Baghdad to expand radio and television broadcast coverage areas;

- Broadcasting news programs; and working to restore TV and radio networks.
- **Iraqis Will Choose Their Own Government**
 - We are working with free Iraqis to establish an Iraqi Interim Authority (IIA).
 - The IIA will pave the way for a new Iraqi government, chosen by the people.
 - The new government will be based on democratic principles and will exist peacefully with its neighbors and the world.

Liberation Update

"Saddam Hussein didn't fall alone yesterday. Along with him, more important things fell. The big lies that accompanied him and glorified him and cheered him fell. The minds that refused to refer to today's truths and yesterday's history and spoke for the Iraqi people falsely fell as well. In front of the whole world, the Iraqis clinched the truth themselves in their own capital Baghdad about which it was said that if Basra was a passing city that cheered for the American and British soldiers, the capital would be the stronghold of the invincible regime."

-- Abdul Rahman Al-Rashid, Editor-in-Chief, *Asharq Al-Awsat (UK)*, April 10, 2003

"You are owed a favor from the Iraqis. We dedicate our loyalty to the Americans and the British. We are friends."

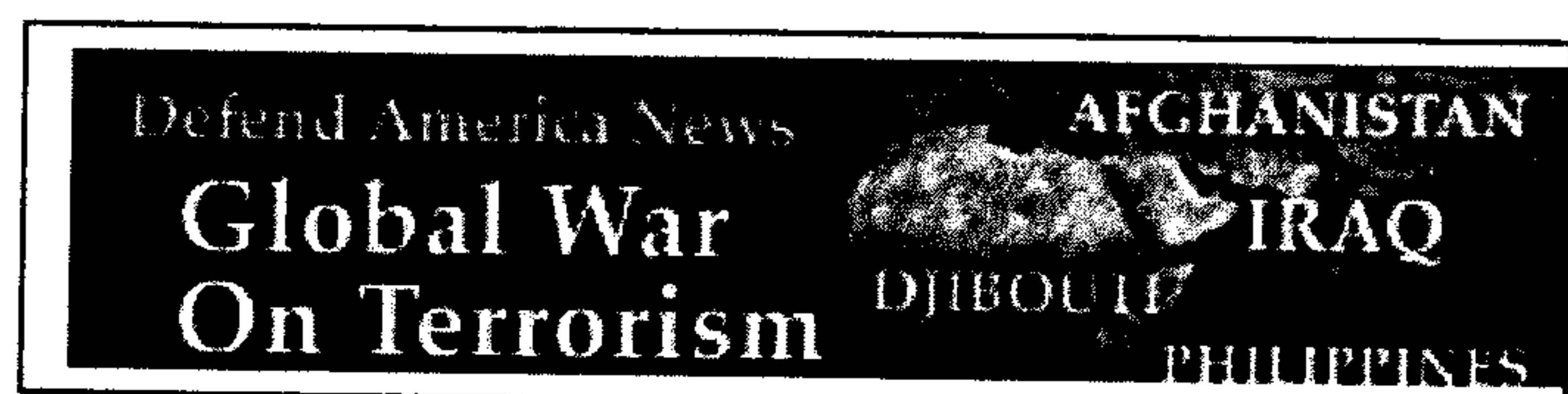
-- Iraqi Ibrahim Shouqyk to Marines, *New York Times*, April 8, 2003

"For years we have lived oppressed lives here. Sunday was a day we had prayed for and now we are free of Saddam's rule."

-- Qusay Rawah, a student in Basra, *Daily Mirror*, April 8, 2003

Defend America

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US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 10 2003 - PM

"Some have expressed concern that the war has caused a humanitarian crisis in Iraq. As Secretary Rumsfeld said yesterday, the Iraqi people were already suffering before the war began ... This war did not launch a humanitarian crisis. It is ending one."

Assistant Secretary of Defense Victoria Clarke
April 10, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

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Operation Iraqi Freedom Continues

- **Coalition forces continue to engage the Iraqi regime in Baghdad, northern Iraq and in other areas of the country.**
 - The US has succeeded in maintaining a lethal pressure against Iraqi forces in northern Iraq, and consolidated some gains in the area of Mosul.
 - In the north, Iraqi forces have been pushed back from the "green line." Coalition special operations forces supported by Kurdish Peshmerga fighters have moved in to consolidate their forces and secure the area, but there is still much work to be done.
 - In recent days, seven Army soldiers, seven Marines, and one airman lost their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom. In one firefight in north central Baghdad in the past 24 hours, one US Marine was lost, reminding us that tough fighting may lie ahead. We honor those who have died so that others might live in peace and freedom.

Humanitarian Update

- **Just as statues of Saddam Hussein are falling in Baghdad, hope is rising throughout the city and across the country. The war did not launch a humanitarian crisis. It is ending one.**
 - Since Coalition forces arrived, the Iraqi people have received substantial amounts of food and medical aid.
 - The British ship, *Sir Galahad*, has unloaded 200-plus tons of food, water and medicine at the port of Umm Qasr.
 - Two US ships departed from the port of Galveston with a more than 50,000 tons of wheat, and Australia is shipping 100,000 tons more.
 - Water, power and basic services are being restored, and Coalition forces are providing medical treatment and supplies.

- **In Umm Qasr:**
 - Water supply is above pre-war levels; electricity is restored; and sufficient food is readily available. Medical facilities are up and running, and UNICEF is providing medical supplies.
 - The Czech Republic is setting up a hospital for Iraqi POWs, and the Spanish hospital ship, *Galacia*, has docked in Umm Qasr, increasing medical support to southern Iraq.
- **In Basra:**
 - Food supplies are adequate and being supplemented by Coalition rations, electricity has been restored, and piped water is now available to 60 to 80 percent of the city. Water is being trucked to the suburbs, and supplies are adequate.
 - Medical facilities are functioning at pre-war levels, the First Marine Expeditionary Force is providing medical support to the population of Basra, and the US Agency for International Development is providing health kits for 5,000 people.
- **In An Nasiriyah:**
 - Food supplies are sufficient. Coalition forces are working to increase water supplies and restore electricity and basic health services.
- **In As Samawah:**
 - There are stockpiles of food sufficient for two to three months. Coalition forces are delivering water supplies and working to restore water and electricity service.
- **In An Najaf:**
 - There are no reported food shortages. Coalition forces are working to restore water and electricity. The city's main hospital is fully operational.
 - On April 7, an 18-truck relief convoy from Kuwait delivered water, food and medical supplies provided by the Kuwaiti Joint Red Crescent Society. Kuwait is providing daily humanitarian aid to the people of Iraq.
- **In Karbala:**
 - A large teaching hospital is functioning with adequate supplies.
- **In Baghdad:**
 - Food is adequate. Power is down in the west side of city, but emergency power is being provided to critical facilities. There is no immediate water supply crisis in Baghdad.
- **In Northern Iraq:**
 - Water, electricity, food and medical services remain at pre-war conditions. Five UNICEF trucks carrying 31 tons of hospital equipment and supplies are headed toward northern Iraq, and another 11 UNICEF trucks are destined for southern Iraq.
- **To sum up:**
 - Food stocks are expected to last until late April. Iraq's health care system is functioning. Water, sanitation, and power services are fragile, but freedom has arrived and help is coming from around the world.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 9, 2003 - PM

“Until this war is fully won, we cannot be overconfident in our position, and we must not underestimate the desperation of whatever forces remain loyal to the dictator. We know full well the nature of the enemy we are dealing with ... In dealing with such an enemy, we must expect vicious tactics until the regime's final breath. The hardest combat could still be ahead of us. Only the outcome can be predicted with certainty: Iraq will be disarmed of its weapons of mass destruction; the regime will end; and the Iraqi people will be free.”

Vice President Dick Cheney

April 9, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

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Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

- **It is now three weeks since Operation Iraqi Freedom began. Coalition forces are on track and on plan; we will accomplish all of our objectives.**
 - Operations continue. Pockets of resistance remain in Baghdad and throughout the country. Coalition forces continue to engage regime leadership and paramilitary targets.
 - The outer cordon around Baghdad is complete. Major routes in and out of the city have been cut.
 - In Basra, UK forces are transitioning to security and stability efforts. Senior clerics in the area have asked Coalition forces to help restrain looting, reinforce their curfew in the city, and encourage local citizens to turn in their weapons. This is a positive development because order is being imposed from within the community itself.
 - Likewise, in Arupa, Coalition Special Operations forces met with the mayor and local leaders who declared the area open to Coalition forces and asked for assistance in returning power, water, and other services to the community.
 - In al Hillah, four warehouses of food held by the regime have been discovered; the food is being distributed to the local population.
 - As military operations continue, we are also planning for the peace. Parallel operations to ensure stability and repair civilian infrastructure are ongoing. Bridges are being repaired, and efforts to restore power and water to metropolitan areas are underway.

Humanitarian Update

- The Spanish hospital ship, *Gallacia*, arrived in Umm Qasr. It will increase the medical support available in southern Iraq.
- The *Gallacia* will also operate a 50-bed, off-ship field hospital available for the Iraqi population.
- Several steps have been taken to provide water to the Iraqi people. Water is trucked to some areas and transferred to distribution bags. Coalition forces have provided water purification equipment capable of processing 2,000 liters per hour, and are testing the water to make sure it is safe.

Liberation Update: Voices of Freedom

"As dusk fell yesterday evening, only a small girl dressed in rags could be seen on the streets of Jazirah al-Hari. She approached a [British] tank standing guard at one end of the village, and said: *'My parents will not come, but we need water.'* The tank driver leant down and gave her a bottle of water. *'This is why we've come, isn't it?'* he said."

The Daily Telegraph (UK), April 1, 2003

"U.S. troops [are] getting a very warm welcome from the local Shia population. Now naturally, the Shiites...have no love lost for the Iraqi leader President Saddam Hussein. They have been very repressed by him in the past. And obviously...what they believe to be a continuous presence that they can count on, interest from the U.S. troops is something that they are quite happy to see."

Ryan Chilcote, CNN correspondent, April 2, 2003

"Hundreds of Iraqis shouting 'Welcome to Iraq' greeted U.S. Marines who entered the town of Shatra....*'There's no problem here. We are happy to see Americans,'* one young man shouted. The welcome was a tonic for soldiers who have not always received a warm reception despite the confidence of U.S. and British leaders that the Iraqi people were waiting to be freed from Saddam Hussein's repression. *'It's not every day you get to liberate people,'* said one delighted Marine."

The Independent (UK), April 1, 2003

Defend America

For up to the minute news and information about **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, click or visit: www.defendamerica.mil





US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 9, 2003 - PM

“This is a good day for the Iraqi people ... Progress [by] Coalition forces has been nothing short of spectacular ... but there is no question that there are difficult and dangerous days ahead, and that the fighting will continue for some days ahead.”

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld

April 9, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

- **Tomorrow will mark three weeks since Operation Iraqi Freedom began. Progress by Coalition forces has been remarkable:**
 - They reached Baghdad in record time.
 - They secured Iraq's southern oil fields for the Iraqi people, and took out terrorist camps in the north and south.
 - They secured large sections of western Iraq, preventing the regime from attacking its neighbors, and are now in the Iraqi capital, removing the regime from its seat of power.
 - Ordinary Iraqis are losing their fear of the regime, and the mood in the country is tipping.

- **However, while the regime loses control of Baghdad, fighting continues in other areas.**
 - Coalition Special Operations forces are moving deliberately throughout the country.
 - In the north, Coalition and Kurdish fighters are battling remnants of the Iraqi regime.
 - In the west, they attacked a Ba'ath Party headquarters near Al Qaim.
 - In Baghdad, the US Army's 5th Corps continued to operate, increasing security west of the city to prepare the way for humanitarian operations.

- **Tough fighting and difficult tasks still lie ahead.**
 - We must capture, account for, or otherwise deal with Saddam Hussein, his sons, and the Iraqi regime leadership.
 - We must find and ensure the safe return of all POWs, both those captured in this war, and any held from the war in 1991.

- We must secure the northern oil fields, which are likely wired for destruction, as were the southern oil fields.
- We must find and secure Iraq's WMD and facilities, and secure Iraq's borders to prevent both WMD and senior regime officials from leaving the country.
- We must discover how the Iraqi regime acquired its capabilities, and which countries participated in the proliferation of WMD.
- We must locate Iraqi scientists with knowledge of WMD programs.
- We must capture or kill the terrorists still operating in Iraq, and prevent them from gaining access to WMD.
- We must locate Ba'ath party members, records and weapons caches.
- We must locate the records of the Iraqi Intelligence Service, and other regime security organizations.
- We must locate the wealth of the Iraqi regime, both inside and out of the country, so that it may be returned to the Iraqi people.
- We must begin the process of working with free Iraqis to establish an Interim Iraqi Authority -- chosen not by the Coalition, but by the people of Iraq.

Humanitarian Update

- Large volumes of humanitarian supplies are beginning to flow to the Iraqi people.
- In liberated areas, efforts are underway to restore function to civilian medical facilities rendered unusable by Iraqi military forces, and Coalition medical personnel are treating Iraqis in need wherever possible.

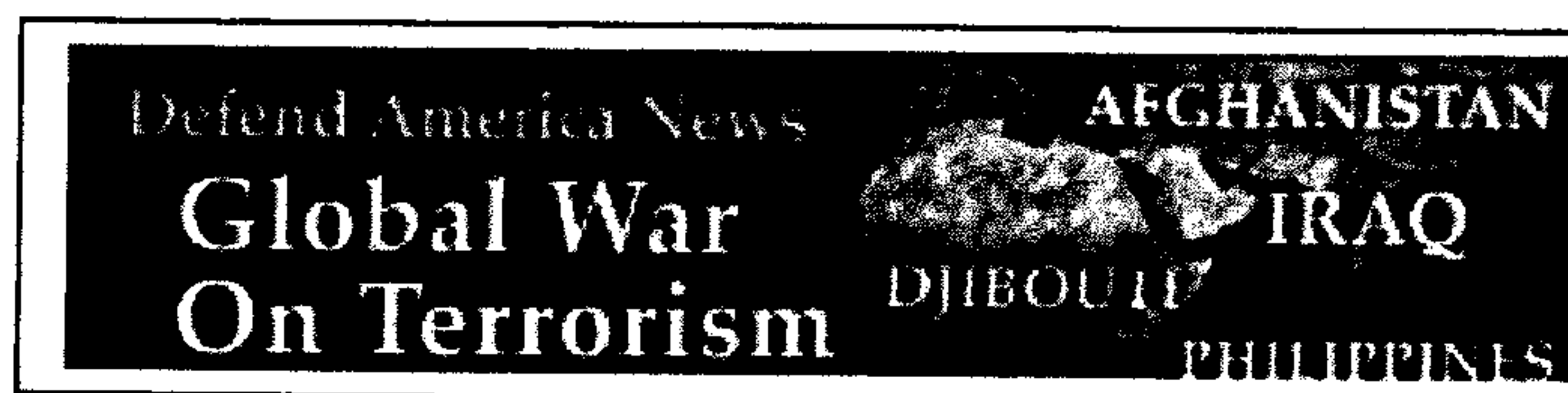
Liberation Update

“In the most visible sign of Saddam's evaporating power, the 40-foot statue of the Iraqi president was brought down in the middle of Firdos Square. Cheering Iraqis, some waving the national flag, scaled the statue and danced upon the downed icon, now lying face down. As it fell, some threw shoes and slippers at the statue.... ‘I’m 49, but I never lived a single day,’ said Yusuf Abed Kazim, a Baghdad imam who pounded the statue's pedestal with a sledgehammer. ‘Only now will I start living. That Saddam Hussein is a murderer and a criminal.’”

The Washington Post online, April 9, 2003

Defend America

For up to the minute news and information about ***Operation Iraqi Freedom***, click or visit: www.defendamerica.mil





US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Operation Iraqi Freedom, April 7, 2003 - PM

“Let me assure all Iraqis listening today that life without Saddam Hussein is not a distant dream. Coalition forces will not stop until they have accomplished their mission, and they will remove Saddam from power and give Iraq back to the Iraqi people.”

*- Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld
April 7, 2003*

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq's illicit WMD activity.
Eliminate Iraq's WMD, systems, and facilities.	Secure Iraq's oil fields/natural resources for the Iraqi people.
Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
Collect intelligence on terrorist networks.	Help Iraqis rapidly transition to a non-threatening, representative form of self-government that preserves the territorial integrity of Iraq.

Operation Iraqi Freedom Continues

▪ Progress Continues, But Tough Work Is Ahead.

- The circle is closing around the regime and its leaders. Coalition forces have come a long way in a short time, but much dangerous work remains to be done.
- The liberation of Baghdad continues. Recognizing that the regime's end is near, Iraqi citizens are increasingly overcoming their fear and welcoming Coalition forces.
- In the south, UK forces now control much of Basra, and are freeing the city from the regime death squads that have terrorized the local population.
- A Coalition air mission struck a compound believed to house Ali Hassan al-Majid, a cousin of Saddam Hussein. Known as "Chemical Ali," he is suspected of ordering the 1988 gas attacks that killed thousands of Kurds in the northern Iraqi village of Halabja. The body of al-Majid's bodyguard has been identified.
- We believe that the reign of terror of "Chemical Ali" has come to an end. To Iraqis who have suffered at his hand in that southern part of the country he will never again terrorize you or your families.

▪ Victory Defined.

- Victory will have been achieved when:
 - Saddam Hussein is not running Iraq.
 - Coalition forces have the ability to move around the country in relative safety.
 - Humanitarian assistance can flow freely into Iraq.
 - Internally displaced people go back to their homes in Iraq.
 - Coalition forces are able to locate and destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.
 - Iraq transitions to a representative form of self-government.

- **Chemical Weapons Discovery Must Be Verified by Tests.**
 - Soldiers from the Army's 101st Airborne Division have discovered suspicious material in a compound in central Iraq.
 - The material, possibly indicating the presence chemical weapons, will undergo further analysis before a final determination is made.

- **Evidence of Iraqi War Crimes Continue in Full View of the World.**
 - Regime forces continue to:
 - Place civilians between themselves and Coalition forces.
 - Move artillery into residential neighborhoods, hoping to draw Coalition fire.
 - Use schools, mosques and hospitals as headquarters for forces and storage facilities for arms and ammunition.
 - Hide in and around historic and religious sites, endangering the religious and cultural treasures of the Iraqi people.

- **Leaders of the post-Saddam government will be chosen by the Iraqi people.**
 - After Coalition forces have stabilized Iraq, the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance will help Iraqis in establishing a new government.
 - There are four operations within the Office, each under a civilian coordinator:
 - Humanitarian Relief .
 - Reconstruction .
 - Civil Administration.
 - Communications, logistics and budgetary support.
 - The Office will be led by Jay Garner, a retired Lieutenant General who held a senior military position in the 1991 humanitarian relief operation in northern Iraq.
 - His staff consists of representatives from the Departments of State, Defense, Justice, Treasury, Energy, Agriculture, the US Agency for International Development, and the Office of Management and Budget.

Talking Points and Core Messages on ORHA Meetings

4-22-03

Core Messages

- **U.S. and Coalition members are in Iraq to listen and facilitate open discussion of a free and self-governed Iraq.**
- **The priority is a rapid transition to Iraqi self-governance – “Iraq for Iraqis.”**
- **The Coalition is committed to an Iraqi government that preserves territorial integrity, utilizes resources for its own people, and poses no threat to its neighbors -- a government that holds elections, respects the rule of law, and has a policy of decency toward its own people.**

U.S. and Coalition members are in Iraq to listen and facilitate open discussion of a free and self-governed Iraq.

- Participants in future meetings will discuss their views and hopes for the future of Iraq, and will explain their ideas to the Iraqi people and the world.
- Many distinguished Iraqi men and women from inside and outside the country will attend. They represent a wide range of Iraqi groups.
- United States and Coalition members will be there to listen and facilitate an open discussion.
- The new government, and the process to choose it, will be representative, transparent and inclusive.

The priority is a rapid transition to Iraqi self-governance – “Iraq for Iraqis.”

- We want Iraq to regain an honored place in the family of nations.
- Our goal is to help Iraq become a free country, with a new government that is representative of all Iraqis.
- We have entered a transitional phase in which responsibility is gradually transferred to Iraqi institutions, leading to the permanent establishment of a new Iraqi government.
- As Saddam’s regime crumbles, more Iraqis will feel free to step forward and contribute to the future of Iraq.
- The administration of Iraq will involve Iraqis as soon as possible.
- The meeting of the Iraqi Interim Authority is only the beginning of the transition; there will be many more such meetings. They will be necessary to:
 - Form an Iraqi consultative council to advise the U.S./Coalition authorities.

- Create a judicial council to advise the authorities on the necessary revisions to Iraq's legal structure and statutes to institute rule of law and to protect individual rights.
- Create a constitutional commission to draft a new constitution and submit it to the Iraqi people for ratification.

The Coalition is committed to an Iraqi government that preserves territorial integrity, utilizes resources for its own people, and poses no threat to its neighbors -- a government that holds elections, respects the rule of law, and has a policy of decency toward its own people.

- This is an opportunity to create a free Iraq, one that preserves its territorial boundaries and honors its rich and diverse heritage.
- Iraqis will determine their own future, and Iraq's natural resources will belong to the Iraqi people.
- The new Iraq will be part of the world community, and live in peace with its neighbors.
- The new government will honor the rule of law.
- We want Iraqis to freely choose a government that treats all Iraqis equally and fairly, regardless of ethnic or religious heritage.

Q&A about Free Iraqi and Coalition Meeting

Q: What is the purpose of the meeting?

A: To continue discussion about the future of a free Iraq and to open a dialogue about how best to begin the transition to representative government.

Q: What is the agenda for the meeting?

A: Participants will share their views and hopes for the future of Iraq and begin to develop guiding principles and a framework to move forward.

Q: Who is invited?

A: Many distinguished Iraqi men and women from inside and outside the country. They represent a wide range of Iraqi groups. Coalition leaders will also participate.

Q: Will new Iraqi leaders be chosen at this meeting?

A: No. This is not a decision meeting. A provisional government is not being set up during this meeting, nor will there be any elections.

Q: Who is issuing the invitations?

A: The meeting is being hosted by the Coalition. General Tommy Franks will issue the invitations.

Q: What is the role of the Coalition members during the meeting?

A: Coalition members are there to listen and to facilitate an open discussion. Our goal is to help Iraq become a free country, with a new government elected by the people.

Q: Is this the only meeting scheduled?

A: This is one of many meetings about the future of Iraq. Hostilities are not over. As more areas of the country are liberated, more meetings will be held.

Q: Isn't this really a closed meeting?

A: The goal of this process is to be as transparent and inclusive as possible. That's why a variety of Iraqis will participate, and why they are being encouraged to share their views with their countrymen and the world.

Q: What is the media plan?

A: Broadcast and print media pools are being set up. The only part of the meeting closed will be the actual discussions of governing principles and post-regime governance, and that is to facilitate a frank and free discussion. Participants will be free to share their views afterward.

Q: How long will it take to form an Interim Iraqi Authority (IIA)?

We will work to see that the IIA is established as soon as possible. The timing will depend on several factors, including how long it takes to secure Iraq. We hope the IIA can begin operation within weeks of the liberation of all of Iraq.

Q: How long will the IIA function?

It is too soon to say at this time. The goal is for the Iraqis to develop democratic institutions and draft a constitution as soon as possible.

Q: How will IIA members be chosen? Who will do the choosing? Will "quotas" be used to apportion positions in the IIA?

The mechanism for choosing this interim group will be determined in close consultation with Iraqis from all groups and all regions.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Depleted Uranium

- **Depleted uranium munitions and armor give U.S. forces superior range, lethality and survivability advantages in combat.**
 - Depleted uranium's heavy weight makes it more effective in its two primary uses: anti-armor munitions and Abrams heavy armor.
 - Depleted uranium use gives us over-reach: We can engage the enemy at greater distances than they can engage us.
 - Depleted uranium is much more effective than other heavy metals, such as lead, tungsten and nickel.
 - Depleted uranium sharpens itself as it moves through armor. In comparison, the tungsten penetration's tip deforms into a mushroom shape and becomes blunt.

- **There is no medical evidence of natural or depleted uranium causing cancers, including leukemia.**
 - Extensive studies have been conducted on the health effects of exposure to depleted uranium.

 - Follow up studies of 90 highly-exposed Gulf War veterans have shown no adverse residual effects:
 - No cancer of bone or lungs, no leukemia;
 - No subsequent medical problems from depleted uranium exposure.

 - We eat, breathe and drink natural uranium daily. Chemically depleted uranium is the same as natural uranium, but it is 40 percent less radioactive than natural uranium.

- **Environmental testing of depleted uranium munitions consistently shows no adverse effects related to depleted uranium.** The effects of depleted uranium have been reviewed by multiple U.S. and non-U.S. scientific organizations with consistent conclusions:
 - There is no impact on the health of the residential population or military personnel deployed in the area.
 - Depleted uranium residue is highly localized – there is no widespread contamination.
 - Problems with drinking water are highly unlikely.
 - Environmental assessments outside the Department of Defense have been conducted by groups including the United Nations Programme Office, the World Health Organization (study in the Balkans), the European Commission, the European Parliament and the United Kingdom Royal Society.

- **Experience and science have repeatedly shown that depleted uranium is a safe and effective weapon.**
 - Depleted uranium ammunition and armor saves the lives of US troops rather than endanger them.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on Iraqi Regime's Assault on the Environment

- **The environment is as much a victim of Saddam Hussein's failed policies as are the millions of dead and displaced people of the area.**
 - Just two decades ago ago, Iraq's water, arable land, human capital and petroleum could have made Iraq one of the most developed countries in the region. Instead, the regime has squandered Iraq's potential.
 - This degradation reflects the tragic corruption and mismanagement prevalent in failed states like Iraq.
- **The Iraqi regime typically denies all responsibility for environmental ills and blames others.**
 - Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz trumpeted the regime's lies in Johannesburg earlier this year when he stated Iraq's environmental woes are tied to international sanctions and the effects of Coalition bombing in 1991.
 - Saddam Hussein is responsible for the destruction of Iraq's wetlands and the sabotage of Kuwait oil facilities that caused vast oil spills and the release of large amounts of carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons into the atmosphere in the 1990s.
- **Saddam's use of chemical weapons has contaminated areas of northern and southern Iraq and Iran.**
 - This contamination has led to extraordinary rates of cancers, neurological disease, birth defects and other illnesses.
- **During its war with Iran in 1983, Iraq breached dams and flooded waterways to block Iranian troop advances in the south.**
 - These acts prove Saddam is not above wasting a scarce resource (water) as a tool of warfare.
 - Today, innocent Iraqis could again be victimized should Saddam choose to use flooding in his military campaign.
 - Iraq has nine major flood control and hydro-electric power dams.
 - Five are associated with the Tigris River and four with the Euphrates River
 - Two of the dams associated with the Tigris are in Kurdish-controlled northeast Iraq
 - The Euphrates River dams are key water sources to Baghdad and southern cities.

- **Destroying key dams in Iraq would affect at least 3.5 million residents outside the Baghdad area.**
 - In addition to affecting millions, destroying the Tigris River dams would damage or destroy much of Iraq's wheat and barley crops and transportation and electrical utilities.
- **Saddam has already demonstrated in the past that he is willing to seriously damage Iraq's environment for personal gain—proving that he doesn't care about Iraq or the Iraqi people; he only cares about himself.**
 - In 1983, during its war with Iran, Iraq breached dams and flooded waterways to block Iranian troop advances in the south.
 - These acts proved Saddam was not above wasting a scarce resource (water) as a tool of warfare. Today, innocent Iraqis could again be victimized should Saddam choose to use flooding in his military campaign.
 - In 1991, Saddam punished the Marsh Arabs by using canals to reroute the waters of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. This resulted in ecological, social and cultural consequences for the region.
- **The environmental damage caused by Saddam's past actions continue today to be complex problems to be overcome during the reconstruction of Iraq.**
 - No one wants to see more environmental damage that would cause additional suffering to the Iraqi people or that could add to the problems.
 - Iraq's act of revenge accounts for one % of all carbon dioxide in the world.
- **No one wants to see more environmental damage that would cause additional suffering to the Iraqi people or that could add to the problems of Iraq's reconstruction.**
 - If Saddam commits ecological terrorism there is the potential spread of infectious diseases—hepatitis and diseases causing diarrhea, dehydration, typhoid, amoebic dysentery and cholera.
 - River inundation could harm downstream infrastructure and agricultural areas in and downstream of the southern marshes.
 - Major flooding could destroy roads, sewage, power lines and water intake pipelines.
 - Destroying key dams in Iraq would take a toll on at least 3.5 million residents outside the Baghdad area.
 - Numerous ancient sites and Muslim holy places would face further ruin or destruction by the onslaught of floodwaters.

- If the Euphrates River dam is destroyed, the potential exists for significant damage to roads, highways, bridges, fishing and antiquities.
- The potential for significant flooding of the Euphrates could severely reduce Baghdad's water supply.
- **Before Saddam came to power, Iraq's southern marshes were one of the finest and most extensive natural wetlands ecosystems in Europe and western Asia.**
 - Captured Iraqi documents revealed that the regime had a plan as early as 1987 to deliberately drain the marches to permit military access and greater political control of the native Marsh Arabs.
 - Nothing slowed the regime's engineering plan-not peace with Iran, not war with Kuwait, not declining oil revenue or the alleged effects of U.N. sanctions.
 - Inherent in this destruction is the disappearance of one of the world's most lush ecosystems: the salt-tolerant vegetation, the plankton rich waters that fed Gulf spawning grounds, 52 native fish species, the wild boar, the red fox, buffalo and water birds of the marsh habitat.
- **In 1991, Iraq forces systematically destroyed 1,164 Kuwaiti oil wells, nearly 92 percent of the total number of wells in Kuwait**
 - Over 700 of those booby-trapped wells ignited, spewing 102 million tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere
 - The damaged wells released 60 million barrels of oil into the desert, forming oil lakes that contaminated 49 square kilometers of Kuwait's fragile topsoil and continues to affect Kuwait's ground water. Iraq's act of revenge accounts for 1% of all carbon dioxide in the world.



US Department of Defense

Talking Points on **Operation Iraqi Freedom**, March 28, 2003 - AM

“We have forces arrayed throughout all of Iraq at this point. If you are someone in the regime wondering where it’s going to come from, the answer is, it is going to come from everywhere.”

Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks
March 26, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom: Mission Objectives

End the regime of Saddam Hussein.	Collect intelligence on Iraq’s illicit WMD activity.
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Capture or drive out terrorists sheltered in Iraq.	End sanctions and immediately deliver humanitarian relief.
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▪ **Mission Objectives are Being Achieved**

- **On Day 8 of Operation Iraqi Freedom, US and Coalition forces remain focused on their objectives, determined in their resolve, and continue to set conditions for the future of Iraq.**
 - During the last 24 hours, Coalition forces have directly attacked the structures and forces of the Iraqi regime; its command, control and communications assets; hiding places; and surface-to-surface missiles, inflicting blows on the regime.
 - A B-2 bomber took out a national communication network in Iraq, further degrading the regime’s ability to communicate with, and control the actions of, its forces. The communications link occupied a large tower on the east bank of the Tigris River in downtown Baghdad.
 - Coalition forces hit Iraqi military barracks and division installations near Baghdad.
 - A total of 12 al Samoud-type missiles were launched at Kuwait from within Iraq. All were intercepted by Patriots.
 - Coalition combat air patrols have been established near the launch areas, and coalition forces are actively hunting for Iraqi missiles.
 - Each day we are engaged, the Iraqi regime loses more of its ability to deny freedom to the Iraqi people.
- **On the information front, Coalition forces are now broadcasting on television as well as radio.**
 - Messages of encouragement, as well as life-saving information, are now being televised to the Iraqi people in all of southern Iraq, as well as in Baghdad and the surrounding area.
 - Radio broadcasts on five radio frequencies continue 24 hours a day.



Saddam Hussein: In His Own Words

Quotes from Saddam and Iraq's regime-controlled media

October 22, 2002

For years, Saddam Hussein and his regime have used state-controlled media in Iraq to spread lies, and threaten his neighbors and the world. Below is a sampling of quotes from Saddam and the Iraqi media -- keyed to significant events -- showing a pattern of threats stretching back more than a decade.

The Gulf War, February 1991

"[America] will not be excluded from the operations and explosions of the Arab and Muslim mujahidin and all the honest strugglers in the world."

Iraq News Agency, January 30, 1991
(State-controlled)

"What remains for Bush and his accomplices in crime is to understand that they are personally responsible for their crime. The Iraqi people will pursue them for this crime, even if they leave office and disappear into oblivion. There is no doubt they will understand what we mean if they know what revenge means to the Arabs."

Baghdad Radio, February 6, 1991
(State-controlled)

"We will chase [Americans] to every corner at all times. No high tower of steel will protect them against the fire of truth."

Chief of Iraqi Intelligence, In a Cable to Saddam, Baghdad Radio, February 8, 1991

"Every Iraqi child, woman, and old man knows how to take revenge...They will avenge the pure blood that has been shed no matter how long it takes."

Iraqi Vice President Taha Yasin Ramadan, Baghdad Domestic Service, February 15, 1991
(State-controlled)

Iraq Masses Troops Against Kuwait, October 1994

"Does [America] realize the meaning of every Iraqi becoming a missile that can cross to countries and cities?"

Babil, September 29, 1994
(State-controlled newspaper)

"[W]hen peoples reach the verge of collective death, they will be able to spread death to all..."

Al-Jumhuriyah, October 4, 1994
(State-controlled newspaper)

"[O]ur striking arm will reach [America, Britain, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait] before they know what hit them."

Al-Qadisiyah, October 6, 1994
(State-controlled newspaper)

"One chemical weapon fired in a moment of despair could cause the deaths of hundreds of thousands."

Al-Quds al-Arabi, October 12, 1994
(London-based, pro-Saddam newspaper)

Release of UNSCOM Report, April 10, 1995

"Iraq's abandonment of part of its weapons -- the long-range missiles and chemical weapons -- does not mean that it has lost everything...The Iraqi people consist of 18 million people...Should it be necessary, the people can become a huge potent force in defense of their own interests."

Nuri al-Marsoumi, Deputy Information Minister

Al-Iraq, April 11, 1995

(State-controlled newspaper)

"An extremist group in Saudi Arabia has threatened to carry out military operations against the 'crusader forces' in the Arabian peninsula, especially U.S. and British forces and what it described as the influential members of the al-Sau'd family."

Iraqi Radio, April 12, 1995

"Although Iraq's options are limited, they exist...Iraq's present state is that of a wounded tiger. Its blow could be painful, even if it is the last blow..."

Al-Quds Al-'Arabi, June 9, 1995

(London-based, pro-Saddam newspaper)

Khobar Towers Bombing, June 25, 1996

"[The U.S.] should send more coffins to Saudi Arabia, because no one can guess what the future has in store."

Iraqi Radio, June 27, 1996

(State-controlled)

Operation Desert Fox, December 1998

"If [other Arab nations] persist on pursuing their wrongful path, then we should -- or rather we must -- place the swords of jihad on their necks..."

Saddam Hussein, January 5, 1999

"Oh sons of Arabs and the Arab Gulf, rebel against the foreigner...Take revenge for your dignity, holy places, security, interests and exalted values."

Saddam Hussein, January 5, 1999

"As for those people with a dead conscience and who bear the Arab nationality, the nation said and will say its opinion on their mean act, as well as the act of their masters. They, however, will hear no other voice except that of the devil after having deafened their ears and closed their minds to the voice of justice, the voice of God the merciful, the voice of righteousness and glory. Had you called a living person, your call would have obtained response, but what you are calling is a dead person. Your blood will not be shed in vain. Your blood will light torches, grow aromatic plants, and water the tree of freedom, resistance and victory."

Saddam Hussein, Iraqi Radio, January 26, 1999

"Whoever continues to be involved in a despicable aggressive war against the people of Iraq as a subservient party must realize that this aggressive act has a dear price."

Hani Wuhayyib, Chief Editor, Al-Qadisiyah,

February 16, 1999

(State-controlled newspaper)

"What is required now is to deal strong blows to U.S. and British interests. These blows should be strong enough to make them feel that their interests are indeed threatened not only by words but also in deeds."

Al-Qadisiyah, February 27, 1999

(State-controlled newspaper)

U.S.S. Cole Bombing, October 12, 2000

"[Iraqis] should intensify struggle and jihad in all fields and by all means..."

Joint Statement of Iraq
Revolutionary Command Council and Iraq
Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party
and its National Command, Chaired by

Saddam Hussein, Iraq TV,

October 22, 2000

The Attacks of September 11

"The real perpetrators [of September 11] are within the collapsed buildings."

Alif-Ba, September 11, 2002

(State-controlled newspaper)

"[September 11 was] God's punishment."

Al-Iktisadi, September 11, 2002

(State-controlled newspaper)

"If the attacks of September 11 cost the lives of 3,000 civilians, how much will the size of losses in 50 states within 100 cities if it were attacked in the same way in which New York and Washington were? What would happen if hundreds of planes attacked American cities?"

Al-Rafidayn, September 11, 2002

(State-controlled newspaper)

"The simple truth [about September 11] is that America burned itself and now tries to burn the world."

Alif-Ba, September 11, 2002

(State-controlled magazine)

"The United States reaps the thorns its rulers have planted in the world."

Saddam Hussein, September 12, 2001

"[I]t is possible to turn to biological attack, where a small can, not bigger than the size of a hand, can be used to release viruses that affect everything..."

Babil, September 20, 2001

(State-controlled newspaper)

"The United States must get a taste of its own poison..."

Babil, October 8, 2001
(State-controlled newspaper)

On the Eve of the September 11 Attacks

"In [Osama bin Laden's] heart you'll find a strange determination that he will reach one day the tunnels of the White House and will bomb it with everything that is in it...[H]e will practice and work on an exercise called 'How Do You Bomb the White House'...and still thinks seriously...about the way he will try to bomb the Pentagon after he destroys the White House."

Iraqi Columnist Naeem Abd Muhalhal in
Al-Nasiriya, July 21, 2001
(State-controlled newspaper)

Department of Defense Notable Quotes on Iraq

January 17, 2003

In the case of Iraq, the task is to connect the dots before there's a smoking gun. If there's a smoking gun, and it involves weapons of mass destruction, it is a lot of people dead, not 3,000, but multiples of that (Rumsfeld, 1/15/03).

Saddam Hussein – A Global Threat

- The president made a case that Iraq should disarm that was persuasive to the Congress, and they voted overwhelmingly to support him. He made a case at the United Nations that the inspectors should return, and the other stipulations, some of which I cited here this afternoon. And it was a unanimous vote in the United Nations Security Council -- 15 to 0. The president has not made a case for going to war because he has not made such a decision. So one ought not to be surprised that, in fact, there are people who look at the situation and may come to a conclusion that that case hasn't been made at this point. And I think that's a fair comment. And that view on the part of the individuals you cited is part of our democratic system. That's part of our Constitution -- free speech for people to say what they think. (Rumsfeld, 1/15/03)
- He is a vicious dictator who is repressing his people. He has had in the past weapons of mass destruction, and he used them against his own people, and he used them against his neighbors. He's fired ballistic missiles at two, three or four countries in the past. He has challenged the legitimacy of most of his neighbors at one time or another. He has demonstrated in the past an unwillingness to cooperate with 16 U.N. resolutions. The United Nations has now said that they want him to disarm and they want him to reveal his weapons of mass destruction capabilities to the inspectors. I think if you drop a plumb line through everything that's happened since the passage of that latest resolution, one would have to conclude that he has not been forthcoming. (Rumsfeld, 1/15/03)
- He's been in power a whale of a long time. He has killed a pile of people. He's attacked a number of nations. He's used chemical weapons on his own people and on his neighbors. And he's got a very effective denial and deception program. And if someone is sitting here thinking, "Well, wouldn't it be nice if somebody walked up and handed you a chemical or a biological weapon, or physical evidence that they're within 15 minutes of having a nuclear weapon," that would be wonderful. It isn't going to happen! It will only happen if he decides to do it. (Rumsfeld, 1/15/03)
- The war on terrorism is a global war, and one that must be pursued everywhere. We cannot allow one of the world's worst dictators to continue developing the world's worst weapons. We cannot allow one of the world's most murderous dictators to provide terrorists a sanctuary in Iraq (Wolfowitz, Dec. 6, 2002).

The Burden of Proof

- The president has repeatedly made clear -- and it bears repeating -- that the burden of proof is not on the United States, it's not on the United Nations or the international community to prove that Iraq has these weapons. The burden of proof is on the Iraqi regime to prove that it is disarming, and to show the inspectors where the weapons are. (Rumsfeld, 1/15/03)

Inspectors

- As the president said, "The inspectors do not have the duty or the ability to uncover weapons hidden in a vast country. The responsibility of inspectors can only be to confirm the evidence of voluntary and total disarmament by a cooperative country. It is Saddam Hussein who has the responsibility to provide that evidence, as directed and in full." We continue to hope that the regime will change course and that Iraq will disarm peacefully and voluntarily. No one wants war. The choice between war and peace will not be made in Washington or, indeed, in New York; it will be made in Baghdad. And the decision is facing the Iraqi regime. (Rumsfeld, 1/15/03)
- The United States is cooperating fully with the inspectors. We're offering intelligence capabilities in the air, and we're offering specific information as to sites. Those sites are being inspected -- and this is a country that is enormous. This is a country that has vast underground capabilities to deceive and deny. It is a country where the people are intimidated and frightened to death that they'll be killed; if in fact they cooperate at all with those inspectors. It is a country where we have not yet gotten scientists and technicians and knowledgeable people to either defect or to leave the country, which the resolution called for, with the approval of Saddam Hussein. It isn't for us to grab those people and abduct them. His job, under that resolution, was to offer them up, to volunteer them so that the inspectors could take them and their families outside the country, to Cyprus, and talk to them. (Rumsfeld, 1/15/03)
- We do continue to believe that it's terribly important for [inspectors] to take people, knowledgeable people -- scientists, technicians, people who have been involved in weapons of mass destruction programs -- and get them out of the country, with their families, so that they can speak honestly and tell the truth, because the success that inspectors have had in the past is not as finders, not as discoverers, not running around peeking under every rock, but by talking to knowledgeable people, defectors, people who will talk to them, and then being cued as to where they can, in fact, go find something. And it strikes me that if that was the magic formula the last time, it's very likely to be the formula this time that would work. (Rumsfeld, 1/15/03)

Human Shields

- Iraq announced in late December that it will recruit and receive volunteers from Arab and Western countries to serve as human shields who would be deployed to protect sensitive sites. This is a deliberate recruitment of innocent civilians for the purpose of putting them in harm's way should a conflict occur. The last time Iraq used people as human shields was in December of 1998, when Iraq failed to comply with U.N. arms experts and coalition forces began Operation Desert Fox. A year earlier, the Iraqis encouraged hundreds of Iraqi families to put themselves at risk as voluntary human shields at palaces and strategic facilities in Iraq when Iraq refused to allow U.N. inspectors access to government sites. (Myers, 1/15/03)
- I'd like to note that it is illegal under the international law of armed conflict to use non-combatants as a means of shielding potential targets. And Iraq's action to do so would not only violate this law, but also be considered a war crime in any conflict. Therefore, if death or serious injury to a non-combatant resulted from these efforts, the individuals responsible for deploying any innocent civilians as human shields would be guilty of grave breaches of the Geneva Convention. (Myers, 1/15/03)

Inevitability of military action

- I think the president has been determined that the Iraqi regime disarms. And how that is to happen, it could happen because the Iraqi regime decides to do that; it could happen because the Iraqi president leaves the country; it could happen for -- in a variety of ways other than war. (Rumsfeld, 1/15/03)
- Certainly from a military perspective, there is no point of no return. I mean, I think the secretary's talking in a very broad context; but in just a limited military context, there is no point where, you know, and we can't adjust one way or the other depending on what the president wants us to do. (Myers, 1/15/03)

Troop movements/force flow

- The president is determined to see what takes place, and he's determined to see that Iraq disarms. He prefers that they do so peacefully. And what we need to do as a Department of Defense is to see that we continue, with our friends and allies around the world, to take appropriate steps so that the president will have the options that he may or may not decide to use. And his conclusion is that the last choice is the use of military force, not the first choice; and that is why he's proceeding as he's proceeding. (Rumsfeld, 1/7/03)
- Specific to the Persian Gulf, the flow of forces to the region continues. And while there has been no decision about Iraq, we want to ensure that we are prepared to provide the president as much flexibility as possible. (Meyers, 1/7/03)

- We're taking prudent and deliberate steps with respect to alerts and mobilizations and deployment of U.S. forces -- active, Guard and Reserve. These include alerting Reserve combat, combat support and combat service support forces, deployment of combat and combat support forces needed to pave the way for future deployments in the event that that becomes necessary, activating mobilization bases for processing of Reserve components. I expect that we and others could continue to make prudent force-flow decisions in the weeks and months ahead, depending on the degree of Iraqi cooperation. None of these steps reflect a decision by the president or the United Nations or anyone else, to my knowledge, to use force. The president has not made such a decision. Rather, they are intended to support the diplomatic efforts that are under way, to enhance force protection in the region and elsewhere in the world, including the United States, and to make clear to the Iraqi regime that they need to comply with their U.N. obligations. (Rumsfeld, 12/23/02)
- The moment Saddam and his ruling clique seem to feel that they're out of danger, they will undoubtedly see no incentive to comply with their international obligations. That is why, after the passage of Resolution 1441, the U.S. and coalition countries are continuing to take steps to keep pressure on the regime. Among other things, we've continued patrolling the skies over the north and south no-fly zones. We've continued developing a humanitarian relief and reconstruction plan for a post-Saddam Hussein Iraq. We've continued working with the Iraqi opposition. We've taken steps to prepare for a post-Saddam transition. And we're continuing to work with friends and allies to keep the military pressure on Iraq. (Rumsfeld, 12/23/02)

Iraq v. North Korea

- The situation with Iraq is somewhat different. The state of conflict with Iraq and the United Nations is something that has been continuous since 1990 or 1991, since the conclusion of the Gulf War. And their violations have stretched over a decade or some portion of that decade, particularly the last half of it. I think they've explained the differences between the two quite well. On the other hand, if one looks at our course of action, in each case, it's been one of attempting to proceed down a diplomatic track. It is with Iraq today. It certainly is what the president is attempting to do by working with Russia and China and Japan and South Korea with respect to the problems in North Korea. (Rumsfeld, 1/7/03)
- There are a number of terrorist states pursuing weapons of mass destruction -- Iran, Libya, North Korea, Syria, just to name a few -- but no terrorist state poses a greater or more immediate threat to the security of our people than the regime of Saddam Hussein and Iraq. (Rumsfeld testimony to HASC, 9/19/02)

Source Resources

Secretary Rumsfeld and General Myers, DoD News Briefing, Jan. 15, 2003
http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Jan2003/t01162003_t0115dsdhospital.html

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Remarks as Prepared for Delivery by Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, The World Affairs Council and the Commonwealth Club, San Francisco, CA, Friday, December 6, 2002
<http://www.defenselink.mil/speeches/2002/s20021206-depsecdef.html>

Testimony of U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld before the Senate Armed Services Committee regarding Iraq, Sept. 19, 2002
<http://www.defenselink.mil/speeches/2002/s20020919-secdef2.html>

Torie Clarke, ASD/PA

VFW

March 11, 2003

ASD Clarke: Thank you very much. I keep following people who tell really good jokes. [Laughter] Especially in my current job, I can't tell too many jokes.

Thank you very much for letting me be here. It's a real honor to be in your presence, and the issues we're dealing with right now are so extraordinarily important that I appreciate your time. I know what these conferences are like; I know how busy you are. I know a lot of you are trying to get up to the Hill. But the issues we're dealing with are so important we really appreciate the opportunity to talk with groups like this to get some of your wisdom and your experience because we need a lot of it. I work for a fabulous guy, Secretary Rumsfeld, and I get to work every day with extraordinary people in the military. These are challenging times. So we need help, we need support, we need ideas and suggestions, we really need your comments to help us keep our heads above the weeds.

What I'm going to do here today is somewhat unusual. As I was explaining to someone before I came in here, we at DoD have tried very hard to get senior people from the building out beyond the Beltway talking to groups of all sizes and shapes and different walks of life all over the country and help them understand the major issues, what it is we're trying to accomplish, how we're going about it, and obviously for the last 18 months or so there's been a lot about the global war on terror. For a long time it was about Afghanistan. Increasingly the conversation and discussion obviously has turned to Iraq, which we really consider is another, front in the global war on terror.

About three or four weeks ago I was talking to people in the building and I said you know, we're all going out there and we're talking to people about what we see as a real and growing threat posed by the Iraqi regime. We talk about his known capabilities with WMD, and we talk about what he's done in the region, invading his neighbors, threatening his neighbors, firing ballistic missiles. We talk about the torture and the oppression of the Iraqi people, which takes torture, and oppression to incredible heights and incredible levels of bureaucracy. And we talk about this as we're making the case against the regime. And I said there are some people out there who are far more credible on these issues than we are. There are people who have experienced firsthand the torture and oppression. There are people who worked with Saddam Hussein in his regime on their chemical and biological and nuclear programs. And I said so instead of us going out there constantly saying the same things, why don't we have some of those people say it in their own words.

So we've gone out and we've found some of these people. You'll see them in these video clips we'll show you. Some have had truly extraordinary horrifying experiences and it took a lot of courage on their part to put their words down or to allow us to interview them, but they believe the cause is so important.

I think you'll see, and I really do want to get your feedback, I think you'll see that there are few more powerful and credible voices for the case against Saddam Hussein than these people.

So what I'd like to do is introduce a few of these video clips. I'll just talk a little bit in between, and we'll save plenty of time I think for your questions and comments because I mean

this very sincerely, we need these sorts of encounters, we need these sorts of events as much as you do. I really appreciate your honest feedback and help us understand the kinds of questions and issues we should be addressing out there publicly as [we lay out the case].

Before we start the first clip, a couple of things. These videos run a little bit longer than some of us with short attention spans are used to, but I encourage you to hang in there with us. And some of the footage is pretty disturbing. I'm sure many people in this room have seen terrible horrible things in their service, but there's some pretty disturbing footage here, so just a little bit of a warning there.

Before we start the first one, I was talking to somebody on the ride over here about what extraordinary times we're in. And as unconventional as these times are and as unconventional and extraordinarily different the national security environment is in which we find ourselves, you have to go back in history to find a similar time, and you have to go back in history to find a time in which some people were advocating preemptive, preventive military action which is pretty extraordinary for all the obvious reasons. The best time I can come up with is 1938. Winston Churchill, who was not Prime Minister at the time, was trying to convince Europe, he was trying to convince the U.K. and France to take action against Adolf Hitler. He said he's done bad things, he clearly has aspirations to do more bad things to Europe, he clearly wanted to get his hands on weapons that had more powerful military superiority and we should take action now. We know now they didn't take his advice and that was a bad decision. The consequences were incredible.

Fast forward to 2003. And I'm not smart enough to know if we can say Adolf Hitler was just like Saddam Hussein. Obviously there are differences. I can say with great certainty the potential consequences are far more catastrophic. Those of us who lived through 9/11, those of us who know the horrors of some 3,000 people dying on that day, if those same terrorists who took relatively conventional weapons -- airplanes loaded with jet fuel and some people -- and plowed into the sides of buildings, if those same terrorists had had WMD, chemical or biological weapons, you could have been talking about not 3,000 but 30,000 or 300,000 or more.

So while there are similarities with what was going on when Winston Churchill was trying to convince people to take preemptive, preventive action, there are some extraordinary differences. So I'll stop there. Brent, can you run the first video clips.

[Video shown]

It's pretty awful stuff, obviously. The brutality of the regime I think history will judge is without peer. I think that the bureaucracy and the resources and the policy that back that up. That the cruelty of the Iraqi regime, we'll find out, has no equal. But the torture and the oppression, what he does to his own people, as awful as it is, is not reason enough for the United States military to contemplate military action. There have to be other reasons for us to consider something as extraordinary as preemptive action. It's also about not just what he does in Iraq but also about the threats, the danger he poses to the region.

[Video shown]

A lot of people would look at this and say okay, pattern of behavior, what he does to his own people, ambitions for the region and say that a regime change seems like an appropriate thing. And it's true, despite what some say these days, where we seem to be rushing to these conclusions. In the last two months we came to the conclusion that this regime has to change. That's not really true. In 1998 the United States Congress passed a resolution that said the policy of the United States government is a regime change. That still stands as the U.S. policy since 1998.

If you look at the UN approach to this, beginning in 1991 they started to pass resolutions about Iraq and about its behavior. And I recently, probably about four or five weeks ago now, I actually asked somebody in the office. I said, we're on the 17th resolution now, on Iraq's behavior, through the U.N. 1441. He said, yes. I said get me all the resolutions. So, he piled them up for me and you go back to 1991, the first four, five or six deal with what was going on at the time. The United States Security Council, the UN Security Council said Iraq needs to disarm. They said Iraq needs to stop torturing and oppressing its people. When you go to all the substance of it, it sort of makes sense.

When you start to get to the 10th and 11th and 12th and 13th resolutions, what the UN then was saying, the international community, that Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi regime has completely ignored for all these years, those resolutions started to say we're really serious this time. We told you to disarm, you have to disarm and we mean it this time. We told you you had to stop torturing and oppressing your people. We mean it this time. And if it weren't so sad, this defiance of the international community, I was reading these and I said it sounds like I'm talking to my four-year-old. When he does something and I tell him not to do it. He does it again; I say I'm really serious this time. That's what the language is like in the resolutions.

So, since 1998 it's been the policy of the United States government; since '91 the United Nations has been trying to enforce its own resolutions, and last fall it seems like it was a long time ago, but just last fall 1441 which said Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi regime must disarm or there will be serious consequences was voted for unanimously by the United Nations Security Council. So there are a lot of people who have said for a long time that this regime has to change.

Again, it's not just the torture and oppression, it's not just the threat to the region, and it's not just this pattern of willful defiance of the international community and the United Nations. We think there's another element that adds to the sense of urgency. Because some people say, now what's the rush? We think there's another element that contributes to the case against the regime and doing something sooner rather than later.

[Video shown]

It is hard to follow that up so let me just try to give you a couple of current pieces of information on people, and who are extraordinarily brave to put those stories down, are talking about patterns of behavior and things they experience.

The pattern of behavior continues today. Even Hans Blix will tell you that the Iraqi regime has not given the full and immediate and complete cooperation on disarmament demanded by UN Resolution 1441. The incredibly simple manipulation of civilians continues.

Secretary Rumsfeld was asked about it in the briefing today. We had some evidence recently in which the Iraqi regime was talking to people who live in the south, part of the country, and said if you see paratroopers you are supposed to try to kill them, coalition forces. If you don't, we'll bomb the area and you'll be included in the bombing and if we find out that in any way you've cooperated or tried to help these paratroopers then you will suffer the consequences.

Several days ago we had new information come to light and I think Newsweek may have had some of it this week that he has ordered the procurement of uniforms that look very much like U.S. and U.K. uniforms, down to some pretty specific details. The plan being to put them on his [inaudible] Guard, who are an elite group, very vicious, known for some of their incredibly brutal tactics. They will carry out atrocities against the Iraqi people in the conflict, and then blame it on the United States and the U.K. So we aren't talking past history, we're talking real life today.

Again, I go back to Winston Churchill and far smarter people than I will judge who was worse or how they differed, Adolf Hitler or Sadaam Hussein, but I know with great certainty it is too much of a risk to allow someone like that and allow a regime like that to go on unchecked because the catastrophic consequences of weapons of mass destruction, which is the most serious threat we're facing in the 21st Century, it's just far too great to let go of it.

So when we weigh all the risks of military action, and everybody in this room understand it -- Secretary Rumsfeld does, Chairman Myers does -- we weigh all those risks. We still think the benefits outweigh the risks of letting him go on.

So with that I will stop. Thank you for your time and your patience, and if there's time for any questions or comments I'd like to entertain them.

Question: I have a comment. America sent a lot of young men and women in harm's way on this effort to go into Iraq, and I think the Administration ought to be able to let the American people know one way or the other if we're going to make the same mistakes in Iraq that they faced in Afghanistan. They went in there and chased the Taliban and the al Qaeda, a lot of them escaped into Pakistan. It takes an awful lot of these people, evil people, to make this system work. If we're going over there, we need to be reassured that we're not going to make those kinds of mistakes. If we trap them, we need to terminate them, flat out.

ASD Clarke: Going back to the comments of everything having risks, I think most people would look back at Afghanistan, and it still goes on, we still have some eight nine thousand forces there now continuing to try to root out the remaining al Qaeda and Taliban. But most people look at it and say; overall, it was a pretty remarkable success. You all know better than I do, but if you think of a least good place to fight a war it's a country like Afghanistan. Our

presence in that region prior to 9/11 was zero, and anybody who doubts the capabilities of the U.S. military to adapt and move quickly, just look at what we did between 9/11 and October 7th, and look at how quickly the Taliban crumbled. We rooted out most of the al Qaeda presence.

There are a lot of lessons learned underway, which is one of the best things the military does. And it does have lessons learned to say okay, how can we prevent future reoccurrences going forward? So I think you will see some very good lessons learned, applied going forward.

I also know just from spending a lot of time with Secretary Rumsfeld and Chairman Myers and the others, the leadership there, how seriously they take this mission. They know that if there is indeed military action, and I still hope there isn't, I still hope there will be so much pressure on Saddam Hussein a miracle could occur. He could decide he wants to leave voluntarily; or people close to him could decide we want him out so we can live. But if it does occur I know that we'll make sure the job gets done properly.

Question: Back to the security factors, if and when the balloon goes up, what have our agencies done or departments done to borrow from enterprise and to mobilize local agencies to protect the country from these pockets of terrorists? Have we got that in place?

ASD Clarke: We have a lot of it in place. Again, if we go can go out five or ten or fifteen years and turn around and look back at what's going on right now, I think people will then be able to have some perspective on what has changed in an extraordinary fashion. Historically, law enforcement agencies, intel agencies at the federal, state and local level, do not work well together. That's just, that's been a fact of life. That's changed dramatically in the wake of 9/11. Obviously an improvement for the better. You have NORTHCOM which is a new command we set up specifically with the purpose and intent of homeland defense, coordinating and synchronized closely obviously with Tom Ridge and Homeland Security; also coordinated and linked closely with the FBI, etc. It's not perfect. Nothing this new with this many moving parts and pieces could be. But you have a willingness and an intent now. It's pretty extraordinary; it certainly didn't exist in the past.

Another related topic, another thing I think people will look back on and say this is pretty extraordinary, is the cooperation around the world for instance of intel agencies. Intel from different countries historically didn't like dealing with each other except on rare occurrences. One of the reasons you have seen these arrests of al Qaeda around the world day after day after day, even though they don't all get the attention that Sheikh Mohammed got the other day, it's because the intel agencies are working together so well.

And then what I consider one of the toughest pieces in the global war on terror is drying up finances. Because there are always going to be people, but if you can dry up the major funding and financing you've done a lot to break their backs. Financial institutions around the world were also not known for working together and cooperating, they've begun to work together to try to find other sources of funding.

So the parts and pieces are moving in the right direction. It's a big ship that's starting to turn.

Question: Bill Novy from the Department of Michigan.

I was wondering, I took the occasion to watch the report of the weapons inspectors and it just seemed to me, and one commentator afterwards mentioned this, and it sounded very familiar to me, that was that he seemed to be giving a report on some prior resolution, not 1441, but rather back in the 1200s back in 1988 where they were, where two of them were located and [inaudible]. It had nothing to do with any consequences or failure to do something. A failure to inform, a report came out in December. But my fear is, and I'm a long way from military age, but my fear is that we're over here playing this game with the United Nations and I think you can only call it a game. Meanwhile they're over there in Baghdad and the surrounding environment and they're planting landmines, and these are going to be awfully harmful to our people when and if we'd have to go in there.

I guess really the answer to the first question, which would be your thoughts or the thoughts of the folks where you work, on the report of Hans Blix; it didn't seem to me to be even talking about 1441.

ASD Clarke: I know [Phil Rieker] was here right before I was and the people of the State Department are the experts on the UN. I'm certainly no. But I think the fundamental question is, when is enough enough? In November the United Nations Security Council unanimously voted for 1441, which said very simply and very straightforwardly, Saddam Hussein must disarm, or there will be serious consequences, which in the language of the United Nations and in the international community is known to mean military action. Then the words change and the debate and discussion changes and it just keeps going on and on. And I agree with you, when is enough enough?

The President has made it very clear, he is going to give the diplomatic force as much time as he can without letting it go too far, and if the United Nations Security Council wants to be relevant and wants to be valid going forward then they will say enough. He's defied the international community; he's defied the UN for 12 years. Enough is enough. Now it's time for serious consequences.

If in the very short term they do not do that, the President has also made it clear that the United States and a coalition of the willing, and one thing I can also assure you of, if there is military action it will be a large coalition, they will disarm the Iraqi regime.

Question: I think there has to be some concern about young men and women who were not taught [inaudible] then. We know that in this terrain, in this weather they have to be on the edge right now [inaudible]. When you're to go into combat, you're ready to go.

I wonder what this is doing to their morale and what DoD is doing to keep their morale up. I have to agree with you. We're at a point right now where they're raring to go, they want to perform their mission as [inaudible], they all want to go back home to their loved ones.

I hope we can stop playing the game with the UN. If our mission is to go on the 17th

[inaudible] Commander in Chief. I think we [inaudible]. This is very troubling.

ASD Clarke: A couple of things. As some of you know, we've worked on a pretty bold and dramatic, new policy for the Pentagon and that is planning on embedding a lot of reporters with forces if there's military action. A lot of those reporters are already in the region; they're already embedded with the troops that are over there getting ready. And one of the benefits has been the American people and people around the world, because there will be cable networks covering, broadcast networks covering, almost every major newspaper in the country and some major papers overseas are showing you up close and personal just how fabulous these people are. They're training is phenomenal; their discipline is phenomenal, their energy and their enthusiasm and commitment is just awe-inspiring. So the good news is, as we're waiting for the decision, a lot of people have been able to see this and that's a very positive thing.

The important factor is at the same time the leadership has been trying to get ready for the potential action in Iraq in a very unconventional environment, the Secretary and Chairman Myers and Pete Pace and people on the Joint Staff have been working really really hard on fixing and adapting the deployment system which, like a lot of things in the Pentagon, systems that were built for World War II and they never got changed. They're trying to fix the deployment system so it's more flexible, so it's more adaptive, so you don't have people out there for six, nine, 12 months waiting for something to happen. So they try to have it as scalable and changeable as possible to accommodate exactly those sorts of concerns. Everybody I know who's been out there recently, General Franks is making a quick tour through some countries there and obviously will head to Qatar pretty soon I think, is seeing these people up close and personal for the last weeks and months and we know the morale is high, we know they feel good about things, but you're right, we don't want someone out there waiting a year for something they've been trained to do.

Question: Bruce Withers from the Department of Europe.

Looking at the chronology of events here, and going back to what we've heard all day here about Winston Churchill having given warnings about Hitler and stuff like that. We knew in the early '80s that this was a situation that had to be dealt with, and I'm trying to figure out in my own mind right now why didn't we do something sooner? Why didn't we go -- I know what the resolutions were for Desert Storm that said our charter was to get the Iraqis out of Kuwait. We did that. Our charter was not to go into Baghdad. But it seems to me that our charter should have been to go into Baghdad. Why didn't we do something sooner?

ASD Clarke: We need the spokesman from two Administrations ago to be here, but, you're right. In the simplest words, the objective then was very different. It was to get the Iraqis out of Kuwait; it was not to change the regime at that time. I think that policy was developed over a long period of negotiations and consultations with our allies, conversations and discussions with people in the region. So I think it was considered a very sound policy and objective at the time.

Two years ago if you'd asked me the question why we waited so long? Why haven't we acted already? I probably could have given you lots of reasons. I would have said oh, he's

contained, he hasn't harmed us. He hasn't hurt us. That's so far away in the other part of the world, why do we want to cause problems?

Knowing what I know now, and sometimes I regret knowing as much as I do. Knowing what I know now, that for 12 years we tried diplomacy and he continues to defy it and grow his programs of weapons of mass destruction. That we tried economic sanctions and they failed. And through the black market, he's found extraordinary ways to get around the Oil for Food program restrictions.

We tried to limit his military strikes, and the obvious question some people ask is, well if you know where the bad stuff is and the bad people are why don't you just go in and ping a few places.

Via the no-fly zone we've been trying limited military strikes for some time. It's failing. It's not working. Now I stand here and say I wish people had taken action sooner.

We know people in the human rights organizations who went around knocking on doors in the late 80s and early 90s saying why don't you do something about it?

And two years ago I would have said to you torture and oppressing people is a terrible thing but, again, it's in another country and they're plenty of candidates for action if that's your major concern. And now I say to myself, why don't we care more about that? Why don't we do something about that?

So my perspective is different, obviously, now I wish they had taken action sooner.

Question: Has the season got anything to do with the deadline?

ASD Clarke: You mean the weather?

Everything's a factor. You people know far better than I do the dangers and risks involved with military action. My pager went off a couple of times during this event because we just got word that a Black Hawk up at Fort Drum, New York went down. That's in the United States. Think about military action.

So everything is a factor. The weather's a factor, not knowing whether or not he would use WMD, a lot of people think he would if he thinks he's cornered. Everything's a factor.

But we have such extraordinary training and such great equipment and such good people that I'm absolutely confident we can overcome those. And not being a person with a lot of military experience. I can only tell you, in October of '01 when we were contemplating what we would do going into Afghanistan, the number of experts, the number of people including well meaning, well intentioned, retired generals speaking on background, because we found they don't like to put their names to this, said you can't fight in Afghanistan in the winter. Our guys don't have it, they aren't trained for it, they won't be able to stand it, the Afghan fighters are so much tougher. We did just fine in Afghanistan in the winter. Everything is a factor but I'm absolutely

confident if and when we go, we'll be successful in the end.

Question: Again, regarding, I guess the United Nations [inaudible] at the time, necessarily your high points.

ASD Clarke: Right.

Question: But you know, I've done some research here over the last several months and I've watched world events with great interest for a long, long time. And one thing I've found, and it may be irrelevant to this meeting, and it may not. I hope not. But I can tell you that through that research I found that, at the close of the Korean War 50 years ago, there were 353,000 United Nations contingency troops over there, that does not include the South Koreans. 304,000 of those were ours. It's almost like King Louis over there when he said he was the state. We are the United Nations. There wasn't anything that really had to be done, the United Nations was willing to do it, we're going to supply the manpower, we're going to supply the materials, and perhaps that's because we have the wherewithal to do that. Perhaps it's because we have the gumption to do that.

Either way, this is going to be very much the same thing.

One other thing I wanted to add. I read your bio here and it says you graduated from George Washington in 1982. Isn't that supposed to be '92?

ASD Clarke: No. [Laughter]

What do they say, it's not how many years, it's the mileage. [Laughter]

Let me try and give you a little hope. And it has a great deal to do with [inaudible], a great deal of responsibility is on our shoulders. Personally, I'm glad of it. Personally I'm glad it's people like President Bush and Secretary Rumsfeld and Secretary Powell who are trying to make these tough decisions in very very extraordinarily challenging times.

So I'm glad we have that responsibility and not some of the others out there.

But to give you some hope, again, perspective is a wonderful thing. Right now there are over 90 countries that are participating in some fashion in the global war on terror around the world. Not all of them have troops, not all of them have great aircraft and ships, but it's geared in different ways.

Intel, which is so valuable. Sometimes it's the scrap of paper that ties together some information that you got from a detainee and a laptop that helps your arrest some bad guys and get them off the street. Some of them are providing over flight rights, those sorts of things. That is extraordinary. It's the largest coalition in history in a very unconventional war, I'll grant you.

Down in Tampa right now, which is CENTCOM headquarters, we've got representatives, senior military representative from 49 different countries who have sent senior military people

there to act as the day-to-day 365/7 liaison with CENTCOM to conduct and prosecute the global war on terrorism. Many of those countries will send similar representatives forward to Qatar if military action ensues. Again, I'll go back to what I said, I am absolutely confident that if there's military action in Iraq you will see a lot of countries -- Secretary Rumsfeld has gone so far as to predict publicly that if he were betting, he would bet there would be more countries going forward in a war this time than the war in 1991. And they won't all be of the same scale or the same size or the same shape, but that's okay. It's a very unconventional times. We want people to put forward, and countries to put forward what they can contribute, so I am very optimistic about that.

Question: We're talking about many years here that we've known this has been going on. I'm sure -- Why have we waited so long? I know that we've got a Rambo in our military someplace that could have gone in and taken him out and [inaudible] worried about [inaudible]. Or are we worried about something more than it's against the law?

ASD Clarke: There is a law against that, and the distinction, and it's an important one, is if we go to war with Iraq, then we are justified in going after the command and control, but there is a law against that. Don't underestimate the security around Saddam Hussein. He moves constantly, he stays in different palaces. His people are starving, people don't have medicine, but they continue to build these incredible palaces and the different palaces are stood up and ready every day to receive them, because they never know where he's going to show up or where he's going to sleep every night. They've got pretty good evidence that he's got doubles. Security around him is absolutely extraordinary. As you can see, he takes some pretty ruthless actions if he doesn't think you're being loyal and supportive of him. So a hard one and one of the most totalitarian regimes left.

But yet, hope springs eternal. Maybe he wakes up in the next day or two and says oh, I'd rather live and let's figure out a way to further develop one of these exile efforts or maybe the people around him, the ones very close to him, who increasingly see the inevitability of what's going to happen with military action, might get a bright idea and say we've got a different plan for you, Saddam.

Question: I have enjoyed your analogy from 1938, a very interesting time. From a public affairs standpoint I think it would be good if that could be presented to the American people. Because the majority of them don't relate back for 65 years to what precipitated the prior Second World War. That involved my father and a lot of others in that war. It could have been stopped beforehand. If that comparison were used to explain the mess that we have right now, I think it would go a long way towards their understanding of why this action is necessary, other than gee, why do they want to do it now?

ASD Clarke: I think you're absolutely right. Two things. There is a reason it's hard for people to understand these issues, to embrace or support the notion of preemption. We have to think about this wonderful country of ours. For 200-plus years this unique geography and great neighbors. Secretary Rumsfeld met with a Defense Minister from another country, I won't name him, a few weeks ago and they were just talking afterwards, chatting, and the other Defense Minister said you know when I go to bed every night I wish, I look at the stars and I wish I had

two neighbors like the United States has. He lives in a bad neighborhood.

We have this great geography, these wonderful neighbors, and we didn't have to worry that much with threats from around. Now we have this wonderful policy, which says we don't hit you unless you hit us first. Now if you hit us we're going to knock the stuffing out of you. But this wonderful policy says that we don't strike unless you strike us first.

In the era of weapons of mass destruction, in which small, small amounts of chemical or biological weapons who could kill tens and hundreds of thousands of people if not more. We don't have that luxury of sustaining that blow. So we find ourselves in an extraordinary place.

I understand why that's so difficult for people to embrace. If I'd have been asked these questions two years ago, as I said, before spending two years at the Pentagon, I don't know that I would really get it or really support it. But one of the best examples of the need to take action before a bad person does more bad things is Winton Churchill and Adolf Hitler.

I'll tell you one story and then I will let you all get on with your convention. About six weeks ago I think it was, Secretary Rumsfeld was in a hospital outside Chicago and he was visiting his mother-in-law who was very ill. He went down the hall with one of his grandchildren to the restroom, and this very elderly woman came out of her room and she stopped him and she said, you're not Secretary Rumsfeld. He said yes. She says no, you can't be. He says yes. She says, I though it was, area you really Secretary Rumsfeld? He said yes, I am. She went on for about three or four minutes about taking action against Iraq and she said, You must stop this man, he's doing terrible things, you have to stop him. And she was quite worked up about it. And he said thank you very much. You seem to care very deeply. She said of course I do. She pushed up her sleeve and you could see the tattoo. She'd been in a concentration camp.

So as difficult as it is for people like us to reach back 60 years to find some comparison, it's an important one.

Let me stop there. Thank you, and let me thank you very very much for your service in the past. I know what an incredible contribution you all have made. I thank you for your continued service with this organization.

Thanks a lot.

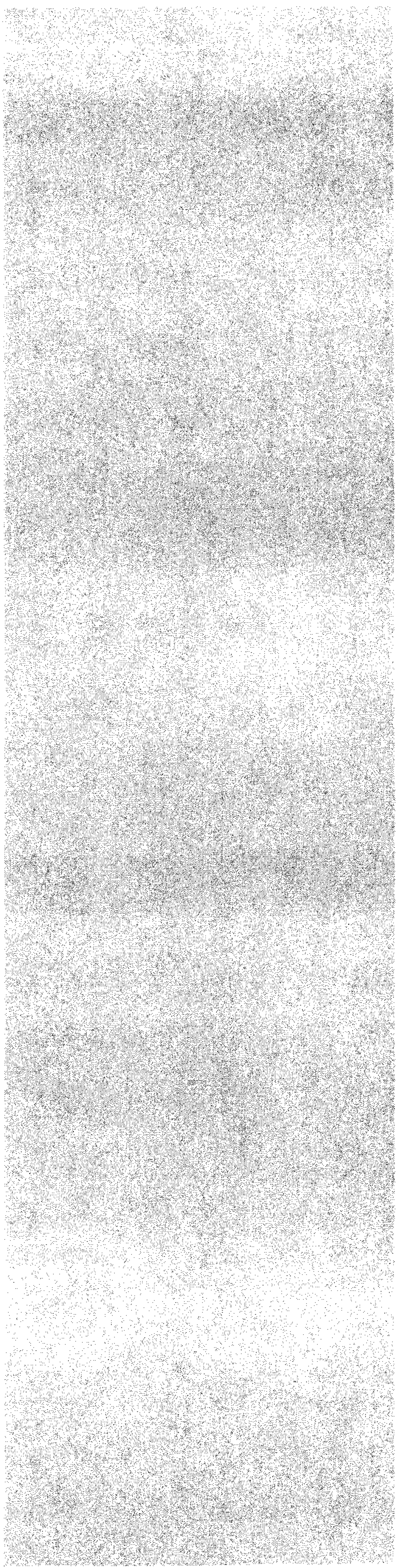
[Applause]

- END -

Lies and Facts

**“Iraq has no weapons of mass destruction
and has no intention of making them”**

Saddam Hussein
9 February 2002



Iraq has claimed repeatedly to have complied consistently and completely with United Nations resolutions and inspection programs

Iraq has also claimed many times since 1991 that it has no nuclear, biological or chemical weapons programs

Whom should we believe?

This is a claim

Testing for Accuracy

“Iraq remains committed to its obligations under the UN Security Council resolutions, including its commitments in the field of disarmament. **Iraq [ceased pursuing weapons of mass destruction] for good in 1991.**

“Iraq continues to honor its obligations [under the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT)]”

Iraqi Foreign Ministry 9 June 2002

“Iraq acts by legitimate means, abiding ... by the norms of international law ... and in good faith. It is worth mentioning that Iraq is a party to the NPT and complies with it...”

Iraqi Foreign Ministry 2 April 1990

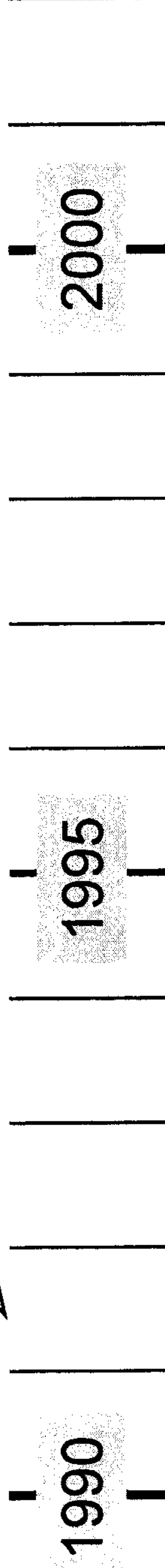
This statement is
testable

Iraq's "Full Compliance" with the UN Compliance Requires Full Disclosure of Nuclear, Chemical, Biological and Missile Programs

- No nuclear weapons program
- No biological weapons program
- No uranium enrichment
- 53 Scud-type missiles
- 10,331 chemical munitions

Iraq provides first full
declarations and claims
compliance 18 Apr 91

Iraqi claim



Iraqi claims no weapons programs, full compliance

UNSCOM Inspections

No Inspections

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Facts
established
by United
Nations

Programs
1. Nuclear
2. Chemical
3. Biological
4. Missile

1990

1995

2000

Iraqi claims no weapons programs, full compliance

UNSCOM Inspections

No Inspections

Iraq's Nuclear Program

In eight slides

Iraqi Nuclear Program

29 Oct 69 -- Iraq ratifies Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)

1972 Iraq initiates nuclear weapons program

Fact

1987 Iraq undertakes radiological weapons program (tests)

Fact

Lie

2 Apr 90 – Iraq tells UN “...Iraq is a party to the NPT and complies with it...”

UNSCOM proves 10 major IAEA violations;
5 major NPT violations

Fact

Iraqi Nuclear Program

Lie

18 Apr 91 – Iraq claims it has no nuclear weapons program

7 Jul 91 Iraqi FFCD – Iraq admits to having had an enrichment program for research purposes and having conducted research on plutonium recovery

Fact

Lie

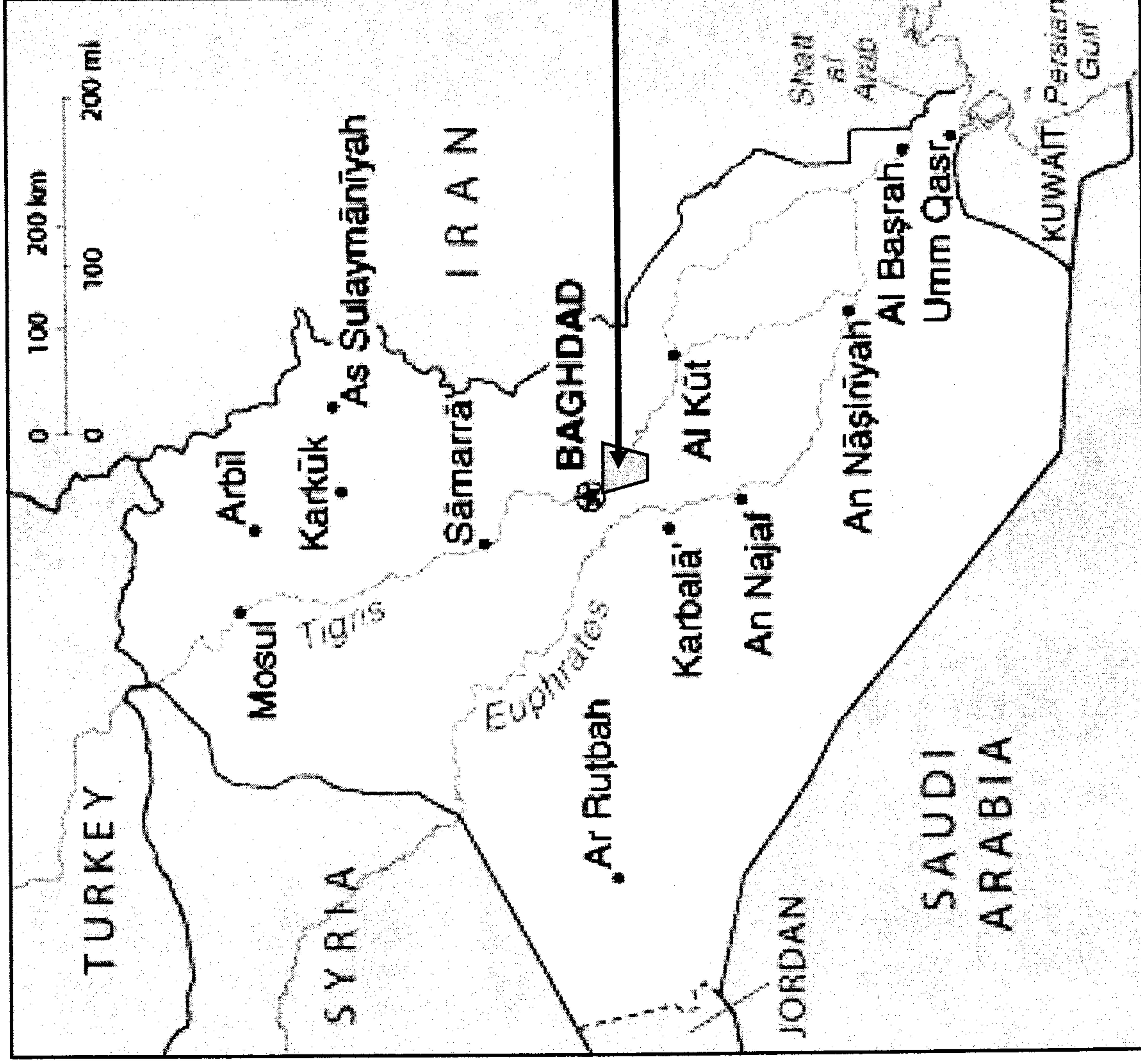
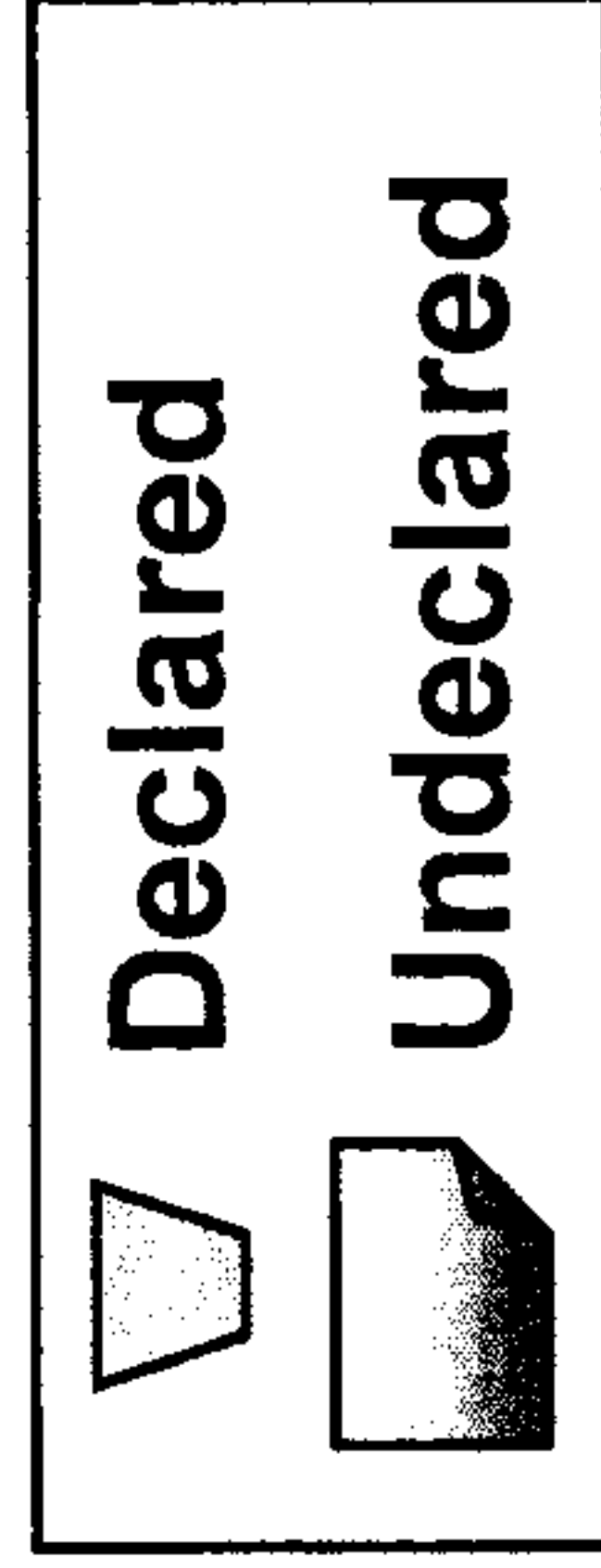
27 Apr 91 – Iraqi declaration to IAEA says its nuclear activities are confined to 23 buildings at Tuwaitha

Iraq operated at least 8 other nuclear sites

Fact

Iraqi Nuclear Facilities

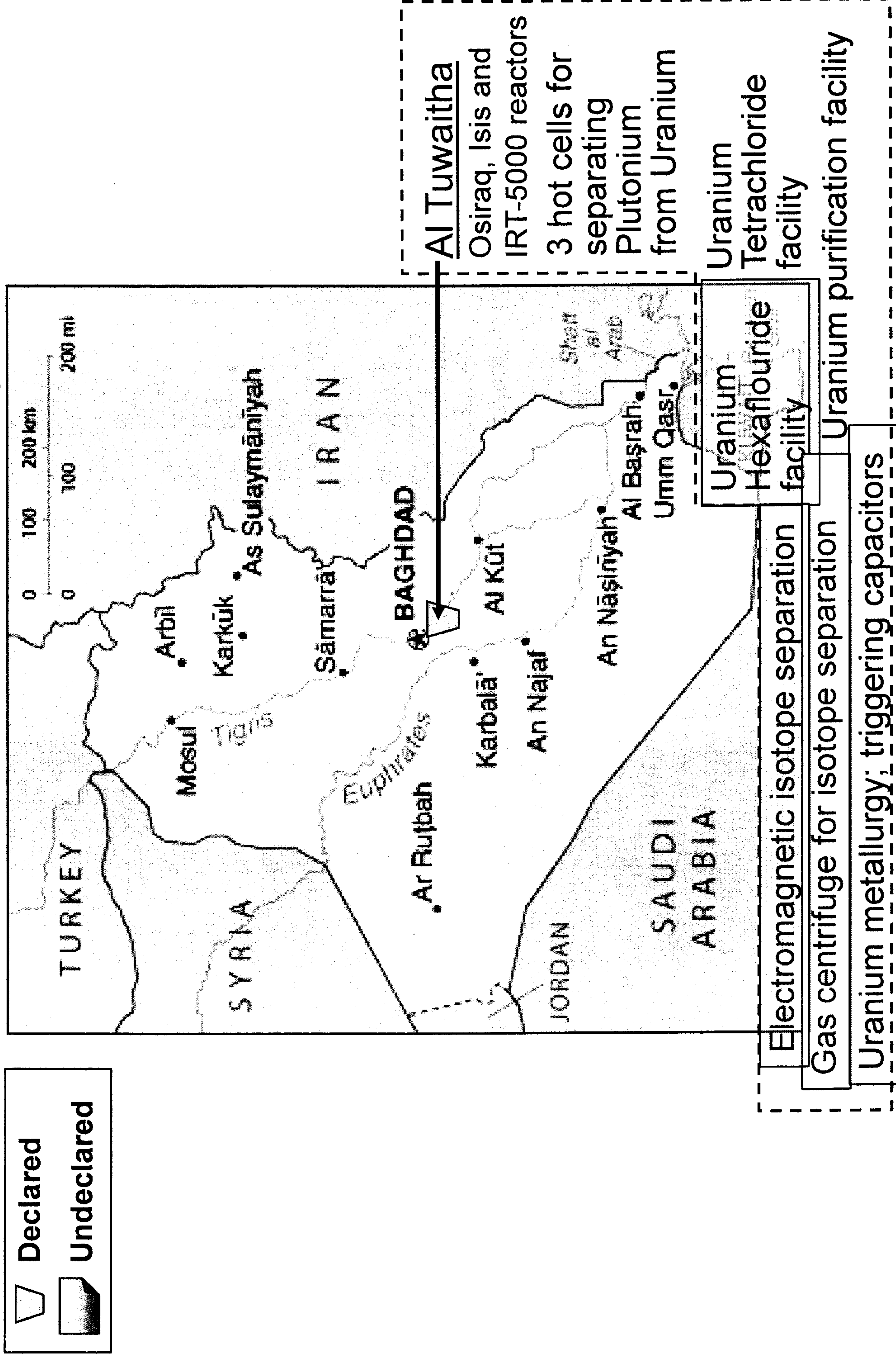
IAEA Violations and Non Proliferation Treaty Violations



Al Tuwaitha
Osiraq, Isis and
IRT-5000 reactors

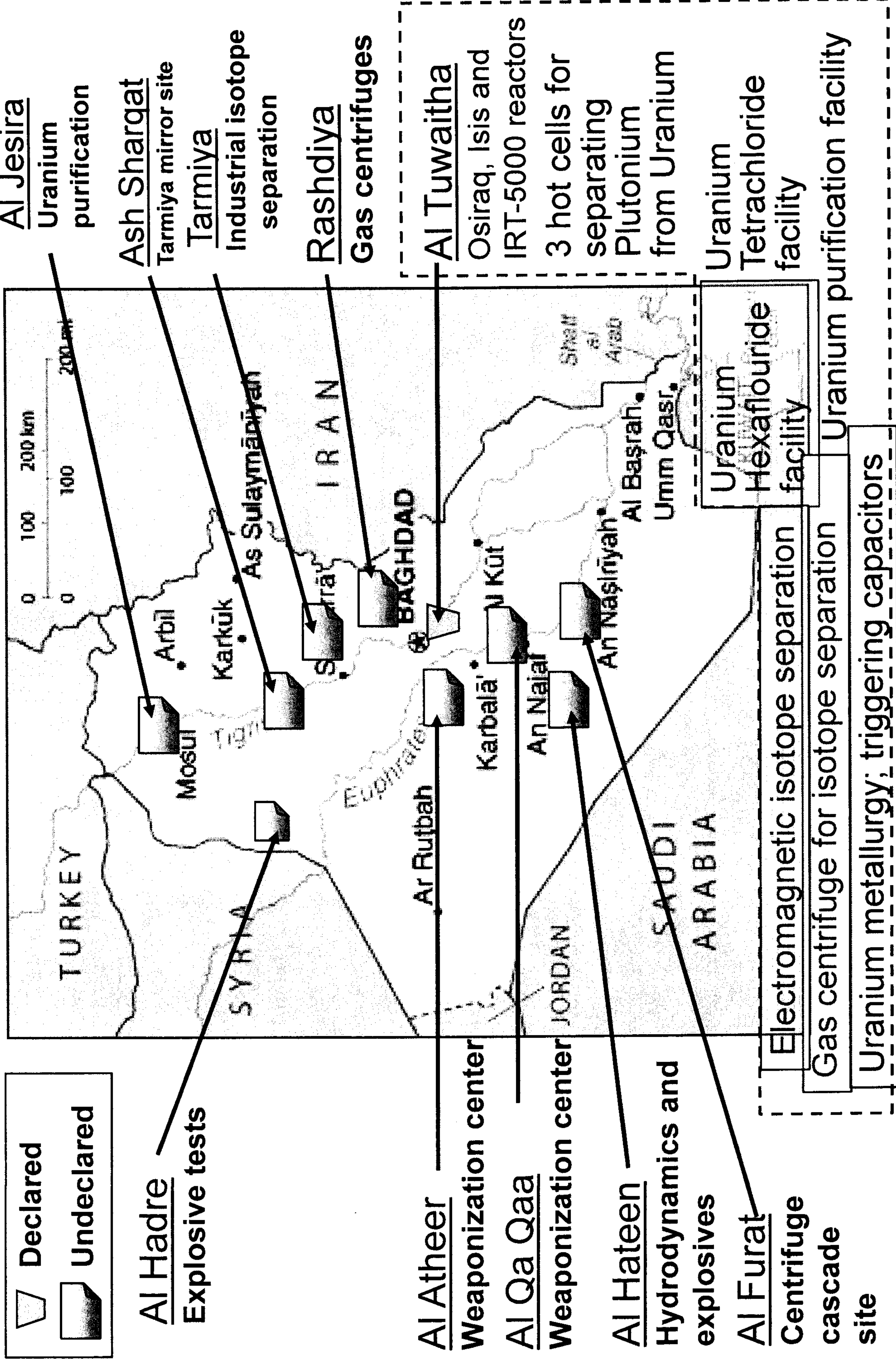
Iraqi Nuclear Facilities

IAEA Violations and Non Proliferation Treaty Violations



Iraqi Nuclear Facilities

IAEA Violations and Non Proliferation Treaty Violations



Iraqi Nuclear Program

Lie

2 Jul 91 Iraqi Atomic Energy Commission declares that Iraq has never had a program for uranium enrichment, has no centrifuges, and has not pursued Electromagnetic Isotope Separation (EMIS)

Iraq pursued four separate uranium enrichment programs

Iraq had numerous centrifuges, and planned to produce them

Iraq had extensive indigenous EMIS program

21 Oct 91 - Iraq admits "research for weaponization"

Sep 94 -- 26th IAEA inspection discovers laser isotope separation effort

8 Aug 95 -- Hussein Kamel's defection -- reveals Iraq's high-priority \$10 Billion effort to develop a nuclear weapon.

Lie

"Iraq [ceased pursuing weapons of mass destruction] for good in 1991"

Fall 93 -- UNSCOM intercepts centrifuges, maraging steel

Filament winding machine for centrifuge rotors shipped via Switzerland and Singapore; intercepted in Jordan in 1995

Fact

Fact

Fact

Fact

Fact

Fact

UNSCOM Assessment

of Potential Iraqi Nuclear Threat

- With sufficient black-market uranium or plutonium, Iraq probably could fabricate a nuclear weapon.
- Engaged in clandestine procurement of special nuclear weapon-related equipment.
- Retains large and experienced pool of nuclear scientists and technicians.
- Retains nuclear weapons design, and may retain related components and software.
- Until halted by Coalition air attacks and UNSCOM disarmament efforts, Iraq had an extensive nuclear weapon development program that began in 1972, involved 10,000 personnel, and had a multi-year budget totaling approximately \$10 billion.
- In 1990, Iraq also launched a crash program to divert reactor fuel under IAEA safeguards to produce nuclear weapons.
- In 1987, Iraq field tested a radiological bomb.

Iraq's "Compliance" with the UN

Nuclear Programs

Lies

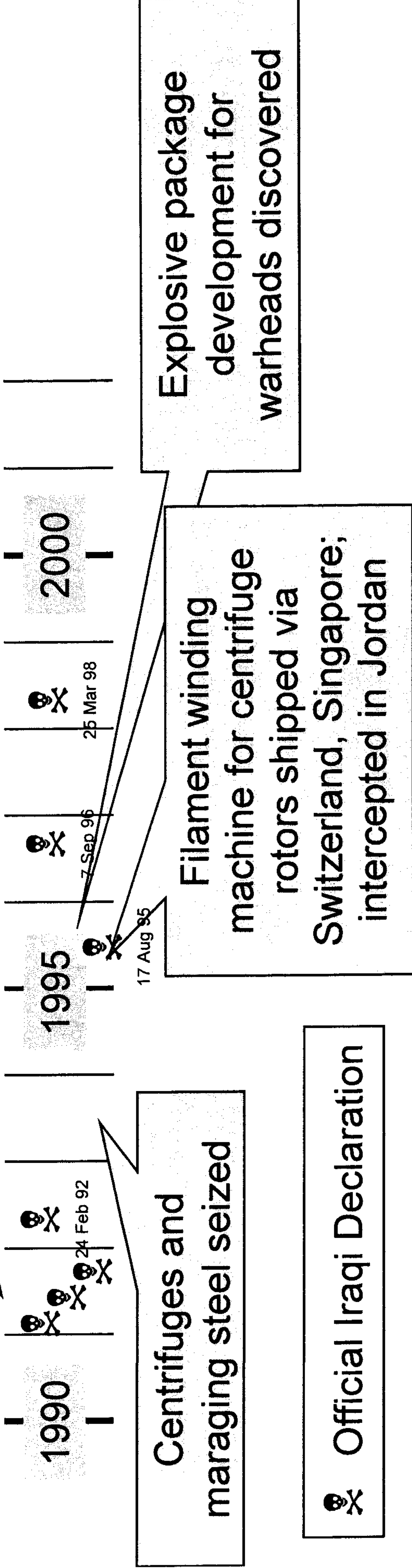
- No nuclear weapons program
- No uranium enrichment
- No biological weapons program
- 53 Scud-type missiles
- 10,331 chemical munitions

Iraq provides first full declarations and claims compliance 18 Apr 91

NPT and IAEA Violations

- 15kg of enriched uranium
- Plutonium recovery
- Electromagnetic isotope separation
- Laser isotope separation
- Gas centrifuges
- Centrifuge production
- Planned 2,000 machine centrifuge cascade
- Warhead design effort
- Radiological bomb testing
- Heavy water program

Facts



Iraq's Chemical Program

In seven slides

Documented Iraqi Chemical Attacks

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Agent</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
August 1983	Haij Umran	Mustard	Less than 100
October-November 1983	Panjwin	Mustard	3,000
February-March 1984	Majnoon Island	Mustard	2,500
March 1984	Al Basrah	Tabun	50 - 100
March 1985	Hawizah Marsh	Mustard/Tabun	3,000
February 1986	Al Faw	Mustard/Tabun	8,000-10,000
December 1986	Umm ar Rasas	Mustard	1,000s
April 1987	Al Basrah	Mustard/Tabun	5,000
October 1987	Sumar/Mehran	Mustard/Nerve	3,000
March 1988	Halabjah	Mustard/Nerve	Hundreds

Iraqi chemical agents

Total 20,000,000 kg
declared

Precursors

2,600,000 kg
Destroyed under
UNSCOM

820,000 kg
“destroyed during war”

240,000 kg
“unilaterally destroyed”

14,500,000 kg
consumed in
producing chemical
weapons or
precursors

Other undeclared
?

Total 3,859,000 kg
declared

All Agents

411,000 kg
Destroyed under
UNSCOM

2,800,000 kg
“consumed
during 1982-
1988”

Iraqi AF paper
seen in July 1998
by UNSCOM –
Iraq lied WRT
weapons - up to
700,000 kg

Mustard

500,000 to
600,000 kg
declared by Iraq

Up to 200,000 kg
may remain

Sarin

100,000 to
150,000 kg
declared by Iraq

Up to 200,000 kg
may remain

Iraqi chemical agents

What this means

Precursors

2,600,000 kg
Destroyed under
UNSCOM

820,000 kg
"destroyed during war"

240,000 kg
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600,000 kg
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Up to 200,000 kg
may remain

Sarin

100,000 to
150,000 kg
declared by Iraq

Up to 200,000 kg
may remain

4 THED Lethality

Need to define a new term
to quantify the lethality
200,000 kg of Sarin is enough to
kill 28 billion average-size people

1 THED =
Enough agent to kill humanity
(Theoretical Humankind Extinction Dosage)

Iraqi chemical agent - VX

Precursors	Status	Agent
<p>750,000 kg of imported VX precursors</p>	<p>212,000 kg "unilaterally destroyed" by Iraq</p>	<p>Sufficient for 70,000 kg of VX 66,640,000,000 lethal doses = 9 THED</p> <p>Other undeclared ?</p>
<p>55,000 kg of indigenous VX precursors</p>	<p>460,000 kg "destroyed by Coalition air attacks" -- Iraq</p> <p>155,000 kg verified by UNSCOM</p>	

36,000 kg destroyed under UNSCOM supervision

Other undeclared ?

Iraqi chemical weapons

42,000 chemical weapons bodies "destroyed during the 1991 war"	18,000 empty weapons destroyed under UNSCOM	30,000 weapons "unilaterally destroyed" by Iraq but not observed by UNSCOM	Other undeclared ?
	22,000 filled weapons destroyed under UNSCOM	16,300 weapons converted by Iraq; UNSCOM accepts	

100,000 filled chemical munitions "used or disposed of during Iran-Iraq War"

Summary

UNSCOM could positively account for 56,000 weapons

No positive proof for fate of 172,000 known chemical weapons

UNSCOM Assessment of Potential Iraqi Chemical Threat

- Continued gaps and inconsistencies in Iraqi declarations strongly suggest Baghdad retains an unknown quantity of chemical weapons, production equipment, and related precursors.
- Iraq has declared that since the end of the Iran-Iraq war it produced four metric tons of VX, 100-150 metric tons of G-agents such as sarin, and 500-600 metric tons of mustard. We estimate that Iraq could have produced as much as an additional 600 metric tons of these agents.
- The production and weaponization of VX--the most advanced, deadly, and long-lasting chemical agent--is especially troubling. As in the case of BW, after 4 years denying that it had produced any significant amount of VX agent, Hussein Kamil's defection in 1995 forced Baghdad to reveal its program.
- There is evidence that Iraq had perhaps as many as 25 more than the 45 declared warheads.
- An Iraqi Air Force document discovered by the inspectors in July 1998 suggests Baghdad grossly overstated to UNSCOM the number of chemical munitions it used during the Iran-Iraq war. This implies that much more remains of Iraq's CW munitions stockpile.

Iraq's "Compliance" with the UN Chemical Programs

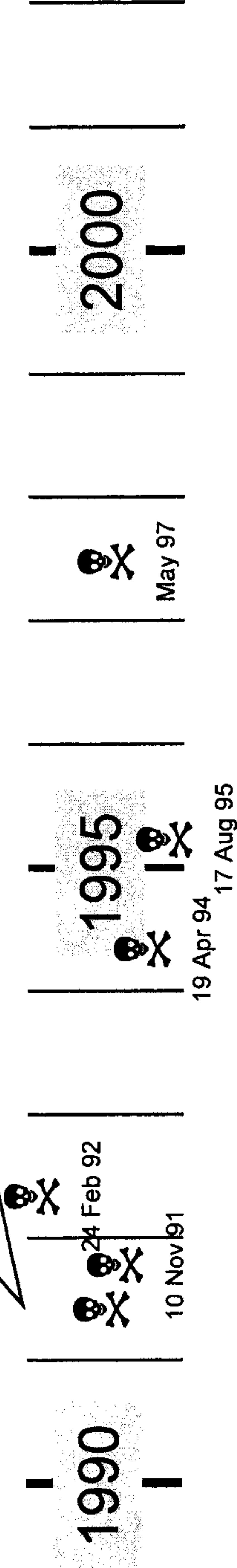
Lies

- No nuclear weapons program
- No biological weapons program
- VX none
- Precursors 650,000 kg
- 10,331 chemical munitions

Facts

- VX 3,900 kg (declared)
- Precursors 20,000,000 kg
- 127,941 filled and unfilled munitions

Iraq provides first full declarations and claims compliance 18 Apr 91



☠ Official Iraqi Declaration

Iraq's Biological Weapons Program

In six slides

Iraq's BW Agents and Their Effects

Germ or Virus	Effects	Lethality
Aflatoxin	Liver cancer	Long-term only
Anthrax – inhalation (pulmonary)	Gradual onset of flu-like symptoms, followed in 2- 3 days by severe respiratory distress; uncontrollable bleeding	Death usually within 24-36 hours; if not treated until symptoms appear, almost always fatal LD ₅₀ .002μ/kg
Anthrax – cutaneous	Lesions, achiness, fever, and nausea	Treatable with antibiotics; only fatal to about 20% of <i>untreated</i> victims
Anthrax – intestinal	Nausea, vomiting, fever, diarrhea	25-60% of those infected will die
Botulinum toxin	Weakness, dizziness and disinterest, trouble w motor functions affecting vision & swallowing; extremities and respiratory muscles become progressively weaker; abrupt respiratory failure	80% of victims die within 1-3 days LD ₅₀ .001μ/kg
Clostridium perfringens (gas gangrene)	Acute lung distress, leaking blood vessels, breakdown of the red blood cells or platelets (which enable the blood to clot), liver damage	Can be fatal, though early antibiotic treatment is effective if done before toxins accumulate in the body LD ₅₀ .1 to 5 μ/kg
Mycotoxins	Attack the cells of bone marrow, skin, and the G-I tract, block blood clotting	Only about 35 milligrams (aerosol) kills an average man, but considered only moderately lethal
Ricin	Flu-like symptoms, then shock and cardiovascular collapse, and finally quick, extreme lung failure	Highly lethal - only about 10 millionths of a gram needs to be inhaled
Wheat-cover smut	No effect to humans	Fatal to the wheat plant
Camelpox	Fever and skin rash in camels	Rarely infects humans

Iraqi Biological Agents Lethality

Minimums (Declared)	Lethal doses*	THED
340 liters clostridium perfringens 1,850 liters Aflatoxin	4,857,240,000	.7
8,500 liters concentrated anthrax (10x)	10,000,000,000,000	1,430
19,000 liters botulinum toxin (20x)	271,700,000,000,000	38,000

Documented anthrax release Ekaterinburg (1979)
~ 1 gram released; 66 fatalities

Theoretical result w optimum aerosol dispersal
8,000kg anthrax covers 24,000km²
kills 48,000,000 people

Iraqi production figures stated in liters; lethal mass of toxin
reflects arbitrary estimate of 1kilogram per liter

Human Extinction Doses

*LD₅₀ of anthrax ≈ .002 μg/kg body weight

*LD₅₀ of botulinum ≈ .001 μg/kg body weight

Iraqi Biological Agents Produced

Minimums (Declared)	More likely
340 liters clostridium perfringens	
1,850 liters Aflatoxin	
8,500 liters concentrated anthrax (10x)	3-4 times as much
19,000 liters botulinum toxin (20x)	Twice as much
Other undeclared	
?	

UNSCOM Assessment of Potential Iraqi Biological Threat

- After 4 years of claiming it had conducted only "defensive research" on biological weapons Iraq finally declared in 1995 that it had produced 500,000 liters of refined and unrefined agents such as anthrax, botulinum toxin, aflatoxin, and ricin. But Iraq may have produced substantially greater amounts--three to four times higher in some cases--of these agents.
- Iraq's accounting of the amount of agent it produced and the number of failed batches is seriously flawed and cannot be reconciled on the basis of its Full, Final, and Complete Declarations (FFCDs).
- Of the 31,000 kg of biological weapons growth media that Iraq imported, Baghdad has not accounted for about 3,500 kg. If kept dry, such media probably would still be useable for BW agent production.
- Iraq has admitted that it filled Scud missile warheads, bombs, and munitions with some of these agents. It is not known how much remains of this offensive capability.

Potential Biological Weapons Threat

(continued)

- May retain stockpile of biological weapon (BW) munitions, including over 150 R-400 aerial bombs, and 25 or more special chemical/biological Al-Hussein ballistic missile warheads.
- May retain biological weapon sprayers for Mirage F-1 aircraft.
- May retain mobile production facility with capacity to produce "dry" biological agents (i.e., with long shelf life and optimized for dissemination).
- May possess smallpox virus; tested camelpox prior to Gulf War.
- Maintains technical expertise and equipment to resume production of *Bacillus anthracis* spores (anthrax), botulinum toxin, aflatoxin, and *Clostridium perfringens* (gas gangrene).
- Prepared BW munitions for missile and aircraft delivery in 1990-1991 Gulf War; this included loading al-Hussein ballistic missile warheads and R-400 aerial bombs with *Bacillus anthracis*.
- Conducted research on BW dissemination using unmanned aerial vehicles.

Iraq's "Compliance" with the UN

Biological Programs

Lies

- No nuclear weapons program
- No biological weapons program
- No uranium enrichment
- 53 Scud-type missiles
- 10,331 chemical munitions

500,000 liters of refined and unrefined agents including anthrax, botulinum toxin, aflatoxin, and ricin

Research on plague and smallpox likely

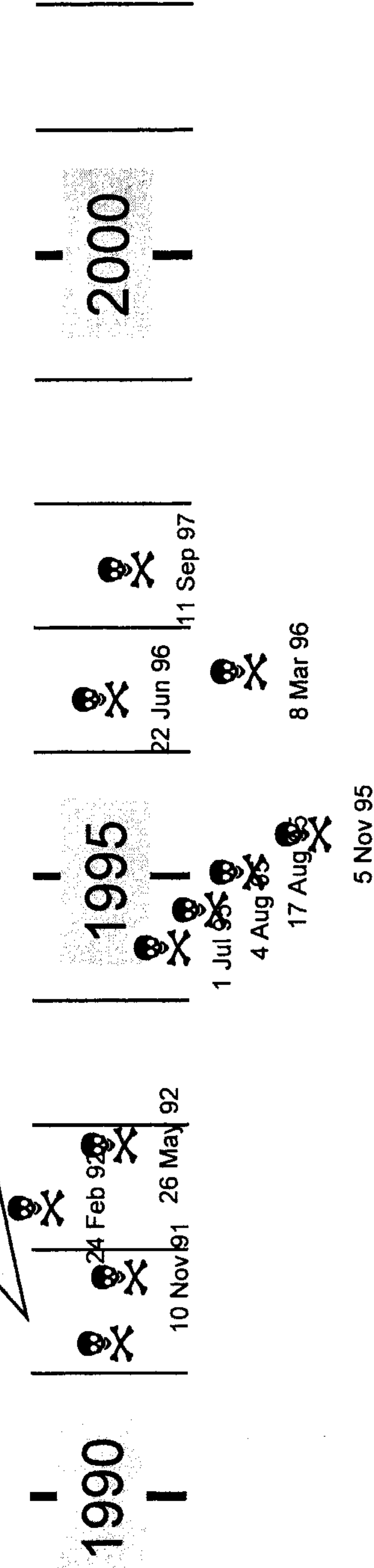
Two 1,000 liter mobile storage tanks for BW found buried

Mirage F-1 with 1,000 liter BW spray tanks was poised for attack in 1991

Many BW missile warheads, bombs, sprayers

Iraq provides first full declarations and claims compliance 18 Apr 91

Facts



☠ Official Iraqi Declaration

Iraq's Missile Program

In five slides

Iraqi Missile Programs

<p>18 Apr 91 Iraq declares 53 Al-Hussein and Scud type missiles, 6 launchers</p>	<p>July 1991 UNSCOM destroys 62 missiles (including 48 Al-Husseins), 10 launchers and 32 warheads</p>	<p>July 1991 Iraq (it will later claim) takes 85 missiles from storage and secretly destroys them</p>
<p>August 1991 Taji missile shell game – inspectors at gates, missiles are removed</p>	<p>September 1991 – at the Khan al Mahawil barracks south of Baghdad UNSCOM inspectors find four missile transporters they had cut up and dismantled in July. They had been reassembled and welded together</p>	
<p>May 1992 Iraq provides its first FFCDs for its prohibited missile programs.</p>	<p>June 1992 Iraq says it is in full compliance on missiles and chemical weapons; demands that UN lift sanctions</p>	<p>March 1993 Rolf Ekeus says UNSCOM can not account for 200 of Iraq's 819 Scuds</p>
<p>Late 1993 Iraq orders work on proscribed missile gyroscopes (admitted in October 1995)</p>	<p>1993-1994 Iraq conducts a covert program to reverse-engineer gyroscopes for missile guidance – using facilities monitored by UNSCOM</p>	
<p>July 1995 Guidance and control components for very-long range missiles are delivered to Iraq</p>		

“Iraq [ceased pursuing weapons of mass destruction] for good in 1991.”

Iraqi Missile Programs

“Iraq [ceased pursuing weapons of mass destruction] for good in 1991.”

<p>8 Aug 1995 General Hussein Kamel defects; Iraq admits greater progress in its efforts to indigenously produce long-range missiles than it had previously declared.</p>	<p>August (FAS) Iraq discloses work on advanced rocket engines, UDMH fuel, production of proscribed rocket engines, and admits to further static and flight tests</p>	<p>Nov 1995 Iraq provides second FFCDD on its prohibited missile program.</p>
		<p>Nov 1995 SS-21 missile smuggled from Yemen found in Iraq</p>

<p>Nov 1995 The government of Jordan intercepts a large shipment of (115) high-grade missile components destined for Iraq. Iraq denies that it had sought to purchase these components, while acknowledging that some of them were in Iraq. Other missile components dredged from Tigris Canal</p>	<p>December 1995 Iraq denies that it has received or contracted for missile guidance components</p>
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1996 (FAS) UNSCOM concludes Iraq produced 80 Scuds indigenously

3 Jun 1998 UNSCOM reports its accounting of unilateral destruction. Iraq claimed to have disposed of the components used to produce missile engines at Al Alam. UNSCOM calculated that the site should contain residue from 100 tons of material – only 12 tons could be accounted for. Similarly, UNSCOM tried to locate ingots from five declared melting events; UNSCOM estimated the remains only verified 50 tons of the calculated 200 tons of material declared.

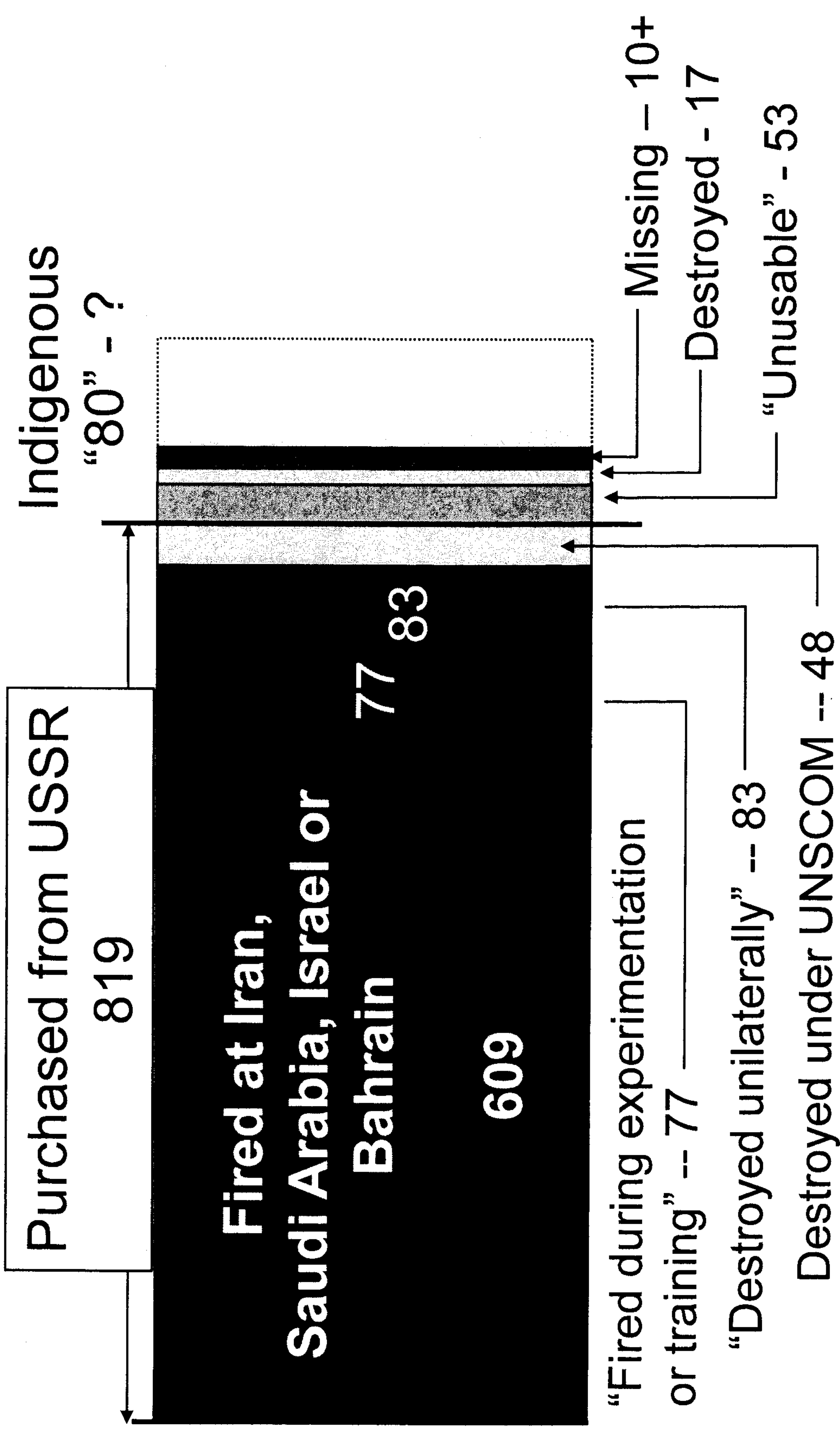
August 1997 UNSCOM shows “unilateral missile destruction” could not have been done in July 1991. Iraq changes its story

UNSCOM Assessment

of Potential Iraqi Missile Threat

- May retain several al-Hussein (modified Scud-B) missiles with 650km range and 500kg payload.
- May retain components for dozens of Scud-B and al-Hussein missiles, as well as indigenously produced Scud missile engines.
- Maintains clandestine procurement network to import missile components.
- Reconstructing missile production facilities destroyed in 1998 by U.S. bombing.
- May possess several hundred tons of propellant for Scud missiles.
- If undetected and unobstructed, could resume production of al-Hussein missiles; could develop 3,000km-range missiles within five years; could develop ICBM within 15 years.
- Developing Ababil-100 with 150km range and 300kg payload, flight-testing al-Samoud with 140km range and 300kg payload, and producing Ababil-50 with 50km range and 95kg payload.

Iraq's Scud Missiles



No established figure for Chinese and North Korean missile imports

Storage life of Scud missiles according to East Germany army doctrine is 20 years; recovery from storage and preparation before for fuelling takes 95 minutes.

Iraq's "Compliance" with the UN

Missile Programs

Lies

- No nuclear weapons program
- No biological weapons program
- No uranium enrichment
- 53 Scud-type missiles
- 10,331 chemical munitions

Iraq provides first full declarations and claims compliance 18 Apr 91

1990

24 Feb 92
89 Iraqis killed

19 Mar 92

26 May 92

Program to reverse-engineer gyroscopes for missile guidance

☠ Official Iraqi Declaration

Facts

- At least 160 Scud-type missiles
- Dozens of chemical warheads
- Dozens of biological warheads
- Continued development, procurement through at least 1995

UNSCOM

oversaw

destruction of 65

missiles;

reasonable doubts

about hundreds

Jordan intercepts a shipment of 115 high-grade missile components destined for Iraq. Other missile components dredged from Tigris Canal

1995

1995



17 Aug 95

Iraq orders work on proscribed missile gyroscopes

Guidance and control components for very-long range missiles delivered to Iraq; SS-21 missile smuggled from Yemen found in Iraq

2000

“Full Compliance” and “No Weapons Programs”

“Iraq acts by legitimate means, abiding ... by the norms of international law ... and in good faith. It is worth mentioning that Iraq is a party to the NPT and complies with it...

Iraqi Foreign Ministry 2 April 1990

This statement is
testable

“Full Compliance” and “No Weapons Programs”

“Iraq acts by legitimate means, abiding ... by the norms of international law ... and in good faith. It is worth mentioning that Iraq is a party to the NPT and complies with it...”

Iraqi Foreign Ministry 2 April 1990

This statement is testable

Iraqi claim

- No nuclear weapons program →
- No biological weapons program →
- No uranium enrichment →
- 53 Scud-type missiles →
- 10,331 chemical munitions →

Discovered ... so far

- Extensive covert nuclear weapons program
- Immense biological weapons program
- Four separate uranium enrichment efforts
- 160+ Scud-type missiles, chem/bio warheads
- 127,941 filled and unfilled chemical munitions

Iraqi claims are consistent

Major Trends

Since coming to power the Hussein regime has aggressively sought to develop and weaponize the MOST LETHAL capabilities known to science. Iraq placed almost equal emphasis on LONG SHELF LIFE for their agents and toxins

CHEMICAL : Iraq focused on the most lethal agents (VX, Sarin) while revealing to UNSCOM its less toxic chemical weapons

BIOLOGICAL: It completely denied a biological weapons program which fielded anthrax and botulinum spores in operational weapons. This program also researched genetic modification, viruses, and mycotoxins

CONCEALMENT: Iraq concealed its nuclear, chemical, biological and missile programs in industrial sites that looked innocent and used false civilian titles

Any future inspection regime must take into account the documented attainments of Iraq's nuclear, chemical, biological and missile programs, its unparalleled record of employing these technologies against neighboring countries and its own people, its record of aggression, its successes at concealment, and the years throughout which Iraq has been free of inspectors.

Concealment

Industries in Iraq

Petrochemical-3 Centre

**Daura Foot and Mouth
Disease Vaccine Facility**

**Taji Single Cell
Protein Plant**

Nassr State Establishment

**Muthanna State
Establishment**

**The Agricultural and Water
Resources Research Centre**

Concealment

Industries in Iraq with subtext

Petrochemical-3 Centre

Home to the Iraqi nuclear weapons design effort

Daura Foot and Mouth Disease Vaccine Facility

Research on viral warfare agents (haemorrhagic conjunctivitis, human rota virus, etc). Produced thousands of litres of botulinum

Nassr State Establishment

SCUD modification and range extension program. Manufactured components for indigenous SCUD engines and airframes

Muthanna State Establishment

Home to Iraq's BW program. Agents investigated include Anthrax, botulinum toxin, aflatoxin, and ricin

Taji Single Cell Protein Plant

Production of Botulinum toxin

The Agricultural and Water Resources Research Centre

Dedicated aflatoxin production facility

Sources



Major sources: [UNSCOM Report to UN Security Council 25 Jan 1999](#); Anthony H. Cordesman, [The Military Balance in the Gulf and the Threat from Iraq \(CSIS, May 2000\)](#); Rodney W. Jones and Mark G. McDonough, [Tracking Nuclear Proliferation: A Guide in Maps and Charts](#). (CEIP, 1998) summarize the UNSCOM and IAEA reports.

For additional detail and a sound first-person account see also Tim Trevan, [Saddam's Secrets: The Hunt for Iraq's Hidden Weapons](#) (London: HarperCollins 1999)

Official UN web catalog of documents available to the public:
<http://www.iraqwatch.org/un/#UNSCOM%20Reports%20and%20other%20documents>



Iraqi Denial and Deception

Weather

Today's high: 50°
Low: 32°
Monday: Mostly sunny,
high: 54°
Low: 34°
Details: Page B2.

The Washington Post

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1998

\$1.50

SHELL GAMES | The Hunt for Iraq's Forbidden Weapons

A Futile Game of Hide and Seek Ritter, UNSCOM Foiled by Saddam's Concealment Strategy

First of two articles

By **BARTON GELLMAN**
Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK—Scott Ritter had some experience with erased magnetic disks, and he knew what kinds of traces deleted files leave for skilful operatives to exploit. He had no intention of letting such clues survive on his laptop computer, and he devoted some thought to the best way of demolishing its hard drive.

He planned to remove the drive and smash the storage platters beyond repair. But that would amount, he decided, to unlawful destruction of government property. Like so much equipment in use by United Nations arms inspectors, the Dell machine belonged to the U.S. Defense Department. Ritter settled for erasing it with a large industrial magnet.

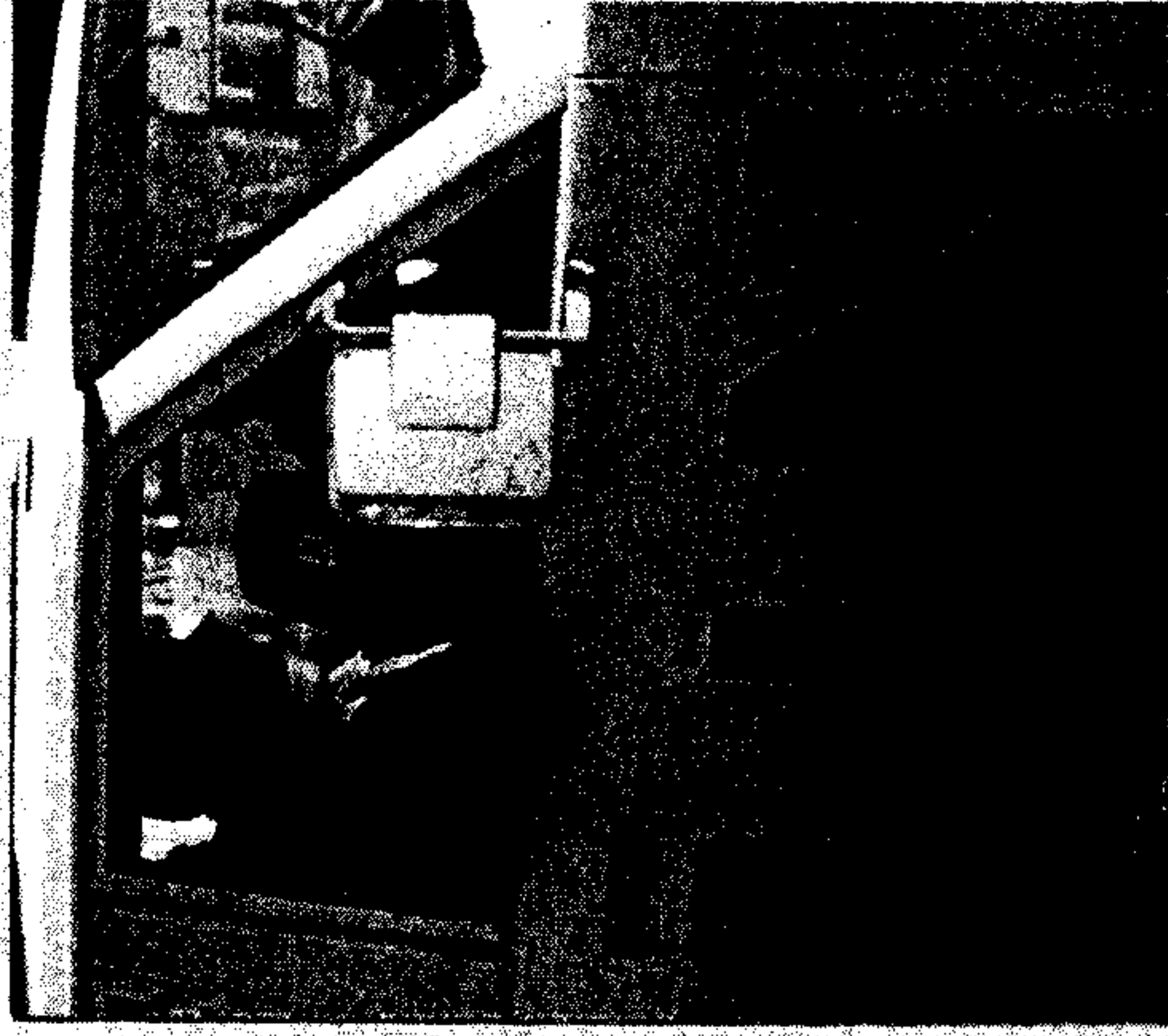
It was nearly 9 p.m. on Aug. 25. The following morning, Ritter planned to resign his post with the

U.N. Special Commission, or UNSCOM, where he had helped lead the hunt for Iraq's forbidden weapons since 1991. Alone in the commission's nerve center on the 30th floor of the United Nations tower, crouching over files beneath a pin-studded street map of Baghdad, he made a final sweep for the most sensitive secrets of a job no person had held before: United Nations intelligence operative.

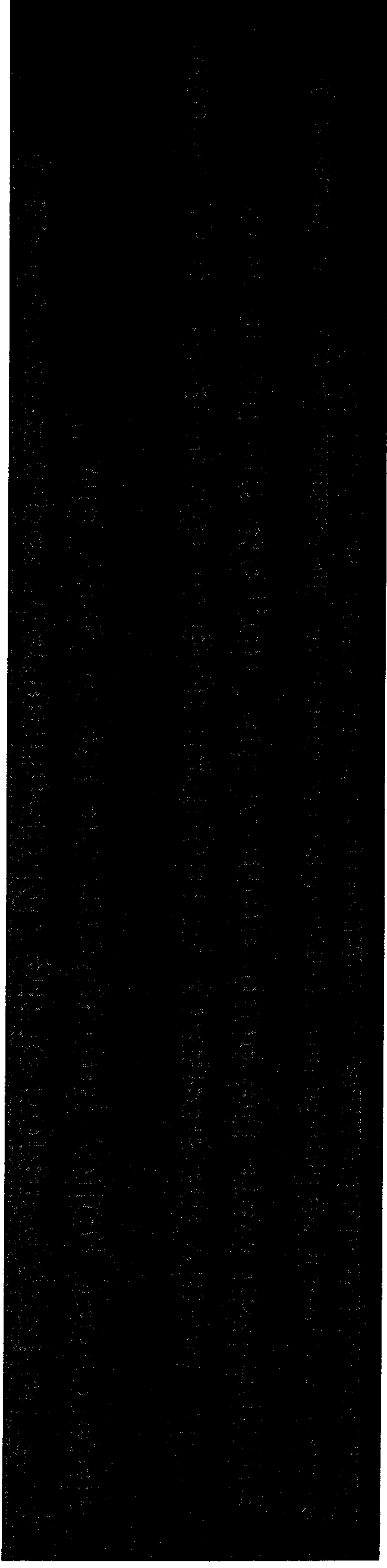
Ritter meant to take some of those secrets with him. He had kept U.N. superiors apprised, as best anyone knew, of everything he did. Still, much of his work was improvised and his most sensitive relationships built on personal trust. He did not feel free to share all his leads or sources with any one government, including his own, and certainly not with every member of the world body on whose behalf they had been collected.

The 37-year-old reserve Marine had cause to worry about the security of any records he left behind. The FBI had warned of Iraqi agents on the U.N. janitorial

See UNSCOM, A42, Col. 1

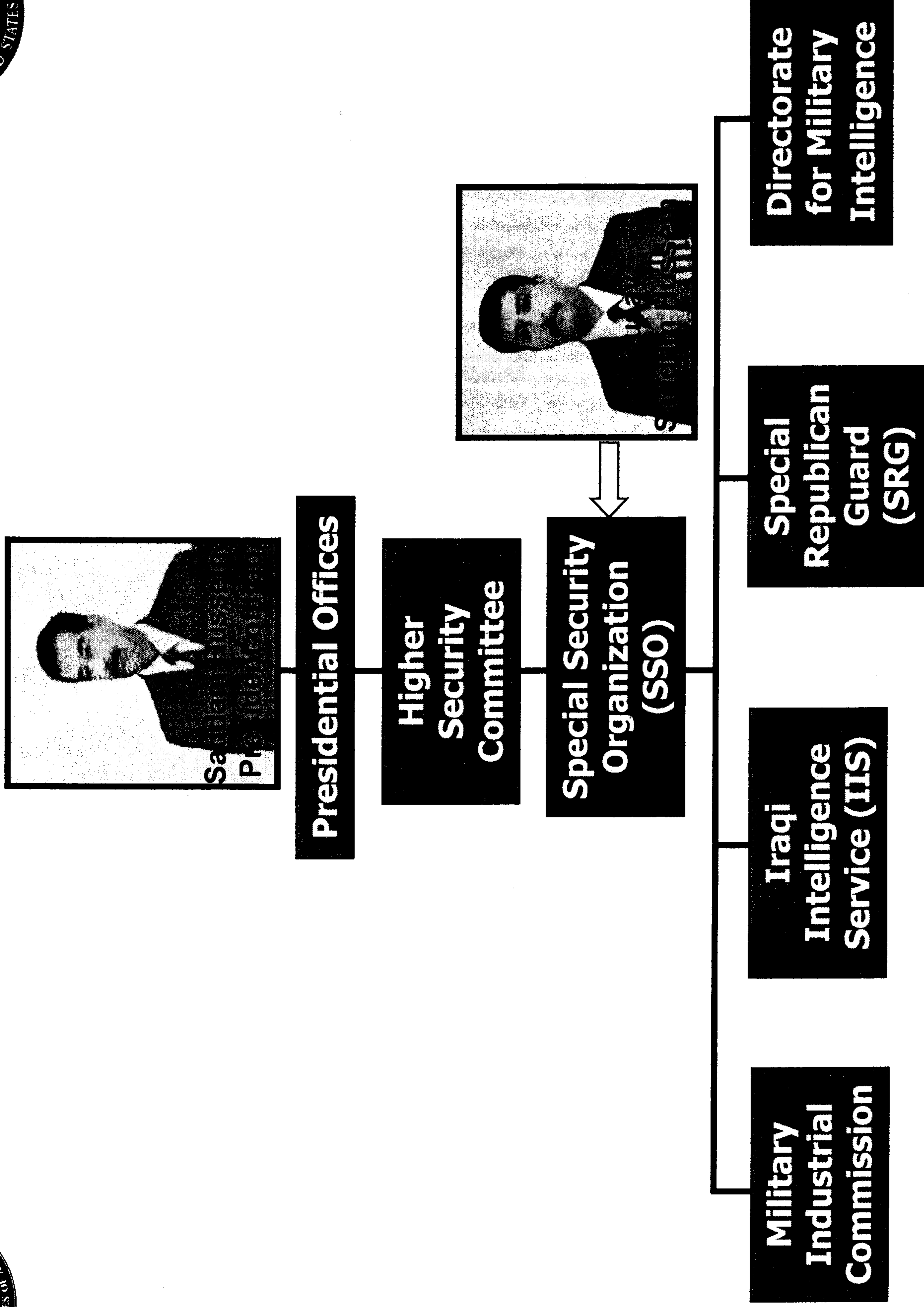


THE PHOTOGRAPH ABOVE IS ASSOCIATED PRESS. Scott Ritter, who had worked with the U.N. Special Commission since 1991, resigned in August.



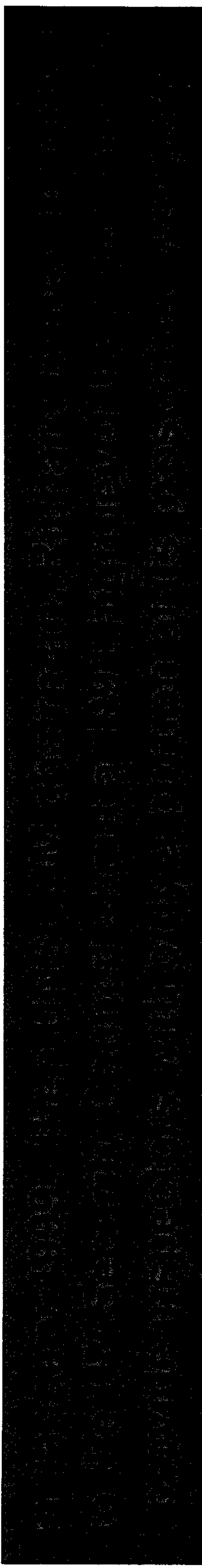


Concealment Mechanism Organization Chart





Iraqi's Denial and Deception Strategy for WMD and Ballistic Missiles



- Provide only a portion of extant weapons stocks; release only outdated weapon stocks for destruction
- Conceal the full extent of its CW program, including VX nerve agent
- Conceal existence of BW program
- Preserve a cadre of nuclear scientists & technicians; documentation and dual-use manufacturing equipment
- Maintain a covert SCUD missile force & critical manufacturing infrastructure & development programs

Sources: (1) Iraq's Weapons of Mass Destruction, The Assessment of the British Government, (2002). (2) Iraq's Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs, CIA (October 2002)



Iraqi Denial and Deception Activities Since 1991



- Concealment & Sanitization
- Fraudulent Declarations to UN
- Sacrifice of WMD Program Elements
- WMD Facility & Program Cover Stories
- Placing WMD Programs in "Dual-use" Facilities
- Declaring Suspect Facilities as "Sensitive Sites"
- Disinformation
- Staged Tours of Alleged WMD Facilities By Iraqi Ministry of Information

Sources: (1) David Kay, UNSCOM Inspector, "Denial and Deception Practices of WMD Proliferators," The Washington Quarterly, Vol. 18 (Winter 1995). (2) Saddam Hussein's Iraq (US State Department, 23 Feb 2000) (3) Iraq's Weapons of Mass Destruction, The Assessment of the British Government, (2002).



Concealment: Abu Ghurayb BW Facility



Residential Area



Sanitization of WMD Facilities Fallujah Calutron Incident



28 June 1991

Photo Source: IAEA

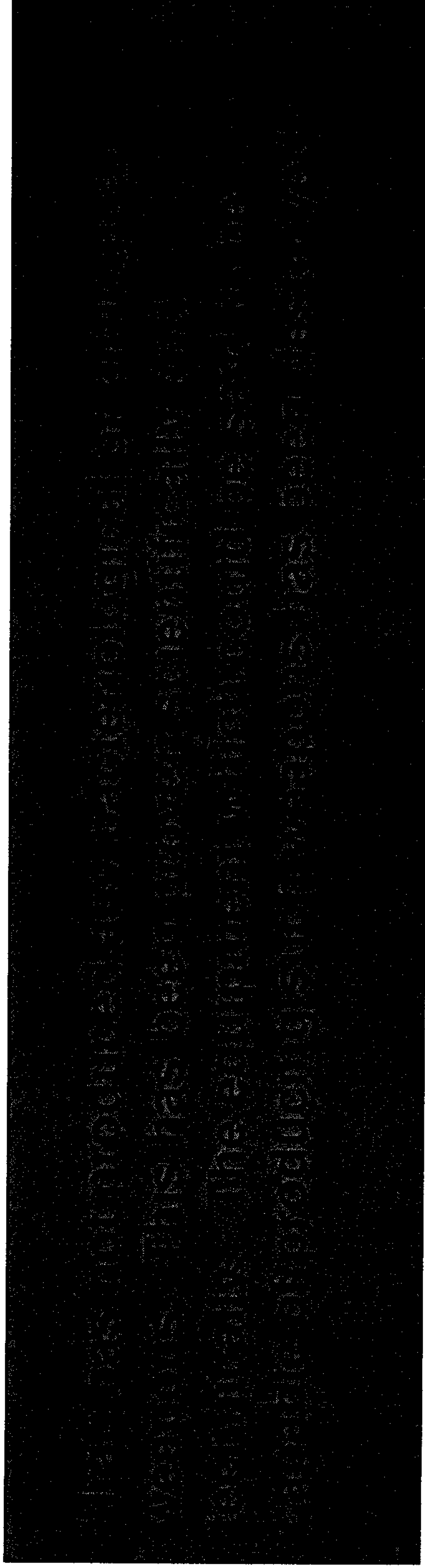


“In addition to barring UNSCOM inspection teams from various key sites in Iraq, Baghdad has tried to surreptitiously remove nuclear-related equipment like the Uranium Enrichment equipment (above), from clandestine sites before UN inspectors can tag and destroy it” .

Source: Arms Control Today, Tim Trevan, “UNSCOM Faces Entirely New Verification Challenges in Iraq”, Apr 1993



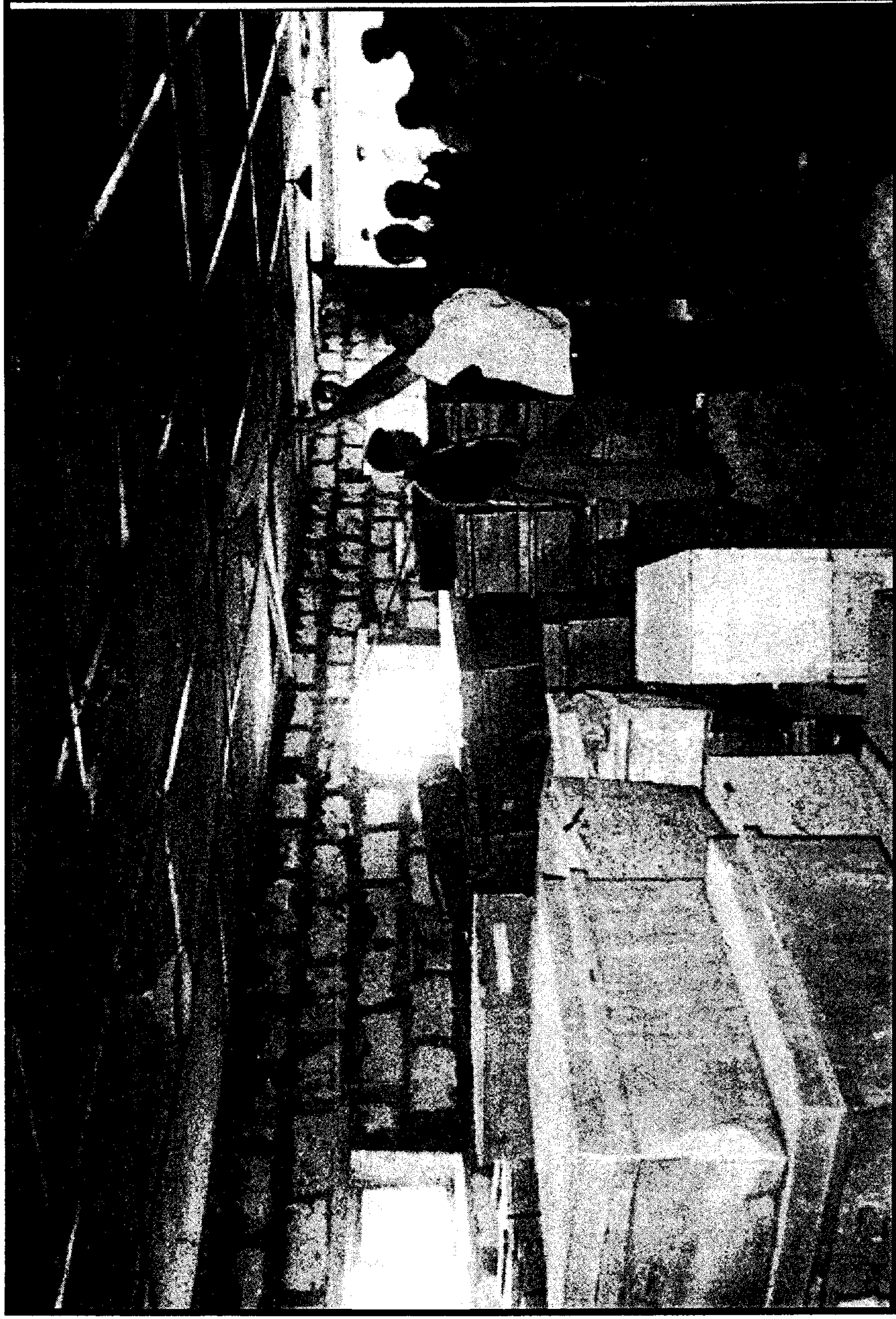
Fraudulent Declarations to UN



Source: Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network 1052 GMT, 15 Jul 1992, Text of Letter addressed by Foreign Minister Ahmad Hussein to UN Secretary General, Dr. Butrus Ghali



Sacrifice of WMD Program Elements



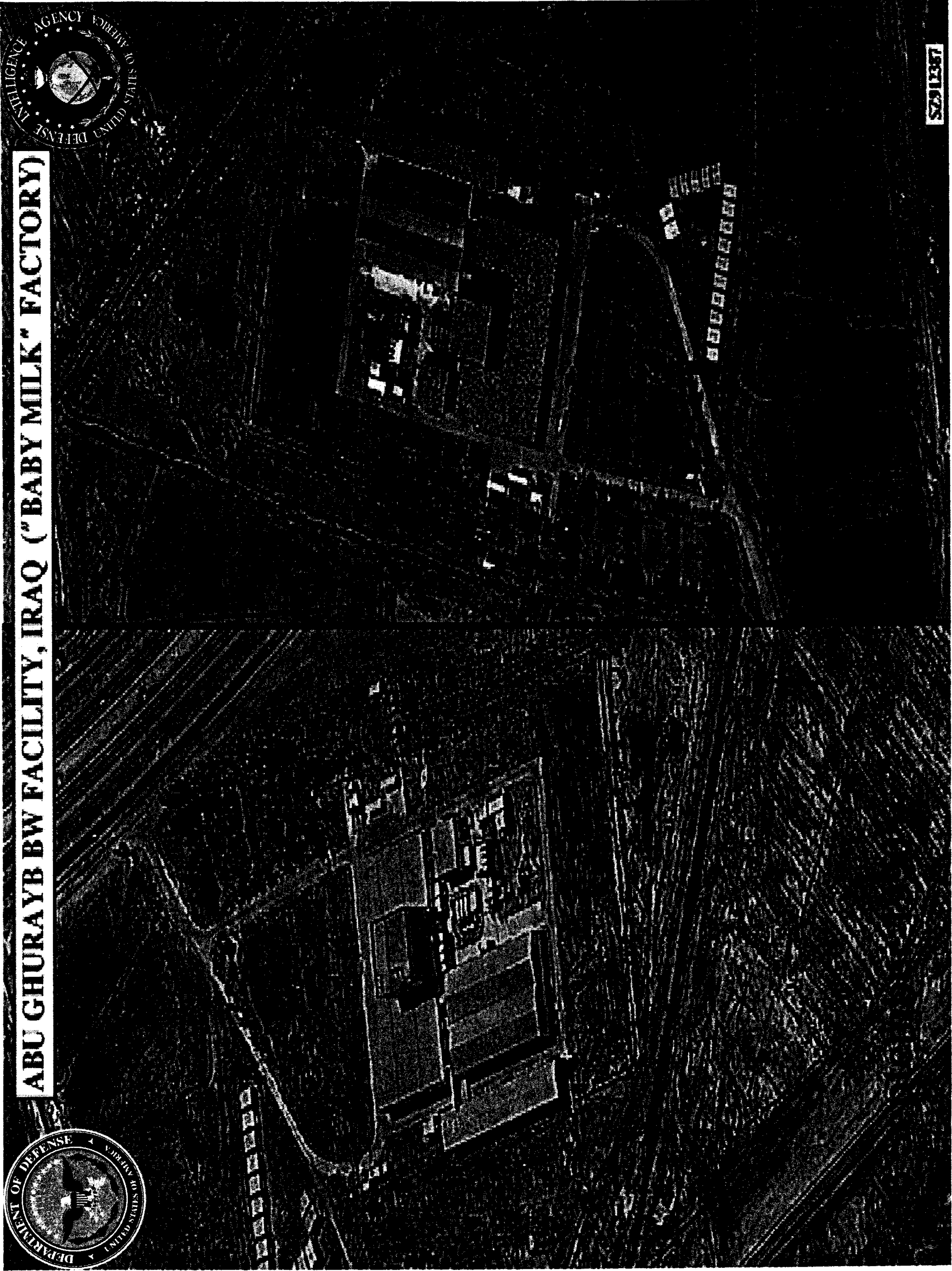
150 Boxes of BW-related Documents
Presented to UNSCOM at a Chicken Farm in August 1995



ABU GHURAYB BW FACILITY, IRAQ ("BABY MILK" FACTORY)

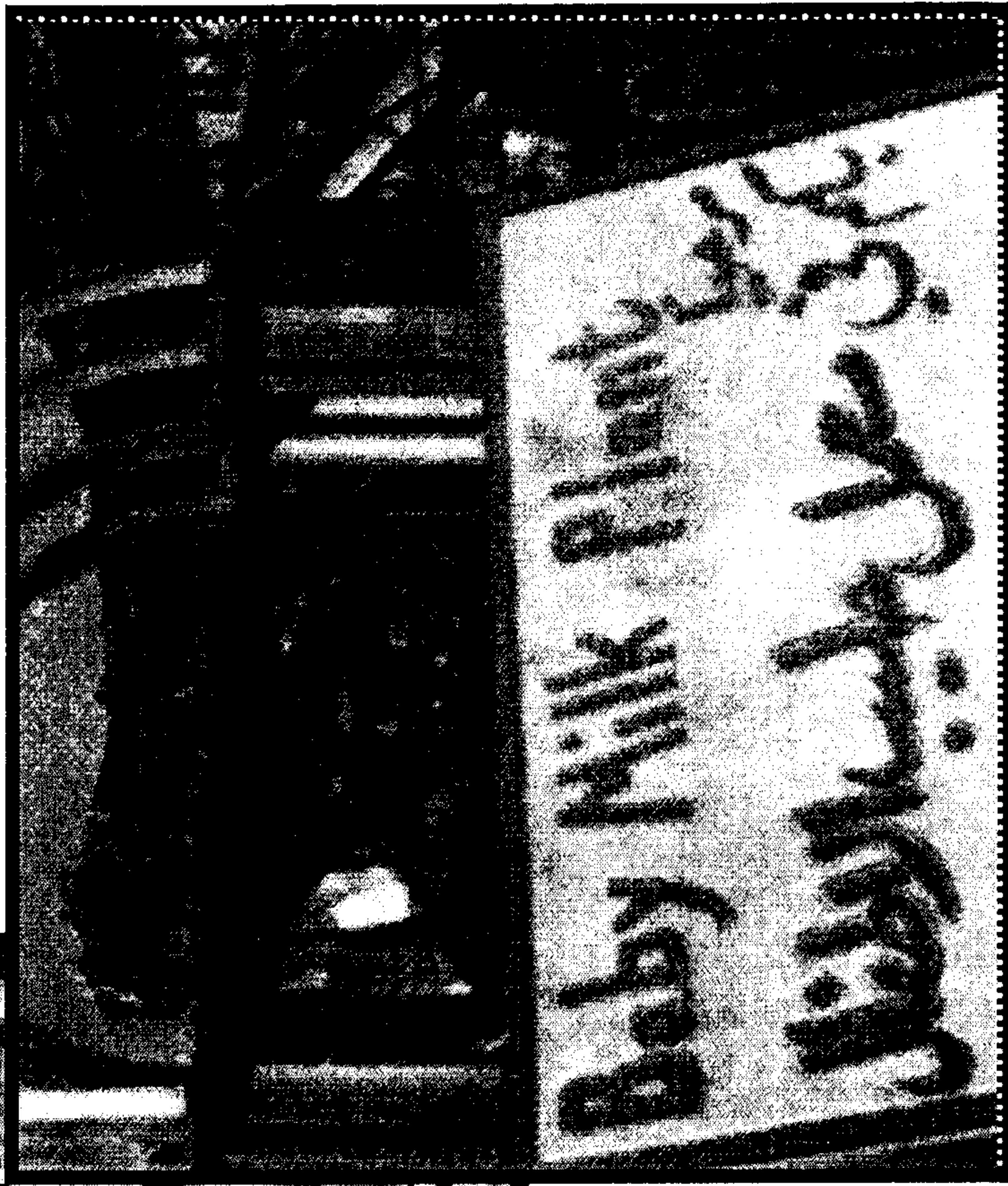
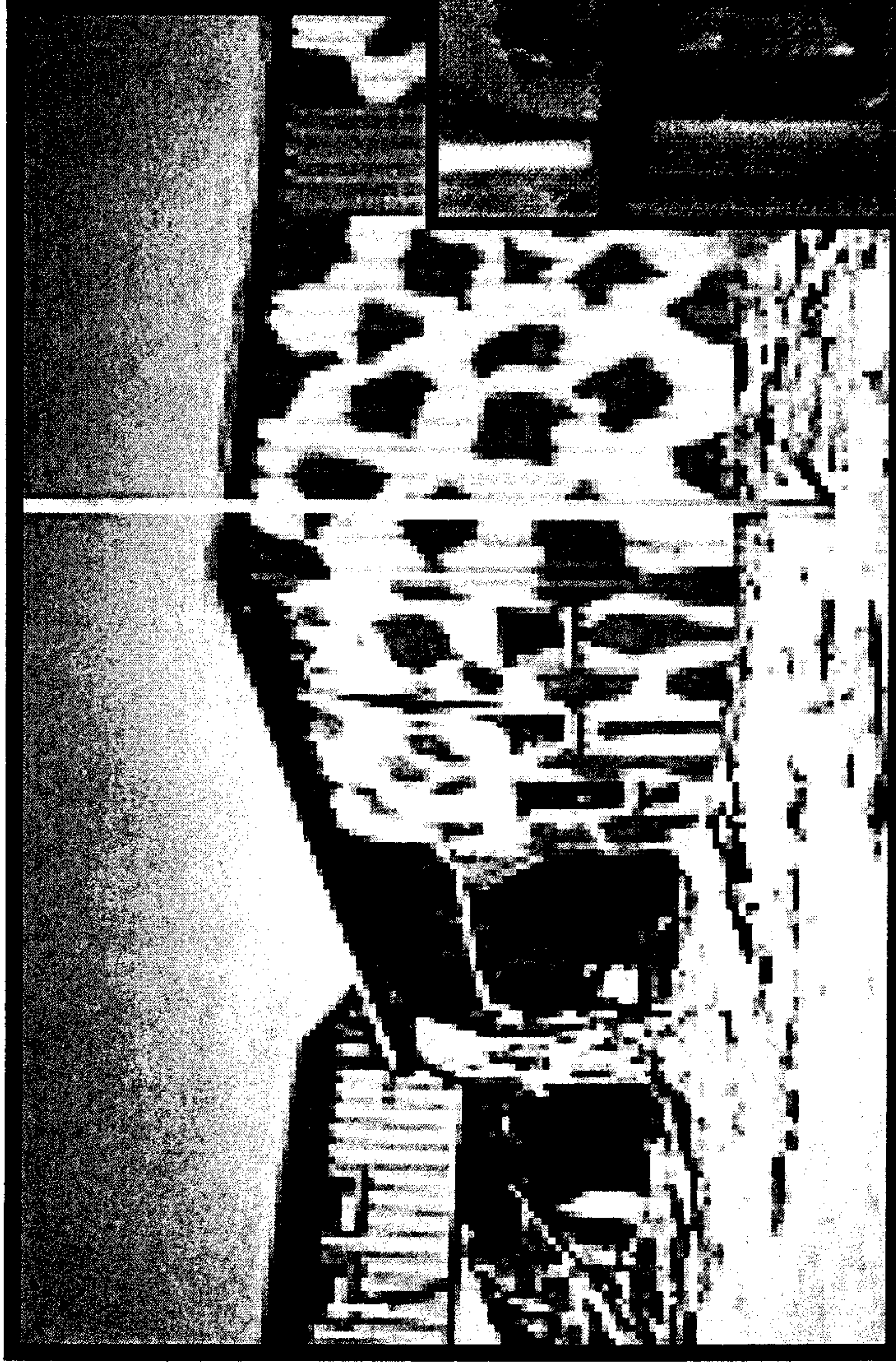


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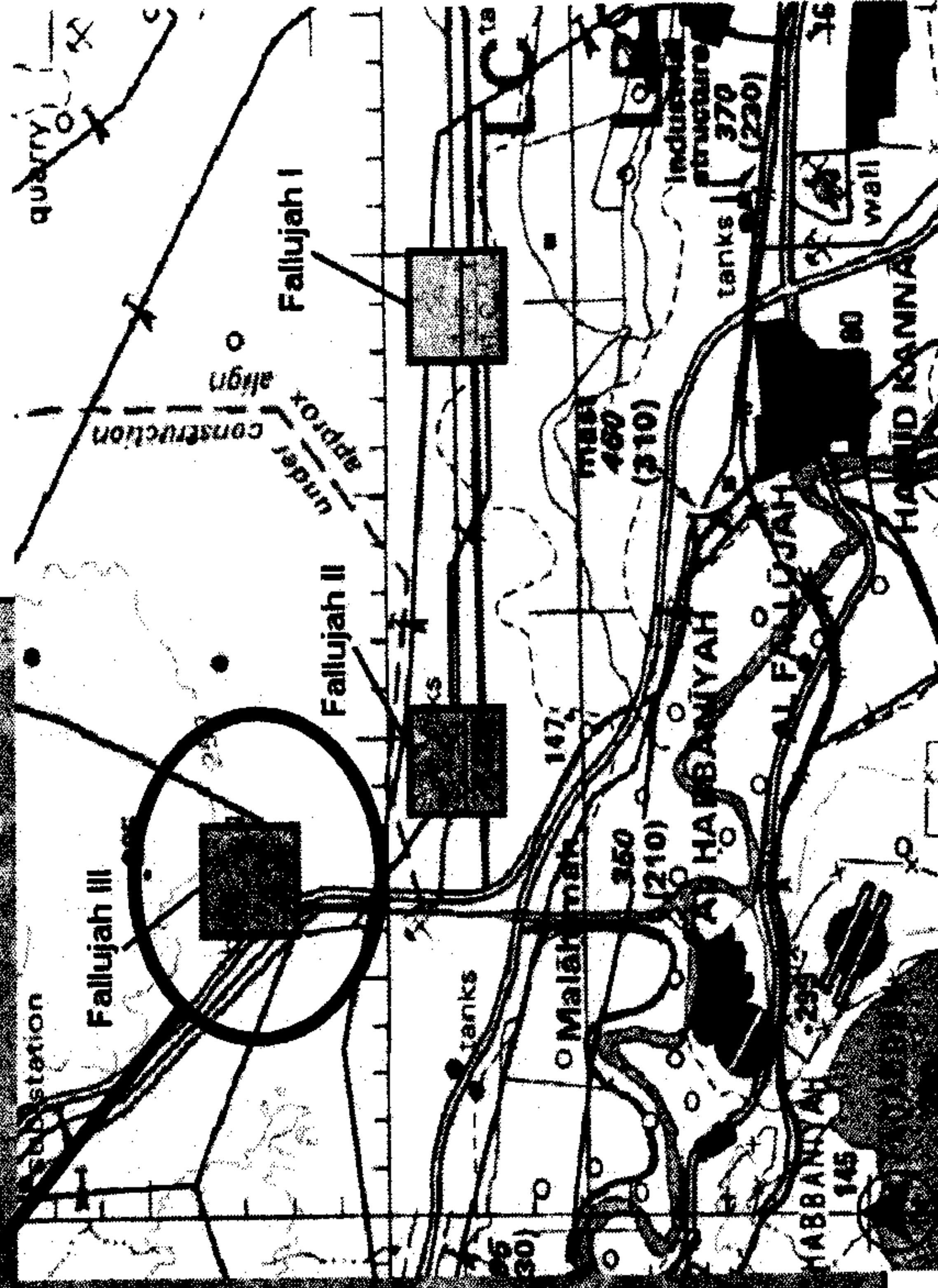


WMD Facility & Program Cover Stories





Cover Story: Fallujah III CW Facility



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DOD Title 50



Placing WMD Programs in “Dual-use” Facilities

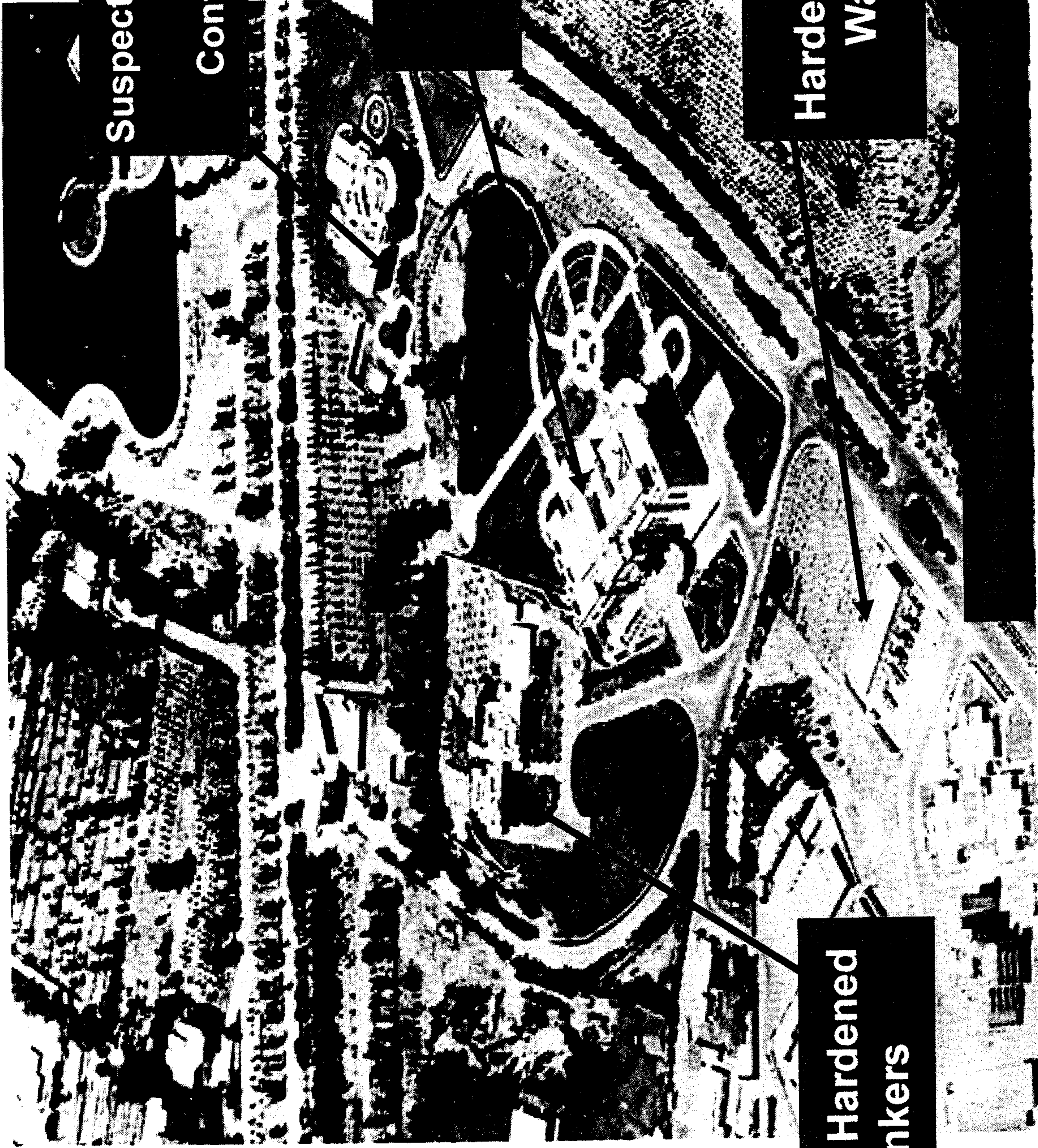


- Iraq has built a large new chemical complex, Project Baiji, at Al-Sharqat, in the Desert in NW Iraq
- British report indicates it will produce nitric acid, which can be used in explosives, missile fuel, and purification of uranium

Source; Iraq's Weapons of Mass Destruction, The Assessment of the British Government, (2002).



Mosul Presidential Palace "Sensitive Site"



(One of eight sites from which UNSCOM inspectors were specifically barred)



Presidential Palace “Sensitive Site”



BAGHDAD AL SALAM PALACE, IRAQ

COMPLETED EARLY 1999

SILHOUETTE OF WHITE HOUSE
OUTLINE OF WHITE HOUSE GROUNDS

OCCUPIES 0.6 SQUARE KILOMETERS

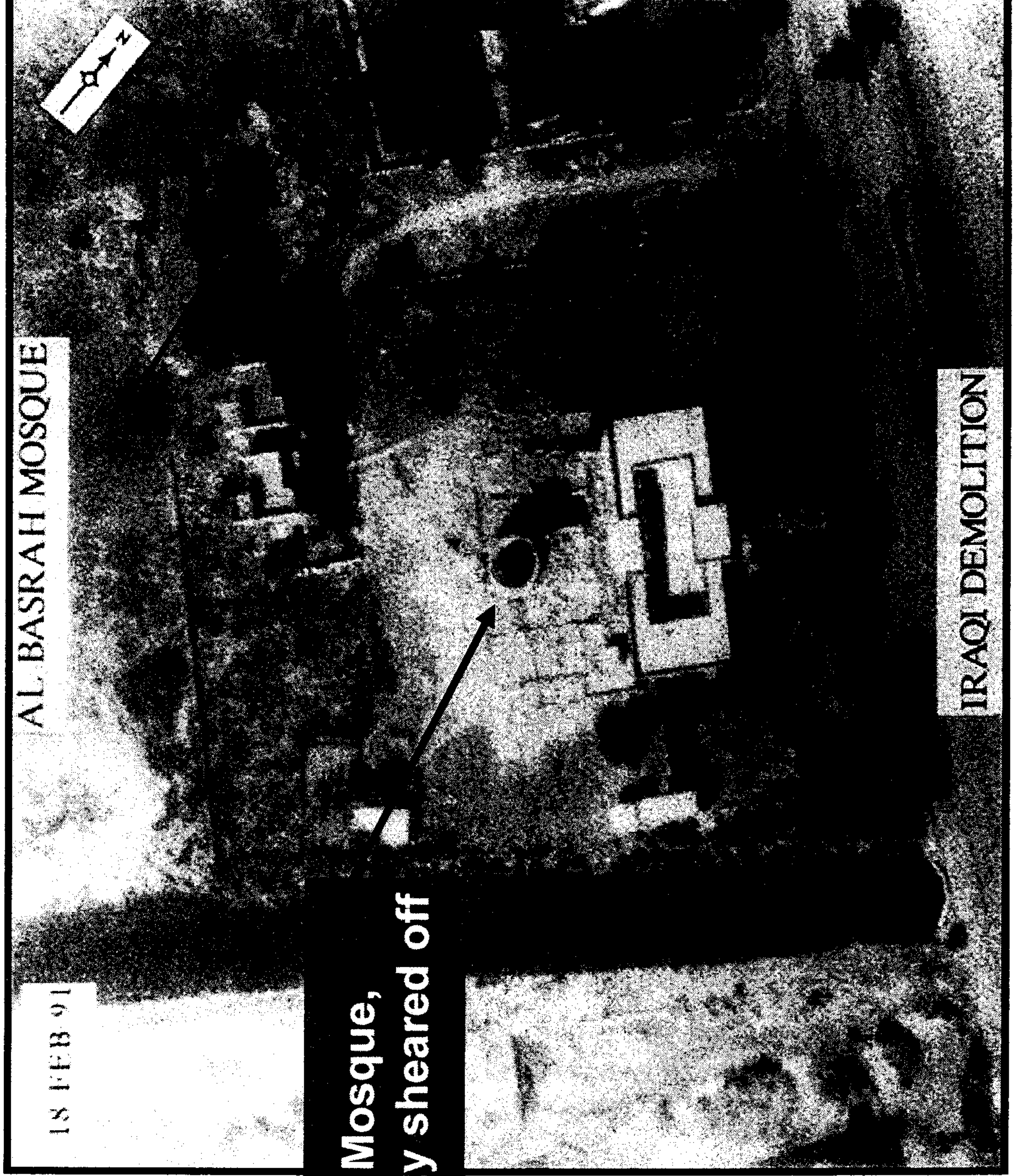
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Denial and Deception: DESERT STORM Legacy



Al Basrah Mosque "Disinformation" Incident
Simulate damage to unacceptable targets



**Al Basrah Mosque,
its dome neatly sheared off**

IRAQI DEMOLITION



Staged Tour: Iraqi Method for Discrediting Imagery Evidence of Illicit WMD Activity



1

International Org or Foreign Government Releases Satellite Image of Suspect WMD Facility

4

[Redacted]

2

Iraq Obtains Image & Checks Actual Function of Facility (real WMD or legitimate civilian)

5

Iraqis Conduct Scripted & Controlled Facility Tour

3

Iraqi Security Personnel Sanitize Facility (if it is a real WMD facility) & prepare facility personnel For visit (WMD or civilian)

6

Iraqi Official Holds up Image to Discredit Evidence



Staged Tour of Tuwaitha Nuclear Facility

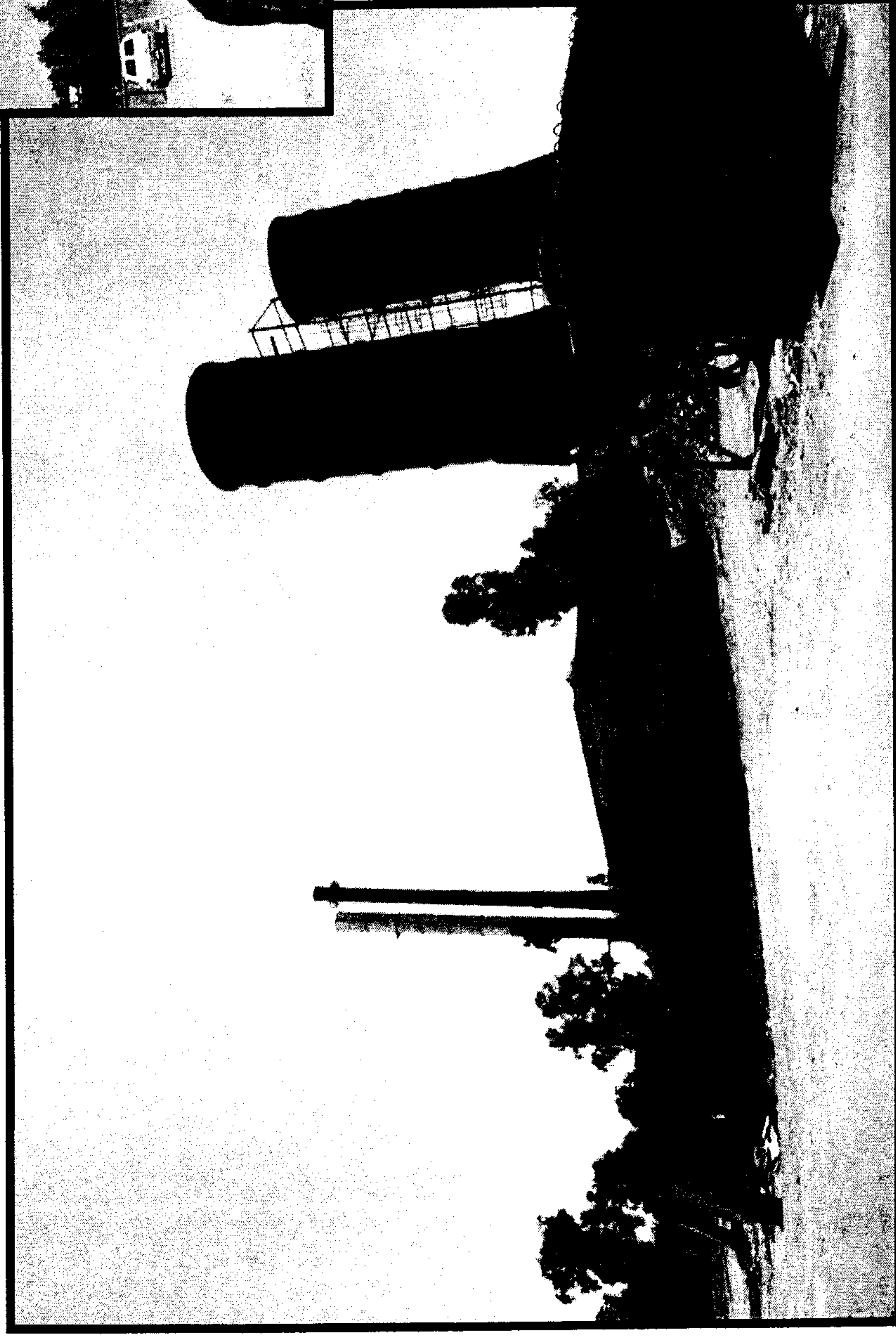


03 July 2000 DO





Staged Tour of Tuwaiitha Nuclear Facility



Washington Post
11 September 2002



The Current Position 1998-2002



- Iraq has begun renewed production of CW agents (probably including mustard, sarin, cyclosporin & VX)
- All key aspects of Iraq's BW Program (R&D, production, weaponization) are active; most elements are larger & more advanced than before Gulf War
- Iraq's current military planning specifically envisages the use of CW & BW
- Iraq continues to develop its nuclear program, in breach of the NPT and UNCSR 687
- Iraq maintains a small missile force & several development programs



Sources: (1) Iraq's Weapons of Mass Destruction, The Assessment of the British Government, (2002). (2) Iraq's Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs, CIA (October 2002)



Iraqi Chemical Weapons Program: DECEPTION



CW AGENT	DECLARED BY IRAQ	UNACCOUNTED FOR CW AGENT

***Iraq denied producing VX until 1995 defection of Hussein Kamil**

Source: Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs (US Government: 13 February 1998).



Iraqi Chemical Weapons Program: DECEPTION



CW Delivery Systems

Delivery System	Estimated Numbers pre DESERT STORM	Unaccounted for Munitions

Source: Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs (US Government: 13 February 1998).



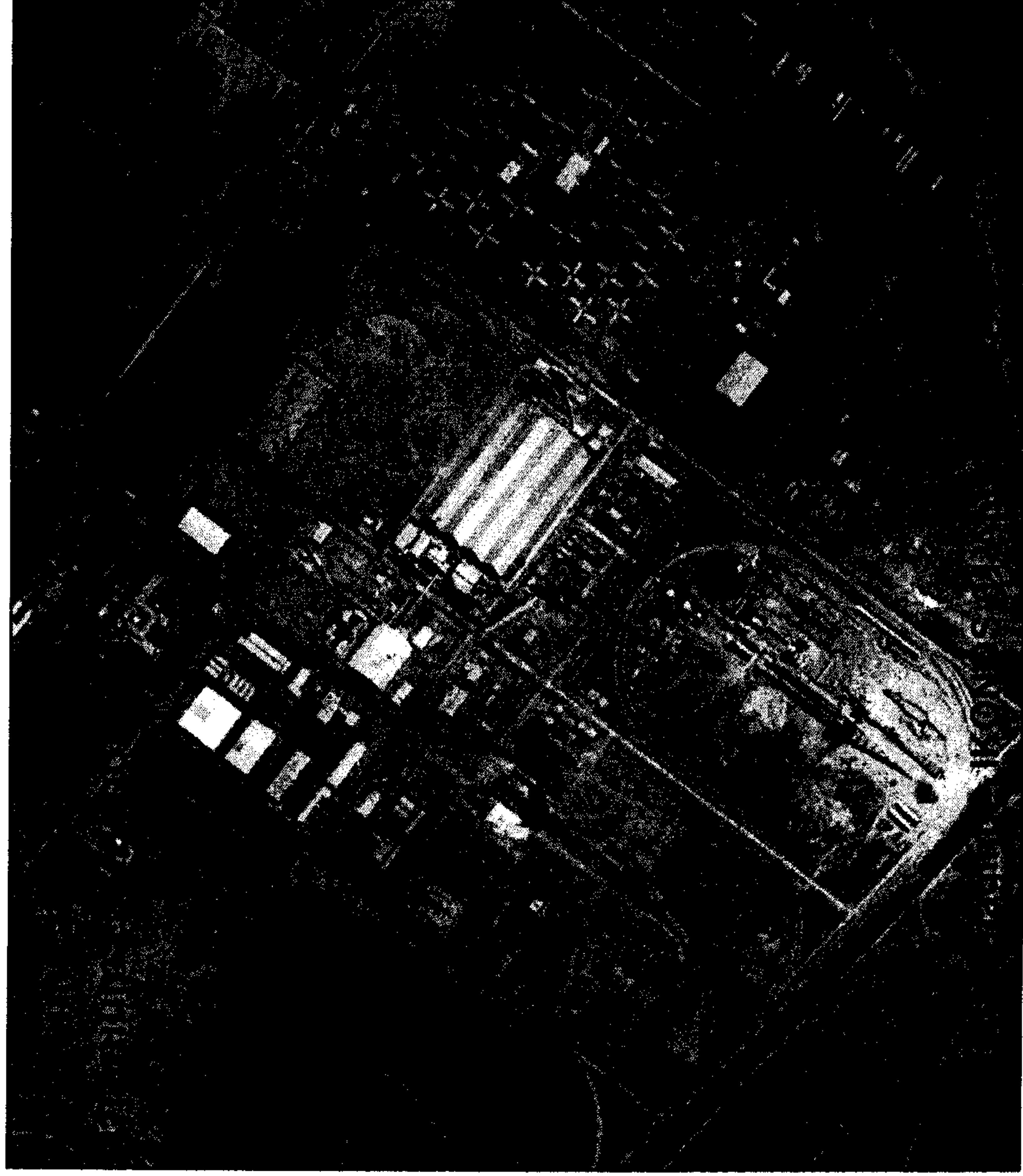
Iraqi Biological Weapons Program DECEPTION

AGENT	DECLARED TOTAL CONCENTRATION AMOUNTS (Used To Fill Munitions)	DISCREPANCIES

Source: Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs (US Government: 13 February 1998).



Nuclear Program DECEPTION



- Iraq's Determination to Acquire Nuclear Weapons Undiminished
- Iraq retains a large Cadre of Nuclear Scientists, Engineers & Technicians
- Iraq Continues to Withhold Significant Information from the UN about:
 - Enrichment Techniques
 - Foreign Procurement
 - Weapons Design
 - Experimentation Data

Facility Bombed During DESERT STORM
Currently active

Source: Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs (US Government: 13 February 1998).



Iraqi Ballistic Missile Program DECEPTION

COMPONENTS	UNSCOM SUPERVISED DESTRUCTION	DISCREPANCIES IN IRAQI ACCOUNTING

Gaps in Iraqi accounting to UNSCOM suggest that Saddam retains a covert force of up to a few dozen SCUD-variant SRBMs with ranges of 650-900 kms

Sources: (1) Saddam Hussein's Iraq (US State Department, 23 Feb 2000); (2) Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs (US Government: 13 February 1998); (3) Iraq's Weapons of Mass Destruction Programs, CIA (October 2002)



IRAQI COMPLIANCE Fact or Fiction?



1997: “We have fulfilled much of the provisions of these resolutions. Therefore, the problem is not implementing what remains. If 90 or 95 percent or even more of these resolutions were implemented, particularly in the area of weapons, then what is the importance of achieving the remaining 5, 6, or 2 percent ?”



TARIQ AZIZ, Deputy Prime Minister

2002: “It is a fact that Iraq is
not producing any
weapons of mass destruction.”

Source: Interview with Focus Magazine (Germany), 8 April 2002



IRAQI COMPLIANCE



**Fact or Fiction ?
September 19, 2002**

**“We hereby declare
before you that Iraq is
clear of all nuclear,
chemical and
biological weapons.”**



**Source: Letter from Saddam Hussein to the U.N. General Assembly,
September 19, 2002.**

Eyewitnesses & Analysts Tell the Story of the Iraqi Regime

In February 2002, the Department of Defense produced a video that featured the following people, whose stories make a compelling case against the Iraqi regime:

Ghalib Bradosti: U.S. representative of the Iraqi Tribal Coalition, an organization of Iraqis opposed to Saddam Hussein's regime.

Steve Emerson: NBC terrorism analyst and internationally recognized expert on terrorism and national security, Emerson is an author & Executive Director of The Investigative Project, created in 1995 to monitor the activities of Islamic terrorists around the world.

Rend Rahim Francke: Author, founding member and Executive Director of the Iraq Foundation, an organization that promotes democracy and human rights in Iraq.

Paiman Halmat: Born and educated in Iraq, Halmat is a U.S. citizen and member of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK).

Khidhir Hamza: Author of *Saddam's Bombmaker*, an account of his experience as director of Iraq's nuclear program in 1987. Hamza escaped to the U.S. in 1994.

David Kay: A senior research fellow at the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies, Kay served as the U.N.'s chief nuclear weapons inspector following the Gulf War.

Katrin Michael: Currently working with the Iraq Foundation, Michael escaped to the United States 20 years ago after helping to lead a failed rebellion in Baghdad.

Kenneth Pollack: Author of *The Threatening Storm: The Case for Invading Iraq*, Pollack was Director for Persian Gulf Affairs at the National Security Council from 1999-2001, and was an Iran-Iraq analyst for the CIA from 1988-1995.

Entifadh K. Qanbar: Director of the Washington, DC office of the Iraqi National Congress, Qanbar served five years in the Iraqi air force and was arrested in 1985 for suspected activities against Saddam's regime.

Zainab Al-Suwaij: Executive Director of the American Islamic Congress who was in Kuwait during the 1990 Iraqi invasion. She was also a participant in the failed 1991 uprising against Saddam Hussein's regime.

Qubad Talabany: Washington, DC representative of The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK). The PUK was founded in June 1975 two months after the collapse of the Kurdish rebellion of 1974-1975.

Images

Images were obtained with permission from sources including the Department of Defense, the United Nations, CNN, BBC, ITN & Agence France Press.

The Iraqi Regime



Source: Department of Defense

Torture, Terror & Weapons of Mass Destruction

A Video from the U.S. Department of Defense



Office of Public Affairs
March 2003

The Iraqi Regime: A History of Brutality, A Threat to the World



The Iraqi regime under Saddam Hussein is infamous throughout the world for brutality toward its own people.

Reflecting a Stalinist model of oppression, Saddam Hussein has made torture, execution and forced relocation a matter of policy in

"They took us to the torture chamber and we saw the human meat grinder... they used to put people in there..."

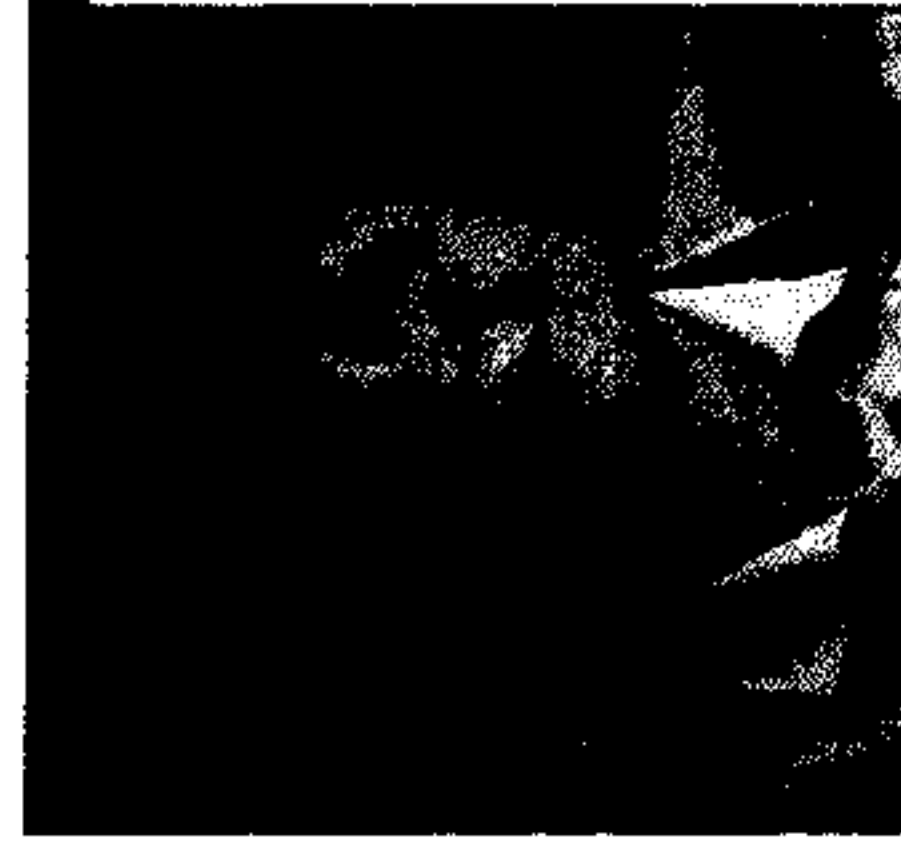
- Zainab Al-Suwaij

cruelty -- combined with its determination to acquire weapons of mass destruction, its support for terrorism and regional ambitions -- make it a threat unlike any other.

Responding to this threat is the responsibility of freedom-loving nations everywhere, and is vital to the defense of the United States, and its friends and allies around the world.

The Department of Defense assembled an array of Iraqi eyewitnesses and experts from the private sector and academia for a video that tells the story of Saddam's regime. Their first-hand experiences and insights paint a grim picture of life under Saddam Hussein.

Accounts from Iraqis, corroborated by experts like former CIA analyst and author Kenneth Pollack, and former weapons



"Saddam bombed us with chemical weapons...hundreds of people died and went blind...innocent kids were asking, 'Why are we dying?'"

- Katrin Michael

inspector David Kay, leave little room for doubt as to Saddam's unlimited capacity for aggression toward his own people and Iraq's neighbors, as well as his determination to develop and use weapons of mass destruction.

In early 1938, Winston Churchill urged Britain and France to take military action against Germany. He saw clearly that Adolf Hitler

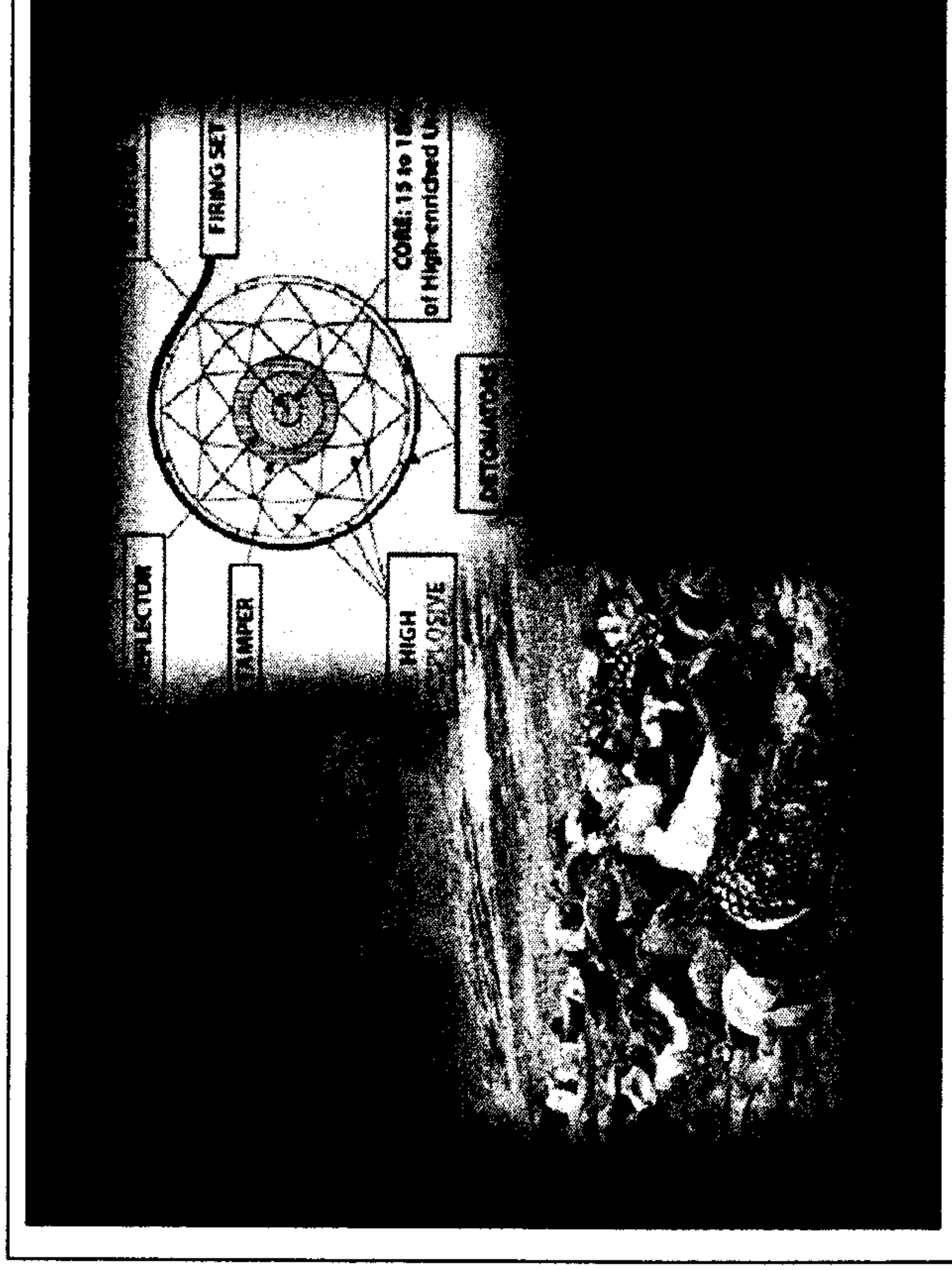
commanded a regime that was aggressive and willing to use force. Despite his warnings, the leaders of Britain and France chose not to act.

Now, with the benefit of

history, we know that this was a tragic mistake. We are at a similar moment in history as we face the threat posed by Iraq. While some may argue that Hussein is not as dangerous as Hitler, it is beyond question that the world is more dangerous than it was in 1938.

Today the ability of global terrorist networks and hostile regimes to acquire weapons of mass destruction poses a grave threat to world peace and stability.

This is why the United States and its allies must take the exceptional step of preventive action to change the Iraqi regime.



"[In] the early 70s, Saddam started a multi-track weapons program..."

- Khidhir Hamza

Now, with the benefit of history, we know that this was a tragic mistake. We are at a similar moment in history as we face the threat posed by Iraq. While some may argue that Hussein is not as dangerous as Hitler, it is beyond question that the world is more dangerous than it was in 1938.

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