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Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
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Series: Special Separate Channel Files
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 91154
Folder ID Number: 91154-007

Folder Title:
Iraq Attach (1/17/93) (Special Channel)

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

Doc. No. / Type	Subject/Title	Date	Restriction	Classification
01. Cable	White House to Cabinet Office Re: Meesage to Stephen Wall from Brent Scowcroft (3 pp.)	1/17/93	(b)(1)	✓
02. Cable	Re: Convened by State Operations Center (1 pp.)	1/17/93	(b)(1)	

Page 1 of 1

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
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Series: Special Separate Channel Files
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File Location: Iraq Attach (1/17/93) (Special Channel)

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OA/ID Number: 91154-007
Date Closed: 8/3/2009
FOIA/Sys Case #: 2009-0275-S
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Source: REUTER

Subject : ^BC-TEXT-IRAQ-MULTITAKES@

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IRAQI DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TAREQ AZIZ NEWS CONFERENCE

Time: 11 a.m. EST

Location: Baghdad, Iraq

January 16, 1993

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The editor of the report is Steve Ginsburg. Tim Ahmann, Eric Beech, Melissa Bland, Peter Ramjug and Paul Schomer also are available to help you. If you have questions, please call 202-898-8345. For service problems call 1-800-435-0101.

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IRAQI DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TAREQ AZIZ: Ladies and gentlemen, good evening. I wanted to make our explanation to the present situation, and I would like also to make an announcement regarding the question of the flights of the Special Commission.

The main issue in the current confrontation is the no-fly zone. Iraq has rejected the no-fly zone that was imposed unilaterally by the governments of the United States, Britain and France. This is a well known position to everybody.

In the last few days, the governments of the United States, Britain and France acted aggressively against Iraq to impose this illegal, unilateral no-fly zone. And we have decided to resist the aggression, and we are resisting it now by all means, political and military. This is very clear to everybody.

Secondly, issues were put in the forefront of the situation deliberately by the Bush administration and its allies to confuse the situation and to mix the cards. The question of the retrieval of Iraqi property from the demilitarized zone was and is a minor question. That was taking place for several days before the last confrontation, peacefully and without problems.

What was happening is that Iraqi civilian personnel were entering Iraqi warehouses, stores, retrieving Iraqi property without confrontation with anybody and without resorting to force.

This ordinary operation was pictured as a raid, as a violation, as a breach of Resolution 687. This was deliberately fabricated, as I said, to confuse the situation and mix the cards.

As regards the flights of the Special Commission planes, at the beginning of the confrontation, we asked the Special Commission to hold its flights because of the--for temporarily, because of the current situation. And we said that there are hostilities and simply the Iraqi air space is not safe.

A great fuss was created for that--because of that, of that simple proposal or simple notification to the Special Commission.

And in order to separate this issue from the main issue, that's our challenge to the no-fly zone, we informed the Special Commission that we could agree to the flights, to receive the planes of the Special Commission, case by case, on the basis of case by case, but we cannot take the responsibility of the safety of those planes because of the current situation. The current situation is literally that there is an aggression, a military aggression taking place against Iraq. American, British and French planes are penetrating Iraqi air space. They

are attacking us, and out of the right of self-defense we are defending our country, our sovereignty against this aggression, this blatant aggression.

So in those circumstances, it is difficult, it's not possible for Iraq to guarantee the safety of the planes. This simple interpretation of the situation was also wrongly interpreted and deliberate attempt on the part of the Bush administration was made to confuse the situation, mix the cards, and show Iraq as violating United Nations decisions, as challenging the United Nations.

We made it clear, and I make it clear now that we don't have any intention to challenge the United Nations, to violate or abridge the Security Council resolutions. The main issue for Iraq now is challenging the illegal no-fly zone which was imposed unilaterally by the governments of the United States, Britain and France. The imposition of the no-fly zone is not a United Nations decision. This is very clear.

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The Reuter Transcript Report
Iraq/Tareq Aziz news conference
Jan. 16, 1993

MORE

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IRAQI DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TAREQ AZIZ NEWS CONFERENCE

January 16, 1993

(First Add)

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x x x very clear.

AZIZ (continuing): In order to separate the minor, the secondary issues from the main issue, we did our best to clarify our position. First, we informed the Secretariat of the United Nations that we will hold the operation of retrieval until we reach new arrangements with the United Nations people who are in charge of supervising or dealing with this issue. We did our best to clarify our position vis-a-vis the flights. And you followed the situation yesterday. Yesterday, President George Bush appeared suddenly on the television and said that the United Nations had made a warning, had issued a warning to Iraq to do this and that. And it appeared later that the United Nations, or the Security Council, which is the body entrusted with this matter, was not even meeting at the time Mr. Bush was making this unilateral personal announcement.

Unfortunately, the United Nations Special Commission was used to carry out this ploy. We all watched the spokesman of the Special Commission explaining the situation. He was in a very embarrassed situation.

He said that the Iraqis have told us that they accept the flights, but they cannot ensure, they cannot guarantee the safety. And he said that they in the Special Commission interpreted the Iraqi stance as a refusal.

It was not a refusal. It was a sincere explanation of the situation. And without giving any convincing reasons, explanations to his position, he said that we will repeat the request for the flights of the planes hired by the Special Commission.

We received the notification this morning. It's simply the same as the old one, as the previous one, but some elements were added to the new notification. They put on it, or they reiterated in this new notification, the obligations of Iraq vis-a-vis the activities of the Special Commission. And they said that Iraq's position had a breach or abdication of its obligations.

It's not true. That's not the case. The arrangements agreed upon by the government of Iraq and the Special Commission took place before the imposition of the no-fly zone and before the current hostilities. So there is a new situation, and this new situation is a practical situation and it has to be taken into consideration.

So this, the Iraqi position is not an abdication of its responsibilities vis-a-vis the activities of the Commission in Iraq.

And it also stated that Iraq did not provide the security for the safety--the safety and security of United Nations personnel. How could we provide security and safety to the flights of the United Nations planes in such circumstances? But if the personnel arrive in Iraq, of course we will provide all necessary safety and security to them.

So this is how they are mixing and confusing the situation and giving a wrong picture about the position of Iraq.

Anyhow, once again, in order to remove any ambiguity, in order to separate the main issue that is challenging the illegal unilateral no-fly zone that was imposed by the government of the United States, Britain and France from the minor, secondary issues, that is, the retrieval, which I

explained our position about it, and this second, minor issue, the flights of the planes of the Special Commission, we delivered a notification to the (inaudible) of the Special Commission in Baghdad half an hour ago, about half an hour ago.

A copy of it was dispatched to New York to be delivered to the center and to be delivered also to the president of the Security Council.

At the end of the Iraqi notification, we said, and I quote, "In spite of the clarity and justice of the Iraqi position, as described above, and of the serious dangers to which Iraq and its people are being subjected through the military aggression currently inflicted upon Iraq by United States, British and French warplanes, and in order to foil the manufactured pretext incessantly raised to justify aggression against Iraq, and misrepresent the situation as being one of confrontation between Iraq and the United Nations, Iraq hereby agrees to the arrival of UNSCO aircraft and to insure the safety of these aircraft if they enter Iraqi from the west, using the direct flight route between Amman or any point in Jordan and Habaniyeh (phonetic). The Special Commission will have to notify us of the time at which the aircraft is or are expected to enter Iraqi air space over the border line, and the duration of the flight between the point of entry and the point of arrival at the Habaniyeh airfield. Similar notification should be given with regard to return flights over the four days specified in the annex to the UNSCO memorandum of the 15th of January, 1993. Now I'm ready to take questions.

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The Reuter Transcript Report

Iraq/Tareq Aziz news conference (first add)

Jan. 16, 1993

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IRAQI DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TAREQ AZIZ NEWS CONFERENCE

January 16, 1993

(Second Add)

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x x x take questions.

Q: Mr. Minister, John Holliman from CNN. Do you think this statement, this position of the Iraqi government is going to be enough to avoid more bombing by the coalition in your country?

AZIZ: Well, first of all, we did not take this decision to avoid bombing, because the bombing has already happened, and it might happen for any pretext fabricated by the Bush administration in its last few days, and we are ready to face any aggression. But the decision was taken, as I explained in my statement, to separate the issues, the minor issues from the main issue. We are challenging the no-fly zone. We are resisting the no-fly zone. We don't want to mix this legitimate struggle of the Iraqi people and the Iraqi government, to mix it with some minor skirmishes with the United Nations. That is not our intention. It was their intention to mix this with that.

So we'd like to separate this from that.

Q: Mr. Aziz, on December 27th, an Iraqi jet crossed south into the no-fly zone and was shot down. Was that--did that jet fly over the (inaudible) zone on purpose? Was that the first--or was it the first test that you took to challenge the no-fly zone?

AZIZ: The Iraqi jet was flying in Iraqi airspace, and that's a right of sovereignty we are not ready to give up. So the attack against our plane by the American aircraft is a sheer act of aggression. As I said--as I said from the very beginning, since that illegal, unilateral no-fly zone was imposed on Iraq, we simply did not recognize it, and we said that we would resist it, and we will choose the time and means for our resistance.

(Simultaneous questions.)

AZIZ: I would like to take one by one.

Q: Could you help me, explain why you chose that particular time to demonstrate, or to take (inaudible).

AZIZ: Well, there's no secret about that, you see. We said in the past that we would choose the time, and we thought that that time was the appropriate time. Any time is appropriate for us to challenge an illegal imposition of a no-fly zone arrangement in our country.

Q: Mr. Aziz, the bottom line is are you going to give a flight plan, are you going to sanction a flight plan, are you going to agree to a flight plan for the U.N. inspections team, which has been waiting in Bahrain?

AZIZ: Yes, if they use the western route, as I made it clear in the statement I read. If they come through Jordan, directly from the Jordanian air space, to the Habaniyah airfield.

Q: It seems unlikely that they're going to fly from Bahrain to Amman and then Baghdad, is it not?

AZIZ: Why?

Q: It's a very long route.

AZIZ: Why not for the sake of safety, why shouldn't they take a longer route? It will just cost them some more fuel.

Q: But isn't the announcement that you just made--

Q: If you--if the Iraqi government chooses to refuse--continue refusing the so-called illegal no-fly zone,

does that mean that Iraqi airplanes possibly fly over the southern and northern no-fly zone?

AZIZ: Iraqi airplanes have all the right to fly over the Iraqi air space anytime.

Q: Isn't this (inaudible) going to mean that the allied coalition and the Special Commission are going to consider that this decision to go westward is going to (inaudible) their operation, is going to make it more difficult? Is it interference with the way they carry out their (inaudible)? Therefore--

AZIZ: Why it is an interference? Why it is making it difficult? They could use another entry to the Iraqi air space in order to provide safety and security. It might take half an hour, one hour, I don't know, 15 minutes longer flight, so why not? If there is good intention here, they should take the Iraqi offer with great appreciation.

Q: Do you believe it acceptable?

AZIZ: I don't know. I believe that this a fair, legitimate position on the side of the government of Iraq, and we are making it very easy for them to carry out their job in safe and secure circumstances.

Q: One more question. If it is rejected, how will you interpret that rejection?

AZIZ: That will be also another ploy, another unjust, unfair attitude towards Iraq.

Q: Mr. Minister, two questions, if you will. Number one, we understand that police posts, Iraqi police posts now under the U.N. in Kuwaiti territory are being reinforced, according to those on the ground. Would you comment on that?

And secondly, in the first retrieval--I believe that is your expression--a number of weapons were taken, including some surface-to-surface missiles, and the U.N. has asked that they be returned. Would you comment on that, please?

AZIZ: First of all, any news about reinforcement of any posts, the news are incorrect. We haven't made any reinforcements.

Secondly, about the weapons. These are Iraqi weapons. Secondly, none of these weapons is banned by Resolution 687. Therefore, it's legal according to the best interpretation of Resolution 687 to be retrieved by the Iraqi authorities.

Q: What is your opinion about the statement that President-elect Clinton made towards Iraq, and what kind of relations do you expect with the new administration? Will they be any different?

AZIZ: Well, this is a very important and sensitive question. You know, if we go through the history of the conflict between the United States and Iraq, which reached the current stage, Iraq never wanted, never sought a conflict with the United States. Iraq never described itself as an enemy of the United States. The government of the United States could never, ever prove that Iraq has ever hurt an American citizen, threatened his life or threatened legitimate American interests.

But the relations deteriorated, as is known to everybody. Who was behind that deterioration and what was the reason? I don't want to personify on our side the reasons of the developments in the relations between the United States and Iraq. It's up to the Americans and to the other observers to do that.

Now, the administration that led the policy of the deterioration of the relations between the two countries is reaching the end of its term. A new administration is coming in. President-elect Clinton has emphasized that he is keen about the implementation of the United Nations resolutions, and he is keen on dealing with Iraq on the basis of international law.

We don't have a problem with that stance. If the main interest of President-elect Clinton, who will be the president of the United States on next Wednesday, is the implementation of the United Nations resolutions, we can discuss all aspects of the implementation of the United Nations resolutions in an

objective and professional manner.

And I don't anticipate--if professionalism and objectivity would prevail in the review of the Iraqi record of implementation, I don't anticipate great differences in the views of the two sides.

But what happened in the past does not follow up on the side of the Bush administration to the implementation of the United Nations resolutions. What happened is that was a harassment of Iraq, a policy of personal vendetta against Iraq and the leadership of Iraq. And there is a great difference politically and practically between this and that approach.

Q: I'd like you to be more specific, please, given that Iraq no longer recognizes the north or the southern no-fly zones, whether or not your air defenses will be taking action to actually fire (inaudible) the anti-aircraft factories or missile defenses at allied war planes in the north and the south from now on?

AZIZ: Well, Iraq cannot give up in any circumstances its vital sovereignty over its air space. And it's up to us to decide how to deal with the imposition of the illegal unilateral no-fly zones. But we also deal with this matter in a very responsible manner.

Q: So will you or will you not open fire?

AZIZ: I think my answer is clear.

Q: Mr. Minister, do you anticipate that Iraq and the United States are going to be involved in a state of war within the next two days?

AZIZ: It's up to the current president of the United States to decide that. We are defending our sovereignty in challenging or refusing the no-fly zone that was imposed by him. He, President Bush, wanted this no-fly zone in last August. And all observers know what was the situation in last August and why that decision was taken.

It was taken in the middle of the American election campaign, and he needed a confrontation with Iraq to boost his chances in that campaign. This imposition of no-fly zone has nothing to do even with the best interests of the United States of America, even with the best interests of the United States of America. If any American analyst look at the situation in the region in an objective manner, he would reach the conclusion that that decision on the side of President Bush was wrong, and it was driven by personal reasons.

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The Reuter Transcript Report

Iraq/Tareq Aziz news conference (second add)

Jan. 16, 1993

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IRAQI DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TAREQ AZIZ NEWS CONFERENCE

January 16, 1993

(Third Add)

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AZIZ (continuing): And all the allegations that were used to impose that no-fly zone, all the allegations were proved to be untrue, and I think everybody who has been to the region, to the southern region of Iraq in the last few months has realized that those allegations were fabrications, that they were untrue, that the people in the southern of Iraq (sic), in the south of Iraq support their leadership, they back their leadership, they were the victims of the American aggression in 1991, and they were the victims of the second aggression of 1993. This is the tack.

Q: Mr. Aziz, President-elect Clinton has said that he supports President Bush's policy towards Iraq. This I take it to mean, means that he also supports the position on the no-fly zone. Does this mean that after Wednesday, if President Clinton supports the no-fly zone, that the state of confrontation with the United States will continue?

AZIZ: It's always said that we are, in Arabic, we are the sons of today. (Speaks briefly in Arabic.) Let's not talk about Wednesday and what will happen after Wednesday. We will address that when time comes.

Q: In your press and in statements--in your press and statements made by your officials over the last few days, we have the impression that you're expecting to change from President-elect Clinton, you're expecting them to make--amend, compromise their previous--the U.S.'s previous position. What kinds of changes are you willing to make in order to encourage President-elect Clinton to normalize or improve relations, or work on easing the sanctions against Iraq.

AZIZ: We would like to see that the personified (sic), the personal vendetta policy comes to an end. That will be enough to create an objective, professional atmosphere to discuss all the questions between the two sides.

Q: Mr. Aziz, since December 27th, Iraq has intensified its opposition to the no-fly zones. Up until then you were observing the no-fly zones. Why choose this particular time to make this stand?

AZIZ: Well, we were not observing the no-fly zone. We rejected the no-fly zone from the very beginning, and we decided to choose the proper time as far as Iraq is concerned to challenge it actively. So we hope that that was the time to do it simply, and I don't have any more elaboration about that.

Q: You've made a distinction between challenging the United States imposed no-fly zone and United Nations resolutions. Does this mean that you now recognize the U.N. defined border between Iraq and Kuwait, and will you be challenging? That's my main question, thank you.

AZIZ: We made our position clear on this matter in several letters sent by the minister of foreign affairs to the secretary-general of the United Nations. Nothing new to be added to this subject.

Q: Why do you believe that President Bush has this personal vendetta against Iraq?

AZIZ: Ask him.

Q: There are, we are told, some Iraqi policemen below this new border, as defined by the United Nations, in territory that appears, at least, to be Kuwaiti territory. Now, what's

going to happen to those policemen? Are they going to stay where they are, or are they going to come back on this side of the border?

AZIZ: Well, this is also one of the minor, secondary issues that was put in the forefront lately in order to confuse the situation. But this has been the situation for several months, and it's been--it was being discussed in a very routine manner between our authorities and the U.N. observers there. But now it seems to me that it's being dramatized and exaggerated as was the operation of the retrieval of Iraqi property from Umm Qasr and the demilitarized zone. This is a political ploy. They want to confuse the situation. They want to tell their American people, the international public opinion that Iraq is challenging the United Nations. Why? The issue is that Iraq is challenging the no-fly zone. We are not in a state of confrontation with the United Nations. We don't want that, and that was not our intention. But this is the ploy, this is the game that has been played in the last few days to provide for justification to the aggression against Iraq.

Q: Sir, you seem to be making a compromise with the West on this--the flying of the United Nations plane, and, you know, I don't know whether this is a ploy or not on anybody's part. I'm just wondering, are those policemen going to stay on the side of the border where they are now, or back on this side?

AZIZ: That will be addressed properly in the channels between the Iraqi authorities and the United Nations authority.

Q: No decision yet.

AZIZ: It's being--it's being discussed between the two sides. And I assert that this is a minor issue. It's a minor issue.

Q: If the allied aircraft using (inaudible) base in Turkey, what may be your reaction against Turkey? Thank you.

AZIZ: Similar to the reaction of the Turkish people who have always resisted that kind of using Turkish territory against Iraq.

Q: What, in a nutshell, do you want the United Nations to do to settle this? What do they have to do to make everything fine as far as Iraq is concerned?

AZIZ: If the United Nations is left alone to deal with Iraq in an objective and professional manner, in the view of the letter and spirit of the United Nations resolutions, there won't be such dramatic situations as the current situation. But interference of the Bush administration and the governments of its allies--and its allies, mainly the British--with the work of the United Nations has created a lot of problems in the past. All the crises that happened in the last two years, all these crises were originated by the illegal intrusion of U.N.--of United States, British agents and special policies within the work of the United Nations.

I'll give you an example. In the crisis of the ministry of agriculture, Rolf Ekeus, the chairman of the Special Commission, made a statement in New York. It appeared on television, and he said Iraq has implemented more than most of its obligations according to resolution 687. Well, that was in July. If Iraq had implemented in July more than most of its obligations according to resolution 687, should there be such a treatment to Iraq about its implementation of its obligations according to the U.N. resolutions?

A couple of days ago, the same man made a statement in Vienna in which he said, Iraq has implemented 95 percent of its obligations. So how could a state, a country who has implemented 95 percent of its obligations, more than most of its obligations, be treated in such a manner as it has been treated by the United States and its allies? Is this a real, genuine, legal, professional follow-up of the implementation of United Nations resolutions? Or is it a political harassment against a sovereign state for sinister political reasons? The answer is clear to everybody who looks at the situation in a fair and objective manner.

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Source: REUTER

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IRAQI DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TAREQ AZIZ NEWS CONFERENCE

January 16, 1993

(Fourth Add)

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x x x objective manner.

Q (through interpreter): What do you want about the hostility between you and Turkey? The other half of the question.

AZIZ (through interpreter): The second question I got, and understood. But I did not get the first question. Can you repeat it please?

Q (through interpreter): Why does America consider Iraq an enemy?

AZIZ (through interpreter): The fact is that America is not hostile only to Iraq. But it has been taking hostile positions to many other countries in the world, anyway. As I have said in my statement in English, we have never before considered ourselves the enemies of the United States. We resist the hostile policy of the United States administration against Iraq. If the administration of the United States decided to change its hostile policy towards Iraq, we will treat it the same way.

As for the pipelines, there has been exchanges between the Iraqi and Turkish (inaudible). However, the question up to now is not clear enough for me to comment on it responsibly.

Q: Under what conditions will Iraq agree to sell oil under U.N. supervision in order to finance some purchases of humanitarian supplies?

AZIZ: According to Resolution 687, Paragraph 22 of Resolution 687, we are now entitled to sell our oil freely without any conditions. And we hope that the Security Council would honor its obligation towards Iraq, respect its own decision, Resolution 687, which has not yet been done by the Security Council under the influence--because of the influence of the government of the United States and its allies.

Q (through interpreter): Tareq Aziz, how do you assess the position of the Arab countries after the last aggression, and is there any difference from the position during the first aggression?

AZIZ (through interpreter): I think that resistance to this aggression, and the criticism of this aggression, has been wider, relatively wider at the Arab and international level. In my opinion, this criticism and this resistance to the aggression will widen up in the future.

The facts are becoming clearer in a better way than the past, and the world began to realize that Iraq is a victim of a brutal aggression, and many of the lies that were published in the past and circulated are being uncovered now. That is why I am optimistic for the future, and I think that the Arab and international stand would be better in favor of Iraq, namely (inaudible) justice and right.

Q: You said in your earlier comments that if the United States ended its policy of personal vendetta, you could start to discuss. And what exactly do you mean by ending personal vendetta? And, secondly, do you distinguish between the southern no-fly zone and the northern no-fly zone? Your comments this afternoon have been mainly about the no-fly zone imposed after August. Do you therefore recognize the northern no-fly zone has U.N. sanction?

AZIZ: Legally speaking, we don't distinguish between this and that. But there is a situation now in the south which

is not identical with the situation in the north. And this is a practical fact only. About the first question, I think you should address it to those who have been exercising the personal vendetta against us.

Q: I was asking what you meant by personal vendetta?

AZIZ: Well, you speak English, and you read English, and you must have read a lot of material about that in the English and the American newspapers.

Q: Mr. Minister, in one of your Arabic answers just now, I thought I heard you say you were optimistic about the future of the situation. Is that correct?

AZIZ: I was saying that I was optimistic about the support, understanding of the Iraqi position in the future, because the facts are being clarified, stage by stage, in favor of Iraq. Most of the lies, the fabrications that were used as pretext to commit aggression against Iraq are being clarified and seen to people in the Arab world, and the international public opinion, and that will be a plus for Iraq in the future.

Q: Are you optimistic, Mr. Aziz, that relations between Iraq and the United States will improve after Mr. Clinton becomes president?

AZIZ: I cannot say that I am optimistic or pessimistic. I made it clear in what circumstances the relations could be improved. The circumstances, those circumstances are I think we are not asking anything strange on the new administration. We just are asking the new administration to review the situation in an objective, non-personified manner. And let them look at it from the very angle, from the angle of the interests of the United States. Just that, and that by itself will, in my opinion, it might create a new style of addressing the issues.

Q: Are you optimistic, sir, that the Clinton administration will do this?

AZIZ: I say I don't want to say that I am optimistic or pessimistic. It's up to the new administration to clarify its position after it takes office.

Q: Mr. Aziz, do you think, concerning your offer, concerning the Iraqi offer about the U.N. planes' flight over Iraqi territorial air space, do you think the United Nations will take it positively, and do you think it will help Iraq to avoid the war?

AZIZ: I hope so, but it's up to them. I don't want to make any thinking about that, you see. We did what we think is right to help the United Nations and if they are behaving in an objective manner, they should appreciate our offer. But if they are being used as ploys, you see, for the ploys of others, that's a different matter.

Q: Well, I just want to ask you again, do you think it will help Iraq to avoid the war, this offer?

AZIZ: To avoid--?

Q: The potential air attack from the United States.

AZIZ: No, no, this has nothing to do of avoiding this or that. We just wanted to avoid the confusion between the challenge to the no-fly zone and the allegations about the confrontation between Iraq and the United Nations. That's it.

Q: Sir, the other night, President Saddam Hussein encouraged his people to shoot down enemy planes from the sky, and it was also announced that the anti-aircraft batteries no longer have to have special permission to lock onto a plane that's in Iraqi air space. Those two things together, do they mean that now the anti-aircraft batteries are free to shoot and will shoot at any plane that violates Iraqi air space?

AZIZ: Yes.

Q: Mr. Minister, what is Iraq's position on the security of U.N. helicopter flights inside Iraqi territory in the northern no-fly zone, any Iraqi territory, once they start operating when they get in here?

AZIZ: Well, the helicopters are here in Baghdad in an air base, and they are not active now because they haven't made any request for any activity in the last few days.

Q: What would be your response if the--

AZIZ: We will deal with those matters in a routine manner, but of course the new circumstances have to be taken into consideration, but I don't think that there is a big problem about that.

Q: (through interpreter): Why doesn't they in the United Nations take fast decisions? What do you think of the United Nations resolutions?

AZIZ (through interpreter): This raises what we call the double standards by the big powers. Resolution 799, for example, is a resolution from which the United States is not enthusiastic and doesn't want to implement. And that is very clear, it calls for Israel in a very clear manner to return the Palestinians to their homeland.

At the same time, American president has interpreted Resolution 688, which does not stipulate any no-fly zones, they interpret this resolution to mean that it authorizes them to impose an air embargo against Iraq and to bombard and to commit aggression against Iraq if it objects to the resolution.

This is United Nations work. This is an imperialistic aggression by powers that feel that they are strong and they want to impose their hegemony on the world.

The most important thing is that the world public opinion and the people's opinion should not be misled into thinking that these policies are based on United Nations resolutions. These are policies that are adopted in these imperialist countries, no more, no less.

Q: (In Arabic through interpreter): In the light of what you said about the hostile position of the American administration towards Iraq and the escalation of the situation, do you expect any new aggression during the last few days of the Bush administration?

AZIZ (through interpreter): We are ready to respond to any aggression that will take place, and we would answer any aggression as we should.

Q: Would your government consider taking the first step towards a dialogue with President-elect Clinton once he takes office?

AZIZ: Well, actually, we even wanted to have a dialogue with the Bush administration. We made that clear in the past. In my interview with John in New York, lately when I was in New York, I mentioned that. But they declined to talk to us.

So this is not a new policy. We would like to talk to the government of the United States, whoever is the leader of that government. We would like to talk to the government of Britain or France, to all those governments who are waging aggression against Iraq.

But they decline to talk to Iraq. That's it. It's up to them. If they say that we are ready to talk, certainly we will reciprocate positively.

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The Reuter Transcript Report

Iraq/Tareq Aziz news conference (fourth add)

Jan. 16, 1993

MORE

Reut14:20 01-16

Source: REUTER

Subject : ^BC-TEXT-IRAQ-5THADD@

a0537reutt

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^BC-TEXT-IRAQ-5THADD@

IRAQI DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TAREQ AZIZ NEWS CONFERENCE

January 16, 1993

(Fifth Add)

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x x x reciprocate positively.

Q: You suggested that the current American policy runs against American interests. Why do you think it is in America's interest to dialogue with you and to treat you differently? If somebody could elaborate on that point, thank you.

AZIZ: I think after a certain period of time, wise leaders, if they are not driven by personal motives, have to review any situation and see what are the gains and what are the losses in a policy that has been maintained for a certain period.

Now there is a new administration in the United States. Well, it's not wrong--from my point of view, my humble point of view, it's not wrong to review a policy that was maintained for the last two or three years vis-a-vis this region, including Iraq. If they find that it was in the best interest of the United States, so okay. The decision is up to them. But if they find that it was not, so why not change it?

Q: But you said it was against their interest.

AZIZ: That's my opinion. That's my opinion. My personal opinion, my personal analysis of the situation in the whole region, and I made that clear in several discussions with journalists, writers during my last visit to New York, that if there is an objective, non-personified review of the situation in the region, reasonable people, leaders, politicians or writers, will discover that the kind of policy that was performed against Iraq has not made real gains to the long-term interests of the United States.

The situation in the region is less stable than it was in 1990 or 1991, before the attack on Iraq. The situation in the region is more dangerous. The prospects of peace, security, development, economic development are less than they were attacking Iraq, before isolating Iraq, imposing sanctions on Iraq. So why not review that?

Maybe those who will do the review, as I said, in an objective, non-personified manner, without bias, without prejudice, they might discover new facts that were not highlighted by the previous administration.

Q: Mr. Minister, going to the root of the American-Iraqi problem, does Iraq still regard Kuwait as one of its provinces? If you read the newspapers, it seems to me, in Baghdad you would think that it does.

AZIZ: Well, I think many people don't think that Iraqi writers can write their own opinions without being told to do so by the poor minister of information. So if some writers say that, it's up to them to say what they like to say.

Kuwait as a historical fact--I made it clear in the Security Council, and I am not hesitant to repeat it; I was asked the same question as your question--Kuwait was historically part of Iraq. But as a matter of fact now, it is not.

Q: Mr. Minister, you said that anti-aircraft batteries are now free to fire upon enemy aircraft within Iraq's air space. Under what conditions precisely could that happen?

And secondly, if the United States and its allies were to launch another strike against Iraq, would these anti-aircraft batteries be ordered to fire back?

AZIZ: Well, those batteries and anti-aircraft weapons are already active now. They were, they have been active since 9:30 or some time like that on 13th of January. The orders that were given to them before the attack was not to lock and illuminate against the allied airplanes. But since the aggression has happened, so they are free to shoot at any aggression, any plane which penetrates the Iraqi air space. They are active. Even at this moment they are active.

Q: Have they shot at anybody, Mr. Minister, do you know?

AZIZ: Well, I think when they see a plane and they can reach it, they will shoot it.

Q: But have they opened fire yet between the 13th of January and now?

AZIZ: Yes. They fired--they shot at the planes that attacked them on the 13th. Only the missile batteries did not at the first moment because of their previous orders, but the conventional anti-aircraft weapons shot at the planes that were attacking Iraq on the 13th of this month.

Q: Since the air strike, have the--

AZIZ: To my knowledge, the anti-aircraft system, with all kinds, is active now. It has been active since the 13th and is still active.

Q (In Arabic through interpreter): Media doesn't talk about the embargo imposed on Iraq for the last two days and the effect of this on the Iraqi people. Does this mean that the Iraqi people have been able to overcome the difficulties and they feel sufficient now? Thank you.

AZIZ (In Arabic through interpreter): The publishing of information on the economic embargo is something, and the achievements by Iraq are something else. The embargo against Iraq is a crime. This crime leads to tragic results on more than one level. There is the health level and the sufficient food for the people and environment. But the achievements that have been done by the Iraqi people are great achievements because they have been done despite the embargo, and they express the will of the people to defy injustice and aggression and go on its march.

This doesn't mean that the embargo has no influence and no effect. It has its influence, and it leads to tragic results, but the people are determined to resist this embargo and to create the method that can enable the people to continue its life and to continue its development, even under the embargo.

Thank you very much.

END OF NEWS CONFERENCE

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The Reuter Transcript Report

Iraq/Tareq Aziz news conference (fifth and final add)

Jan. 16, 1993

REUTER

Reut14:22 01-16

TRANSLATION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq presents its compliments to the Special Commission, and wishes to point out the following, with the reference to the letter addressed, on 15 January 1993, by Mr. Pierce S. Cordan, Deputy Executive Chairman of the Special Commission, to the Iraqi Permanent Representative to the United Nations; and the memorandum of 15 January 1993, addressed by the Special Commission to the Ministry, concerning the notification of flight plans for the C-160 aircraft chartered by the Special Commission, for the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th of January 1993:

1. We confirm to you, once again, that Iraq has decided to permit the UN Chartered aircraft to come to Iraq on a case-by-case basis, and to use the Habbaniyah airfield according to the procedures already followed. This clearly means a permit for the UNSCOM

Chartered C-160 aircraft to come according to the flight plans for the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th of January 1993, submitted with the memorandum referred to above.

2. Iraq is currently subjected to a military aggression carried out by US, British, and French warplanes. As a result of this ongoing aggression, Iraq is forced to exercise its natural right of self-defence. The situation created by the US- British- French aggression is one that certainly threatens aviation in Iraqi airspace in general. Iraq is not the cause, but the victim, of this dangerous situation; and for all this we have to stress Iraq's non-responsibility for the safety of the aircraft, any aircraft, within Iraqi airspace.

3. The obligations of Iraq, referred to in the UNSCOM memorandum of 15 January 1993 (addressed to the Security Council), with regard to ensuring the security and

safety of UNSCOM personnel, had all been decided before the United States, Britain, and France imposed the "no-fly zone" under parallel 32, and long before the perpetration of the current military aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

4. The response of Iraq does not at all constitute an abdication of its obligations; nor is it correct to say that Iraq does not ensure the safety of the Special Commission personnel. Iraq does ensure the safety and security of UN personnel on its territories. But the prevailing circumstances of an actual ongoing aggression have forced Iraq to ask the Special Commission to "take the responsibility of ensuring the safety UNSCOM flights under these circumstances."
5. Hence, the interpretation given to the Iraqi response of 15 January 1993, that it constitutes a refusal on the part of

Iraq of the Commission's notification and
- an abdication of Iraq's obligations, is
nothing but a distorted depiction of the
Iraqi position.

In spite of the clarity and justice of
the Iraqi position as described above and of
the serious dangers to which Iraq and its
people are being subjected through the
military aggression currently inflicted upon
Iraq by US, British and French warplanes, and
in order to foil the manufactured pretexts
incessantly raised to justify aggression
against Iraq and misrepresent the situation
as being one of confrontation between Iraq
and the United Nations, Iraq hereby agrees to
the arrival of UNSCOM aircraft, and to ensure
the safety of these aircraft if they enter
Iraqi airspace from the west using the direct
flight route between Amman (or any point in
Jordan) and Habbaniyah. The Special
Commission will have to notify us of the time
at which the aircraft is/are expected to
enter Iraqi airspace over the border line and
the duration of the flight between the point

of entry and the point of arrival at the Habbaniyah airfield. Similar notification should be given with regard to return flights over the four days specified in the annex to the UNSCOM memorandum of 15 January 1993.

We hope that the Special Commission will not allow itself to be used by the countries perpetrating the aggression against Iraq to achieve such special objectives against Iraq as totally irrelevant to the goals of the United Nations and SCR 687 (1991).

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration.

Baghdad

16 January 1993

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01 OF 03

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TO CABINET OFFICE

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OOQQ

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO STEPHEN WALL FROM BRENT SCOWCROFT.

BEGIN TEXT:

DRAFT STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

UNITED STATES TOMAHAWK CRUISE MISSILES TODAY ATTACKED A NUCLEAR FABRICATING PLANT NEAR BAGHDAD, IRAQ, WHICH IS PART OF ITS WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION PROGRAM. THIS PLANT MADE COMPONENTS FOR IRAQ'S NUCLEAR ENRICHMENT PROGRAM, INCLUDING PARTS FOR ITS ELECTROMAGNETIC ISOTOPE SEPARATORS, WHICH IRAQ HAS USED IN ITS PROGRAM TO CREATE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

THIS STRIKE WAS DESIGNED TO HELP ACHIEVE THE GOALS OF U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 687, 707, AND 715 CALLING FOR THE INSPECTION AND ELIMINATION OF IRAQ'S WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION -- NUCLEAR, CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL, AS WELL AS ITS BALLISTIC MISSILES. IT ALSO DEMONSTRATES THE U.S. AND COALITION'S DETERMINATION TO DEMAND IRAQ'S COMPLIANCE WITH ALL UNSC RESOLUTIONS.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT OPERATION DESERT STORM, AND OVER FORTY SUBSEQUENT U.N. INSPECTIONS, REVEALED IRAQ'S AGGRESSIVE PROGRAM TO BUILD A NUCLEAR BOMB AND OTHER WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. THE U.N. SUBSEQUENTLY DEMANDED THE FREEDOM TO INSPECT

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 03

AND ELIMINATE THESE WEAPONS. SINCE THE WAR, THE U.N. HAS SUPERVISED THE DESTRUCTION OF DOZENS OF MISSILES AND THEIR LAUNCHERS, HUNDREDS OF TONS OF CHEMICAL MUNITIONS, SCORES OF CHEMICAL SCUD WARHEADS, AND NUMEROUS NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS. THIS PROCESS MUST NOT BE STOPPED. IRAQ'S WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION MUST BE DESTROYED. IRAQ HAS AGAIN TODAY REFUSED TO ALLOW INSPECTIONS "WITHOUT INTERFERENCE OF ANY KIND" AND "WITH COMPLETE SAFETY AND FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT," AS REQUIRED BY THE U.N.

TODAY'S ATTACK SUPPORTS THE OBJECTIVES OF THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS THAT CALL FOR DESTRUCTION OF IRAQ'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY.

IT IS THE IRAQI LEADERSHIP THAT BEARS FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR TODAY'S EVENTS. ON JANUARY 7, 1993, IRAQ INFORMED THE U.N. THAT IT WOULD NO LONGER GRANT FLIGHT CLEARANCES FOR U.N. AIRCRAFT. THE SECURITY COUNCIL, ON BOTH JANUARY 8 AND JANUARY 11, 1993, WARNED IRAQ, THAT ITS REFUSAL TO ALLOW INSPECTORS UNHINDERED FREEDOM TO ENTER THE COUNTRY, CONSTITUTED A MATERIAL BREACH OF U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 687, 707, AND 715. THE SECURITY COUNCIL ALSO WARNED IRAQ OF THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES THAT WOULD STEM FROM SUCH REFUSAL.

ON JANUARY 13, 1993, WE UNDERScoreD OUR FULL SUPPORT FOR THE COUNCIL'S STATEMENTS. ON JANUARY 15, 1993 THE U.N. CONCLUDED THAT IRAQ HAD REFUSED TO GUARANTEE THE SAFETY OF FLIGHTS AND PERSONNEL. ON JANUARY 16, 1993, THE U.N. FOUND THAT IRAQ'S DECISION TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF FLIGHTS, ONLY IF THEY ENTERED IRAQ VIA JORDANIAN AIR SPACE, TO BE UNACCEPTABLE. THEN LAST NIGHT IRAQ CHALLENGED COALITION AIRCRAFT IN THE NORTHERN NO-FLY ZONE.

TODAY'S ACTION IS DESIGNED TO MAKE CLEAR TO IRAQ THAT NON-COMPLIANCE WITH U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

END TEXT

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 03 OF 03

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NOIWON CONVENED BY STATE OPERATIONS CENTER

DATE: 17 JAN 93/1154 EST

A) STATE RECEIVED CALL FROM P. KURTZ, THE POL ADVISOR WITH PROVIDE COMFORT IN ANKARA, AT 1444Z (0844 EST) WHO REPORTED ANOTHER INCIDENT IN THE NORTHERN NO FLY ZONE INVOLVING IRAQI AAA FIRE. A US EF-111 AIRCRAFT APPARENTLY WAS FIRED ON AT 3649 N 043212E. ALTHOUGH THE FIRE CAME FROM JUST SOUTH OF THE SECURITY ZONE ESTABLISHED IN NORTHERN IRAQ, IT APPEARS AS THOUGH IRAQI GROUND TROOPS FIRED FROM A POSITION JUST NORTH OF THE 36TH (GROUND TROOPS ARE PERMITTED IN THIS AREA).

B) AT 1141 EST, MR. JOHN BREIDENSTINE (DUTY OFFICER IN KUWAIT) CALLED TO REPORT THAT GENERAL DI BUAMA, HEAD OF UNIKOM TROOPS IN KUWAIT-IRAQ DMZ, HAD BEEN CALLED AT 1800 LOCAL (1000 EST) FROM BAGHDAD BY HIS IRAQI INTERLOCUTOR, GENERAL FIRAZ, WHO TOLD HIM THE IRAQIS ARE WITHDRAWING THE SIX POLICE POSTS FROM KUWAIT AND WILL COMPLETE BY DAWN TOMORROW. THE IRAQI GENERAL CONFIRMED THAT THEY HAVE BEGUN TO DISMANTLE TWO OF THE SIX POSTS UNDER UNIKOM SUPERVISION,.

Source: FBIS

Subject : Iraq: Foreign Ministry Statement on Flights' Safety (Take 1 of

FBIS 055

UNCLAS 5K

Iraq: Foreign Ministry Statement on Flights' Safety (Take 1 of 4)

JN1701152793 Baghdad INA in English 1445 GMT 17 Jan 93

[Text] Baghdad, Jan 17, INA--Iraq has declared readiness to ensure the safety of the flight of the U.N. Special Committee aircraft from Bahrain to al-Habbaniyah if the Special Committee guarantees halting the French, British and American flying their aircraft in the Iraqi space (related to the flight) during the flying of the U.N. aircraft between the point of entering Iraqi airspace and landing at al-Habbaniyah Airport.

An Iraqi Foreign Ministry statement said that this could be also arranged during the return from al-Habbaniyah to Bahrain which should be strictly coordinated between the Special Committee and the competent Iraqi authorities.

The statement said that this readiness is out of Iraq's keenness to deny an opportunity for the forces of aggression and treason under the leadership of Bush administration and for aborting the new fabricated pretext on the flight route desired by the Special Committee for its aircraft coming to al-Habbaniyah Airport.

(more)

17 JAN 1545z aeg

NNNN

Source: " FBIS

Subject : Iraq: INA Reports Saddam Address to Nation (Take 1 of 2)

FBIS 042

UNCLAS 5K

Iraq: INA Reports Saddam Address to Nation (Take 1 of 2)

JN1701132193 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1135 GMT 17 Jan 93

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 17 Jan (INA)--President Saddam Husayn has stressed that the mujahid, patient, faithful Iraqi Army will not be defeated, and that Baghdad and its other sisterly cities of lofty Iraq from Zakho to southern Iraq up to the gate of great victory, the valiant city of al-Faw, will, God willing, continue to be fortresses for freedom, from which aggression will be turned back, defeated, and repulsed.

In a historic speech on the second anniversary of the beginning of the 30-state aggression against Iraq his excellency delivered over the radio and television networks--the Iraqi radio which is beamed to the heroic Armed Forces, the great masses of the Iraqi people, and the sons of the glorious Arab nation--President Saddam Husayn said that the aggressors's evil intentions will fail this time too. [passage omitted]

President Saddam Husayn pointed to the recent aggression against southern Iraq. He said: The relapsing aggression was carried out on the night of 13 January to explain everything. The aggressors' aggression has come, with their planes, against our land, people, and sanctities, after their planes took off from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. So, what do officials there have to tell their people about such a crime and such a burden?

The president added: What do the Americans, the British, the French, and the Russians, who joined them in their lowly warning and the despicable conspiracy, have to say? What do they have to say to their peoples this time, and how can they convince the world public? [passage omitted]

(more)

17 JAN 1333z jk

NNNN

Source: ~ FBIS

Subject : Iraq: INA Reports Saddam Address to Nation (Take 2 of 2--

FBIS 043

UNCLAS 5K

Iraq: INA Reports Saddam Address to Nation (Take 2 of 2--

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///public? [passage omitted]

JN1701133393

[Excerpts] His excellency called on the Kuwaiti people to play their role, to assume their responsibilities practically, and to steer positions and policies to benefit themselves and their Arab nation far from all who would harm them. He stressed that the Iraqis have never put the Kuwaitis on equal footing with the deviants and traitors of the Croesuses of the al-Sabah family, and have never ignored their present and future role and responsibility.

His excellency added that the measures of the officials, who had the honor of carrying Baghdad's message to the people of Kuwait, were serious toward those who deviated from the path of principles, and these correct measures were executed openly against those who harmed some Kuwaitis or encroached on their money.

President Saddam Husayn addressed the sons of Kuwait, saying: You know that others, who do not bear Iraqi citizenship, have seized the emergency situation at the time to wreak havoc, destroy, and cause harm, and then they blamed the Iraqis for this. [passage omitted]

(endall)

17 JAN 1347z jk

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

Iraqi aircraft and air defense systems today attacked coalition aircraft over northern Iraq. In response to the hostile Iraqi actions, United States and coalition aircraft took defensive measures to retaliate. Coalition forces attacked an air defense site and shot down an Iraqi aircraft. The coalition aircraft were monitoring the no-fly zone north of the 36th parallel.

These actions underscore the coalition's determination to deal forcefully with any threats to its aircraft operating in the two no-fly zones. These zones were created to monitor compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 688 which demands the Iraqi leadership cease repressing its own people. For almost two years, the no-fly zone in Northern Iraq has effectively ensured Saddam Hussein does not take large scale military actions against the people of northern Iraq. Saddam has now openly proclaimed his intent to challenge these zones.

As we noted on January 13, 1993, we will not tolerate challenges to the UN Security Council resolutions and the measures enacted by the coalition to monitor and enforce those resolutions.

This morning at about 2:00 a.m., Iraqi anti-aircraft guns fired at two United States F-16 aircraft patrolling in Northern Iraq. Later, Iraqi Mig 23's violated the northern no-fly zone. And shortly after 3:00 a.m., Iraqi SA-6 missiles fired at coalition

aircraft also in the North. At 4:38 this morning, a U.S. F-16 encountered a threatening Mig 29 in the northern no-fly zone and shot it down. We will continue to take an active defensive position in the North.

President Bush this morning discussed this matter with Prime Minister Major, President Mitterrand, and of course Prime Minister Mulroney who is at Camp David with the President. The President's National Security Advisor General Brent Scowcroft is at the Camp and his Deputy, Admiral John Howell is here in the White House. There have been numerous consultations this morning with General Powell, Secretary Cheney, and Secretary Eagleburger. Sandy Berger of the Clinton transition team has been fully briefed.

The no-fly zones were designed to protect Iraqi citizens in the North and South who had come under attack by the Iraqi government. Endorsed by the UN, these zones also provide safety and freedom of movement for UN inspectors.

The United States supports the United Nation's conclusion last night that Iraq has not complied with its requests for uninterrupted and safe access by its inspection flights. The United Nations inspections are designed to detect and eliminate the nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons capability of Iraq. This process must continue.

Source: REUTER

Subject : ^BC-IRAQ-SADDAM -2 NICOSIA@

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r i BC-IRAQ-SADDAM 01-17 0141

^BC-IRAQ-SADDAM -2 NICOSIA@

The Iraqi president, in the broadcast monitored in Nicosia, showed no signs of backing down against increasing threats by the allies to send planes on renewed bombing raids to force Iraqi compliance with Gulf War ceasefire terms.

He repeatedly used the phrase ``Mother of all Battles,'' which Iraq used during the Gulf War, and said it had entered a new phase.

He said Kuwaitis were being misled by the oil-rich emirate's ruling al-Sabah family. Iraq declared Kuwait its 19th province when it invaded in August 1990. It was driven out seven months later by a U.S.-led coalition.

``Your brothers in Baghdad never put you Kuwaitis any day in one basket with the traitors of al-Sabah,'' Saddam said in a direct appeal to Kuwaitis.

``...This is the real face of Baghdad and this is the face of Baghdad that you know,'' he said.

MORE MR DJG

Reut08:58 01-17

Source: AP

Subject : r i AP-Iraq-Saddam 01-17 0189

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r i AP-Iraq-Saddam 01-17 0189

AP-Iraq-Saddam

! GENERAL NEWS !

Saddam Hussein Addresses Iraq And Kuwait

(Baghdad, Iraq) -- On the second anniversary of the Persian Gulf War, Saddam Hussein is verbally attacking the United States.

In a live, televised speech to the Iraqi people, Saddam said two years ago, the people of Iraq were awakened by the ``noise of the snakes and the robbers and the enemies of God who work for Satan.''

Saddam said that even if the Gods of those countries sleep, the God of the Iraqi people never sleeps and observes everything that happens in the world.

Saddam also attacked the rulers of Kuwait, calling them misguided for seeking Western help. Saddam says the citizens of Kuwait want to be part of Iraq.

It was Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990 that led to the war to liberate Kuwait.

(Sound: 8:32 aes)

APTV-01-17-93 0854EST

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Source: REUTER

Subject : ^BC-IRAQ-AIRCRAFT URGENT@

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u i BC-IRAQ-AIRCRAFT 01-17 0038

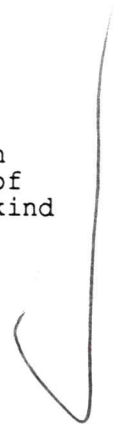
^BC-IRAQ-AIRCRAFT URGENT@

^IRAQI PLANE MAY HAVE BEEN SHOT DOWN - BRITISH MINISTER@

LONDON, Jan 17, Reuter - An Iraqi aircraft may have been shot down over the air exclusion zone in the northern part of the country on Sunday, British Defence Minister Malcolm Rifkind said in a television interview.

MORE PGB WS

Reut08:14 01-17



Richard said ~~the~~ CNN meaning
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we shot down 8 Iraqi
plane. Thanks we should
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u i BC-IRAQ-OFFER 01-17 0045

^BC-IRAQ-OFFER URGENT@

^IRAQ MAKES FRESH OFFER ON U.N. FLIGHTS@

BAGHDAD, Jan 17, Reuter - Iraq offered on Sunday to guarantee the safety of U.N. planes flying in through the southern no-fly zone if the Western Gulf War allies stopped all air operations in the zone during the flights, the Iraqi news agency INA said.

REUTER NJP DJG

Reut09:39 01-17