

SITUATION: CHECK
SUBJECT CATEGORY: LIST

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

DECLASSIFIED / RELEASED

MESSAGE:

HCE660
STU3189
OO RUEHC
DE RUEHAD #1551 1590650
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O 080647Z JUN 81 ZFF4
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1901
BT

REF: F76-127/1# 332

DATE 2/8/85

~~SECRET~~ BAGHDAD 1551

NO DIS

F.O. 12065: XDS-2,3 6/7/01 (EAGLETON, WILLIAM L.) OR-M

TAGS: PFP, IS, IR

SUBJ: ISRAELI ATTACK ON IRAQI NUCLEAR FACILITY

REF: STATE 148548

1. (S - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. UNTIL WE RECEIVED REFTTEL, WE COULD ONLY SPECULATE THAT RAID, WHICH FROM BAGHDAD APPEARED TO BE IN THE DIRECTION OF THE IRAQI NUCLEAR FACILITY AT TUWAITHA, WAS THE WORK OF ISRAELI PLANES. RAID OCCURRED AT 6:25 P.M. LOCAL TIME AND DID NOT APPEAR TO ATTRACT ANY SAM'S OR ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE. HOWEVER, AN HOUR LATER DURING THE ITALIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION BY THE TIGRIS, THERE WAS A 15-MINUTE DISPLAY OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT MACHINE GUN TRACERS FIRING AT NO APPARENT TARGETS.

3. IRAQI MEDIA HAVE NOT MENTIONED THE RAID. FROM OUR LOCAL EMPLOYEES, WE UNDERSTAND THE WORD IS ABOUT THAT SEVEN ISRAELI PLANES WERE INVOLVED. ONE RUMOR HAS IT THAT A BRIDGE ON THE BAGHDAD-CTESIPHON ROAD WAS HIT. WE HAVE NOT YET HEARD LOCAL RUMORS OF DAMAGE TO TUWAITHA.

4. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF CHECKING WITH FRENCH AND ITALIAN EMBASSIES. FIRST REPORT FROM ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IS THAT NO FRENCH OR ITALIANS WERE CASUALTIES, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE SOME IRAQI CASUALTIES. APPARENTLY SOME PART OF THE NUCLEAR FACILITY WAS HIT, THOUGH WE HAVE NO DETAILS YET ON DAMAGE.

5. WE ARE TAKING APPROPRIATE INTERNAL SECURITY MEASURES. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE ISRAELI RAID ONLY WITH THE BRITISH WHO CAME TO US AFTER HAVING BEEN INFORMED BY LONDON.

6. DEPARTMENT REPEAT AS APPROPRIATE.

EAGLETON

BT

#1551

SENSITIVE

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