

SITUATION: CHECK
SUBJECT CATEGORY: LIST

MESSAGE / ANNOTATION:

MESSAGE:

RCE949
 STU4888
 NO RUEHC
 RF RUEHAD #1560 1891900
 7NY SSSSS ZZH
 O 081845Z JUN 81 ZFF-4
 FM USINT BAGHDAD
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1904
 INFO RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 3195
 RUQMGU/AMEMBASSY ANKAR 695
 RUMJPG/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 38
 RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 2195
 RUFHDL/AMEMBASSY BONN 332
 RUFHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 444
 RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 3564
 RUQMBI/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 1045
 RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 3564
 RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 2473
 RUQMOD/AMEMBASSY DOHA 740
 RUQMRA/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 2296
 RUQMKW/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 3108
 RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 901
 RUEHND/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1080
 RUQMMT/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT 768
 RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1212
 RUEHRD/AMEMBASSY ROME 425
 RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 621
 RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 86

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~~SECRET~~ BAGHDAD 1560

FXDIS

F.O. 12065; RDS -1,3 6/8/01 (EALGETON, WILLIAM L) DR-M

TAGS: MOPS MILI IS, IS

SUBJ: IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER RE ISRAELI RAID ON NUCLEAR FACILITY

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER SA'ADUN HAMMADI CALLED ME TO THE MINISTRY AT 1900 JUNE 8. I TOOK NOTES SO FOLLOWING REPORT IS ALMOST VERBATIM, MINUS REPETITIONS.

3. HAMMADI SAID THAT WHEN IRAQ'S NUCLEAR INSTALLATION WAS ATTACHED YESTERDAY IRAQI SUSPECTED ISREAL, NOW ISRAEL HAS ANNOUNCED THAT ITS AIR FORCE CARRIED OUT THE RAID. THIS IS A VERY DANGEROUS AND GRAVE INCIDENT. IRAQ HAS NO BORDER WITH ISRAEL AND THERE IS "NO ACTIVE WAR BETWEEN

DECLASSIFIED BY SPART

NLS F76-127/1 #329

By Amf, NLS, Date 2/8/05

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U.S." ISRAEL IS USING ITS AIR FORCE TO REACH WHEREVER IT WISHES.

4. HAMMADI CONTINUED THAT THE NUCLEAR PLANT COST IRAQ CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES IN ITS MODEST PROGRAM FOR THE PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. IRAQ HAS SIGNED THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY. HAMMADI SAID I WAS THE FIRST FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVE HE HAD CALLED IN BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES HAS A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY. THE UNITED STATES HAS ALWAYS SAID THAT IT WISHED TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND THE PRINCIPLE OF JUSTICE. THE IRAQIS KNOW OF THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ISRAEL AND THEY KNOW THAT WHEN THE U.S. HAS WISHED ISRAEL TO REFRAIN FROM CERTAIN ACTIONS IT HAS DONE SO. IT IS THE IRAQI EVALUATION THAT IF THE UNITED STATES HAD WANTED TO RESTRAIN ISRAEL FROM SUCH AN ACTION, IT COULD HAVE DONE SO.

5. HAMMADI ADDED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS IMPORTANT INTERESTS IN THE AREA ALONG WITH SPECIAL RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL WHICH INCLUDE THE PRACTICE OF CONTINUOUS CONSULTATIONS. U.S. AWACS COVER THE AREA. ISRAEL WOULD NOT TAKE SUCH ACTION WITHOUT CONSULTING THE UNITED STATES.

6. HAMMADI CONCLUDED HIS OPENING STATEMENT WITH A REFERENCE TO IRAQ'S WILLINGNESS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS. IRAQI HAS SHOWN GOOD WILL. NOW THAT SUCH A THING HAS HAPPENED IRAQ WISHES TO EXPRESS ITS SERIOUS CONCERN TO THE UNITED STATES.

7. I THANKED THE MINISTER FOR USING THIS CHANNEL TO BRING AN IMPORTANT MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE USG. I SAID I EXPECTED AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON THE RAID OUT OF WASHINGTON, MEANWHILE, I COULD OFFICIALLY ASSURE THE MINISTER THAT UNITED STATES HAD NO FORE KNOWLEDGE OF THE RAID, IT WOULD BE A SERIOUS MISTAKE IF THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT CALCULATED OTHERWISE. THE U.S. TOO CONSIDERS THE RAID A SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT. AMONG OTHER THINGS IT HAS COME AT AN INOPPORTUNE TIME WHEN WE WERE MAKING A MAJOR EFFORT TO DEFUSE THE CRISIS IN LEBANON. I PROMISED TO CONVEY THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON.

8. HAMMADI SAID THAT EVEN SUPPOSING THAT ISRAEL DID NOT CONSULT THE UNITED STATES AHEAD OF TIME, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I OBSERVED THAT EVEN IF WE HAD HAD INDICATIONS OF SUCH FLIGHTS WE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN IN A POSITION TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

9. IN CONCLUSION, HAMMADI SAID IRAQ WOULD CALL FOR AN URGENT MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. IRAQ HOPES THE U.S. WILL SUPPORT THIS CALL AND OPPOSE THE OBVIOUS ACT OF AGGRESSION. HE HAD PREFERRED TO CALL US IN

FOUO (1)

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AHEAD OF TIME SINCE WE HAD INDICATED OUR DESIRE TO ESTABLISH FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES IN THE AREA, "IRAQ TOO IS LOOKING FOR FRIENDS BUT THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT."

10. ON RETURNING TO THE RESIDENCE I WAS TOLD BY A STAFF MEMBER THAT THE VOICE OF AMERICA HAD JUST CARRIED A STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE ISRAELI ATTACK AND REFERRING TO THE POSSIBLE USE OF U.S. EQUIPMENT, I PHONED HAMMADI AND FOUND THAT HE HAD ALREADY BEEN TOLD OF THE REPORT, HE WAS TROUBLED BY OUR SUGGESTION THAT THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOME RADIATION FROM THE DAMAGED REACTOR SINCE THIS COULD "CAUSE CONFUSION". HE COULD ASSURE US THERE WAS NO RADIATION.

11. COMMENT: IRAQI REACTION THUS FAR IS THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR. A STATEMENT BY THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL WHICH HAS JUST BEEN CARRIED ON IRAQI RADIO DID NOT MENTION THE UNITED STATES BUT INSTEAD RELATED THE ISRAELI ATTACK TO THE CONFLICT WITH IRAN. I SUGGEST THAT THE HEAD OF THE IRAQ INTERESTS SECTION IN WASHINGTON BE CALLED IN AT A HIGH LEVEL AND GIVEN THE OFFICIAL UNITED STATES REACTION. IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL HERE IF I COULD HAVE A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO CONVEY TO FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI.

FAGLETON.

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