

1 February 2019

195 Lambton Quay  
Private Bag 18-901  
Wellington 6160  
New Zealand

Kevin Hughes  
fyi-request-8502-47d04e4c@requests.fyi.org.nz

T +64 4 439 8000  
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Dear Kevin Hughes

Further to my letter of 30 January 2019, I am pleased to enclose the final response to your Official Information Act (1982) (OIA) request of 11 November 2018 in which you requested:

*"I am happy to limit the request, as noted to the period from 1 April 2001 to 1 April 2003. In terms of topics, I am interested in any contacts concerning:*

- 1) Weapons of mass destruction or weapons inspections*
- 2) Proposals/attempts to avoid the 2003 invasion. For example, proposals to accept more intrusive inspections or proposals for Saddam Hussein to go into exile."*

Following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1991, New Zealand suspended formal diplomatic relations with Iraq. As a result of this, New Zealand had very little contact with Saddam Hussein's Government during the period you have specified.

We have, however, found some historic material that is broadly within the scope of your request. Some portions of these documents have been withheld as they are out of scope of your request.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details redacted) and enclosed documents may be published on the Ministry's website.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek a review of this response by the Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely



Wendy Adams  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives

Parliament House Wellington 1 New Zealand

*Janine to write* COPY SENT TO ROB  
TAYLOR, FOR ACTION

Facsimile Transmission

*(Simple letter of acknowledgement)*

To: Janine McCabe

Date: 27 June 2002 *(letter received)*

Classification:

ROUTINE/URGENT

MEA Division

Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade

Fax: FAST DIAL  
Tel: 494 8500

From: Ips Cross, Inter-parliamentary Relations  
Parliament House  
Wellington, New Zealand

Fax: [0064 4 473 2439]  
Tel: [0064 4 471 9346]

*OIR*

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You should receive 6 page(s) including this one  
If you do not receive all pages, please call.

Message:

Hi Janine

Can you please advise or comment on this letter (statement) sent to the Speaker.

The letter is from the Speaker of the Iraqi National Assembly asking /inviting the Speaker to read this to Parliament.

Another option perhaps would be for this to be put before the CPA/IPU Executive Committee.

However, at this point I would appreciate your suggestions on an option for draft response to the Iraqi Speaker

*Ips Cross*

جمهورية العراق

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الجلس الوطني

المدد /

التاريخ /



H.E. Mr. Jonathan Hunt  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Wellington -New Zealand

Your Excellency,

I would like to draw your attention that the US administration has used the tragic events of September 11, as an excuse for imposing its brute force policy, creating more tension and disorder in international relations and settling old accounts with certain countries under the pretext of fighting terrorism or halting the spread of weapons of mass destruction. I would like to refer in particular to the speech made by the US President on November 29, 2001 in which he described certain countries, including Iraq, as the axis of evil and threatened to take separate actions against them. The President's speech was followed by a series of intensive statements by officials in the US administration who, apart from the President, included US Secretary of State, Secretary of all these statements, the US officials spoke openly about their intentions to launch a military attack on Iraq with the aim of invading the country, placing it under US domination and imposing a stooge political system on its people.

Your Excellency,

The mere talks by senior US officials about possible plans to invade and occupy Iraq and to install a stooge political system on its people constitute a serious violation of the principles contained in the UN Charter. These principles provide, among other things, for non interference in the matters which are essentially within the domestic

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السلامة

التاريخ



jurisdiction of states, for the sovereign equality of all members of the United Nations, the peaceful settlement of disputes and the prohibition of threat or the use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.

Moreover, they are a violation of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among states in accordance with the UN Charter adopted by the UN General Assembly in its 25<sup>th</sup> session on Oct.24, 1970. The Declaration stipulates: "No State or group of States has the right to intervene, directly or indirectly, for any reason whatsoever, in the internal or external affairs of any other state". It also stipulates: "No state shall organize, assist, foment, finance, incite or tolerate subversive, terrorist or armed activities directed towards the violent overthrow of the regime of another State".

The US talks have also been construed as a violation of the relevant provisions of the Security Council resolutions relating to Iraq which, in their entirety, call for the respect of Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence as a legal duty binding all states in accordance with Chapter VII of the Charter on whose strength the resolutions were made.

As for the charge which is not supported by any evidence, namely that Iraq is seeking to possess weapons of mass destruction, this is clearly a new confirmation, that this administration is trying to ~~subvert~~ ~~the~~ ~~country~~, which so talks about the danger of weapons of mass destruction on International Security is the United states which has the largest stockpiles of mass destruction, nuclear, chemical and biological.

جمهورية العراق

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المندوب

التاسعة



In regard to the US arbitrary accusation of other states of backing terrorism, this certainly requires from the international community a more serious position to prevent the United States from mixing cards or using its brute force or massive propaganda machine or other misleading measures that could turn the victims into the accused. There are international standards that have been agreed upon or that an agreement should be reached on them, to define any phenomenon or conduct. The absence of such standards could turn the world into a jungle in which the law of opportunity or the law of brute force may prevail.

Your Excellency,

I would like to put before you the following facts that hostile and biased media as well as political activities, inimical to Iraq, have sought to distort or hinder them from getting you. These may include:

- 1- The Iraqi people and institutions do not hate peoples or governments. They hate the policies and practices that might lead to their detriment and damage or deprive their country of its legitimate right to live in peace, security, stability and economic welfare.
- 2- Iraq is against terrorism of all forms, types, causes and effects.
- 3- The so-called "Iraqi opposition abroad" has no representation or roots inside Iraq. Its members are persons who wield no influence on the Iraqis. The majority of them cooperate with foreign parties to strike Iraq and its people.

جمهورية العراق

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العدد /

التاريخ /



- 4- Iraqi Kurds exercise an autonomous rule as represented by the two legislative and executive assemblies. This rule is the first of its kind in the countries of the region.
- 5- We assert that Iraq has not produced any weapons of mass destruction (biological, nuclear or chemical) since 1998, when the inspectors were withdrawn by a US order. Claims made by opponents of Iraq in this respect are but mere accusations, which have no foundation of validity. To counter those claims, Iraq invited many politicians, parliamentarians and journalists to visit the country and acquaint themselves with the real situation. In this connection, I would like to state that Iraq is currently conducting a constructive dialogue with the United Nations about the question of international inspectors. Iraq is sincere in its intention and will remain committed to fulfilling all the obligations set forth in the relevant international resolutions.

Your Excellency,

Oppression, double standards, unilateral use of force, threat and blackmail has all become typical of US foreign policy. This policy has adopted aggression as an established plan of action contrary to the generally recognized rules of international law, the UN Charter and the rules of justice and fairness. This demands from all peace-loving countries of the world that adhere to the rule of law, and from all institutions of the international community to declare their renouncement of this malicious policy through their commitment to the principles of international law and the norms and values governing international relations.

Parliaments and international assemblies are, therefore, invited to express their unqualified rejection of this US hostile policy and strongly endeavor to contribute with other governments to building a world based on law and justice. This

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can only be achieved through the respect of the rule of law in international relations, which we earnestly hope from you.

We look forward to the reading of this statement at the meetings of your esteemed Assembly.

Please accept, your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Dr. Sa'doon Hammadi  
Speaker of the Iraqi National Assembly  
17/6/2002

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**ACTION COPY**

IRA/NE/2

Your file:

Our file: Iraq

Name	Assigned (to, US)
DIRECTOR	
GENERAL	
SEC	
AD	
DIR	
DIR	
DIR	
DIR	
DIR	
DIR	
FILE	

17:53 (2397)

700/CBA/...../.....

FROM: Canberra C12889/CBA

TO: Wellington

CC: EAB Geneva  
 London New York  
 Ottawa The Hague  
 Vienna Washington

MFAT (MEA, AUS, RSD, TEAD, PATP, UNC, DSP1, DSP3) (DSP5)

P/S MFAT  
 PMC (FPA)  
 P/S MTN  
 GCSB

DIR 09-Aug-2002  
 Immediate  
 Routine  
 Routine  
 Routine  
 Routine

Interim reply issued  
 Copied to PMD  
 13/8  
 14/8

Subject  
 Call by Iraqi Charge on High Commission

Reference  
 HHH

Summary  
 OOO

End Summary

Summary

Iraqi Charge called on the High Commissioner and conveyed appreciation for New Zealand's position on military intervention. He noted Iraqi interest in rebuilding the bilateral relationship and emphasised opportunities for New Zealand business in Iraq. Propaganda on WMD is untrue and Iraq is open for anyone to visit to see for themselves, provided their agenda is known in advance. We responded in line with your advice, noting that we considered that the cross-accreditation stood and that our position on WMD was to continue to work for implementation of UNSC resolutions. **OUT OF SCOPE**



considered response might be offered, regarding NZ policy, in a fortnight or so.

Action Required

OUT OF SCOPE

how and when to address the policy matters on which we received expression of Iraqi appreciation.

Report

Chilton/Ojala e-mails of 8 August refer.

The Iraqi Charge d'Affaires Dr Saad M Idham Al Samarai, accompanied by Mr Abdul Salam Ali (listed in the DFAT Consular List as Attache) called on the High Commissioner this afternoon.

2 The Charge began by thanking the Prime Minister on behalf of the Government and people of Iraq for our Prime Minister's recent words in support of Iraq. Iraq was keen to have a good relationship with New Zealand and was looking for ways to achieve this. OUT OF SCOPE

OUT OF SCOPE

4 New Zealand's recent position was positive and was appreciated by Iraq. The High Commissioner asked the Charge to clarify more precisely what he thought New Zealand's position was. The Charge replied that New

Zealand had "taken a constructive stand opposing military intervention against Iraq". The Charge went on to say that Iraq had no issues against anybody, especially the US. "Propaganda" about Weapons of Mass Destruction was untrue. Iraq was ready to invite anyone to visit Iraq to see. He noted that it was, and always had been, the presence of oil that "made war and peace" in the region and "attracted the interest of others".

OUT OF SCOPE

7 The High Commissioner emphasised that the Iraqi Government should not misunderstand the New Zealand Government's position on weapons of mass destruction. We wanted to see comprehensive inspections undertaken, in compliance with UNSC resolutions. The Charge replied that Iraq was not against the return of the weapons' inspectors, but "would like to see their agenda in advance". He noted that the US President had said that regardless of whether Iraq permitted weapons' inspectors to return, the Administration had made a decision to topple the regime in Iraq. He reiterated that there were no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, recalling statements by Scott Ritter and Ekeus. There was, he said, an open invitation for anyone from New Zealand to visit Iraq in connection with weapons inspections. The High Commissioner responded that we wanted to continue working through multilateral channels and had neither the resources nor the expertise to pursue this matter bilaterally.

OUT OF SCOPE

CONFIDENTIAL

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Page 4

were interested in legal trade. Their interest was in feeding their people.

OUT OF SCOPE

10 The High Commissioner said he could make no formal response to the expression of appreciation for New Zealand policy. He went on, informally, to explain that the comments made in New Zealand by the Prime Minister and others recently had to be seen in the context of our particular political/constitutional circumstances and should be seen as remarks by a government in caretaker mode. The Cabinet might return to these issues when the Government was formed. The Charge thanked the High Commissioner for explaining the domestic context.

OUT OF SCOPE

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OUT OF SCOPE

End Message

Released Under the Official Information Act



NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION

TE AKA AORERE  
CANBERRA

5 September 2002

The Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
WELLINGTON

Attention: MEA

cc: AUS, RSD, DSP1  
P/S MFAT

RECEIVED	
14 SEP 2002	
Diplomatic Mail Services Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade Wellington	
APPROV. A/Iraq	
DIV. SECT.	
DIV. REG.	

**IRAQ: LETTER TO THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY**

We enclose (MEA only), for on-passing, a letter from Myassar Shlah, Minister of Industry and Chemicals of Iraq to "His Excellency Mr James Anderton, Minister of Industry, Newland". The letter was delivered by Mr Abdul Ali, the Attache from the Embassy of Iraq.

2 The letter presents Iraqi views of the sanctions regime and its effects and outlines recent discussions between Iraq and the UN Secretary General. There do not appear to be any specific requests of Mr Anderton or New Zealand in the letter. The Minister notes that a letter on the issue of "the US flagrant intervention and pressures on the Security Council" was sent by the Iraqi Minister of Foreign Affairs to the New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade. We are not sure how recently this was and whether you received such a letter - we have no record of it passing through this office.

OUT OF SCOPE

Anton Ojala  
for Acting High Commissioner

Encl

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

جمهورية العراق  
وزارة الصناعة والتجارة

مكتب الوزير



العدد / /  
التاريخ / / ٢٠٠٠م

The above mentioned presentation shows the reality of the US flagrant intervention and pressures on the Security Council. Also I would like to mention to your Excellency, that a letter on this issue was sent by our Minister of Foreign Affairs to his Counterpart in your country.

I am confident of your Excellency's efforts and support that your esteemed country contribute together with other friendly countries to find a solution to lift the unjust embargo imposed on Iraq, so that, peace and progress will dominate this world.

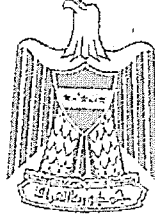
I avail this opportunity to express my deepest consideration and Highest Regards.

MYASSAR R. SHLAH  
MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND MINERALS  
REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

14 / 8 / 2002

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

جُمْهُورِيَّةُ الْعِرَاقِ  
وَزَارَةُ الصِّنَاعَةِ وَالْمَعَادِنِ  
مَكْتَبُ الْوَزِيرِ



العدد / /  
التاريخ 14 / 8 / 2002م

HIS EXCELLENCY  
MR. JAMES ANDERTON  
MINISTER OF INDUSTRY  
NEWSLAND

EXCELLENCY,

It is a pleasure to write to your Excellency expressing my sincere greetings and respect, assuring you that IRAQ is eager to expand the relations with your friendly country in all aspects, as Iraq had good and strong relations with most countries of the world but, the economic embargo still imposed on Iraq for about 12 years had frozen this relation although we are trying during the last years to renew and develop the relations to the at most possible.

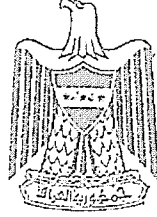
I am confident that with the help and support of all friendly countries. The embargo will be lifted very soon to enable Iraq to practice its normal relations depending on its own capabilities, and natural resources.

The continuation of the situation existing as a result of the United States preventing the Security Council from fulfilling its obligations towards Iraq has led to the aggravation of the sufferings of the Iraqi people due to the continued unjust blockade which ( up to the end of last June 2002 ) claimed the lives of 1,670,000 Iraqi people, mostly elderly and children, and the failure of the Oil-for-food program, which is initially a temporary and limited program, to meet the minimum humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people. The United States has put on hold 2170 contracts of humanitarian needs whose value is 5.3 billion dollars until July 1,2002).

The United States has also recently imposed a strange mechanism for oil pricing with retroactive effect, which led to a serious drop in Iraqi oil exports and severe decline in the program revenues.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

جمهورية العراق  
وزارة الصناعة والمعادن  
مكتب الوزير



العدد / /  
التاريخ / / ٢٠٠٠م

In order to overcome the existing impasse in the Iraq - UN relationship, the Government of Iraq has responded positively to the UN Secretary General's proposal for conducting an unconditional dialogue with an open agenda with a view to implementing Security Council resolutions in a balanced and fair manner that corresponds to international law and the UN Charter.

During the second round of dialogue on March 2002, the Minister Of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Iraq raised with the UN Secretary General 19 questions ( enclosed herewith, for your information ), and requested that the Security Council answer them. In these questions, we asked the Security Council to clarify its position on its obligations towards Iraq stipulated in its own resolutions. In the forefront of these commitments is the lifting of the unjust embargo ( paragraph 21 and 22 of Res. 687), freeing the Middle East from Weapons of Mass Destruction ( paragraph 14 of Res. 687) and halting the daily aggressions being launched by the United States and Britain within and outside the two so-called No-Fly Zones in violation of all Security Council resolutions which call for respecting Iraq's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

The UN Secretary General said that Iraq's questions are legitimate and promised to convey them to the Security Council and to answer them .

The last meeting was in Vienna to hold a round of dialogue ( 4-5<sup>th</sup> July 2002 ) which we preferred to be held outside the territory of the United States after members of our delegation were subjected to harassment and delay by American authorities in a flagrant violation for the headquarter agreement between the United Nations and United States and Vienna Convention . We confirmed during that round that the only way to get out of the crisis in the UN - Iraq relations is through a comprehensive settlement .

The UN Secretary General has mentioned, with regret, that he has got no answers from the Security Council to our questions, and he could not decide now the date of the next round but he would continue contacts with the Iraqi side , including on technical level, stressing that the Vienna round of dialogue was constructive .



**Questions Submitted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq to the Secretary General of the United Nations during the dialogue session on March 7, 2002.**

1- What is your Excellency's view and estimation of what we had reached after seven years and seven months of cooperation with UNSCOM and the IAEA? And how can we build on those results?

2- If one or two permanent members of the Security Council say that they are not certain about the end of disarmament stage, what are the things they want to be certain about, the time necessary for that, the things they are looking for and ways and means to carry this out? It is important that we should be satisfied too, not only the Security Council, in order to cooperate with the Council and continue our cooperation with it. If they have doubts about a particular site or activity, we should know it.

3- How do you explain the case of a Permanent Member of the Security Council which officially and openly calls for invading Iraq and imposing a puppet regime on its people by force, in violation of Security Council resolutions themselves which provides for the respect of Iraq's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, as well as the rules of international law and the UN charter, while this Permanent Member of Security Council demands Iraq to implement these resolutions?

4- Does the Security Council seriously stick to its mandate and the resolutions it adopted, particularly resolution 687, and to the fair and legal reading of this resolution? Or will the Security Council give in to the United States own interpretation of the resolutions and its own unilateral decisions on Iraq?

5- How will the relation between Iraq and the Council be normalized under the present declared US policy which aims at invading Iraq and changing its national government by force?

6- The United States has declared once again that economic sanctions on Iraq will remain in place as long as the national government remains in Iraq. What is the attitude of the Security Council towards such a policy which is in violation of relevant Security Council resolutions?

7- What are the guarantees that the United Nations can give to Iraq to avoid overlapping between Iraq – UN relationship and the US hostile objective against Iraq?

8- The principle of concurrence in the implementation of the corresponding obligations under Security Council Resolution is necessary and essential for confidence rebuilding between Iraq and the Security Council. What are your views on the obligations relating to Iraq's rights, in the forefront of which is the lifting of sanctions, respecting Iraq's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and the establishment in the Middle East of a zone free from Weapons of Mass Destruction, which should be implemented to open a new stage of cooperation between Iraq and the United Nations? How can we establish a mechanism that guarantees the concurrent implementation of the obligations of the two sides?

9- Do you think that it is fair to demand the government of Iraq to implement the Security Council resolutions and not addressing the same demand to a permanent Security Council member which has constantly violated these resolutions with regards to Iraq's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, and officially announces that its policy will aim at invading the Republic of Iraq and imposing a puppet regime on its people.

10- Is it fair, after the exposure of the espionage acts by UNSCOM and IAEA as admitted by members of UNSCOM, American sources and statements made by permanent members of the Security Council and the UN Secretariat too, to bring into Iraq again inspectors who could be used to spy on Iraq and its leadership and to update data about vital economic facilities to attack them in a coming aggression?

11- Can the United Nations guarantee that those new inspectors are not spies and will not conduct spying tasks?

12- Can the United Nations guarantee the elimination of the two No Fly Zones? Can the United Nations guarantee that the coming inspection formula will not be a prelude to an aggression against Iraq like what happened in 1998? Can the United Nations guarantee that the United States will not commit aggression on Iraq as happened in the past years while inspection operations were being carried out?

13- What is your Excellency's view on the duration of the inspection in order that the inspection commission can conclude, to a degree of certainty, that Iraq has retained no Weapons of Mass Destruction so as to report this fact to the Security Council? What is the method of inspection the UN is thinking of adopting and to what extent it is compatible with the relevant international conventions?

14- How will inspectors from countries that openly and officially seek to threaten Iraq's National Security and attempt to invade it, apply a neutral international mandate in Iraq, respect the provisions of Security Council resolutions and respect their commitment under the UN Charter? The presence of American and British inspectors within UNSCOM and IAEA had helped the United States and Britain gather intelligence and select the targets of their aggression against Iraq. All the sites that were visited by inspection teams were subjected to aggression at the end of 1998, among those sites are presidential sites, although

the inspectors had affirmed that these sites were free of weapons of mass destruction. The American and British have also bombed all industrial sites that were subject to the then on-going monitoring plan on the basis of the information given to them by spying inspectors themselves.

15- What is the Secretary-General's view of the UNMOVIC composition? Is it possible to include individuals who had already violated the neutral mandate of the UN and their own duties and disgraced the United Nations by spying on Iraq?

16- What will be the terms of reference for UNMOVIC since what has been mentioned about that in UN documents and statements issued so far is ambiguous? What are the limits of the powers of its chairman? What are the limits of the powers of the college of commissioners? How will the Secretary-General supervise its works? What are the guarantees that the UNMOVIC and its chairman will not abuse their powers? What are the guarantees that UNMOVIC will not violate Iraq's sovereign rights?

17- Dropping 120 thousand tons of explosives, including 800 tons of Depleted Uranium (DU) on Iraq during the 1991 aggression and subsequent aggressions, as well as the comprehensive embargo imposed on Iraq for 12 years now have resulted in almost total destruction of the economic, health, educational and social infrastructure. The UN-imposed Compensation and its high percentage constitute a major obstacle in reconstruction of these facilities. Does the Secretary-General have an idea about how to remedy this situation? And does he intend to dispatch an expert team to Iraq to discuss the costs of reconstruction in a manner that helps the Secretary Council reconsider the issue of Compensation?

18- The embargo imposed on Iraq and the US and UK military aggressions on it since 1991 have resulted in heavy human and material losses. What are the possibilities, within the framework

of a comprehensive solution based on justice, to consider compensating Iraq for the heavy and costly human, material, and psychological losses and damages suffered by its people on the same basis established in Security Council's resolutions on Compensation?

19- Iraq has the legitimate right to self-defense in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter. However, the Security Council has not complied with its own obligations to respect Iraq's sovereignty, a situation that has encouraged regional and non-regional parties to violate Iraq's national security. How do you see Iraq's right to self-defense and its rights to acquire conventional defensive weapons authorized under international law and UN Charter?

NZHC CANBERRA

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10/24 '02 08:47 NO.097 01/04

RSD/MEAS/3/1  
NEW ZEALAND HIGH COMMISSION

Tel: 61-2-6270 4211  
Fax: 6273 3194



COMMONWEALTH AVENUE  
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600  
AUSTRALIA

File Ref:

## FACSIMILE MESSAGE

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**DATE:** 24 October 2002  
**TO:** MFAT 6004  
**FROM:** Robyn Glogoski  
**MFAT :** MEA, RSD, AUS, DSP1 **PAGE 1 OF:** 4  
**SUBJ:** IRAQ : STATEMENT ISSUED BY BAGHDAD

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Please find attached Note No. 28 from the Embassy of Iraq enclosing a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry in Baghdad.

2 The Note has been acknowledged.

Released Under the Official Information Act

EMBASSY  
of the  
REPUBLIC OF IRAQ  
CANBERRA

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



مفكرة  
جمهورية العراق  
في كاتيبيرا

لرقم  
التاريخ  
الموافق  
14 / /  
200 / /

(ضميرك وعقلك سلطانك، وليس لسانك وهواك،  
لربط لسانك بعقلك ولجمل ضميرك رقيب هواك)

الرئيس التقدي  
صدام حسين

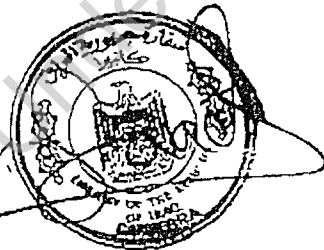
to  
WFA (MEA,  
A.S.D., A.W.S., O.S.P.I)

NAME	Actioned
GO	Am
KG	Am

NO / 28 / DATE 22/10/2002 .

The Embassy of the Republic of Iraq presents its Compliments to the Department of Foreign Affairs And Trade and MP , and has the honor to send Inclusively the statement which issued by the Foreign Ministry / Baghdad regarding the present hostile of The ( US Administration ) against Iraq and its Leadership.

The Embassy avail itself of this opportunity to renew The assurances of its highest consideration .



Canberra

**Comments on the present hostile campaign of the US Administration  
against Iraq and its leadership**

1. The present campaign led by the US Administration against H.E. President Saddam Hussein and the people of Iraq contradicts entirely the Administration's policy before the imposition of sanctions in 1990 of seeking to improve and expand relations with Iraq and its leadership. In 1987 the US Administration was pushing vigorously to conclude a trade agreement with Iraq and on August 26<sup>th</sup> 1987 a major Commercial and Technical Cooperation Agreement Between the Government of the Republic of Iraq and the Government of the United States of America was concluded and signed by the Trade Minister of Iraq and by the Acting Secretary of the US Department of Commerce when Mr. George Bush (Senior) was Vice President of the United States. According to that agreement, the two countries agreed to strengthen economic and technical cooperation between them on the basis of equality and mutual benefit in commerce, industry, agriculture, finance, energy, transfer of technology, transportation and health. Accordingly, Iraq became a major importer of US agricultural products. 20% of total US rice exports went to Iraq and 60% of Iraq's oil exports went to the United States. US exports to Iraq also included agricultural machinery and equipment, electrical appliances, automobiles, vehicles, caravans and other US products. Iraq also agreed and began working on a project with GM to set up an auto assembly plant near Baghdad to produce 90 thousand Oldsmobile saloon cars a year. Production would have started in 1992 and would have generated annual sales of 1.5 billion dollars. Even after the imposition of sanctions, when the Oil-for-Food Program went into effect in 1997, Iraq maintained trade with US firms and signed 45 contracts worth 227 million dollars within that program for the supply of food, medicine and other humanitarian goods including spare parts for electric power stations. Early this year, Iraq also concluded a 200 million dollar contract for the supply of 10 thousand American made saloon cars and 200 ambulances.
2. In view of its desire to improve relations with Iraq, the US Administration provided loans to Iraq worth five billion dollars from 1982 up until 1990 through the Agricultural Loans and EXIM Banks. When attempts were made to block some of these loans,



the president of the United States at the time George Bush (Senior) sent a White House Presidential Determination No 90-7 of January 17, 1990 to the Secretary of State determining that "with respect to Iraq's application of prohibition in that section to the Export-Import Bank or its agent not in the national interest of the United States".

3. if one assumes that President George W. Bush's claims in his speech at the UN General Assembly on the 12<sup>th</sup> September 2002 about Iraq before 1990 were true, then how can one explain this desire by the US Administration to have such high level of cooperation between the US and Iraq before 1990?

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