

GRS 180
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FM BAGHDAD 081135Z JUN 81
TO IMMEDIATE MODUK
TELEGRAM NUMBER 081135Z OF 08/6/81
INFO ROUTINE FCO LONDON

SIC U2G

FOR DI4 AND DI TECH INT. FCO LONDON FOR MED.

ATTACK ON IRAQI NUCLEAR PLANT.

1. YOU WILL ALREADY HAVE SEEN MY AMBASSADORS FLASH MESSAGE (TEL NO 263 OF 8 JUN) WHICH FOLLOWED HIS DISCUSSION EARLY THIS MORNING WITH ROCALVE, THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR HERE.
2. MY OBSERVATION AND INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM FRENCH AND ITALIAN ATTACHES BOTH AIRFORCE, INDICATE AIR ATTACK WAS VERY SLICK OPERATION WHICH MUST HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY EXPERIENCED PILOTS. VERY LOW APPROACH WAS USED AND LOW AERIAL DELIVERLY BOMBS WERE USED.
IN ATTACK ON PLANT. SIMILARLY AIRCRAFT LEFT TARGET AREA FLYING VERY LOW. FRENCH ENGINEER REPORTED THAT WHILST STANDING ON BRIDGE OVER RIVER DIYALA ON KUT ROAD JUST OUTSIDE RASCHID CAMP AT 1835 HOURS LOCAL TIME ONE AIRCRAFT FLEW UNDER BRIDGE AT HIGH SPEED FOLLOWING LINE OF RIVER.
3. THE BELATED IRAQI ACK ACK AND MISSILE REACTION WHICH TOOK PLACE AT 1930 HOURS LOCAL TIME WAS OBSERVED FROM THE BUND OPPOSITE DAWRA REFINERY BEHIND WHICH LIES CTESIPHON AND THE NUCLEAR PLANT. FIRING WAS VERY INTENSE AND IN EVERY DIRECTION. CONTINUED FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES WITH NO SIGN OF AIRCRAFT ANYWHERE.
4. NUCLEAR PLANT AREA. AREA VISITED EARLY THIS MORNING AND NO VISIABLE SIGNS OF DAMAGE OBSERVED FROM ROAD. TRAFFIC USING ROAD AS USUAL WITH NO SIGNS EXTRA POLICE OR TROOPS IN AREA.

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