

GR 390

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

FM BAGHDAD 130940Z JUN 81

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 327 OF 13 JUNE, 1981

INFO IMMEDIATE TEL AVIV UKMIS NEW YORK

PRIORITY BEIRUT AND WASHINGTON

SAVING VIENNA (FOR RES REP TO IAEA)

YOUR TELNO 302: ISRAELI ATTACK ON IRAQ

1. SADDAM HUSSAIN'S ARMY DAY SPEECH OF 6 JANUARY 1980 WAS SO TURGID AND ROUTINE THAT I SEE IT WAS NOT (NOT) REPORTED TO YOU BY CHANCERY AT THE TIME. THE ONLY EXTRACT IN OUR FULL TRANSLATION (BY THE IRAQ NEWS AGENCY, HOWEVER) WHICH RESEMBLES YOUR PARA 1(A) READS AS FOLLOWS:

"... OUR VALIANT ARMY, WHICH IS PREPARING ITSELF ON ALL LEVELS SO AS TO BE READY TO PERFORM ITS NATIONAL AND PATRIOTIC DUTIES WHEN NECESSARY."

2. AS REGARDS QUOTATION FROM LEBANESE WEEKLY AL MUSTAQBAL,

WE HAVE NO RECORD HERE AND MUST LEAVE THIS TO HM EMBASSY, BEIRUT.

3. THE REMARKS ATTRIBUTED BY THE ISRAELIS TO AL THAWRA (PARA 1C OF YOUR TUR) DID NOT (NOT) APPEAR IN THE 4 OCTOBER 1980 ISSUE OF THAT PAPER, NOR IN ITS SUPPLEMENT OF THE SAME DATE. HOWEVER AN EDITORIAL IN AL JUMHOURIYA OF THE SAME DATE ENTITLED 'WHAT IS THE MEANING OF ZIONIST SUPPORT FOR THE PERSIAN REGIME' AND REFERRING INDIRECTLY TO THE FIRST RAID ON THE IRAQI NUCLEAR INSTALLATION OF 27 SEPTEMBER, ASKS "WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM HITTING THE NUCLEAR REACTOR IN IRAQ: IRAN OR THE ZIONIST ENTITY? CO NUCLEAR REACTOR CANNOT BE A THREAT TO IRAN BECAUSE IRAQ LOOKS UPON THE IRANIAN PEOPLES AS BROTHERS." THE EDITORIAL CONTINUES "THE ZIONIST ENTITY IS THE ONE THAT FEARS THE REACTOR. THE ENTITY HAS TRIED HARD TO UNDERMINE IRAQI EFFORTS TO OBTAIN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. FURTHER, THAT ENTITY HAS WARNED THAT ... IT WILL TRY TO DESTROY THE IRAQI NUCLEAR REACTOR BY ANY MEANS AVAILABLE TO IT, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE REACTOR CONSTITUTES A GRAVE DANGER FOR ISRAEL. THAT IS WHAT BEGIN AND THE ZIONIST ENEMY CIRCLES HAVE SAID". IT LOOKS THEREFORE AS THOUGH IN RESPECT OF THE AL-JUMHOURIYA ARTICLE THE ISRAELIS HAVE FALLEN VICTIM TO THEIR OWN PROPAGANDA.

RESTRICTED

14.

RESTRICTED

4. BEST EXTRACT FROM SADDAM'S RECENT SPEECHES ON IRAQ'S PEACEFUL NUCLEAR INTENTIONS OCCURS IN HIS BAGHDAD PRESS CONFERENCE ON 20 JULY 1980. AS RELEASED IN A BOOKLET PUT OUT BY THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND GUIDANCE, THIS READS AS FOLLOWS:

"YOU ASK HOW FAR HAS ISRAEL GONE TO HANDICAP OUR PROGRAMME. WE HAVE NO PROGRAMME TO MAKE A BOMB FOR ISRAEL TO HANDICAP. OUR PROGRAMME IS KNOWN TO FRANCE, TO ITALY, TO INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION AND TO ALL WHO SEEK THE TRUTH. IT IS USING ATOMIC ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. THE ZIONIST MOSSAD AND ALL THE ZIONIST SUPPORTERS IN EUROPE TRY TO CHASE ALL THE ARABS WITH OPEN EYES AND MINDS IN THEIR DEALING WITH SCIENCE, EVEN TO THE EXTENT OF PHYSICAL LIQUIDATION, WHICH IS WHAT HAPPENED TO AN EGYPTIAN CITIZEN LATELY."

FCO PASS SAVING VIENNA

EGERTON

(REPEATED AS REQUESTED)

MIDDLE EAST STANDARD

NENAD
MED
NAD
UND
EESD
ECD
WED
RID

MAED
ES & SD
ERD
ESID
CONS DEPT
CONS EM UNIT
CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION
ARAB/ISRAEL DISPUTE

2

RESTRICTED