

3 TO PM NO IO DOWNING STREET

R E S T R I C T E D

14655 - 1

OO BAGHDAD

OO BEIRUT

PP TEL AVIV

GRS 215

RESTRICTED

FM FCO 121700Z JUN 81

TO IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD

TELEGRAM NUMBER 302 OF 12 JUNE

INFO IMMEDIATE BEIRUT,

INFO PRIORITY TEL AVIV, VIENNA, (FOR RES REP IAEA), WASHINGTON,
UKMIS NEW YORK.

YOUR TELNO 314 (OUT TO ALL): ISRAELI ATTACK ON IRAQ

1. ISRAELI EMBASSY HANDOUT HERE IS ATTRIBUTING THE FOLLOWING
STATEMENTS TO THE IRAQIS:-

(A) IN A SPEECH ON 6.1.80 SADDAM SAID: 'OUR ARMY PREPARES
ITSELF IN SERIOUS TRAINING, SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT AND MODERN
WEAPONS TOWARDS FULFILMENT OF ITS HISTORICAL AND NATIONAL DUTIES.'

(B) IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE LEBANESE WEEKLY 'ALMUSTAKBAL'
(JANUARY 1980) SADDAM STATED: 'ANY STATE INTERESTED IN USING
THE ATOM FOR MILITARY PURPOSES SHOULD REACH A SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC
AND TECHNICAL LEVEL IN ALL FIELDS.'

(C) THE IRAQI DAILY 'ALTHAWRA' (4.10.80): 'THE IRANIAN PEOPLE
SHOULD NOT FEAR THE IRAQI NUCLEAR REACTOR WHICH IS NOT INTENDED
TO BE USED AGAINST IRAN BUT AGAINST THE 'ZIONIST ENTITY'.'

2. THE HANDOUT CLAIMS THAT THESE ARE BLUNT AND CLEAR STATEMENTS
OF IRAQ'S INTENTIONS TO ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONRY. THEY ARE IN
FACT FAR FROM CLEAR AND HAVE TO BE READ IN THE CONTEXT OF
PUBLIC STATEMENTS OVER A SIMILAR PERIOD THAT IRAQ DID NOT INTEND
TO ACQUIRE THE BOMB.

1

R E S T R I C T E D

*See reply from
Baghdad attached.
Baghdad Tel 327 13/6*

mt

THRETS SOURCE CI ON NO OF 1

R E S T R I C T E D

14655 - 1

3. GRATEFUL FOR ANY CLARIFICATION YOU CAN PROVIDE EG. OF THE
CONTEXT IN WHICH THESE STATEMENTS WERE MADE.

CARRINGTON

MIDDLE EAST STANDARD

NEPAD

JNU

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
R E S T R I C T E D