

Excise
BI 1-5(d) (N-8) (8)

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
PER E.O. 12958

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

JGP, 8/5/99
Case No. 98-0099-F/4

11-Jan-1991 22:39 EDT

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Richard N. Haass
C. David Welch

(HAASS)
(WELCH)

FROM:

Donna P. Mmoh
(MMOH)

SUBJECT:

Hussein letter

DOWNGRADED

E.O. 12958, Section 3.1 (g)
National Security Council

~~TOP SECRET~~

NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASY AMMAN

NODIS

EYES ONLY FOR AMBASSADOR HARRISON; S/S PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, JO, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR KING HUSSEIN FROM THE PRESIDENT

REF: STATE 8791

1. ~~TOP SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AMBASSADOR SHOULD DELIVER THE FOLLOWING LETTER AND TALKING POINTS DIRECTLY TO KING HUSSEIN IMMEDIATELY. IN CONVEYING THE LETTER AND THE TALKING POINTS THE AMBASSADOR SHOULD MAKE CLEAR IN THE MANNER HE DEEMS APPROPRIATE THAT THIS IS A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF. NO SIGNED ORIGINAL WILL FOLLOW.

3. BEGIN TEXT. YOUR MAJESTY:

I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF JANUARY 10.

YOU ARE CORRECT, YOUR MAJESTY, THAT WE HAVE ARRIVED AT A FATEFUL POINT. THE PAUSE FOR PEACE ENVISIONED IN UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 678 IS RUNNING OUT FOR IRAQ. TO THE LAST MOMENT, I WILL TRY FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION CONSISTENT WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS, BUT I DO SO WITH THE SOBER REALIZATION THAT IRAQ HAS DEMONSTRATED NO FLEXIBILITY OR WILLINGNESS TO COMPLY WITH THOSE RESOLUTIONS. QUITE HONESTLY, I BELIEVE THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S EFFORTS REPRESENT THE BEST OPPORTUNITY IN THESE REMAINING DAYS TO CHANGE IRAQ FROM A COURSE THAT CAN ONLY BRING IT DESTRUCTION AND DEFEAT.

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THE TIME IS ALSO ARRIVING FOR US TO CONSIDER ANEW WHERE THE U.S.-JORDANIAN RELATIONSHIP WILL BE AFTER THE CRISIS IS RESOLVED. PERMIT ME TO REPEAT WHAT I WROTE YOU IN JULY, DAYS BEFORE SADDAM HUSSEIN LAUNCHED HIS AGGRESSION AND PLUNGED THE WORLD INTO CRISIS: "THE SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF JORDAN AS JORDAN ARE INTEGRAL TO PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE REGION." MY VIEWS HAVE NOT CHANGED; NOR HAS U.S. POLICY.

I HAVE ASKED ROGER HARRISON, MY ABLE AND TRUSTED AMBASSADOR, TO DISCUSS WITH YOU IN GREATER DETAIL A NUMBER OF POINTS THAT I BELIEVE ARE VITAL TO OUR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AS THE DANGERS OF THIS SITUATION ESCALATE. I THOUGHT YOU WOULD APPRECIATE OUR MOST FRANK EVALUATION AS JORDAN FACES CRITICAL CHOICES FOR ITS NATIONAL SECURITY IN THE DAYS AHEAD.

WITH BEST REGARDS, GEORGE BUSH

4. DRAFT TALKING POINTS FOR DEMARCHE TO JORDAN

-- THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY HAVE INSTRUCTED ME TO REVIEW WITH YOU WHERE WE STAND AS THE UN DEADLINE OF JANUARY 15 APPROACHES.

-- IN THE COMING DAYS AND WEEKS, IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT JORDAN AND THE UNITED STATES MAINTAIN THE CLOSE, PRIVATE CONTACT THAT IS TRADITIONAL IN OUR RELATIONSHIP. THOUGH THERE HAVE BEEN STRAINS LATELY IN OUR FRIENDSHIP, A NEW PHASE IN THE GULF CRISIS IS APPROACHING, WITH EXTREMELY GRAVE RISKS THAT COMPEL ALL OF US TO COMMUNICATE AS CANDIDLY AND PRIVATELY AS POSSIBLE.

-- THE PRESIDENT WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW THAT OUR GOAL IS MAINTENANCE OF THE STABILITY AND SECURITY OF JORDAN, UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP. JORDAN AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE ENDURED CRISES TOGETHER BEFORE, AND THE PRESIDENT BELIEVES THAT WE CAN DO SO IN THIS NEXT PHASE.

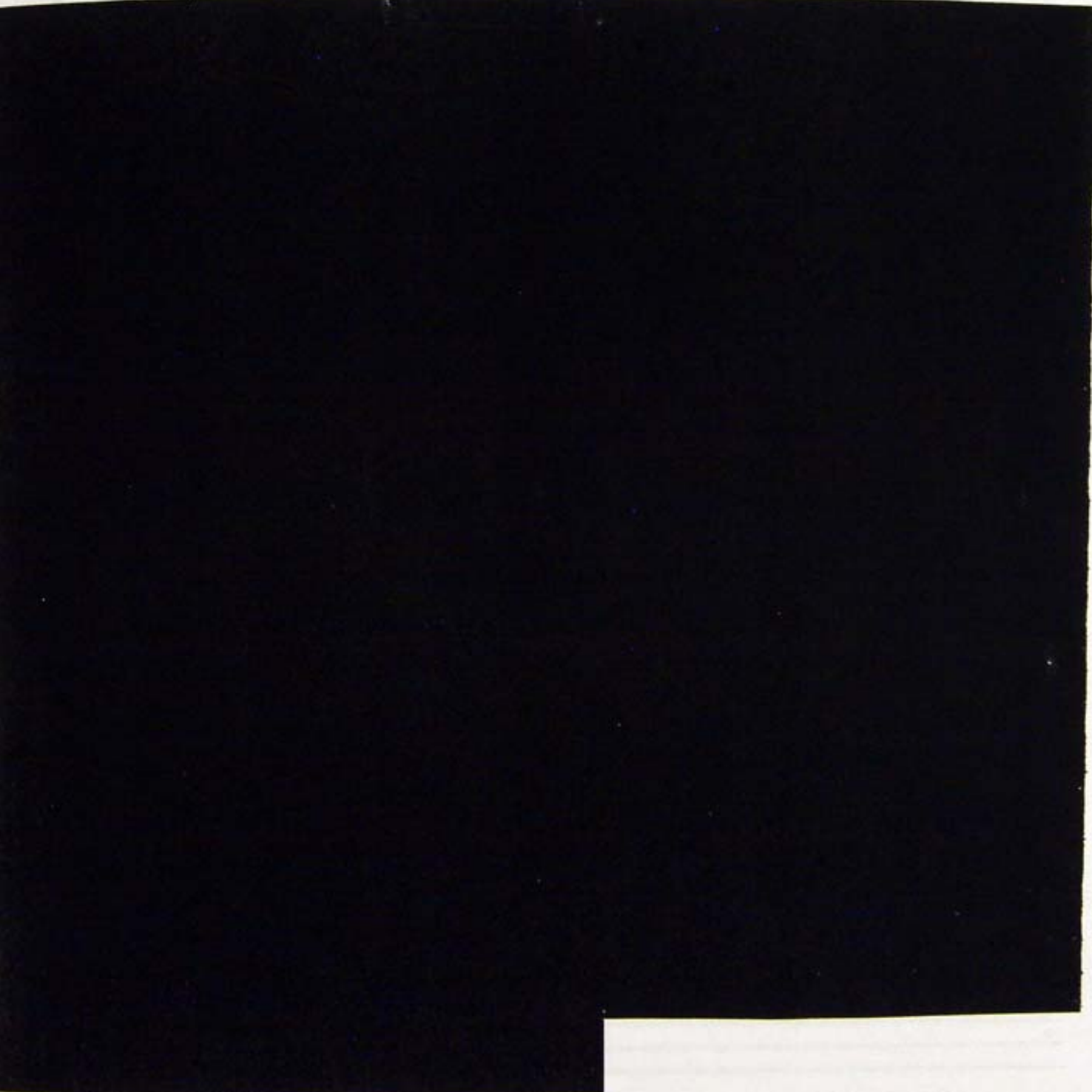
-- AS YOU KNOW, THE RESULTS OF THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH TARIQ AZIZ WERE VERY DISAPPOINTING. THERE WAS NOTHING TO ENCOURAGE US THAT IRAQ INTENDS TO CHANGE ITS POSITION IN THE COMING DAYS.

-- TARIQ AZIZ' REFUSAL TO TAKE THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO SADDAM HUSSEIN, HIS INCREDIBLE OMISSION OF MENTION OF KUWAIT DURING A 45 MINUTE PRESS CONFERENCE, AND HIS BALD THREAT TO ISRAEL ON THE WORLD STAGE CARRY THE MOST SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS.

-- THIS UNFORTUNATE OUTCOME IS PAIRED WITH A CACOPHONY OF BELLIGERENCE FROM BAGHDAD.

-- THE UN-MANDATED DEADLINE OF JANUARY 15 IS APPROACHING AND WE ARE PREPARING ACCORDINGLY.

-- THEREFORE, THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED ME TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING WITH YOU IN THE STRICTEST OF CONFIDENCE.



Bi

1.5

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