

IRAN/IRAQ

DBZ10845Z

*Trey*

*Copy passed to HED  
has been informed*

ADVANCE COPIES 21

PS

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~~RESIDENT CLERK~~

PS/No.10 DOWNING STREET (2) ✓  
CABINET OFFICE D I O

IMMEDIATE

GR 240

CONFIDENTIAL UK COMMS ONLY

DESKBY FCO 210845Z

DESKBY DISTRESS FCO 210845Z

FM BAGHDAD 210815Z JUL 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 478 OF 21 JULY, 1982

AND TO IMMEDIATE DISTRESS FCO

INFO IMMEDIATE MODUK (DI4 AND RMT2)

PRIORITY DOT (OT5) TEHRAN AMMAN KUWAIT DAMASCUS CAIRO JEDDA

UKMIS NEW YORK WASHINGTON MOSCOW UKDEL NATO NEW DELHI BELGRADE

HAVANA

SAVING STOCKHOLM PARIS BONN ALL OTHER ME POSTS (EXCEPT BEIRUT)

IRAQ/IRAN: AIR RAID ON BAGHDAD

1. AT 0629 LOCAL THIS MORNING, 21 JULY, BAGHDAD EXPERIENCED ITS FIRST AIR RAID SINCE OCTOBER 1980. TWO IRANIAN AIRCRAFT MADE A LOW LEVEL RUN OVER THE CITY ALONG A LINE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - PRESIDENTIAL PALACE - RASHID CAMP. THERE WERE TWO OR THREE LOUD DETONATIONS BUT THERE HAVE BEEN NO (NO) REPORTS OF ANY DAMAGE TO



PRESIDENTIAL PALACE - RASHID CAMP. THERE WERE TWO OR THREE LOUD  
DETONATIONS BUT THERE HAVE BEEN NO (NO) REPORTS OF ANY DAMAGE SO  
FAR.

2. ANTI AIRCRAFT FIRE WAS HEAVY, THOUGH IT APPEARED BELATED, AND  
THE AIRCRAFT APPEAR TO HAVE SUCCEEDED IN PENETRATING THE CITY'S  
OUTER DEFENCES. ONE AIRCRAFT IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN SHOT DOWN,  
FLATTENING TWO HOUSES AS IT CRASHED. THE NAVIGATOR IS REPORTED  
TO HAVE BEEN PICKED UP BY THE IRAQIS. THE FACT THAT ONE AIRCRAFT  
HAD A TWO MAN CREW INDICATES THAT IT WAS A PHANTOM.

3. THIS DOES NOT (NOT) APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN A HIT AND RUN RAID.  
THE FLIGHT PATH CHOSEN TOOK THE AIRCRAFT OVER BAGHDAD'S MOST  
SENSITIVE AREAS, AND PASSED VERY CLOSE TO THE BRAND NEW NAM  
CONFERENCE COMPLEX. AT FIRST SIGHT THE ATTACK APPEARS TO HAVE  
HAD THE OBJECTIVES OF:

(A) DEMONSTRATING THAT THE IRANIANS HAVE THE CAPACITY TO RETALIATE  
FOR THE RECENT PUNITIVE IRAQI RAIDS ON EG HAMADAN (CF. TEHRAN  
TELNO 449) SEMICOLON AND

(B) EXPOSING TO NAM LEADERS BAGHDAD'S CONTINUING VULNERABILITY TO  
AIR ATTACK.

IN THE LATTER RESPECT ONE MUST NOW CONCLUDE THAT THE IRANIAN  
CAMPAIGN TO ABORT THE BAGHDAD SUMMIT HAS BEGUN IN EARNEST.

4. THR BRITISH COMMUNITY, WITH WHOM I AM IN CONSTANT CONTACT,  
REMAINS CALM. SEE MY IFT NOT TO ALL ON ADVICE TO TRAVELLERS,  
BRITISH AIRWAYS FLIGHT PLANS, ETC.

FCO PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES.

EGERTON

BT

NNNN