

(56C)

SECRET

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077450  
MDADAN 0108

SECRET  
FM JHQ HIGH WYCOMBE  
TO IMMEDIATE MODUK  
TELNO U/N  
OF 181955Z AUGUST 90  
AND TO IMMEDIATE CINCFLEET  
AND TO IMMEDIATE UKLF  
AND TO IMMEDIATE FCO LONDON  
AND TO IMMEDIATE HQBFAP RIYADH  
AND TO IMMEDIATE RAFDET DHAHRAN  
AND TO IMMEDIATE RAFDET THUMRAIT

ADVANCE COPY

*PRIME MINISTER*  
*A more pessimistic*  
*view from JHQ*  
*25. 19/8.*

SIC I9M/IAG  
OPERATION GRANBY  
MODUK FOR DROW  
JOINT COMMANDERS ASSESSREP 008/AUG EFD 181800Z AUG  
COVERING PERIOD 171800Z AUG TO 181800Z AUG

1. GENERAL SITUATION. ATTENTION CONTINUES TO FOCUS ON THE ISSUE OF WESTERN CITIZENS IN IRAQ. IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT THEY WILL BE DISPERSED TO SITES WITHIN IRAQ, WHICH THE IRAQIS BELIEVE THE WEST REGARD AS HIGH VALUE TARGETS. MILITARILY, THE IRAQI GROUND FORCE BUILD UP CONTINUES. US WARSHIPS HAVE FIRED SHOTS ACROSS THE BOWS OF AN IRAQI MERCHANT SHIP IN THE GULF.

2. ENEMY SITUATION. IN KUWAIT, IRAQI DEPLOYMENTS HAVE PRODUCED A FORCE STRUCTURE SUITED TO EITHER ATTACK OR DEFENCE. ELEMENTS OF 5 MECH DIV HOLD THE RIGHT FLANK AND ELEMENTS OF 6 ARMD DIV ARE REPORTED TO BE MOVING INTO POSITION ON THE LEFT FLANK. THESE NEW DISPOSITIONS AND THE FACT THAT THESE DIVS ARE NOW FULLY FORMED IN KUWAIT WILL GIVE THE IRAQIS THE OPTION TO ATTACK AT VERY SHORT NOTICE. IRAQI AIR ACTIVITY IN THE SOUTH EAST OF THE COUNTRY AND OVER KUWAIT IS SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN OF LATE.

3. OWN SITUATION.

A. NAVAL SITUATION. AS REPORTED BY CINCFLEET.

B. AIR/MARITIME AIR SITUATION. 1. THE 12 TORNADO F3 AT DHAHRAN CONTINUE IN THEATRE TRAINING. OF THE 6 PHANTOM F4 AT AKROTIRI 2 ARE ON QRA, AT 10 MINS READINESS BY DAY AND 1 HR BY NIGHT. THE REMAINING TORNADO F3 HAVE NOW RECOVERED TO THE UK. 20 SQN RAF REGT IS EXPECTED TO BE PROVIDING SHORAD AT AKROTIRI BY 190500Z AUG USING 4 RAPIER FIRE UNITS. THE JAGUAR DET AT THUMRAIT FLEW ALL 12 AIRCRAFT TODAY. ON 19 AUG IT IS PLANNED FOR 2 JAGUAR AND 1 VC10K TO VISIT BAHRAIN. FOUR JAGUAR AND 1 VC10K ARE AT 1 HR READINESS. TWO OF THE 3 NIMRODS AT SEEB FLEW SURFACE SURVEILLANCE SORTIES TODAY. THE SECOND MONITORED (ELECTRONICALLY) THE INCIDENT IN WHICH THE USS

REID AND USS GAINSBOROUGH FIRED SHOTS ACROSS THE BOWS OF THE IRAQI TANKER KHANAQIN. POOR DATA CONNECTIVITY IS HAMPERING THE CO-ORDINATION OF OPERATIONS WITH THE SURFACE FLEET. 2. NIL 3. NIL. C. LAND SITUATION. 1. NIL. 2. NIL. 3. NIL.

4. ASSESSMENT. IT IS ASSESSED THAT AN IRAQI ATTACK ON SAUDI ARABIA IS POSSIBLE WITHIN 8-12 HRS BUT, GIVEN THE LACK OF ANY LARGE SCALE FORWARD DEPLOYMENT OF OFFENSIVE AIR ASSETS, WHICH IS CONSIDERED TO BE A PRECURSOR TO AN ATTACK, IT IS THOUGHT TO BE UNLIKELY.

5. INTENTIONS.

A. TO CARRY OUT OPERATIONAL AND TRAINING SORTIES FROM ALL 3 ESTABLISHED BASES.

B. TO PROVIDE SHORAD AT AKROTIRI.

C. TO RESOLVE ROE PROBLEMS TO PERMIT FULL TORNADO F3 PARTICIPATION IN ALLIED AD OPERATIONS.

D. TO CONTINUE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HQ AT RIYADH.

E. TO ENHANCE LIAISON WITH ALLIED FORCES AS NECESSARY.

F. TO PROVIDE LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO DEPLOYED UNITS.

6. MISSION PRIORITIES. NO CHANGE TO ASSESSREP 001/AUG.

BT

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ADVANCE

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MR GOULDEN

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HD/SECPOL D

HD/AMD

HD/ECD(E)

MR PRIDDLE, DEPT OF ENERGY

MR W D REEVES CABINET OFFICE

MR D J GOWAN CABINET OFFICE

MR BARRASS, CABINET OFFICE

(BY TUBE H29)

PS/NUMBER 10 DOWNING ST

SIR P CRADOCK,

(NO 10 DOWNING ST)

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(BY TUBE H29)

SIR ROBIN BUTLER, CAB OFFICE

AUS (C) MODUK

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