

RESTRICTED

172653  
MDADAN 1291

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FM BAGHDAD  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 1952  
OF 240716Z OCTOBER 90  
INFO PRIORITY PARIS, MODUK, ACTOR

**ADVANCE COPY**

SIC I9M

MODUK FOR DI(ROW)A2

RIOT AT SITE

1. JAMES THOMSON, ONE OF THE DETAINEES WHO LEFT WITH MR HEATH ON 23 OCTOBER, TOLD US THAT DURING HIS DETENTION HE HAD BEEN KEPT AT THREE DIFFERENT SITES: A NUCLEAR INSTALLATION, A CHEMICAL WEAPONS PLANT AND A HEAVY MUNITIONS FACTORY (WE THINK THIS MAY HAVE BEEN LATIFIYA). CONDITIONS AT THE MUNITIONS PLANT HAD BEEN BAD. AFTER THE IRAQIS HAD FAILED TO RESPOND ABOUT THE STANDARD OF FOOD, WHICH APPARENTLY AMOUNTED TO NO MORE THAN RICE, BREAD AND WATER, THE DETAINEES (15 IN TOTAL) HAD GONE ON THE RAMPAGE, TEARING DOWN FENCING, SMASHING WINDOWS AND WRITING ANTI-SADDAM SLOGANS ON WALLS. THE IRAQIS HAD RESPONDED BY SEPARATING THEM AND MOVING THEM TO DIFFERENT SITES. THE RINGLEADER, A FRENCHMAN IDENTIFIED AS JEAN-JACQUES, WAS PUT IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT.

2. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE HEARD COMPLAINTS ABOUT FOOD AT INSTALLATIONS IN IRAQ (AS OPPOSED TO KUWAIT). WE HAVE OF COURSE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THE INCIDENT BY THE IRAQIS BUT FROM THOMSON'S ACCOUNT IT APPEARS THAT ONLY THE FRENCHMAN WAS PUNISHED IN ANY WAY.

3. I SHALL BE RAISING THE QUESTION OF DETAINEES' CONDITIONS WITH THE MFA, AND SHALL SITE WHAT HAPPENED AT THE MUNITIONS PLANT.

WALKER

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IRAQ/KUWAIT  
PS  
PS/MR WALDEGRAVE  
PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE  
PS/PUS  
MR GORE-BOOTH  
MR FAIRWEATHER  
MR GOULDEN  
MR JAY  
MR SLATER  
MR BERMAN (LEGAL ADVISERS)  
HD/MED  
HD/NENAD  
HD/NAD  
HD/SED  
HD/UND  
HD/CONSULAR D  
HD/NEWS D  
HD/NPDD  
HD/SECPOL D  
HD/AMD  
HD/ECD(E)

MR PRIDDLE, DEPT OF ENERGY  
MR APPEYARD CABINET OFFICE  
(BY TUBE H29)  
MR W D REEVES CABINET OFFICE  
(BY TUBE H29)  
MR D J GOWAN CABINET OFFICE  
(BY TUBE H29)  
MR BARRASS, CABINET OFFICE  
(BY TUBE H29)  
PS/NUMBER 10 DOWNING ST  
SIR P CRADOCK,  
(NO 10 DOWNING ST)  
CABINET OFFICE DIO  
(BY TUBE H29)  
SIR ROBIN BUTLER, CAB OFFICE  
AUS (C) MODUK  
HD/SEC (O) (C) MODUK  
MR LS SMITH BANK ENGLAND  
MR WICKS HMT  
EMERGENCY UNIT  
RESIDENT CLERK

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