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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT: 19 DECEMBER 1990

The Amnesty International report released today speaks for itself. As the Secretary of State said on 11 December, the Iraqi aim is clear: to eradicate Kuwait as an independent nation. The harrowing accounts in the report will strengthen the world's determination that Iraq must immediately and fully comply with the Security Council Resolutions.

Do you have supporting evidence?

- [If asked]: There is no secret about what is happening. Returning British hostages have told similar accounts of the murder, torture and brutality of the Iraqi regime in Kuwait.

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Embargoed for 0001hrs gmt, Wednesday, December 19th 1990

IRAQ: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL URGES END TO TORTURE AND KILLINGS

Major report details widespread human rights violations

Amnesty International has called on the Iraqi government to follow the release of hundreds of Western nationals by ending the imprisonment, torture and killing of thousands of people in Kuwait.

In its first comprehensive report on human rights violations in Kuwait since the invasion on 2 August, Amnesty International details how Iraqi forces have tortured and killed many hundreds of victims, taken several thousand prisoners and left more than 300 premature babies to die after looting incubators from at least three of Kuwait City's main hospitals.

The report catalogues 38 methods of torture used by the Iraqi military, including cutting off people's tongues and ears, shooting them in the limbs, applying electric shocks to their bodies, and raping them.

"The Iraqi forces' brutality in Kuwait has shocked many people in the past four months," Amnesty International said, "but such abuses have been the norm for people in Iraq for more than a decade."

Amnesty International said it welcomed the release of the Western nationals, but feared that the plight of thousands of victims of gross human rights violations in Kuwait and Iraq might now be forgotten. The organization called on governments to appeal to Iraq to stop the gross human rights violations.

Most of the abuses detailed in the report took place in the first three months after the invasion, when dissent among Kuwaitis and other nationals was widespread and its suppression ruthless.



10. The body of a man said to be an Iraqi soldier executed for looting on 16 August. This body was publicly hung from a crane in Kuwait City.