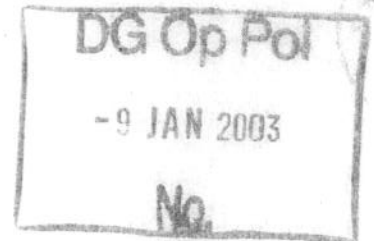


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Policy Director



D/Policy Dir/6/10 (007/03)

8 January 2003

DG Op Pol

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**DFID INVOLVEMENT IN IRAQ PLANNING AND PREPARATIONS**

Thank you for your minute of 20 December recording your discussion with Nicola Brewer. The question is now before us of exactly who is going to organise CIMIC and the Civil Transition in any areas occupied by UK forces (let alone the wider problem with the US). It was agreed at Op COS today that we need to get DFID in on humanitarian and, with DTI, aftermath aspects of Iraq planning. I understand doubts over their ability to preserve operational security within their London offices. Could you let me have a specific proposal that I can put to Ms Brewer on Friday. As well as DCDS(C)'s suggestion, I wonder whether we could use a 'wider group' approach in Whitehall that avoids military detail and dates (and I heard an interesting SPG idea for a proper planning conference to kick it off thoroughly). The key may be to begin generic CIMIC and aftermath planning.

We might be able to go further subsequently with staff properly posted to PJHQ and the JFHQ. Experience has been generally good of DFID people deploying with JFHQs (especially to 'herd' NGOs) and DOC tells me that the Joint MOD/DFID lessons work on humanitarian crises is nearing completion.

SIMON WEBB

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