

DECLASSIFIED



10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

S 72 /03

Foreign Policy Adviser to the Prime Minister,  
and Head of the Defence and Overseas Secretariat

17 February 2003

IMMEDIATE

*Dear Simon,*

**IRAQ: WAY FORWARD**

I enclose a copy of a minute that I put to the Prime Minister yesterday, setting out a possible way forward on Iraq. He has considered it overnight, and thinks it worth exploring.

He has asked if you, Jeremy Greenstock and 'C' could look particularly at the tests for compliance. As you will see, I have suggested several (the bullet points listed in the third tiret). Are these the right ones? Are there others that we could add to the list? Should the tests be included explicitly in a second resolution, or should this take the form of a short text simply stating that Saddam is in breach of 1441, while we the conditions he must meet by 14 March are set out in an accompanying statement?

I should be grateful for advice by close of play today.

Please hold this letter and the accompanying minute very tightly, and handle on a strictly need to know basis. And please keep the papers off main files.

I am copying this to Michael Jay, Jeremy Greenstock and 'C'.

*Yours ever,*  
*David Manning*

DAVID MANNING

Simon McDonald  
FCO

DECLASSIFIED  
SECRET - STRICTLY PERSONAL