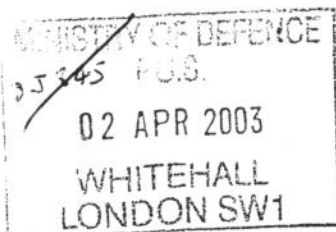


2/45

SECRET UK EYES ONLY

DECLASSIFIED



83

SECRETARY OF STATE

MO 6/17/15CB

2 April 2003

Policy Director
DGCC

Copy to:

PS/Minister(AF)
PS/Minister(DP)
PS/US of S
PSO/CDS
PS/PUS
MA/DCDS(C)
PS/CDI

7 v/4.

MA/CJO
DG Op Pol
DTIO
Head of Sec(Iraq)
FCO – William Ehrman
FCO – Dominick Chilcott

IRAQ: MINISTERIAL BRIEFING: 1 APRIL 2003

1. The Secretary of State commissioned the following work at yesterday afternoon's meeting:

Presentation. It was agreed that the Secretary of State should offer a further oral Statement to the House on Thursday 3 April. **Action:** Head Sec(Iraq), by 1800 today please.

ORHA. Considerable concern was expressed about the **modus operandi** of the ORHA: this could cut across the UK Armed Forces' so far successful "hearts and minds" work within our AO. One possibility would be to invite ORHA to 'phase in' their operations within our AO in a controlled way. There would need to be an early conversation between the Secretary of State and Donald Rumsfeld; the ground for this would need to be carefully prepared beforehand. **Action:** Policy Director, to prepare a draft speaking note for Mr Hoon to use with Rumsfeld.

SECRET UK EYES ONLY

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

2. Unless circumstances change, the next Ministerial Briefing will be held on 2 April at 1730 when Mr Hoon would like to have a further discussion on ORHA.

Signed on Original

P D WATKINS
PS/Secretary of State

CHOTS: SOFS-Private Office
SOFS-Private Office-S

DECLASSIFIED