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TB 25/02
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2. Iraq

At present there is an Iraqi declaration, plainly inconsistent with our intelligence. The test will be to prove it is false. I need a report on Blix's modus operandi and to see him late this week or early January if at all possible. We also need to build the whole issue of WMD and show its importance. AC to do a communications note on this, amplifying his earlier one this weekend. But studying the Iraqi declaration, it is hard to see how conflict can be avoided, unless Saddam starts to behave honestly. My sense of Russia and France is that albeit reluctantly, they accept this and will support a new Resolution if the breach by Saddam is clear and significant.

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