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From: Dr A S Tanfield, MED

Date: 9 January 2003

cc: Mr Ricketts  
Mr Collecot  
Mr Ehrman  
Mr Chaplin  
Mr Fraser  
Mr Millett

To: ~~Mr Gray~~  
PNS

**IRAQ: THE DAY AFTER ISSUES**

I attach answers to your questions on the MED/DSI day after papers, as requested in your 30 December minute to Charles Gray.

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(i) How far have these papers been shared with the US and major EU partners, including the very interesting paper - which I had not seen before - on Islamism in post-conflict Iraq?

Almost all the UK papers have been shared with the US. We have only withheld from them papers which have been overtaken by others that we have passed to them.

We have been more selective with EU partners. Foreign ministry officials in France and Germany received the early planners papers on "scenarios for the future of Iraq after Saddam" and "consequences of conflict for the region". We have given the French planners the paper on "Islamism in Iraq".

The difficulty with sharing a lot of thinking on day after with the EU partners is that day after assumes regime change, which is difficult territory for many of them, particularly Germany. And some of the more recent papers have been drafted in the context of the ongoing UK-US official level day after talks, with the US readership very much in mind. We are trying to arrange the next round of these talks in the week beginning 20 January.

(ii) What work have DfID done on humanitarian aid and refugees? As I mentioned before Christmas to William Ehrman, Suma Chakrabarti told me recently that DfID felt a bit left out of Iraq policy, which was complicating their contingency planning on humanitarian issues. I think this has now been resolved. And are the Home Office involved, given the probability of large numbers of Iraqi refugees heading for Britain?

DfID is collecting information from various UN agencies and NGOs on their contingency plans and preparedness measures to respond to humanitarian needs which might arise following any conflict. They feel they are sufficiently well informed about how these agencies are planning to respond to possible scenarios for population movements (internally displaced and refugees) and are maintaining close dialogue with them. They are also now well plugged into USAid's contingency planning. A few UN agencies and NGOs have approached them concerning the possibility of funding support, which at this point they are unable to provide.

DfID are now satisfied that they are fully in the loop on Iraq policy developments - they are, for instance, now represented at Peter Ricketts' daily Iraq meetings.

The Home Office are also in the loop, and are represented at the weekly Cabinet Office meetings (ad hoc group on Iraq). We understand that they have doing some contingency planning on the issue of refugees - we are awaiting further details.

(iii) Do we have contingency plans (including financial) if we need more CP teams for Embassy staff, bearing in mind that we are now at the limit of our agreement with the MOD?

SSU have drawn up contingency plans to deploy CP teams to Baghdad and five other posts (Kuwait, Amman, Bahrain, Doha and Riyadh). The requirement would be for 50-60 team members to provide close protection for high profile staff for up to 12

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months. Similar arrangements were put in place after the Gulf War. The manning levels would exceed our SLA ceiling, but the basic operational arrangements would be based on the SLA. Both MOD and RMP are aware of this potential additional requirement and are planning for it. As far as finance is concerned, SSU included £6.6 million for CP in the financial calculations submitted by David Lyscom in November. If needed, this additional financial provision would have to form part of a wider claim on the reserve.

(iv) Do our and Treasury views coincide on the likely impact of conflict on oil prices?

Yes. The joint FCO/DTI paper on oil price impacts has now been discussed and agreed in the Treasury-chaired group on oil markets (the "Brooks Group"). It has also been incorporated into the energy sector contingency plan for use by the Cabinet Office Ad Hoc Group on Iraq, and is kept under continuous review.

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