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PRIME MINISTER

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A/S

From: David Manning

Date: 14 March 2003

cc: Jonathan Powell
Alastair Campbell
Sally Morgan
Matthew Rycroft
Nick Cannon

IRAQ: CONTACT WITH KOFI ANNAN

I have consulted Jeremy Greenstock.

He thinks that, on balance, you should speak to Kofi tomorrow to keep him in play. He suggests that you focus on two particular issues:

- UN role. Worth emphasising that we have not yet given up on a second resolution. But if we fail, and there is conflict, we shall want to involve the UN in Iraq as rapidly, and fully, as possible, once military action is over. We are pressing for a real role for a UN special coordinator. One of our principal concerns has been, and will remain, to try to safeguard the UN system.
- UN staff. We are acutely conscious of the fact that there are UN staff in Iraq and have their security concerns very much in mind.

Incidentally, this would play well with Clare who has sent me a message saying how important she thinks it is that you are in close consultation with Kofi over Iraq.



DAVID MANNING