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From: Nicholas Cannon
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PRIME MINISTER

cc: Jonathan Powell
David Manning
Stephen Wall
Matthew Rycroft

Danny Pruce

IRAQ: HUMANITARIAN PLANNING

At 1000, you are meeting Jack Straw, Geoff Hoon and Clare Short to discuss the humanitarian aspects of developments in Iraq.

You could open by asking Jack Straw to give an update on action in the UN. Clare Short could then update on humanitarian planning. Geoff Hoon has just returned from seeing Rumsfeld and Rice in Washington.

Clare Short is concerned about the potential impact of military action on the already bad humanitarian crisis in Iraq, and that military planning has not sufficiently taken this into account. She is also concerned about the possible impact of the use of CBW.

US planning for a post-war settlement envisages a phased return to civilian rule, with reservations about any UN role. Geoff Hoon has pressed the Americans on a UN role in:

- Mandate for international rule over Iraq
- Adaption of UNSCRs to sort out sanctions and oil for food.
- Involvement of UN in interim administration to engage wider world, including Arabs.
- UN role in transition to future sovereign Iraqi government.

We need quick agreement on a US/UK policy for a post-conflict Iraq, so that plans can be made.

Other issues which need to be addressed in due course are:

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- For how long do we want as UK to run a geographical sector of Iraq?
- Do we want to lead on justice issues (the US are keen that we should)?
- British commercial involvement in reconstruction.



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