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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

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Foreign Policy Adviser to the Prime Minister,
and Head of the Defence and Overseas Secretariat

11 September 2003

Dear Condoleezza

IRAQ

As I promised on the telephone earlier today, I enclose a note which seeks to define our objectives and specify ongoing and future actions in the areas discussed by President Bush and the Prime Minister last week, ie :

- security;
- intelligence;
- infrastructure;
- media; and
- personnel.

I look forward to discussing this with you on Friday. You mentioned a US briefing paper, which I would certainly be interested to see.

Best wishes

Tony

Nigel

NIGEL SHEINWALD

Dr Condoleezza Rice
The White House

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IRAQ: UK/US ACTION PLAN 10 SEPTEMBER

Security

Objective: Stabilise the security situation quickly and achieve visible momentum before the onset of Ramadan in late October. Change the emphasis from static guarding to proactive operations. In order to do so we need to mobilise as much Iraqi capacity as possible, including as necessary by re-employing some Ba'athists currently disbarred.

UK Action

More Troops

- Sending two additional infantry battalions now to join the existing 10,000 in Iraq. Full deployment by 16 September. One will allow MND (SE) more troops to take the offensive against hostile elements. The second will be used to train Iraqi Civil Defence Corps (ICDC) units and improve intelligence gathering and surveillance capability.
- Planning to enable deployment of an additional brigade HQ, infantry battalion and engineers. This has yet to be announced to Parliament. This force would be tasked primarily to support the CPA South reconstruction project (see below). In total, these reinforcements would amount to some 3,000 personnel or a 30 per cent increase on the current UK strength in Iraq.

More Iraqi Civil Defence Corps and Police

- The UK-led Multinational Division (South East) are training 160 ICDC, expanding to 630 by 22 September and 1,700 by 3 November. These troops should begin operating by 13 October.
- Plan to train a further 2,000 ICDC after Ramadan, with four ICDC battalions, one for each province, fully operational by year end.
- Examining the possibility of establishing a police school in Jordan and have approached the Jordanians. With the necessary strategic outline from CPA and Jordanian co-operation, we should be able to establish school by the end of October, to which we could supply 100 police trainers

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- Working on separate plans to revive the **police training school** in southern Iraq, if approved by CPA, potentially starting operations in November/December.
- Improved integration of ICDC, Iraqi police and Facilities Protection Service.

More Local Involvement in Security

- Exploiting contacts with **tribal leaders** in southern Iraq to build security in their areas of influence.
- Examining how we can empower/legitimise worthy **neighbourhood security committees** (without encouraging local gangsters) with the Governing Council taking the lead.

More Border Security

- Pressing Iraq's **neighbours** to improve border security.
- Examining the deployment of **additional military border surveillance helicopters**.

More Iraqi Army Training

- Deploying **additional UK NCO trainers** to central Iraq.

Intelligence

Objective: Increased intelligence and better intelligence analysis in order to take the offensive against terrorists and Ba'athist remnants.

UK Action

- Deployment of more intelligence officers to **step up** the collection effort against Ba'athists and Sunni extremists in collaboration with US agencies
- Establishing a new specialised unit in London to develop analysis of the situation, while also putting staff in the new, US-led CT fusion cell in Baghdad

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Infrastructure

Objective: Radical improvement in basic service provision quickly to maintain Iraqi consent, particularly water, electricity and fuel.

UK Action

- Started a \$127m, six-month project in CPA South to improve basic services for 5m people in the Basra region. Implementation has begun. Providing \$30m for the first phase, with the balance to come from the CPA.

Media

Objective: A step change on media to counter the distorted reporting of Al-Jazeera and other satellite channels. Better presentation for the CPA and Governing Council.

UK Action

- David Richmond working with Gary Thatcher on proposals to improve the quality of the Iraqi Media Network (IMN) output, provide better IMN newsgathering and transmission, and to improve the CPA's communications effort. Examining Thatcher's \$40m menu of recommendations to see where we can best help. Support for additional channel under consideration.
- Sending more media experts to join the existing UK staff in the CPA Information Directorate.
- Simon Haselock continues with his work to provide a firm, longer-term structure for indigenous Iraqi media. Separate plan to build up media capacity in southern Iraq using the BBC World Service Trust, awaiting approval by the CPA.

Personnel

Objective: More specialist support for Bremer in Baghdad and the CPA provinces

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UK Action

- **Priority CPA South.** 37 specialists being recruited to work on the CPA South reconstruction project to be in place by mid-October. More specialists, mainly contractors, will be sent to work in other areas as requested.
- **Head of four UK-led Governorate Teams** in Basra and Dhi Qar (South), Al-Wasit (Centre) and Kirkuk (North) selected. One deployed to Iraq. 30-40 personnel to staff these 4 GTs will be deployed by 30 September, as well as additional personnel to the US-led GTs in Al Muthanna and Maysan provinces.
- **Supplement our existing 60 CPA secondees in Baghdad with additional information and security sector reform specialists.**

10 Downing Street
10 September

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