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Key messages on Phase IV

- Winning the peace is as important, but more difficult, than winning the war. We need to leave Iraq radically changed for the better.
- We are committing just under a third of our armed forces to the fighting. We shall also be staying on for the 'aftermath' - Phase IV. But we shall have to reduce by a third within six months. You can continue to count on us to do our bit.
- The Phase IV task is huge, comparable to the transformation of central European countries after the fall of the Berlin wall – beyond what even the US can manage by itself. We shall need to build a broad coalition. We shall need more countries to provide peacekeeping forces. We must involve the UN agencies, other countries and international organisations in reconstructing the country. We need their expertise and finance.
- We ought soon to make clear privately to potential contributors our intent of getting a UN Security Council mandate for Phase IV in order to begin putting the coalition for reconstruction together. I would like to begin lobbying potential contributors now. Can we agree to this?
- We might also consider that in order to ease the passage of the second UN Security Council Resolution, and put minds at rest, that there could be advantage in explaining our intention to go for a third resolution for Phase IV.
- It will take some weeks and months, after securing UN authorisation, to get a provisional civil administration ready to move to Iraq. So for the initial post-conflict period, our coalition forces, supported by Jay Garner's Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance, will be in charge of Iraq. The choices we make in those first weeks and months will significantly shape the future development of Iraq. Then we can hand over the task to the wider international effort, mandated by the UN.
- We should be absolutely clear that Coalition military forces will remain under General Frank's command.
- I am not starry-eyed about the UN's management record. I do not propose that the UN should take over the running of Iraq. But the Security Council's authorisation is crucial to building support internationally for our efforts.
- We need to identify a senior international figure (but not a Brit, American or Australian) who could serve as the Head of Civil Administration.
- Our officials have excellent links on the detailed planning for Phase IV. They should continue to work closely together on the key issues. These include the humanitarian relief plan; how to deal with those closest to Saddam's regime; managing the oil revenues transparently and rebutting the accusation that this is a war about oil; how to achieve reform in Iraq; and maximising the involvement of Iraqis from their outset.
- One last important thing – it will be very helpful to get the weapons inspectors back into Iraq quickly to verify findings of Iraqi WMD.

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