

Jp46

MATTHEW RYCROFT

cc PS/Foreign Secretary
PS/Defence Secretary

933

JIC ASSESSMENT: IRAQ: PROSPECTS IN THE NORTH

1. On 26 February the JIC approved the attached paper: "Iraq: Prospects in the North". In their discussion members of the JIC agreed that this paper was of particular importance. It highlighted the range of risks, short-term and longer-term, attached to action in Northern Iraq. As you will see the paper noted:

- The continued presence of significant military forces in the North and the possibility that they are equipped with CBW.
- The potential for fighting between Turkish and Kurdish forces.
- The potential for Iranian involvement.

2. The Committee agreed that I should draw this paper to the attention of the Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary and the Defence Secretary.

3. I am copying this note to JIC members.



JOHN SCARLETT

27 February 2003

*I need to talk on this**Prime Minister**Important warning, especially
on Turkey/Kurds.**Matthew
28/2*