

Declassified

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D/CDS/2/9 (2/014)

31 May 02

APS/Secretary of State

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PS/PUS

DAVID MANNING'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON 17 MAY - IRAQ

Reference:

A. MO 6/17/15C dated 21 May 2002.

1. I have investigated the suggestion that "a UK officer at Tampa" had indicated to the Administration that "the UK would provide an armoured division" for action against Iraq.
2. In answer to Secretary of State's concerns:
 - a. The UK team in Tampa is not party to current MOD work on Iraq.
 - b. Furthermore, our investigations indicate that there has been no authenticated or officially recorded message passed to General Franks, or anyone else at Tampa, that the UK "would" provide a division. We can only assume that this is speculation based on UK's contribution to the Gulf War in 1991 which has been misinterpreted.

Signed on original

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