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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 SSO-00 (AS-01 CIAE-00 NSCE-00)/025 W
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O 101018Z DEC 83 ZFF-4
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6098
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

RELEASED IN FULL

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 3079

EXDIS DECAPTIONED

FOR AMB RUMSFELD FROM EAGLETON

EO 12356 DECL: OADR
TAGS: OVIP (RUMSFELD, DON) PREL, US, IZ
SUBJ: RUMSFELD VISIT TO IRAQ

REF BAGHDAD 3074 (NOTAL)

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT

2. DURING MEETING TODAY, DEC 10, WITH UNDERSEC SAHHAF AT THE FORNMINISTRY, I GAVE HIM A LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE RUMSFELD PARTY AND PRELIMINARY INFORMATION ON THE AIRCRAFT AND CREW. SAHHAF AND FORNMIN TARIQ AZIZ WILL BE LEAVING FOR CHINA DEC 11 OR 12, BUT HE SAID EVERYTHING WILL BE READY FOR A VISIT AS EARLY AS DEC 17 ARRIVAL WITH SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS DEC 18.

3. I TOLD SAHHAF THAT PERHAPS THE GREATEST BENEFIT OF THE VISIT WILL BE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN AN ENVOY OF PRESIDENT REAGAN AND PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN. SAHHAF REPLIED THAT THE VISIT WOULD PROBABLY BEGIN WITH A CONFIDENTIAL

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MEETING AT THE FORNMINISTRY WITH DEP PM AND FORNMIN TARIQ AZIZ, WHO WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY SAHHAF AND POSSIBLY KITTANI. THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A MORE RESTRICTED MEETING WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN.

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4. AT SAHHAF'S REQUEST I LISTED TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AS:
THE GULF WAR, MIDDLE EAST PEACE, LEBANON, SYRIA, AND ANY
OTHER QUESTION THAT THE IRAQIS WISH TO RAISE.

5. SAHHAF SAID THE IRAQIS WILL ARRANGE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS
FOR THE ENTIRE PARTY AND NECESSARY TRANSPORTATION. IF IT FITS
IN WITH YOUR SCHEDULE, I BELIEVE AN OVERNIGHT STOP WOULD
BE APPRECIATED BY THE HOSTS THOUGH I WARNED THEM THAT YOUR
STOP IN BAGHDAD WOULD BE SHORT AND YOUR PROGRAM CONFINED TO
OFFICIAL CONTACTS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH US REPS (IF YOU WISH
ANYTHING ELSE, PLEASE LETS US KNOW). AS SOON AS WE HAVE
YOUR BAGHDAD ETA AND ETD WE WILL PIN DOWN THE IRAQIS ON THE
PROGRAM AND OBTAIN NECESSARY OVERFLIGHT AND LANDING CLEARANCES.

6. BEIRUT MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. EAGLETON

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