

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

Date Printed:

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15-Sep-2003

DOC\_NBR: 1984BAGHDA00852

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Case Number: 200302281

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----275635 161816Z /43

R 161000Z APR 84  
FM USINT BAGHDAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6660  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T BAGHDAD 0852

EXDIS DECAPTIONED

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: EPET, IZ, IR  
SUBJECT: IRAQI ATTITUDE TOWARD AN ISRAELI EMBARACE ON THE  
AQABA PIPELINE

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. RECENT TELEGRAMS REPORTING CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN ISRAELI  
OFFICIALS AND VISITING AMERICANS (RUMSFELD, MURPHY, RAPHEL)  
INDICATE A LACK OF ISRAELI APPRECIATION OF THE SENSITIVITY  
WITH WHICH THE IRAQI LEADERSHIP VIEWS DIRECT OR INDIRECT  
CONTACTS OR POSSIBLE "DEALS" BETWEEN IRAQ AND ISRAEL.  
ALTHOUGH THE IRAQIS AT FIRST GAVE US THE IMPRESSION THEY  
EXPECTED US TO OBTAIN ASSURANCES FROM ISRAEL RE THE SECURITY  
OF THE PROPOSED AQABA PIPELINE, IN OUR MOST RECENT DISCUSSIONS  
OF THE SUBJECT (RUMSFELD, SILBERMAN AND TARIQ AZIZ MARCH 26)  
TARIA AZIZ MADE IT CLEAR THAT IRAQ SEES SECURITY OF THE  
PIPELINE IN TERMS OF U.S. PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT  
RATHER THAN ASSURANCES FROM ISRAEL OR EVEN THE U.S.

3. ISRAELI HINTS THAT THEY MIGHT WELCOME A PIPELINE SPUR  
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THROUGH ISRAEL OR OTHERWISE BE HELPFUL TO IRAQ ARE RECEIVED BY THE IRAQI LEADERSHIP WITH ALARM RATHER THAN SATISFACTION. THE DEPTH OF THEIR FEAR AND SUSPICION OF AN ISRAELI EMBRACE MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR THE ISRAELIS TO UNDERSTAND BUT IT IS SOMETHING WE SHOULD KEEP IN MIND. A BAGHDAD FSN WITH IRAQI INTELLIGENCE CONNECTIONS RECENTLY CHIDED US FOR NOT HAVING MORE STRONGLY DETERRED RUMSFELD FROM BROACHING THIS SENSITIVE SUBJECT WITH TARIQ AZIZ. HE REPORTED THAT SADDAM HUSSEIN WAS OFFENDED AND FOR THAT REASON HAD WANTED TO SEE ASSISTANT SECRETARY MURPHY DURING HIS FEBRUARY 1 VISIT TO LET HIM KNOW THE DEPTH OF IRAQI FEELING ABOUT ISRAEL.

4. IRAQI SUSPICION OF ISRAEL IS NOW PARTICULARLY INTENSE. THE IRAQI CAMPAIGN, STIMULATED BY THE SYMOUR HERSH ARTICLE IN THE NY TIMES REPORTING U.S.-ISRAELI PLANNING FOR AN ATTACK ON IRAQ'S CW FACILITIES, MAY BE DESIGNED PARTLY TO BECLOUD THE CW ISSUE. HOWEVER WE KNOW FROM GOOD SOURCES THAT THE IRAQI LEADERSHIP GENUINELY FEARS AN ISRAELI ATTACK OF THE TYPE THAT OCCURRED IN JUNE 1981 DURING A PREVIOUS ISRAELI ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

5. WE NOW READ AN ARTICLE IN MA'ARIV ON THE IRAQI OIL PIPELINE TO AQABA (TEL AVIV 5787) WHICH SUGGESTS THAT IRAQI-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS ON ECOLOGICAL MATTERS IN THE GULF MIGHT BE NEEDED TO SUPPORT AN EXIM LOAN FOR THE PROJECT. NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE IRAQIS WOULD NOT AGREE TO "NEGOTIATIONS" OF ANY KIND WITH ISRAEL AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, A DISCUSSION OF ECOLOGICAL QUESTIONS SHOULD BE POSSIBLE IN OTHER CHANNELS, AND ON THAT SUBJECT JORDAN RATHER THAN I-1 WOULD BE THE OTHER INTERESTED PARTY.  
EAGLETON

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