

[REDACTED]

April 12, 2002

**READ AHEAD FOR SECRETARY RUMSFELD
PC MEETING TUESDAY, 16 APRIL 2002
NECESSITY FOR FULL RANGE OF TRAINING FOR IRAQI OPPOSITION**

**From: Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs
(Peter W. Rodman, 695-4351)**

- The authors of the Iraq Liberation Act (ILA) say their intent was to provide the full range of military training to the Iraqi opposition.
- The ILA as written does not prohibit using Drawdown Authority for the full range of military training. The current policy to provide only "non-lethal" assistance was a policy decision of the last administration (based on the UN arms embargo on the Saddam regime).
- The Office of the DOD General Counsel advises that the full range of military training assistance to the opposition can be provided consistent with UN Resolutions.
- Providing the full range of military training to the opposition is a necessary first step in implementing the President's guidance to DOD as laid out in [REDACTED] (e.g., "capitalize in our planning on particular lessons learned from our recent support for Afghan opposition forces").
- One of the lessons from working with the Afghan opposition is that early coordination of effort between SOF forces and opposition forces:
 - Builds trust between U.S. and opposition forces.
 - Reduces the possibility of fratricide and collateral damage.
 - Increases the effectiveness of operations.

Attachment:

DOD Decision Package on Removal of Restrictions on ILA Drawdown Authority

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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