

CONFIDENTIAL

Jp178

ALASTAIR CAMPBELL

cc Jonathan Powell
David Manning
David Omand
PS/Foreign Secretary
PS/Defence Secretary
Desmond Bowen
John Williams

THE IRAQ DOSSIER

1. As requested in your minute of 9 September, I attach a revised draft of the dossier on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.
2. This has been significantly recast, with considerable help from John Williams and others in the Foreign Office. It still needs further work and I cannot yet confirm that I am content with the overall tone of the paper and the balance between the main text and the annexes. This applies especially to the initial sections on the history of the regime which I will wish to amend substantially. But we have now reached the stage where it would be helpful to have your advice on presentation. I know that John Williams is also looking at the text, and may offer further views from New York.
3. The attached draft draws on all the available intelligence identified so far. I am most grateful for the cooperation of the SIS, GCHQ and the DIS in constructing the key section on Iraq's current capabilities. They will need to look carefully at the text as it now stands. In the meantime, we continue to check for any further intelligence for inclusion in the text.
4. Additionally, and as discussed with you and others, I am drafting a section on the history of JIC assessments of the Iraqi WMD threat since 1998. I am seeking the views of JIC colleagues and the advice of Cabinet Office Historical and Records Section. I will revert, hopefully with a draft text, as soon as possible.
5. Finally, in view of the obvious sensitivity of the draft and the fact that it is not finalised, I would ask that, not only do we hold the text very tight, but we continue to refrain from public reference to its contents.

JOHN SCARLETT

10 September 2002

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