

Department of State



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FH USINT BAGHDAD TO SECSTATE WASHDC INHEDIATE 1688 INFO AHEHBASSY AHHAN

S E C R E T BAGHDAD 1033

EXDIS

RDS 4/20/01 (EAGLETON, WILLIAM L.) OR-M E.O. 12065:

TAGS: PEPR

SUBJ: LETTER TO THE SECRETARY FROM IRAGI-FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI

1. (SECRET .- ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. ON APRIL 19 I WAS CALLED TO THE FOREIGN HINISTRY BY HEAD OF THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT, HUHAHHAD SA'ID AL SAHHAF. AT WHICH TIME HE HANDED HE A SIGNED LETTER FROM IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER HAHMADI TO SECRETARY HAIG (ORIGINAL BY POUCH). THIS FRIENDLY AND NON-CONTENTIOUS. LETTER (FULL TEXT BELOW) REPLIES TO THE SECRETARY'S LETTER TO HAHHADI DELIVERED BY DAS DRAPER ON APRIL 12.

3. AFTER READING COPY OF HAMMADI'S LETTER TO THE SECRETARY I OBSERVED THAT WE HAD NOW ESTABLISHED A TWO-WAY CORRES-PONDENCE WHICH COULD BE USEFUL IN THE FUTURE. SAHHAF AGREED THAT THIS CHANNEL SHOULD BE KEPT OPEN. I TOLD HIH DAS DRAPER HAD BEEN VERY SATISFIED WITH HIS RECEPTION IN BAGHDAD AND HIS HEETINGS AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. . . SAHHAF REPLIED THAT IRAQ WAS ALSO VERY HAPPY WITH THE VISIT.

4. NOW THAT A CHANNEL TO HAHHADI HAS BEEN OPENED, SECRET SECRET

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DELIVER ANOTHER HESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY, PERHAPS OF THE TYPE THAT WOULD BEGIN "I HAVE ASKED HR. EAGLETON TO BRIEF YOU ON".

5. TEXT OF HAMMADI'S LETTER FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT

"DEAR HR. SECRETARY, I WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE WITH THANKS THE RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER DATED 13 APRIL 1981, DELIVERED BY MR. HORRIS DRAPER. I APPRECIATE YOUR KIND REFERENCE TO IRAG AND ITS CAPACITY TO INFLUENCE HAJOR TRENDS IN THE REGION. AT OUR HEETING ON THE 12TH OF APRIC, HR. DRAPER GAVE HE AN ACCOUNT OF YOUR RECENT VISITS TO OUR REGION AND THE HAIN FEATURES OF UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARDS THE AREA AS PERCEIVED BY THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN TO YOUR ENVOY IRAC! FRANK VIEWS ON THE HAJOR ISSUES IN THE REGION AND WHAT WE CONSIDER PRACTICAL AND REASONABLE WITH REGARD TO THE THREATS CONFRONTING IT AND HOW BEST TO COUNTER THEM. WE ALSO HAD A USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE POSSIBILITIES FOR DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING OUR ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS. I WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO RECEIVE YOUR ASSURANCES THAT THERE WILL BE NO AMERICAN ARMS SALES TO THE IRANIAN REGIME." END TEXT. EAGLETON

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