

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

Summary of Conclusions for
NSC Principals Committee Meeting on Iraq

DATE: December 18, 1998
LOCATION: White House Situation Room
TIME: 2:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Summary of Conclusions of Principals Committee Meeting
on Iraq (S)

PARTICIPANTS:

Chair:
Samuel Berger

USUN
Peter Burleigh (via SVTS
from NY)

OVP:
Leon Fuerth
Chris Bolan

Chief of Staff:
John Podesta

State:
Madeleine Albright
Tom Pickering
Martin Indyk
David Welch

CIA
John Gordon

EO 13526 1.4d

DOD:
William Cohen
Walter Slocombe

JCS
Hugh Shelton
Robert Wagner

White House
James Steinberg
Donald Kerrick

NSC
Bruce Riedel

Summary of Conclusions

Principals agreed:

- Operation Desert Fox will continue for a fourth night of operations EO 13526 1.4d (Defense) (S)

~~SECRET~~

Classified by: Glyn T. Davies
Reason: 1.5 (a), (b), (d)
Declassify On: 12/19/08

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
PER E. O. 13526

2013-0872-M [1.67]
KBH 9/9/2019

- We will support the return of UNSCOM and IAEA inspectors to Iraq only after Iraq affirmatively and credibly confirms its full cooperation with them. We will develop a diplomatic gameplan for securing such assurance with the Security Council. If Iraq will not cooperate, UNSCOM will operate outside Iraq, EO 13526 1.4d and we will oppose any sanctions reviews. (S)

- Our "Day After" posture will be:
 - We will maintain a robust military presence in the area and a readiness to use force again. Saddam should already know that we will use force if Iraq threatens its neighbors, reconstitute its WMD, or moves against the Kurds. (S)

 - We will continue to contain Iraq by enforcing the United Nations sanctions and the two no fly zones. (S)

 - We support the containment of Iraq with the help of a coalition of allies. (S)

 - We will support extension of the oil for food arrangement so that the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people are assured. (S)

 - We will welcome UNSCOM/IAEA's return to Iraq after concrete, affirmative and demonstrated action by Iraq that shows it will provide full cooperation and allow UNSCOM/IAEA to do their job. (S)

 - We will work with the Iraqi opposition to bring about a change of leadership in Iraq because this is the only reliable means to ensure an Iraq that is willing to live at peace with its neighbors and its own people. (S)

 - We will be ready to work with a new leadership in Iraq that abides by the UNSCRs to quickly reintegrate Iraq into the international community and ease the economic burden Saddam has created. (S)