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Jp.

**ALASTAIR CAMPBELL**

cc Jonathan Powell  
David Manning  
Daniel Pruce  
Julian Miller

**IRAQ: WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION**

1. Thank you for your minute of 17 September.
2. The Prime Minister suggested that Chapter 3 should be re-ordered. We have looked at this, but found that the restructured text has less impact than the original. Nonetheless, I attach for you only a version amended along the lines proposed.
3. On the nuclear timings, I explained yesterday the decision to drop earlier references to an improvised nuclear device, on which there is no intelligence. I have retained paragraph 18, which factually summaries the JIC position. But I have amended the latest sections (now paragraph 24) to bring out more clearly the current judgements. I hope you will find this makes the position clearer.
4. We are continuing to look for more pictures, but as yet have nothing that adds usefully to the text.
5. On the civil nuclear point, we have brought out the position on the Iraqi programme article clearly in a box. Dual use products are also now listed separately in bullet point form. The impact here is much improved. Finally, the Prime Minister had asked for more on human rights. We have added to the text in part 3, and also given this a little more prominence in executive summary.
6. Turning to your details points, we have been able to amend the text in most cases as you proposed. Taking your points in sequence:
  1. we have strengthened language on current concerns and plans, including in the executive summary. The summary also bring out the point on sanctions and containment, as you proposed.
  2. on the position of Saddam's sons, the intelligence supports only 'may have'.

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3. on the uranium from Africa, the agreed interpretation of the intelligence, brokered with some difficulty with the originators and owners of the reporting) allows us only to say that he has 'sought' uranium from Africa.
  4. we have introduced the reference to 60,00 aluminium tubes into the executive summary.
  5. also in the executive summary, we now refer to the 200km range of the smaller missiles.
  6. "vivid and horrifying" has been dropped.
  7. I can confirm that all of the £3billion is illegally gained; the text now makes this clear.
  8. we do not have intelligence which allows us to list quantities on the old page 15 for the various delivery means.
  9. we cannot improve on the use of 'might' on the old page 16.
  10. the language you queried on the old page 17 has been tightened.
  11. your proposal to replace could by capable of being used has been incorporated.
  12. we have deleted the sentence referring to the probable renovation of the FMD plant.
  13. the date has been corrected.
  14. see my previous comments.
  15. we have discussed separately the references to JIC assessments.
7. Additionally, we have looked at the executive summary in the light of Ed Owens comments. While we have not reduced the number of bullet points, we have taken some of his other drafting and structural arrangements.

JOHN SCARLETT

18 September 2002

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