

2.1 (a)

[REDACTED]

20 September 02

DIST  
MA/DCDI  
ADI NBC ST  
DDI CPAC  
ADI GI PS  
ADI WMDP  
Hd DI53BW

● IRAQ DOSSIER

- Reference: A. [REDACTED] dated 19 September 02
- B. Iraq Dossier Draft issued on 20 September 02

1. At Reference A. Brian Jones recorded concerns of his Branch about some of the statements made in the draft of the Iraq Dossier issued on the 19 September. I have now seen the draft issued today (Ref B) and although one of the points referred to in Ref A have been addressed, others remain. The 20th September draft still includes a number of statements which are not supported by the evidence available to me. I have set out below my concerns about the CW aspects of the paper since this is my area of responsibility. Some of these statements have also been included in earlier drafts which I have commented on but my comments on those aspects have largely not been reflected in the later drafts.

2. a. Prime Ministers Foreword, 5th paragraph states:

● "What I believe the assessed intelligence has established beyond doubt is that Saddam has continued to produce chemical and biological weapons..."

I acknowledge that in this statement the Prime Minister will be expressing his own "belief" about what the assessed intelligence has established. What I wish to record is that based on the intelligence available to me it has NOT established beyond doubt that Saddam has continued to produce chemical [and biological] weapons.

2. b. Prime Ministers Foreword, 8th paragraph states:

"And the document discloses that his military planning allows for some of the WMD to be ready within 45 minutes of an order to use them"

A similar statement appears in the Dossier. This is reported as fact whereas the intelligence comes from a single source. In my view the intelligence warrants no stronger a statement than " .intelligence suggest that military planning allows..... "

CAB/33/0114

2. c. Executive Summary paragraph 6, first bullet states:

"As a result of the intelligence we judge that Iraq has.... continued to produce chemical and biological agents;"

I have seen intelligence that suggests that production of chemical agents has continued but in my judgement this warrants no stronger statement than ""Iraq has.... *probably* continued to produce chemical [and biological] agents"

2. d. Executive Summary paragraph 6, second bullet states:

"As a result of the intelligence we judge that Iraq has.....military plans for the use of chemical. . weapons. Some of these weapons are deployable within 45 minutes of an order to use them"

This is based on a single source. It is not clear what is meant by "weapons are deployable .. within 45 minutes" The judgement is too strong considering the intelligence on which it is based

2 e. Chapter 3, paragraph 1, first bullet

This contains a statement about "recent production of chemical [and biological] agents" which cannot be supported by intelligence available to me.

2 f. Chapter 3, paragraph 5, first bullet states that:

"Intelligence shows that Saddam attaches great importance to the possession of chemical[and biological] weapons..."

I believe that the use of the term "shows that" is far too strong. This is in contrast to other statements in this paragraph which use the term "intelligence indicates that" which is more balanced.

2. g. Chapter 3, paragraph 8, first bullet states that:

"Intelligence shows that Iraq has continued to produce chemical agent"

Based on the intelligence available to me it warrants no stronger a statement than "Iraq has probably continued to produce chemical agent"



CAB/33/0115