

HISTORY OF UN WEAPONS INSPECTIONS IN IRAQ

This paper draws on a number of different published and intelligence sources, including reports by UN personnel and non-Governmental organisations.

United Nations Security Council Resolution 687 (UNSCR 687) of 3 April 1991 fixed the terms of the cease-fire in the Gulf conflict following the illegal invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq under Saddam Hussain and his defeat by an international coalition of forces in Operation Desert Storm.

UNSCR 687 also established the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM)

The purpose of this body was to oversee, in conjunction with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the dismantling of Iraq's arsenal of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and to maintain a monitoring programme to ensure that it was never rebuilt

Saddam Hussain



The history of UN weapons inspections in Iraq has been characterised by persistent Iraqi efforts to frustrate, deceive and intimidate inspectors. Despite the conduct of the Iraqi authorities towards them, both UNSCOM and the IAEA Action Team have valuable records of achievement in discovering and destroying biological and chemical weapons stocks, missiles and the infrastructure for Iraq's nuclear weapons programme

CAB / 3 / 0082