

9/11 September 2002

CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL RELEASED

FOREWORD

- The threat posed to international peace and security by the spread of weapons of mass destruction cannot be ignored. Unless members of the international community face up to the challenge represented by this threat, they will place at risk the lives of their own citizens.
- Saddam Hussein's Iraqi regime is a uniquely dangerous example of the general threat, both because of his record and his persistent flouting of international norms of behaviour.
- Saddam Hussein is the only modern leader to have used chemical weapons, against Iran in the war which he initiated in the 1980s, causing 20,000 casualties, and against Iraqi citizens at Halabja, resulting in several thousand deaths.
- He has shown his capacity for aggression, by invading Kuwait, terrorising its people and ransacking the country. [Many thousand] Kuwaiti civilians have never been accounted for and must be presumed to have been killed by forces loyal to Saddam.
- It was only because of firm action by the international community that Kuwait was freed. And it was only because of the international community's resolve, through the United Nations, that Saddam Hussein was forced to dismantle some of his weapons of mass destruction.
- In the 1990s UN Weapons Inspectors worked to implement UN Security Council Resolutions passed following the end of the Gulf conflict, which called for the elimination of Iraqi nuclear, biological and chemical weapons. Saddam Hussein worked throughout this period to thwart the efforts of the

CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL RELEASED

DOS/2/0002