

CONFIDENTIAL  
FM KUWAIT  
TO FLASH FCO  
TELNO 438

ADVANCE COPY

OF 190830Z AUGUST 90  
INFO FLASH MODUK BAGHDAD ACTOR  
INFO DESKBY 190930Z UKMIS NEW YORK PARIS BONN  
INFO IMMEDIATE EC OSTS ME POSTS CANBERRA

**FLASH**

YOUR TELNO 518 TO BAGHDAD: FOREIGN NATIONALS IN KUWAIT AND IRAQ.

## SUMMARY

1. PROTEST DELIVERED TO AL-DOURI. NO INFORMATION FORTHCOMING.  
ROUNDING UP TO CONTINUE. IRAQI EMBASSY TO CLOSE ON 24 AUGUST:  
STRONG ADVICE TO LEAVE BEFORE THEN. "SUBSEQUENT" ATTEMPT TO MAKE  
FOUR-POWER DEMARCHE THWARTED.

## DETAIL

2. I CALLED ON AL-DOURI AT 190630Z AND DELIVERED A STRONG PROTEST  
AT THE DETENTION OF BRITISH CITIZENS AND THEIR TRANSFER TO VARIOUS  
DESTINATIONS AGAINST THEIR WILL. I ASKED TO BE GIVEN  
A FULL LIST OF ALL BRITISH CITIZENS INVOLVED, TO BE TOLD WHERE THEY  
ALL WERE AND TO BE GRANTED THE RIGHT OF CONSULAR ACCESS. AL-DOURI  
SAID HE WOULD TAKE NOTE OF MY PROTEST, THOUGH IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN  
MADE IN BAGHDAD (I SAID WE WOULD BE PROTESTING THERE TOO, AND NO  
DOUBT ALSO IN LONDON). HE DID NOT KNOW EXACTLY WHERE EVERYONE  
WAS, BUT I COULD BE ASSURED THEY WERE BEING WELL LOOKED AFTER.  
HE WOULD HOPE TO BE ABLE TO GIVE ME A FULL LIST IN DUE COURSE, BUT  
IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO VISIT THEM QUOTE FOR THE  
MOMENT UNQUOTE.

3. AL-DOURI WENT ON TO SAY THAT THERE WAS SHORTLY TO BE AN  
ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE RADIO (MY TELNO 435), INSTRUCTING QUOTE  
ALL WESTERNERS PLUS THE AUSTRALIANS UNQUOTE TO REPORT TO VARIOUS  
HOTELS. WHEN I COMMENTED THAT THE EXPERIENCE OF THOSE WHO HAD  
REPORTED SO FAR WOULD NOT EXACTLY ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO OBEY,  
AL-DOURI SAID HE HAD WARNED ME YESTERDAY WHAT WAS INTENDED: THOSE  
WHO WENT TO THE HOTELS TODAY WOULD ALSO BE TRANSFERRED TO  
QUOTE KEY INSTALLATIONS UNQUOTE IN KUWAIT AND IRAQ. THOSE WHO DID  
NOT REPORT TO THE HOTELS WOULD BE ROUNDED UP AND TAKEN DIRECT TO THE  
SITES. I MENTIONED THAT SOME OF THOSE DETAINED WERE KEY WORKERS

IN THE ELECTRICITY GENERATING PLANT, AND AL-DOURI SAID THE AUTHORITIES WERE CHECKING WHAT THOSE THEY ROUNDED UP DID, AND WOULD SEND BACK THOSE WITH USEFUL JOBS, WHO WERE PREPARED TO WORK.

4. AL -DOURI SAID THE IRAQI EMBASSY WOULD BE CLOSING ON 24 AUGUST. WHEN WOULD I BE LEAVING KUWAIT? I SAID I WOULD BE STAYING HERE, AS WOULD ALL MY EC COLLEAGUES AND, I THOUGHT, MOST OTHER AMBASSADORS. HAVING CONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS OUR OFFICIAL POSITION AL-DOURI SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE MOST UNWISE TO STAY: HE WOULD DO HIS BEST FOR US, BUT THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES WOULD CUT OFF OUR WATER AND ELECTRICITY (IT WOULD, HE ADDED, BE ILLEGAL TO USE A GENERATOR) AND WOULD HAVE NO HESITATION ABOUT ROUNDING UP ALL THOSE WHO STAYED AND TAKING THEM TO BAGHDAD QUOTE BY FORCE UNQUOTE. I COMMENTED THAT WE WOULD CROSS THAT BRIDGE WHEN WE CAME TO IT: A LOT COULD HAPPEN IN FIVE DAYS. MEANWHILE, MY GOVERNMENTS' POSITION WAS FIRM.

5. I SAID THERE DID NOT SEEM MUCH MORE TO BE SAID. I WOULD, HOWEVER, BE RETURNING LATER, TOGETHER WITH MY US, GERMAN AND FRENCH CLGBAGUES.

6. WHEN THE FOUR OF US ATTEMPTED TO SEE AL-DOURI TOGETHER, HOWEVER, AT 190730Z, WE WERE TOLD THE EMBASSY WAS CLOSED AND WE SHOULD COME BACK ON 20 AUGUST.

WESTON

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