

RESTRICTED  
FM WASHINGTON  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 2010  
OF 222117Z AUGUST 90

## ADVANCE COPY

INFO IMMEDIATE KUWAIT, BAGHDAD, RIYADH, AMMAN, ANKARA  
INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK, UKMIS GENEVA, PARIS, ROME, BONN,  
INFO IMMEDIATE MOSCOW, TOKYO, CANBERRA, WELLINGTON, OTTAWA, PEKING  
INFO IMMEDIATE ACTOR, ESC LONDON

### FUTURE OF EMBASSIES IN KUWAIT

#### SUMMARY

1. US ANNOUNCE PUBLICLY THAT THEY WILL NOT CLOSE THEIR EMBASSY IN KUWAIT ON 24 AUGUST. AMBASSADOR AND SKELETON STAFF WILL REMAIN IN DEFIANCE OF IRAQI ORDER TO LEAVE. APPEAL TO INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO SHOW SOLIDARITY.

#### DETAIL

2. STATE CALLED IN THE ENTIRE CORPS (SOME 130 PLUS) AT 1500Z TODAY TO BE GIVEN THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WHICH WILL ISSUE AT THE PRESS BRIEFING AT 1600Z TODAY:  
QUOTE CONSISTENT WITH UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 662, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, ALONG WITH MOST OTHER NATIONS REPRESENTED IN KUWAIT, HAS REJECTED THE IRAQI DEMAND FOR THE CLOSURE OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN KUWAIT AND WILL BE RETAINING A DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN THAT COUNTRY. AMBASSADOR HOWELL WILL REMAIN IN CHARGE. THIS IS CONSISTENT NOT ONLY WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS BUT ALSO WITH OUR OBLIGATIONS TO THE AMERICAN PRIVATE COMMUNITY WHO, ALONG WITH OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS, HAVE BEEN DEPRIVED OF THE FREEDOM TO LEAVE AND RETURN TO THEIR HOME COUNTRIES. WE WILL CONTINUE TO INSIST THAT THE IRAQI OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROTECTION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS AND ACCORD THEM THEIR BASIC RIGHTS. WE WILL ALSO INSIST THAT AMERICAN DIPLOMATS IN KUWAIT CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE FULL PROTECTION WHICH THEIR STATUS ACCORDS THEM UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW.

AMERICAN CITIZENS SHOULD BE ASSURED THAT WE PLAN TO HAVE SUFFICIENT DIPLOMATIC STAFF AT THE EMBASSY IN KUWAIT TO LOOK AFTER THEIR SAFETY AND WELFARE, WHICH REMAINS OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY. THEY WILL SERVE OUR COMMUNITY TO THE



BEST OF THEIR ABILITY. CITIZENS SHOULD ALSO KNOW THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH OTHERS TO INSIST ON THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 664 WHICH DEMANDS THAT IRAQ PERMIT AND FACILITATE THE DEPARTURE OF ALL FOREIGNERS FROM KUWAIT AND IRAQ, AS WELL AS IMMEDIATE AND CONTINUING CONSULAR ACCESS TO FOREIGN NATIONALS UNQUOTE.

3. MACK (DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY, MIDDLE EAST) SAID THAT THE USG WANTED TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO THOSE GOVERNMENTS THAT HAD EXCHANGED INFORMATION ON THE CRISIS AND HAD DEMONSTRATED INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY ON MEASURES TO FIND A SOLUTION. HE MENTIONED IN PARTICULAR THE CLOSE COOPERATION ON THE GROUND IN KUWAIT AND BAGHDAD WHERE SO MANY WERE LIVING AND WORKING UNDER DIFFICULT CONDITIONS.

4. THE US DECISION TO KEEP THEIR EMBASSY IN KUWAIT BEYOND 24 AUGUST HAD BEEN MADE IN THE FULL KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY WOULD BE DEFYING THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE IRAQI OCCUPYING FORCES. BUT THE US WOULD CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN A PRESENCE IN KUWAIT AS LONG AS US CITIZENS WERE HELD THERE AGAINST THEIR WILL. IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION AS TO WHAT THE US WOULD DO ABOUT ITS EMBASSY IF THE IRAQIS ALLOWED ALL US CITIZENS TO LEAVE KUWAIT AND IRAQ, MACK WOULD NOT BE DRAWN. BUT HE INTIMATED THAT THE US WERE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE POLITICAL DIMENSION - THEY DID NOT RECOGNISE IRAQ'S ANNEXATION OF KUWAIT. THIS WOULD REMAIN A FACTOR IN US CALCULATIONS.

5. IT WAS IMPORTANT TO DEMONSTRATE TO IRAQ THAT THERE WAS INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY. THIS WAS NOT AN IRAQ/US ISSUE: IT CONCERNED THE ENTIRE WORLD: EVERYONE HAD A ROLE TO PLAY: A TOUGH ECONOMIC AND DIPLOMATIC EFFORT WAS REQUIRED BY ALL. HE ASKED EMBASSIES TO COMMUNICATE TO CAPITALS THE US DECISION TO REMAIN IN KUWAIT. HE URGED ALL GOVERNMENTS TO ISSUE SIMILAR NATIONAL STATEMENTS (PARA 2 ABOVE) TO DEMONSTRATE TO IRAQ AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION THE DEGREE OF INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY ON THIS POINT AND TO BRING THE GREATEST PRESSURE TO BEAR ON IRAQ. AT A MINIMUM, MACK HOPED THAT GOVERNMENTS WOULD ISSUE STATEMENTS THAT WOULD INCLUDE LANGUAGE ON THE FOLLOWING LINES:

A - CONSISTENT WITH UNSCR 662, OUR GOVERNMENT IS RETAINING ITS DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN KUWAIT AND WILL NOT ACCEDE TO DEMANDS THAT MISSIONS CLOSE ON 24 AUGUST.



B - A DEMAND FOR FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF UNSCR 664 INCLUDING FULL CONSULAR ACCESS TO DETAINED CITIZENS AND THE IMMEDIATE AND FREE PASSAGE OF FOREIGNERS OUT OF KUWAIT AND IRAQ.

6. MACK ADDED THAT US EMBASSY STAFF IN KUWAIT WOULD BE DRAWN DOWN (KUWAIT TELNO 467). THEY WERE ORDERING SPOUSES, CHILDREN AND NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL TO LEAVE. THOSE REMAINING (8 IN TOTAL, WITH ONE SPOUSE STAYING ON TO PROVIDE SECRETARIAL SERVICES) WOULD ATTEMPT TO CARRY ON CONSULAR DUTIES. (COMMENT: THE AMERICANS WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO KNOW HOW MANY STAFF WE INTEND TO KEEP IN OUR MISSION AFTER 24 AUGUST). THE US CONTINUED TO INSIST THAT THE IRAQIS EXTEND TO THOSE REMAINING DIPLOMATS (OF ALL NATIONALITIES) THEIR FULL PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES. IF BAGHDAD IGNORED THIS DEMAND IT WOULD BE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT FOR IRAQ TO BE REINTEGRATED INTO THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS.

WOOD

YYYY

DISTRIBUTION

35

ADVANCE

5532

IRAQ/KUWAIT  
PS  
PS/MR WALDEGRAVE  
PS/PUS  
MR TOMKYS  
~~MR GORE-BOOTH~~  
MR FAIRWEATHER  
MR GOULDEN  
MR BERMAN (LEGAL ADVISERS)  
HD/MED  
HD/NENAD  
HD/NAD  
HD/SED  
HD/UND  
HD/CONSULAR D  
HD/NEWS D  
HD/NPDD  
HD/SECPOL D  
HD/AMD  
HD/ECDE(E)

MR PRIDDLE, DEPT OF ENERGY  
MR APPEYARD CABINET OFFICE  
(BY TUBE H29)  
MR W D REEVES CABINET OFFICE  
(BY TUBE H29)  
MR D J GOWAN CABINET OFFICE  
(BY TUBE H29)  
MR BARRASS, CABINET OFFICE  
(BY TUBE H29)  
PS/NUMBER 10 DOWNING ST  
SIR P CRADOCK,  
(NO 10 DOWNING ST)  
CABINET OFFICE DIO  
(BY TUBE H29)  
SIR ROBIN BUTLER, CAB OFFICE  
AUS (C) MODUK  
HD/SEC (O) (C) MODUK  
MR LS SMITH BANK ENGLAND  
EMERGENCY UNIT  
RESIDENT CLERK

PAGE 3  
RESTRICTED

NNNN

