

**Original FOIA Number:** 1998-0001-F

**2nd FOIA Number:** 1998-0099-F

**3rd FOIA Number:**

**4th FOIA Number:**

**5th FOIA Number:**

# FOIA MARKER

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**Record Group:** Bush Presidential Records  
**Office:** Records Management, White House Office of (WHORM)  
**Series:** Subject File - General  
**Scanned/Unscanned:** *Scanned*

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**WHORM Category Code:** FO005-03  
**WHORM Category Name:** Publicity, International

**Document Number:** 184448  
**Alpha File Name:**

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UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/S PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9007465  
RECEIVED: 20 SEP 90 07

TO: SCHNEIDER, M

FROM: BURSON, R

KEYWORDS: IRAQ

MP

184448  
DOC DATE: 17 SEP 90  
SOURCE REF:

F0005-03

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION RE PRES VIDEO MSG TO IRAQ

ACTION: FOR RECORD PURPOSES

DUE DATE: 24 SEP 90

STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: NONE

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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OPENED BY: NSDAI

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DOC 1 OF 1

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ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9007465

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

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X 90092109 FOR RECORD PURPOSES

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September 17, 1990

APNSA Has Seen

MEMORANDUM FOR: P - Michael Schneider  
FROM: P/M - Ray Burson *RB*  
SUBJECT: Media Reaction: President Bush's Video Message  
To Iraq

The President's videotaped message, aired in Baghdad yesterday, was also a major TV story in other parts of the world and was widely covered by the print and electronic media today as the following headlines and excerpts indicate.

BBC TV: "Mr. Bush appeared uncensored but also unannounced. Competing with cartoons on the other channel, he told Iraqis things they'd never heard before."

London's conservative Daily Telegraph: "Baghdad honored its promise to broadcast Mr Bush's address, without cuts.... But thousands of Iraqis missed the broadcast, summoned on to the streets for a pro-Saddam Hussein demonstration timed to coincide with Mr. Bush's address."

London's centrist Independent: "It may go down better in Peoria, Illinois, but in the al Wahda coffee shop in central Baghdad last night, the George Bush television show was met with indifference followed by hostility."

London's liberal Guardian: "Staged Reaction To Bush Message."

Milan's conservative Il Giornale: "Bush Tells Iraqis: Avoid War"

Rome's centrist Il Messaggero: "Bush focused on one objective: explaining to the Iraqi people that the world is not mad at them, but at Saddam Hussein and his government. Bush implicitly invited the Iraqi people to get rid of both."

Radio France-Inter: "Unexpectedly, President Bush became the star of Iraqi television yesterday."

Centrist Tribune de Geneve: "Bush Says Peace Still Possible."

Swiss Romande TV: "An astonishing development in the media war."

Liberal Toronto Star: "Saddam Lied To You, Bush Tells Iraqis."

Iraqi News Agency: "One roaring voice...wiped out Bush's message."

Dubai's English-language Gulf News: When Mr. Bush said, 'Iraq stands isolated and alone' he was not indulging in empty rhetoric, but stating the plain truth as the whole world sees it."

Bahrain's semi-independent al-Ayam: "Bush: The People Of Iraq Face A Tragedy Because Of The Mistakes Of Its Leadership."

Amman's independent ar-Ray: "The American President is telling us bluntly that...he can now speak on behalf of the world."

Mexico City's nationalist El Sol: "His statements cannot be seen as unbiased."

Caracas' liberal El Nacional: "They are tightening the fence against Hussein."

**United States  
Information  
Agency**

Washington, D.C. 20547

**PUBLIC DIPLOMACY UPDATE: THE GULF CRISIS**  
From USIA NEA - Sept. 18, 1990**SUMMARY**

Editorial reaction continues to President Bush's message to Iraq along lines set during past two days: pro in the Gulf, neutral in Morocco and Algeria, anti in Jordan and Tunisia. Scattered pick-up in news stories on September 18 of the General Dugan dismissal story (Algiers, Amman). Israeli comment deals with U.S.-Saudi arms sales.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Moroccan TV covered the President's message and Iraqi reaction without commentary.

Al-Ray (Amman, September 18) said: "If some Iraqis and Arabs listened to Bush's message out of mere curiosity, they have also been reading other messages every day about the facts and practices of American policy in the region. These messages aim to weaken the Arabs, loot their wealth, and support Israel with weapons of mass destruction."

**ARMS TO SAUDI ARABIA**

Military analyst Reuvan Pedatzur in Ha'aretz (Tel Aviv, September 18):

"Twenty billion dollars' worth of first-rate weapons systems of all kinds will be supplied to Saudi Arabia in the next few years, turning its armed forces from a medium-sized armed power into an advanced army with impressive air and ground offensive capabilities. The Saudis stand to receive in this one deal as many weapons as Israel received during the past ten years...What is at stake is no longer an erosion of Israel's qualitative edge but a blatant disruption of the strategic balance..."

**GLOVES OFF IN BAHRAIN**

USIS reports from Manama that the media are now going all-out in their support for the U.S. and condemnation of Iraq and Saddam Hussein. Bahraini officials are meeting regularly with foreign and local press for on-the-record condemnations of Iraq and to give strong support to international and U.S. positions. The Prime Minister's interview with the Washington Post (published on September 16) appeared as lead news item in all Bahraini media on September 17.

**National Security Council  
The White House**

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Bill Sittmann	_____	_____	_____
Bob Gates	_____	_____	_____
Brent Scowcroft	_____	_____	_____
Bill Sittmann	_____	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____
West Wing Desk	<u>1</u>	<u>DD 9/20</u>	<u>N</u>
NSC Secretariat	<u>2</u>	_____	<u>N/R</u>
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*For Record Purposes*

**A = Action    I = Information    D = Dispatch    R = Retain    N = No further Action**

cc:    VP                      Sununu                      Other \_\_\_\_\_  
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 (Date/Time)

COMMENTS  
*No action necessary*

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