

## **UNMOVIC IAEA Press Statement on Inspection Activities in Iraq 25 January 2003**

UNMOVIC requested yesterday further interviews with Iraqi personnel in private. Two individuals concerned did not agree to it without the presence of a witness. Thus, the interviews did not take place today. UNMOVIC will continue to seek interviews in private, as allowed in Security Council resolution 1441.

An IAEA team flew by helicopter, with representatives of the Iraqi National Monitoring Directorate (NMD) on board, to a facility above 36° North, formerly known as Al Jesira, to conduct an interview in private. The individual concerned declined the request. The interview was then conducted with a representative of the NMD present.

Two incidents took place at and around the Canal Hotel this morning. In the first incident, an Iraqi man approached the main gate of the UN premises through the access road at about 7:50 a.m. He was holding an iron rod on his right. The man was quickly subdued and apprehended by UN security personnel. During the search, three knives were found on his body. He was subsequently handed over to Iraqi authorities. In the second incident that occurred at about 8:35 a.m., an Iraqi man stopped a convoy of inspectors as the convoy got onto Canal Road from the Canal Hotel. When the driver of the lead UN vehicle got out of the car to talk to the man, the man jumped into the driver's seat. The man was subsequently removed from the vehicle and handed over to Iraqi authorities for questioning. During these two incidents, no one was injured.

As of today, we have a grand total of 256 persons working for UNMOVIC and the IAEA in Iraq. The total number of inspectors is 108, with 97 coming from UNMOVIC and 11 coming from the IAEA. The rest are support staff, including 50 aircrew and 27 local staff.

Today's inspections:

An UNMOVIC team of missile inspectors traveled approximately 60 km southwest of Baghdad to meet with officials of the Al Rasheed State Company at Al Mamoun. An UNMOVIC multidisciplinary team inspected the Sumaykah surface-to-surface missile support facility, located 70 km northwest of Baghdad. This facility serves as a base for the Luna missile system and also as a storage facility for the newer Al Samoud missile.

An UNMOVIC biological team inspected the College of Veterinary Medicine and the College of Education at Quadisiyah University, located about 200 km south of Baghdad. The Veterinary College is one of four such colleges in Iraq. The Education College primarily graduates high school teachers.

An UNMOVIC chemical team returned to the Al Qa Qaa complex for the eighth day to rebaseline the site. A Mosul-based multidisciplinary team inspected a storage area of the North Oil Company. The site stores chemicals and spare parts for the oil industry.

An IAEA team inspected the Colleges of Education and of Engineering at Tikrit University in Tikrit. Another IAEA team performed a motorized radiation survey in the vicinity of Baghdad.

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