



DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

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## SPOT COMMENTARY

28 January 1991  
2300 EST

### IRAQ-KUWAIT: SITUATION REPORT #518

#### Saddam Talks to CNN's Peter Arnett

CNN reporter Peter Arnett on Monday gave viewers a summary of his 90 minute interview with Saddam Husayn conducted earlier in the day in Baghdad. CNN may broadcast the interview tomorrow.

Saddam said he is prepared to fight a long, comprehensive, and bloody war with the US and coalition forces. Saddam repeated his now-familiar declaration that Kuwait is part of Iraq forever. He also claims that Iraq has nuclear as well as chemical and biological warheads for its missiles. Saddam's major points reportedly were:

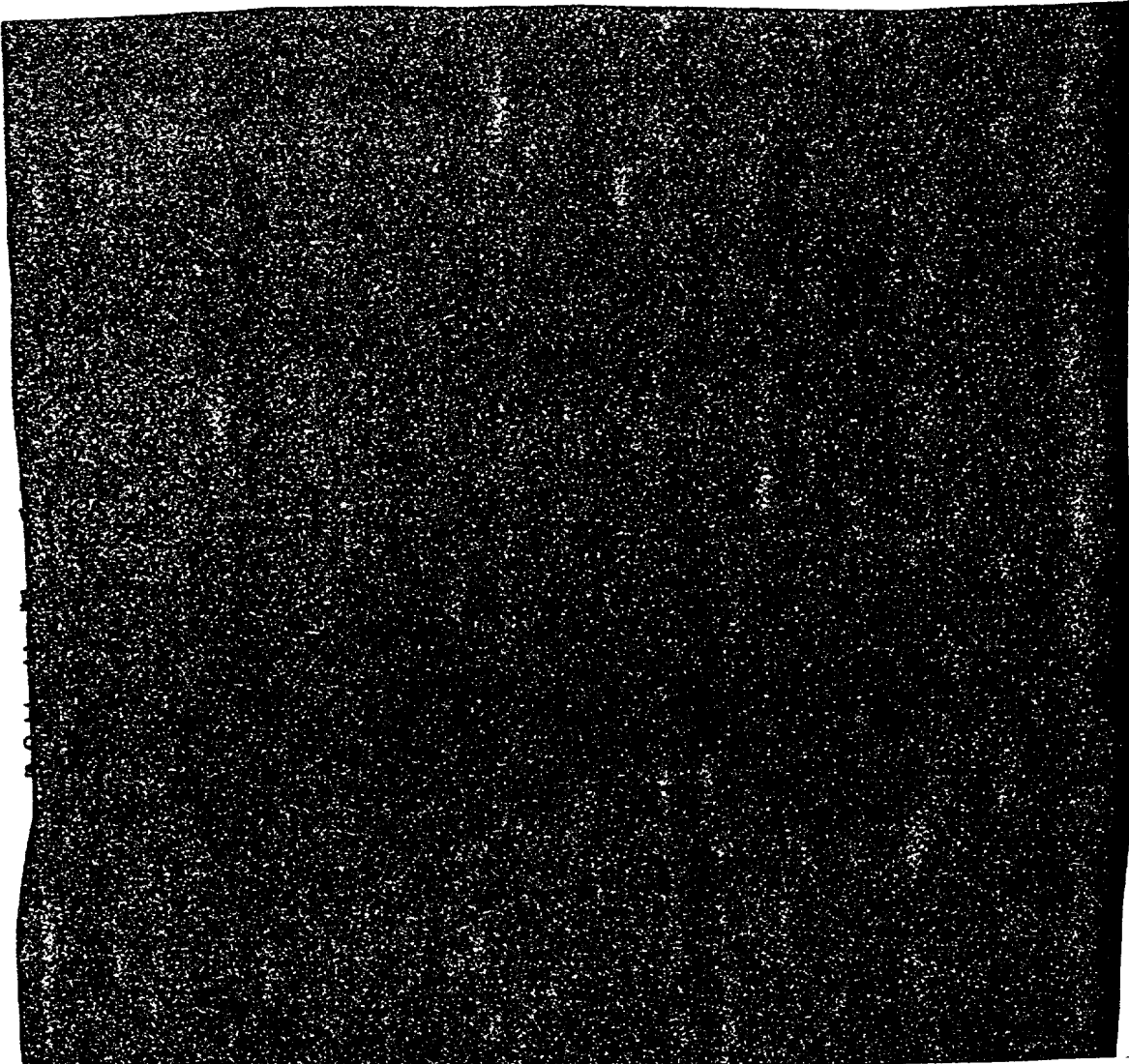
- The US is ultimately to blame for the huge oil spill in the Gulf because it first attacked Iraqi oil tankers and facilities on land. He asserted that Iraqi field commanders are fully justified in using the release of oil on land or sea for defensive purposes.
- Iraq will use weapons that in terms of force "equate" with those used against Iraq. He also claimed that the Al-Husayn missile--Iraq's second largest Scud-type missile--had nuclear, chemical, and biological capabilities.
- Iraq's treatment of coalition POWs is justified because detention of Iraqi students in Western countries amounts to unjustified internment. Saddam reportedly expressed frustration with "hypocritical Western politicians" who convinced him to release Western civilian hostages last December.

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--The deployment of Iraqi aircraft to Iran, is appropriate because Iran is a Muslim neighbor who also views the US as the infidel. He said any decision to use those aircraft later on in the war would depend on the circumstances at the time, but that he would "respect" Iran's decision on the matter.

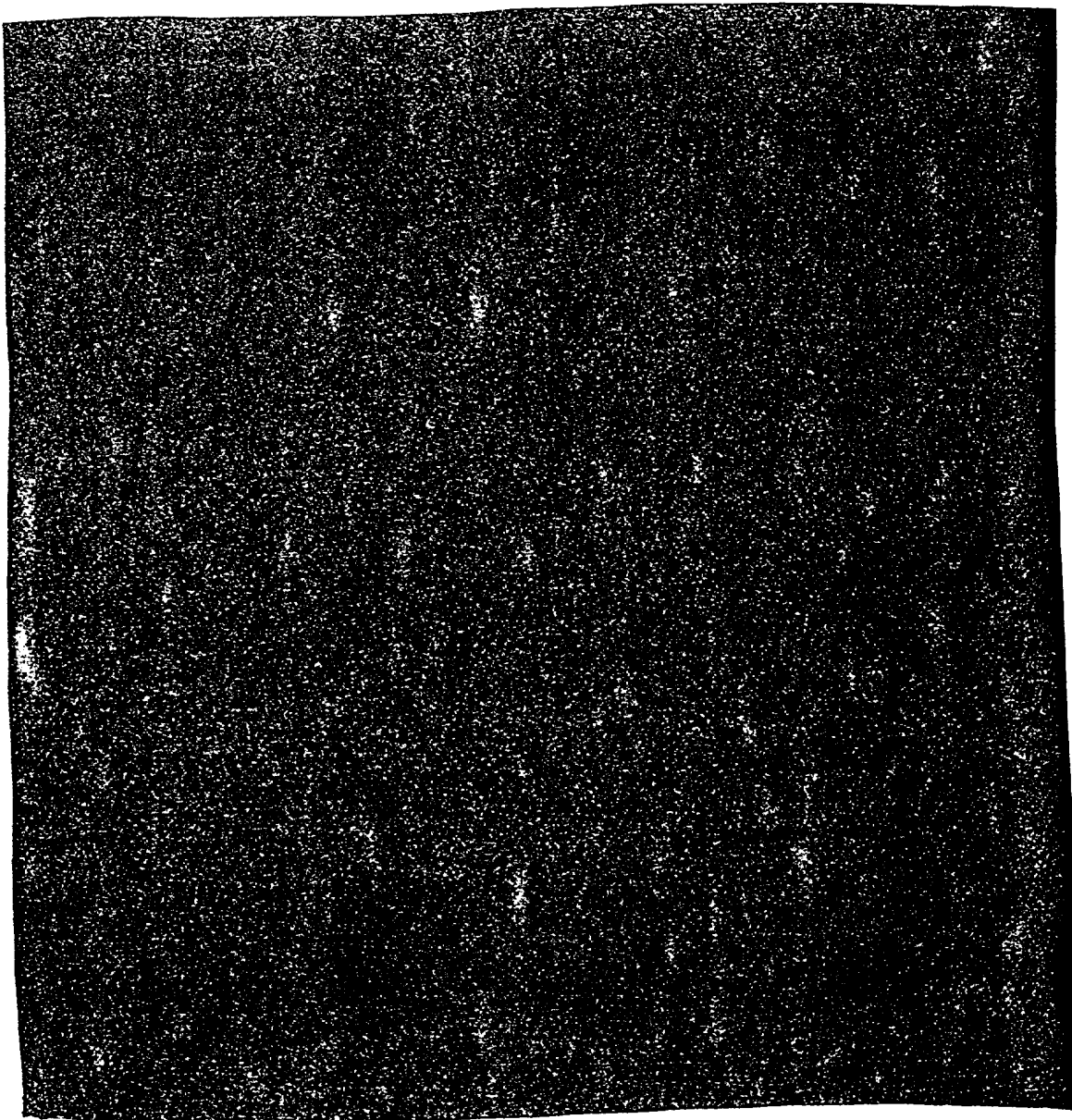
--The efforts of antiwar demonstrators in the West were appreciated and any movement toward dialogue or negotiations was completely up to President Bush. He said he is ready for a land war he firmly believes Iraq will win. [REDACTED]




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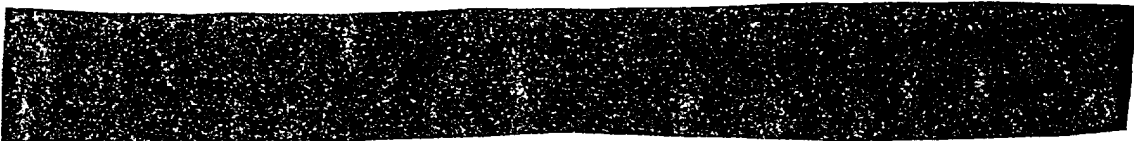
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**Baghdad Threatens Mubarak with Death**

Iraqi radio commentary on Sunday characterized Egyptian President Mubarak as a tool of the US and Israel and suggested that he would be assassinated like former President Sadat. 



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Exemptions: (b)(1) (b)(2)