

Senior Executive Intelligence Brief

The SEIB must be returned to CIA within 5 working days



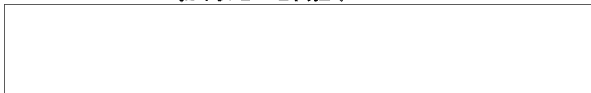
Friday, 28 September 2001

National Security Information

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Regional Notes

NEAR EAST

Iraq:

Using Back Channels To Refute Terrorist Allegations

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Saddam is trying to avert a US strike by asking other Arab governments to convey to Washington that Baghdad is not complicit in the 11 September attacks. Baghdad also is vowing to respond forcefully to any attack against it

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Baghdad still is publicly defiant toward the US, threatening confrontation, refusing to express condolences, and comparing the 11 September attacks with US aggression against Iraq. Saddam in a speech on Wednesday said he would be seen as a hypocrite for extending sympathy to a state “attacking us in a lowly terrorist manner.”

— Iraqi UN Permanent Representative al-Duri this week in the General Assembly expressed disappointment that no action has been taken against US and British “state terrorism,”

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NR Record

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