

Smoking Gun Emails: Bush and Blair Secretly Plotted War on Iraq in March 2002

By [Global Research News](#)

Global Research, October 19, 2015

Region: [Europe](#), [USA](#)

Theme: [US NATO War Agenda](#)

In-depth Report: [IRAQ REPORT](#)

Revealed by the British media are the details “of the ‘deal in blood’ forged between George W. Bush and Tony Blair over the Iraq War.”

The meetings took place in Crawford, Texas a year prior to the onslaught of the US-UK led invasion of Iraq. According to the Daily Mail:

The damning memo, from secretary of state Colin Powell to president George Bush, was written on March 28, 2002, a week before Bush’s famous summit with Blair at his Crawford ranch in Texas.

The Powell document, headed ‘Secret... Memorandum for the President’, lifts the lid on how Blair and Bush secretly plotted the war behind closed doors at Crawford.

In it, Powell tells Bush that Blair ‘will be with us’ on military action. Powell assures the president: ‘The UK will follow our lead’.

The classified document also discloses that Blair agreed to act as a glorified spin doctor for the president by presenting ‘public affairs lines’ to convince a skeptical public that Saddam had Weapons of Mass Destruction – when none existed.

In return, the president would flatter Blair’s ego and give the impression that Britain was not America’s poodle but an equal partner in the ‘special relationship’. ([Mail on Sunday](#), October 18, 2015)

The leaked documents reveal unequivocally that Tony Blair had agreed to waging war on Iraq, one year before the invasion of March 2003:

The sensational leak shows that Blair had given an unqualified pledge to sign up to the conflict a year before the invasion started.

It flies in the face of the UK Prime Minister’s public claims at the time that he was seeking a diplomatic solution to the crisis.

He told voters: ‘We’re not proposing military action’ – in direct contrast to what the secret email now reveals.

The disclosure is certain to lead for calls for Sir John Chilcot to reopen his inquiry into the Iraq War if, as is believed, he has not seen the Powell memo.

A second explosive memo from the same cache also reveals how Bush used 'spies' in the Labour Party to help him to manipulate British public opinion in favor of the war.

The documents, obtained by The Mail on Sunday, are part of a batch of secret emails held on the private server of Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton which U.S. courts have forced her to reveal. ([Mail on Sunday](#), October 18, 2015)

To read the [Mail on Sunday article](#) [click here](#)

RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

SECRET/NOFORN
DECL: 4/01/12

Classified by DAS, A/GIS, DoS ~ Class
Confidential~ Reason: B1, 1.4 (D), 1.4
(B) Declassify on: 04-01-2022

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Colin L. Powell

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Theodore Sellin, Senior
Reviewer

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with United
Kingdom Prime Minister Tony Blair,
April 5-7, 2002 at Crawford

Tony Blair is looking forward to the time he and his family will spend with you at Crawford to deepen their personal relationship with you and Laura. Buckingham Palace's approval of the trip despite The Queen Mother's death attests to the importance the British government ascribes to Blair's meeting with you. Blair will want to discuss: Afghanistan; Iraq; the Middle East; Russia and NATO enlargement; and trade and development.

Blair continues to stand by you and the U.S. as we move forward on the war on terrorism and on Iraq. He will present to you the strategic, tactical and public affairs lines that he believes will strengthen global support for our common cause.

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

Blair and the UK are in Afghanistan with us for the long haul. He readily committed to deploy 1700 commandos, even though his experts warn that British forces are over-stretched. The UK welcomes the active political, military and financial aid the U.S. has provided to persuade Turkey to take on ISAF leadership.

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

On Iraq, Blair will be with us should military operations be necessary. He is convinced on two points: the threat is real; and success against Saddam will yield more regional success. Aside from his foreign and defense secretaries, however, Blair's Cabinet shows signs of

SECRET/NOFORN

Classified by: Secretary of State Colin L. Powell
Reasons: E.O. 12958 1.5 (b) & (d)

SECRET/NOFORN

-2-

division, and the Labour Party and the British public are unconvinced that military action is warranted now. Blair may suggest ideas on how to (1) make a credible public case on current Iraqi threats to international peace; (2) keep Iraq's neighbors on our side; (3) handle calls for a UNSC blessing that can increase support for us in the region and with UK and European audiences; and (4) demonstrate that we have thought through "the day after."

The UK will follow our lead in the Middle East, but Blair may seek greater U.S. engagement [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He will argue that continued terrorist violence and Israeli military action are rapidly sapping European and Arab support for a tough line against Baghdad.

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

1.4(E)
1.4(L)
B1

We do not expect Blair to dwell on the steel decision, although it was a bitter blow for him, as he indicated in his recent letter to you. It is clear that Britain will not fight our fight within the EU on this. He may instead stress with you, as he did recently with the Vice President in London, the urgent need to insulate our broader relationship from this and other trade disputes. He may also raise a warning flag about the international trading system, urge the U.S. to continue its trade leadership role and encourage development assistance.

Blair has hit some domestic turbulence. Blamed at home for failing to fix inadequate public services, his (unpublished) poll numbers have fallen to below 50 percent. He is sharply criticized by the media for being too pro-U.S. in foreign and security policy, too arrogant and "presidential" (not a compliment in the British context) and too inattentive on issues of concern to voters.

Blair knows he may have to pay a political price for supporting us on Iraq, and wants to minimize it. Nonetheless, he will stick with us on the big issues. His voters will look for signs that Britain and America are truly equity partners in the special relationship.

SECRET/NOFORN

- Part two: This second, explosive memo, drafted by the U.S. Embassy in London, reveals how Bush used Labour 'spies' to manipulate British public opinion

CONFIDENTIAL PTO4679

RELEASED IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D)

PAGE 01 LONDON 02066 01 OF 03 021705Z
ACTION EUR-00

INFO LOG-00 NP-00 AID-00 AMAD-00 ACQ-00 CIAE-00 INL-00
USNW-00 DODE-00 DOEE-00 DOTE-00 SRPP-00 DS-00 EB-00
FAAE-00 FBIE-00 VC-00 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-00
LAB-01 L-00 VCE-00 MOFM-05 MOF-01 AC-01 NEA-00
DCP-01 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OMB-01 OPIC-01 PA-00 PC-01
PM-00 PRS-00 ACE-00 P-00 SCT-00 SP-00 SSO-00
TRSE-00 USIE-00 PMB-00 DSCC-00 PRM-00 DRL-02 G-00
SAS-00 SWCI-00 /015W

-----7DE3D9 021705Z /38

O 021709Z APR 02
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7579
INFO ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 LONDON 002066

NOFORN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/20/2015
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, PGOV, UK
SUBJECT: IRAQ COALITION-BUILDING: UK LABOR PARTY NOT YET
CONVINCED

REVIEW AUTHORITY:
Theodore Sellin, Senior
Reviewer

CLASSIFIED BY: DCM GLYN DAVIES. REASON: 1.6X6

SUMMARY AND COMMENT
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 02066 01 OF 03 021705Z

1. (C) FOR NEARLY A MONTH, PM TONY BLAIR HAS MADE PUBLICLY
CLEAR HIS COMMITMENT TO A MORE PROACTIVE IRAQ POLICY.
REFLECTING THE POLLED SENTIMENTS OF VOTERS, HOWEVER, A
SIZEABLE NUMBER OF HIS LABOR PARTY MPS REMAINS AT PRESENT
OPPOSED TO MILITARY ACTION AGAINST IRAQ. A MAJORITY INDICATE
THEY WOULD CHANGE THEIR MINDS IF THEY HAD PROOF OF IRAQI
INVOLVEMENT IN SEPTEMBER 11 OR ANOTHER TERRORIST ATROCITY.
SOME WOULD FAVOR SHIFTING FROM A POLICY OF CONTAINMENT OF
IRAQ IF THEY HAD RECENT (AND PUBLICLY USABLE) PROOF THAT IRAQ
IS DEVELOPING WMD/MISSILES OR THAT IRAQ'S WMD STATUS HAS
CHANGED FOR THE WORSE. MOST SEEM TO WANT SOME SORT OF UN
ENDORSEMENT FOR MILITARY ACTION. BLAIR'S CHALLENGE NOW IS TO
JUDGE THE TIMING AND EVOLUTION OF AMERICA'S IRAQ POLICY, AND
TO BRING HIS PARTY AND THE BRITISH PEOPLE ONBOARD, SO THAT
THE UK -- THE KEYSTONE OF ANY COALITION WE SEEK TO BUILD --
CAN BE FIRMLY IN PLACE. END SUMMARY.

Classification Extended on : 09/27/2013 ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL ~ Authority: DSCG 11-1
~ ☐ Declassify on: 04-02-2022

LABOR MPS BALK AS GOVERNMENT ARTICULATES IRAQ POLICY

2. (C) FOR A NOTICEABLE TIME AFTER THE PRESIDENT IDENTIFIED IRAQ'S DEVELOPMENT OF WMD AND MISSILES AS A SERIOUS THREAT IN THE STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, TONY BLAIR'S GOVERNMENT ESSENTIALLY KEPT QUIET ON WHETHER IT AGREED. THIS CHANGED AT THE END OF FEBRUARY AS BLAIR SPOKE OUT FORCEFULLY IN PREPARATION FOR, AND AT, THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING IN AUSTRALIA. THE FOLLOWING WEEK, ON MARCH 5, THE GOVERNMENT RELEASED TO THE PARLIAMENTARY LABOR PARTY (PLP) A
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LONDON 02066 01 OF 03 021705Z
FOREIGN OFFICE-SPONSORED BRIEFING PAPER THAT OUTLINED THE CASE AGAINST IRAQ. A DAY LATER, "THE TIMES" CARRIED A FOREIGN SECRETARY JACK STRAW BYLINER HIGHLIGHTING THE IRAQI WMD THREAT; THE NEXT DAY, THE MASS-CIRCULATION TABLOID "DAILY MAIL" PRINTED A SIMILAR PIECE BY THE PRIME MINISTER. DEBATE ON THESE ISSUES IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS THAT WEEK WAS SHARP, WITH FOREIGN OFFICE JUNIOR MINISTER BENJAMIN BRADSHAW BRANDING EXTREME-LEFT LABOR MP GEORGE GALLOWAY AS AN APOLOGIST AND PAID MOUTHPIECE FOR IRAQ, AND GALLOWAY RETORTING THAT BRADSHAW IS A LIAR.

3. (C) OPPOSITION TO MILITARY ACTION AGAINST SADDAM HUSSEIN GOES, UNFORTUNATELY, WELL BEYOND THE "USUAL SUSPECTS" SUCH AS GALLOWAY. WITHIN A DAY OF RECEIVING THE FOREIGN OFFICE BRIEFING PAPER, 117 MPS SIGNED AN 'EARLY DAY MOTION' (SIMILAR TO A SENSE OF THE CONGRESS RESOLUTION IN THAT IT SIMPLY EXPRESSES AN OPINION, BUT DIFFERENT IN THAT IT DOES NOT COME TO A VOTE) THAT OPPOSED SUPPORTING U.S. MILITARY ACTION AGAINST IRAQ. THE NUMBER OF SIGNATORIES HAS SINCE GROWN TO MORE THAN 130, OF WHICH WELL OVER 100 ARE LABOR PARTY MEMBERS (I.E., ABOUT ONE-QUARTER OF ALL LABOR MPS). ORDINARILY, EARLY DAY MOTIONS DO NOT MEAN MUCH; MANY MPS DON'T BOTHER WITH THEM. THE RELATIVELY LARGE RESPONSE IS THEREFORE SIGNIFICANT, AND WE HEAR THAT MANY MORE MPS DID NOT SIGN BUT DO AGREE WITH ITS THRUST.

4. (C) THESE MPS APPEAR TO BE REFLECTING OVERALL VOTER OPINION: 51 PERCENT (ACCORDING TO A GUARDIAN/ICM POLL RELEASED MARCH 19) ARE AGAINST UK POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR A U.S. MILITARY ACTION AGAINST IRAQ, WITH 35 PERCENT IN FAVOR. VIRTUALLY ALL MPS WE HAVE CONTACTED MAKE A POINT OF
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 LONDON 02066 01 OF 03 021705Z
CONTRASTING THE BROAD SUPPORT FOR ACTION IN AFGHANISTAN (74 PERCENT OF VOTERS IN FAVOR) WITH THE DEEP UNEASE THAT MPS FEEL ABOUT WAR WITH IRAQ. SEVERAL MPS SAY THAT POST-9/11 SYMPATHY FOR THE U.S. IS "EBBING AWAY," AS PERCEPTIONS GROW OF ALLEGED U.S. UNILATERALISM, PROTECTIONISM, AND ONE-SIDED SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL. LABOR MPS WHO CONSIDER THEMSELVES TO BE MODERATE AND STRONGLY PRO-U.S. TELL US THEY NEED MORE EVIDENCE OF IRAQ'S CONNIVANCE WITH TERRORISM AND/OR

WILLINGNESS TO USE WMD BEFORE THEY COULD SUPPORT HMG COOPERATION WITH MILITARY ACTION. (NOTE: IN THE SAME POLL, THIRD-PARTY LIBERAL DEMOCRAT VOTER OPINION IS 67 PERCENT AGAINST BACKING U.S. MILITARY ACTION; A SIZABLE NUMBER OF LIBDEM MPS HAVE ALSO SIGNED UP TO THE EARLY DAY MOTION, THOUGH CONSERVATIVE VOTER OPINION IN THE POLL IS marginally OPPOSED TO SUPPORTING THE U.S. ON IRAQ, NO TORY MP HAS SIGNED THE MOTION.)

CONCERNS

5. (C) THERE IS SIGNIFICANT UNEASE IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS AS WELL.

ALSO TOLD US THAT

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ2009

PAGE 01 LONDON 02066 02 OF 03 021705Z
ACTION EUR-00

INFO LOG-00 NP-00 AID-00 AMAD-00 ACQ-00 CIAE-00 INL-00
USNW-00 DODE-00 DOEE-00 DOTE-00 SRPP-00 DS-00 EB-00
FAAE-00 FBIE-00 VC-00 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-00
LAB-01 L-00 VCE-00 MOFM-05 MOF-01 AC-01 NEA-00
DCP-01 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OMB-01 OPIC-01 PA-00 PC-01
PM-00 PRS-00 ACE-00 P-00 SCT-00 SP-00 SSO-00
TRSE-00 USIE-00 PMB-00 DSCC-00 PRM-00 DRL-02 G-00
SAS-00 SWCI-00 /015W

-----7DE3EA 021705Z /38

O 021709Z APR 02
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7580
INFO ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 LONDON 002066

NOFORN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/20/2015
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, PGOV, UK
SUBJECT: IRAQ COALITION-BUILDING: UK LABOR PARTY NOT YET
CONVINCED

LABOR PEERS WANT EVIDENCE THAT IRAQ PROMOTES TERROR ATTACKS,
OR THAT ITS WMD POSE A CLEAR AND PRESENT THREAT. HE SAID
PROOF THAT IRAQ HAS DEVELOPED SUCH WEAPONS IS PROBABLY NOT
ENOUGH, IN ITSELF, TO SWING A MAJORITY IN LORDS BEHIND THE
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 02066 02 OF 03 021705Z

MILITARY OPTION.

6. (C) LABOR MPS ESPECIALLY RAISE CONCERNS ABOUT THE REACTION OF THE ARAB WORLD, CLAIMING THAT ACTION AGAINST SADDAM WOULD UNDERCUT VITAL ARAB COOPERATION IN THE WAR ON TERRORISM. THEY ARE NOT CONVINCED THAT THE IRAQI OPPOSITION FORMS A CREDIBLE ALTERNATIVE OR THAT MILITARY ACTION WOULD BE QUICK AND EFFECTIVE. SEVERAL MPS TOLD US THAT PROGRESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS COULD DEFUSE SOME OF THEIR CONCERNS. ANOTHER ELEMENT RAISED WAS THAT THERE WOULD BE LESS NEGATIVE FALLOUT IF MILITARY ACTION WERE TAKEN ONLY AFTER ALL OTHER OPTIONS WERE SEEN TO HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED. VIRTUALLY ALL MPS WITH WHOM WE SPOKE WANT THE UNSC TO ENDORSE ANY MILITARY ACTION. THEY SUPPORT ADDITIONAL PRESSURE TO COMPEL IRAQ TO ADHERE TO EXISTING OBLIGATIONS, BUT DO NOT BELIEVE EXISTING UNSCRS OFFER A SUFFICIENT LEGAL BASIS FOR ATTACK.

7. (C) OTHER ELEMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY CONCERN WE HAVE PICKED UP RELATE TO THE PERCEIVED UNILATERALISM OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. FOLLOWING RELATIVELY QUICK SUCCESS IN AFGHANISTAN, MPS WORRY THAT THE U.S. IS "LOOKING FOR ANOTHER FIGHT" AND WILL "IGNORE EVEN ITS CLOSE FRIENDS" IF THEY OBJECT. THEY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT MANY HAVE NOT RETHOUGHT BASIC UK AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SITUATIONS SINCE SEPTEMBER 11, AND THEY ALSO ACCEPT THAT U.S. ACTIONS SINCE 9/11 HAVE BEEN MEASURED AND TAKEN IN CONSULTATION WITH ALLIES. NONETHELESS, THERE IS THE IMPRESSION THAT U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IS INCREASINGLY DRIVEN BY TOO-NARROW SECURITY INTERESTS, AND THAT THE U.S. IS NOT ACKNOWLEDGING THE RELEVANCE OF THE UK TO THE U.S. AGENDA.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LONDON 02066 02 OF 03 021705Z

CONSTRAINTS ON BLAIR

8. (C) MANY LABOR (AND LIBDEM) MPS HAVE INSISTED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER CONSULT PARLIAMENT (AND SOME HAVE DEMANDED A VOTE) BEFORE OFFERING SUPPORT TO THE U.S. ON IRAQ. BLAIR IS NOT COMPELLED TO DO SO; NEITHER MARGARET THATCHER NOR JOHN MAJOR ASKED PARLIAMENT TO VOTE BEFORE TAKING MILITARY ACTION IN THE FALKLANDS AND IN OPERATION DESERT STORM. STILL, BLAIR WOULD PAY A POLITICAL PRICE FOR IGNORING BACKBENCHERS COMPLETELY OR FAILING TO CONSULT HIS CABINET. IT IS OFTEN RECALLED THAT, IN THE 1990'S WHEN LABOR WAS IN OPPOSITION, LEFT-LEANING CLARE SHORT, WHO IS NOW SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, QUIT THE SHADOW CABINET TWICE OVER THE ISSUES OF INTERVENTION IN IRAQ AND SOMALIA. PRESSED ABOUT THIS IN A MARCH 15 INTERVIEW, SHE SAID, "THERE ARE CONDITIONS IN WHICH I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT ACTION, BUT I DO NOT EXPECT THEM TO BE PROPOSED." SHE WAS MORE EXPLICIT TWO DAYS LATER WHEN SHE DECLARED OPPOSITION TO "A BLIND MILITARY ATTACK ON IRAQ." ALSO IN THE CABINET, HOME

SECRETARY DAVID BLUNKETT HAS REPORTEDLY WARNED FELLOW MINISTERS PRIVATELY THAT BRITISH PARTICIPATION IN AN ATTACK ON IRAQ COULD LEAD TO A SERIOUS RISE IN RACIAL TENSION IN BRITAIN OR EVEN RIOTING.

9. (C) THERE HAVE BEEN A FEW SPECULATIVE PIECES IN THE MORE FEVERISH PRESS ABOUT LABOR UNEASE RE IRAQ POLICY (AND UNHAPPINESS WITH AN "ARROGANT" TONY BLAIR WHOSE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET DELIVERED ON SOCIAL POLICY), WHICH HAVE GONE ON
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 LONDON 02066 02 OF 03 021705Z
TO IDENTIFY THE BEGINNINGS OF A CHALLENGE TO BLAIR'S LEADERSHIP OF THE LABOR PARTY. MOST POLITICAL COMMENTATORS AND MPS SCOFF AT SUCH RUMORS. FORMER CABINET MEMBER PETER MANDELSON, STILL AN INSIDER, CALLED IT ALL "FROTH." NONETHELESS, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE 1997 ELECTION THAT SUCH A STORY IS EVEN BEING PRINTED.

TOLD US THE INTENTION OF THOSE FEEDING THE STORY IS NOT TO BRING DOWN BLAIR BUT TO INFLUENCE HIM ON THE IRAQ ISSUE.

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

10. (C) UNDER PARTY RULES, REBEL MPS CAN ONLY TRIGGER A VOTE OF NO-CONFIDENCE AT A PARTY CONFERENCE WITH THE SUPPORT OF UNION LEADERS AND THE BACKING OF THE CONSTITUENCY PARTY ORGANIZATIONS. IN OTHER WORDS, A LABOR PARTY LEADER CANNOT BE CHANGED JUST BY THE PARTY CAUCUS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, NOR CAN A CHANGE HAPPEN OVERNIGHT. IN FACT, THERE IS NO SIGN OF A REAL EFFORT TO UNSEAT BLAIR. MOREOVER, BLAIR AND HIS TEAM ARE WORKING TO MANAGE DISSENTING MP VIEWS. HE IS CONFIDENT THAT HE OCCUPIES THE POLITICAL CENTER AND SEEMS NOT OVERLY CONCERNED WITH BACKBENCH SNIPING -- THOUGH HE CANNOT HELP BUT NOTICE THAT HIS PERSONAL-POPULARITY NUMBERS HAVE APPRECIABLY SLIPPED.

WHAT BLAIR NEEDS TO MAKE HIS CASE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ2010

PAGE 01 LONDON 02066 03 OF 03 021705Z
ACTION EUR-00

INFO LOG-00 NP-00 AID-00 AMAD-00 ACQ-00 CIAE-00 INL-00
USNW-00 DODE-00 DOEE-00 DOTE-00 SRPP-00 DS-00 EB-00
FAAE-00 FBIE-00 VC-00 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-00
LAB-01 L-00 VCE-00 MOFM-05 MOF-01 AC-01 NEA-00
DCP-01 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OMB-01 OPIC-01 PA-00 PC-01
PM-00 PRS-00 ACE-00 P-00 SCT-00 SP-00 SSO-00
TRSE-00 USIE-00 PMB-00 DSCC-00 PRM-00 DRL-02 G-00
SAS-00 SWCI-00 /015W

-----7DE3F2 021706Z /38

O 021709Z APR 02

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7581
INFO ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 LONDON 002066

NOFORN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/20/2015
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, PGOV, UK
SUBJECT: IRAQ COALITION-BUILDING: UK LABOR PARTY NOT YET
CONVINCED

11. (C) WHAT WOULD IT TAKE TO CONVINCE LABOR
PARLIAMENTARIANS TO SUPPORT MILITARY ACTION AGAINST IRAQ?
REVULSION WITH THE IRAQI REGIME IS ALREADY WIDESPREAD, BUT
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 02066 03 OF 03 021705Z
THAT DOES NOT NECESSARILY TRANSLATE INTO SUPPORT FOR WAR.
SOME MPS WOULD ENDORSE ACTION IF THEY HAD PROOF THAT IRAQ HAS
CONTINUED TO DEVELOP WMD SINCE UN INSPECTORS LEFT. MORE
WOULD FOLLOW IF CONVINCED THAT IRAQ HAS SUCCEEDED IN
DEVELOPING SIGNIFICANT WMD CAPABILITY (NOT JUST CW, BUT BW
AND/OR NUCLEAR/RADIOLOGICAL) AND THE MISSILES TO DELIVER IT.
MANY MORE WOULD FOLLOW IF THEY SEE COMPELLING EVIDENCE THAT
IRAQ INTENDS AND PLANS TO USE SUCH WEAPONS. A CLEAR MAJORITY
WOULD SUPPORT MILITARY ACTION AGAINST IRAQ IF SADDAM IS
IMPLICATED IN THE 9/11 ATTACKS OR OTHER EGREGIOUS ACTS OF
TERRORISM. OTHER FACTORS OF INFLUENCE INCLUDE SUCH VARIABLES
AS: ARAB SENTIMENT, PROGRESS IN THE MEPP, UN SUPPORT,
CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, AND HAVING A PLAN THAT WORKS.

12. (C) SINCE MAKING HIS DECISION TO MOVE TO A MORE ROBUST
PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ON IRAQ, BLAIR PLUS STRAW AND DEFENSE
SECRETARY HOON HAVE MADE A STRING OF TOUGH STATEMENTS. BLAIR
WAS ESPECIALLY FORTHRIGHT WHEN STANDING ALONGSIDE VP CHENEY
ON MARCH 11. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
MOREOVER, BLAIR, STRAW, AND BRADSHAW HAVE LATELY SHOWN SOME
INTEREST IN THE IRAQI OPPOSITION. NORMALLY RECEIVED BY
LOW-RANKING FCO OFFICIALS, BOTH THE INC AND THE "GROUP OF 4"
OPPOSITION GROUPS WERE RECEIVED BY BRADSHAW WITHIN DAYS OF
EACH OTHER EARLIER THIS MONTH, AND BLAIR HAS REPORTEDLY ASKED
FCO FOR A RECOMMENDATION ON WHETHER HE SHOULD MEET WITH
OPPOSITION LEADERS.

13. (C) BLAIR HAS PROVED AN EXCELLENT JUDGE OF POLITICAL
TIMING, AND HE WILL NEED TO BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL ABOUT WHEN
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LONDON 02066 03 OF 03 021705Z
TO LAUNCH A RAMPED-UP CAMPAIGN TO BUILD SUPPORT FOR ACTION
AGAINST IRAQ. HE WILL WANT NEITHER TO BE TOO FAR IN FRONT,
OR BEHIND, U.S. POLICY. AS ONE FCO OFFICIAL POINTED OUT TO

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

US, IF BLAIR UNLEASHES A FULL-SCALE CAMPAIGN IN PARLIAMENT AND WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHEN PARLIAMENT RETURNS FROM THE EASTER RECESS, AND U.S. POLICY TURNS OUT TO BE ON A LONGER-TERM TRAJECTORY, WHEN THE TIME COMES FOR ACTION, THE PM MAY FIND THAT HIS PREPARATIONS HAVE COME UNGLUED. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF HE WAITS TOO LONG, THEN THE KEYSTONE OF ANY COALITION WE WISH TO BUILD MAY NOT BE FIRMLY IN PLACE. NO DOUBT THESE ARE THE CALCULATIONS THAT BLAIR HOPES TO FIRM UP WHEN HE MEETS THE PRESIDENT AT CRAWFORD APRIL 5-7.
FARISH

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Having read the above, ask yourself the question is Tony Blair a War Criminal?

Petition

Arrest Tony Blair for war crimes in the middle east and misleading the public.

Tony Blair led us into a war, using lies and deception, resulting in the death of thousands of our soldiers and hundreds of thousands of civilians. His actions have given rise to instability in the region and terror groups the freedom to rise. He should be arrested and put in prison.

Sign this petition

3,352 signatures

10,000



At 10,000 signatures...

At 10,000 signatures, government will respond to this petition

[British Citizens and British Residents can sign the petition \(click the above image\)](#)

The original source of this article is Global Research
Copyright © [Global Research News](#), Global Research, 2015

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca