

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 51/114/98

18 December 1998

Further information on EXTRA 101/98 (AMR 51/110/98, 16 December 1998) and follow-up (AMR 51/112/98, 17 December 1998) - Fear of indiscriminate mass killing of civilians in Iraq

USA/UK/IRAQ

At least two hospitals are reported to have been hit as a result of US and UK air strikes in Baghdad. A rice storage house in the town of Tikrit, north of Baghdad, is also said to have been hit and burnt down by a missile.

International Humanitarian Law prohibits attacks which, although aimed at a legitimate military target, have an indiscriminate or disproportionate impact on civilians. Amnesty International is concerned that International Humanitarian Law may be being violated by the US and UK action.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or in your own language:

- reminding the US and UK governments of the general prohibition contained in International Humanitarian Law standards against attacking hospitals and other civilian objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population.

APPEALS TO:

Bill Clinton
President
The White House
Office of the President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington DC 20500
United States of America

Telegrams: President, Washington DC, United States America
Faxes: + 1 202 456 2461
E-mails: president@whitehouse.gov
Salutation: Dear President

Tony Blair
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1 2AL
United Kingdom

Telegrams: Prime Minister, London, United Kingdom
Telephone: + 44 171 270 3000
Faxes: + 44 171 925 0918 / 270 0196
Salutation: Dear Prime Minister

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of the US and UK accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.

Amnesty International members in the UK and US are requested not to write appeals to their own governments on this issue.