

PUBLIC

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17 December 1998

**Further information on EXTRA 101/98 (AMR 51/110/98, 16 December 1998) -
Indiscriminate killing of civilians in Iraq**

USA/UK/IRAQ

In Baghdad 30 people were reportedly killed and at least 100 injured in last night's air strike by United States and United Kingdom forces.

Two girls, aged 21 months and four years, were reportedly killed when missiles hit the Karrada and Hai al-'Adl residential districts of Baghdad. At least 20 houses are also thought to have been destroyed. It is not known if there were any casualties outside the capital.

US officials say more attacks are imminent, posing a high risk of further civilian casualties. One missile apparently landed in the city of Khoramshar in Iran; although no casualties were reported, this does illustrate the high risk of accidental civilian fatalities.

The attack, code-named "Operation Desert Fox", was launched at 22.00 hours GMT on 16 December 1998 and reportedly lasted six hours.

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

To the US and UK Governments:

- deploring the civilian loss of life and injuries that resulted from the military attacks by US and UK forces on Baghdad on 16 December 1998;
- urging them to consider the inevitable loss of civilian life in the event of further military attacks on Iraq.

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.