

131



DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

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# SPOT COMMENTARY

[REDACTED]

26 February 1991  
0600 EST

**IRAQ-KUWAIT: SITUATION REPORT #608**

## Political Developments

### **Saddam Announces Withdrawal**

In a radio address early today, Saddam Husayn said his army would "continue its withdrawal from Kuwait and complete it on this day." Saddam lauded his forces for their "heroic combat" against the coalition and declared, "you have won ... you are victorious." He avoided explicitly renouncing his annexation of Kuwait, elusively stating that Kuwait was a part of Iraq from 2 August to 24 February, when the withdrawal began. Saddam made no explicit reference to any UN resolution. [REDACTED]

### **Soviet Exegesis of Saddam's Speech**

Some 20 minutes after the conclusion of Saddam's speech, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Belonogov told a Moscow press conference he believed Saddam's withdrawal announcement satisfied "all interested parties" in the Gulf war and urged the UN to call an immediate cease-fire. Belonogov did not address the other 11 UN resolutions that bear on the Gulf crisis, except to note that Saddam had renounced his annexation of Kuwait by reciting the inclusive date during which Kuwait had been part of Iraq. [REDACTED]

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29

Pages: 2-4

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