

[Redacted]

(b)(1)  
A88 (b)(3)

**Tariq 'AZIZ**  
(Phonetic: ahZEEZ)

IRAQ

*Deputy Prime Minister (since 1979);  
Member, Revolutionary Command Council  
(since 1977); Minister of Foreign  
Affairs (since 1983)*

*Addressed as: Mr. Minister*



Tariq 'Aziz [Redacted]

[Redacted]

his  
mastery of English and diplomatic demeanor  
should not be construed as pro-Western sentiment.

he will  
do Saddam's bidding whatever the task. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

formulating foreign policy before the invasion of Kuwait on 2 August 1990. We believe his  
importance has since waned. Although he has publicly exhibited a hardline position, he may  
have privately opposed the invasion. [Redacted] His close  
identification with efforts to improve ties to the United States in the 1980s may have further  
eroded his standing. [Redacted]

Throughout his career, 'Aziz has advocated a more conciliatory foreign policy. For  
example, he led the Iraqi delegation to the Iraq-Iran peace talks and is the official most  
closely associated with Iraq's postwar attempt to join the international community. He  
consistently worked to improve relations with the United States before their official  
reestablishment in 1984. 'Aziz was a chief advocate of Egypt's reintegration into the Arab  
fold. He has supported a negotiated settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and urged the  
PLO to adopt moderate positions. [Redacted]

As a member of Iraq's small Christian community, 'Aziz cannot take power in Muslim-  
dominated Iraq and does not pose a threat to Saddam. His party credentials are impeccable.  
He participated in the 1968 coup that brought the Ba'th Party to power. As Minister of  
Information during 1974-77 and then as a member of the Revolutionary Command Council  
and the party's Regional Command, he helped Saddam undermine then President Ahmad  
al-Bakr. [Redacted] Saddam made 'Aziz Deputy Prime Minister after  
Bakr's ouster in 1979 and added the Foreign Ministry to his responsibilities in 1983. [Redacted]

'Aziz was born in 1936. [Redacted]

'Aziz and his wife, Violette, have at least two children. [Redacted]

LDA M 90-17061  
11 December 1990

[Redacted]