

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED] (b)(3)

SENIOR EXECUTIVE INTELLIGENCE BRIEF  
 15 January 2003  
 PASS SEIB 03-012CHX

**Iraq: Saddam Again Turns to Human Shields** [REDACTED] (b)(3)

***Saddam is resorting to his old tactic of using human shields to try to protect his regime during an attack.*** Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz last week invited foreign volunteers to come to Iraq as "civil defenders" at food depots, oil refineries, and water and power stations in the event of a US-led assault, and [REDACTED] claim that at least 100 Jordanians and many Europeans and US citizens plan to go to Iraq this month for that purpose. (b)(3)

[REDACTED] (b)(1)  
 (b)(3)

***Saddam has used the human shields tactic during various crises with the UN and the West over the past 12 years.*** In late 1990, Baghdad moved more than 800 captured coalition nationals in Iraq and Kuwait, including at least 104 US citizens, to strategic sites. The action failed to deter coalition action and earned Iraq broad condemnation [REDACTED] (b)(3)

***Baghdad's current appeals for volunteer shields so far have stirred less international controversy.*** Tariq Aziz, in the invitation last week, indicated that the foreign volunteers would not be used at factories, industrial complexes, and public buildings that the US might target.

-- Other lower-cost variations of this tactic that the Iraqi regime could initiate include pressing Iraqi citizens to "volunteer" as shields at strategic sites; during a confrontation with the UN in 1997, Saddam used promises of extra food rations and coercion to prompt hundreds of Iraqi families to protect some 80 palaces and other sensitive sites, [REDACTED] (b)(1)  
 (b)(3)

***Saddam is likely to revert to a more aggressive use of human shields when he assesses that other efforts to forestall or complicate US action are failing.*** He may again prevent foreigners, including diplomats and UN personnel, from leaving Iraq and force them to strategic locations. (b)(1)  
 (b)(3)

[REDACTED] (b)(1)  
 (b)(3)

~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED] (b)(3)

~~TOP SECRET~~

(b)(3)

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

*Because Saddam most likely believes his removal from power is the US goal, he may be less reluctant than in the past to put foreign civilians and coalition POWs in certain-death situations.*

- During the Gulf war, Saddam freed all foreign hostages before the start of hostilities and did not follow through on threats to hold coalition POWs at strategic sites.
- Former Gen. Wafiq al-Samarra'i, who fled Iraq in late 1994, told British journalists that Saddam in 1991 had even more elaborate plans to use the POWs. Samarra'i said Saddam ordered Iraqi commanders to capture some 5,000 British and US soldiers and tie them to the front of Iraqi tanks

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

~~TOP SECRET//~~

(b)(3)