

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

September 27, 2022

John Greenewald, Jr.
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Reference: EOM-2020-00253

Dear Requester:

This letter is a final response to your 20 January 2020 Mandatory Declassification Review request referenced above and submitted under Executive Order 13526 for:

The CIA's assessment of the threat from Iraqi UAVs, dated March 3, 2003.

We completed a thorough search for records responsive to your request and located the enclosed document which we can release in segregable form with deletions as marked on the basis of Sections 1.4(c) and 6.2(d) of the Order.

As the CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator, I am the CIA official responsible for this determination. You have the right to appeal this response to the Agency Release Panel within 90 days from the date of this letter. Please explain the basis for your appeal. You may address appellate correspondence to:

Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

If you have any questions regarding this response, you may seek assistance by calling this office at 703-613-1287.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony J. Capitos".

Anthony J. Capitos
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Central Intelligence Agency




Washington, D.C. 20505

Enclosure

This document is made available through the declassification efforts
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

The Black Vault



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~~TOP SECRET~~ [redacted] **DOO C0198** 6.2(d)
Purta Goss Memo

3 March 2003

SUBJECT: The Threat From Iraqi UAVs

1.4(c)
6.2(d)

1. [redacted]
[redacted] regarding the threat to the United States from Iraqi unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) [redacted] we are concerned about the potential for WMD armed UAVs to be used against the US mainland. In addition, various sources suggest that Saddam might use chemical or more likely biological (CBW) agent armed UAVs against coalition forces and our allies in the Persian Gulf theater.

1.4(c)

2. [redacted] We have no definite indications that Baghdad is planning to use WMD armed UAVs against the US mainland. However, in June an Iraqi UAV procurement agent ordered six UAV autopilots with six copies of commercially available route planning software and an embedded topographic database that provides coverage of the United States. This database and software—designed for use by motorists and aviators—could support programming of a UAV autopilot for operation in the United States. Although, the procurement agent was unsuccessful in this effort to acquire the software, the product can be easily purchased online from other vendors or from stores.

6.2(d)

[redacted] Although we cannot exclude the possibility that this purchase was directed by Baghdad, information acquired in October suggests that it may have been inadvertent on the part of the procurement agent. We are attempting to collect additional information regarding Iraq's intentions with this software.

6.2(d)

3. [redacted] Although we have no evidence that Iraq has forward deployed small UAVs to the vicinity of the US mainland, it is technically feasible that they could do so.

1.4(c)

[redacted]

[redacted] It is also technically possible that Iraq could [redacted] launch small UAVs from ships against the US mainland, however we have no evidence that such a capability has been tested.

6.2(d)

1.4(c)

~~TOP SECRET~~ [redacted]

6.2(d)

~~TOP SECRET~~ [redacted]

6.2(d)

SUBJECT: The Threat to the US From Iraqi UAVs

[redacted]

1.4(c)

4. [redacted] Iraq could use CBW configured UAVs in theater against US forces and our allies.

6.2(d)

[redacted]

1.4(c)

5. [redacted] We are concerned about the scope and nature of Iraq's UAV-related procurement and development efforts.

6.2(d)

[redacted]

1.4(c)

~~TOP SECRET~~ [redacted]

6.2(d)

~~TOP SECRET~~ [Redacted]

6.2(d)

SUBJECT: The Threat to the US From Iraqi UAVs

Distribution:

~~TOP SECRET~~ [Redacted]

6.2(d)