

Salim's Personal Notes

Thursday, January 24, 1991

- A Saudi Air Force F-15 fighter reportedly shot down two Iraqi migs over Southern Iraq or Kuwait according to a Saudi Military Spokesman.

Finally, on this the eight day of the war, the U.S. led coalition and Iraq have given widely divergent statistics for aircraft lost. Figures given by the two sides as early morning of Thursday were :

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| - Iraqi figures of allied plans lost | 169 |
| - Iraqi figures of planes/missiles lost | 36 |
| - Allied figures | 24 |
- (US: 16; British 5; Kuwaiti 1, Italian 1, Saudi 1)

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH

In the course of the day I received a message from the President of the United States, H.E. George Bush. The message delivered through a formal letter by the Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the United States of America in Addis Ababa, Mr. Robert G. Houdek was addressed to both the current Chairman President Yoweri Museveni and myself. It is a reply to our appeal sent to President Bush on January 21. It would be recalled that on the same day we also dispatched an appeal to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

Full text of President Bush's letter/message to the
Current Chairman and I reads as follows :

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Dear Chairman Museveni and Secretary-General Salim:

Thank you for your letter of January 21 informing me of the Organization of African Unity's appeal to Saddam Hussein to withdraw Iraqi troops from Kuwait in accordance with the Resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.

The United States appreciates the support it is receiving from the OAU and the vast majority of its member states in the current crisis. We are encouraged by the fact that African countries have taken a clear and firm position against Iraqi aggression and for the restoration of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kuwait.

These are exactly the goals the United States and its coalition allies, including several African States, are pursuing through our combat operations. As I stated in my address to the American people on January 16, the objectives of the United States and its allies are clear: "Saddam Hussein's forces will leave Kuwait, the legitimate Government of Kuwait will be restored to its rightful place, and Kuwait will once again be free."

The United States and the entire world community had hoped that the Gulf crisis could be resolved peacefully. As you know, five and a half months of intensive diplomatic efforts failed to persuade Iraq to comply with the will of the United Nations. Iraq made it abundantly clear that it had no intention of obeying the Resolutions of the Security Council.

In the face of Saddam Hussein's repeated rejection of all diplomatic and peaceful options to resolve the crisis, the

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U.S. and its allies in the coalition had no alternative but to initiate combat operations.

I sincerely hope that your appeal on behalf of the people and countries of Africa, together with the past appeals of so many others, succeeds in convincing Saddam to immediately and completely withdraw his troops from Kuwait. For when Iraq complies with all relevant UN Resolutions, peace can be restored.

As it has from the beginning, the choice between war and peace rests with Saddam Hussein. He can either comply with the will of the international community as embodied in the Resolutions of the Security Council and expressed in your own appeal by withdrawing from Kuwait; or he will continue to bear the devastation of war.

Sincerely,

George Bush"

TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT MUSEVENI

Immediately after I received the letter from President Bush I faxed the same to President Museveni at State House, Entebbe.

At 1720 hours I spoke over the telephone with President Yoweri Museveni who was at State House Entebbe. My fax message