

REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

Prime minister's office

جمهورية العراق
مكتب رئيس الوزراء

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Statement by the Prime Minister of Iraq, Dr. Iyad Allawi

There has been repeated doubt and questioning by members of the press and the Iraqi and International community in regards to the previous Saddam Hussein regime ownership of Weapons of Mass Destruction that could threaten global peace and stability.

I can now announce that the United States Department of Defense and Department of Energy have completed a joint operation to secure and remove from Iraq radiological and nuclear materials that the ousted regime could have potentially used in a radiological dispersal device or diverted to support a nuclear weapons program.

1.77 metric tons of low-enriched uranium and roughly 1000 highly radioactive sources from the former Iraq nuclear research facility have been found in Iraq and safely transported to the United States.

Additional less sensitive materials that will remain in Iraq has been repackaged according to the highest standards and international regulations by the US Department of Energy in addition to the continual use of radiological sources that serve as useful medical, agricultural or industrial purposes.

Iraq has no intention and no will to resume these programs in the future, these materials which are potential weapons of mass murder are not welcome in our country and their production is unacceptable.

We are now in a new era, an era of providing for our people and insuring them that their government will direct its resources towards economic growth and national safety and security. The Iraqi government will no longer spend the riches of its nation on these destructive and illegal weapons, we are now at a time when we are devoted to improve the welfare of our nation and re-join the international markets through direct partnership with all nations.