



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

March 28, 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Historical Records Pertaining to Iraq

Historical records of the Department of Defense maintained during previous emergencies are of enduring historical significance for U.S. and world history and have been indispensable for rendering complete, accurate, and objective accountings of the government's activities to the American people. Moreover, they have provided the basis for the preparation of studies and analyses of policies, plans, operations, technology, logistics, and personnel that may have invaluable benefits for the national defense. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, that we preserve the historical record of the current experience pertaining to Iraq and derive from it information and lessons that can be applied in planning, shaping, and implementing the national defense in the future.

To this end, all elements of the Department of Defense should identify, collect, organize, and preserve records, including paper, electronic media, imagery and recorded information pertinent to activities in connection with current and projected operations.

The Director of Administration and Management may issue such instructions as may be necessary to implement this memorandum.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Paul Wolfowitz", is written over the typed name.

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