E.O. 13526, section 1.4(c)
MEMORANDUM FOR: GENERAL PACE, VCJCS

SUBJECT: Security at the Al Rashid Hotel

Sir:

The Deputy Secretary forward the attached OSD Policy/NESA packet to you with the following comments:

"Let's discuss. I'm becoming a pain on this one, but it really worries me. PW"

Thank you.

Very respectfully,

Stephen T. Garyard
Colonel, USMC
Military Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense
From the Desk of
Paul Wolfowitz

Pete Pace –
Let’s discuss.
I'm becoming a pain
on this one, but it really
worries me.

PW
FOR: DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: Douglas J. Feith

SUBJECT: Security at the Al Rashid Hotel

You noted the continuing security threat to the military and CPA civilian personnel billeted at the Al Rashid.

Central Command has made a detailed study of physical security at the Al Rashid.

- The recommendations of this study have been implemented.
- Security features such as additional barriers, exterior walls, and stand-off have been added.

Nonetheless the Al Rashid remains a lucrative terrorist target, due to the large concentration of American and Coalition personnel who live there and pass in and out on a daily basis.

You may want to ask General Abizaid to consider dispersing those now living at the Al Rashid to a number of sites.

- General Abizaid and his subordinates are best-placed to analyze the trade-offs such a dispersal would entail.

RECOMMENDATION: That you sign the attached Memorandum to General Abizaid (Tab A)

COORDINATION: None
Attachment: as stated

Prepared by: C. Straub, 692-4905

DUSD(NESA)
MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMANDER, U.S. CENTRAL COMMAND

SUBJECT: Security at the Al Rashid Hotel, Baghdad

- As you know, the concentration of U.S. and Coalition military and civilian personnel living at the Al Rashid Hotel in Baghdad presents a lucrative target for our adversaries.

- I appreciate CENTCOM's extensive effort to analyze and reduce security vulnerabilities at the Al Rashid. But the recent indirect-fire attack reminds us that we still have a problem.

- We might be able to reduce our vulnerabilities still further by dispersing those who live at the Al Rashid to other sites. I would like to see a CENTCOM plan for such a dispersal together with your recommendation on the course of action which will provide the best security for those currently living at the Al Rashid.
MEMO TO: General Pace

FROM: Paul Wolfowitz

SUBJECT: Al Rashid Hotel

Pete,

I am going to draft a memo for the Secretary's signature directing the Chairman to present to us with alternative housing possibilities in Baghdad to replace the Al Rashid Hotel.

At a minimum, we should look at:

1. Emergency construction of some housing somewhere on military-controlled real estate;

2. The rental and/or expropriation of some substantial residential area(s) in Baghdad.

What would be a short but realistic deadline to ask to have this assessment done?