

GROSS MARGARET A
79 KUWAIT 486

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ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-09 NASA-02 NSF-02 DOE-15
SOE-02 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAF-00
NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NAS-01 /095 W

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R 290606Z JAN 79
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2864
INFO AMEMBASSY APU DHARI
AMEMBASSY DOFA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
SECDEF WASHDC
USCINCEUR
USICA WASHDC
UNCLAS KUWAIT 0486
CINCEUR ALSO FOR POLAD
E.O. 12065:N/A

TAGS: MPOL, PINS, MASS, SOPN, TGEN, KU
SUBJECT: "UFO" SIGHTINGS CAUSE SECURITY CONCERN IN KUWAIT
1. A SERIES OF "UFO" SIGHTINGS ON NOVEMBER 9 CAUSED THE
GOK TO APPOINT AN INVESTIGATORY COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS FROM
THE KUWAIT INSTITUTE FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (KISR).
THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT WHICH WAS RELEASED JANUARY 20 DESCRIBED
EIGHT SIGHTINGS FROM NOVEMBER TO DECEMBER 14. A NUMBER OF
THE SIGHTINGS TOOK PLACE NEAR A KUWAIT OIL COMPANY
GATHERING CENTER NORTH OF KUWAIT CITY. RELEASE OF THE
COMMITTEE'S REPORT WAS SOMETHING OF A MEDIA EVENT AS IT
COINCIDED WITH JAN 21 FRONT PAGE STORIES OF YET ANOTHER "UFO"
SIGHTING OVER KUWAIT CITY, WHICH INCLUDED PHOTOGRAPHS IN
LOCAL NEWSPAPERS.

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2. THE KISR COMMITTEE REJECTED THE NOTION THAT THE
"UFO'S" WERE ESPIONAGE DEVICES BUT REMAINED EQUIVOCAL
ABOUT WHETHER THEY WERE OF EXTRATERRESTRIAL ORIGIN.
THE KISR COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE, RATIB ABU ID, TOLD
EMBOFF THAT THE SCIENTISTS DID NOT KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE
PHENOMENA TO SAY WITH CERTAINTY THAT THEY WEREN'T
"SPACESHIPS". THE REPORT WENT
ON TO RECOMMEND THAT THE GOVERNMENT TAKE ALL POSSIBLE
MEASURES TO PROTECT KUWAIT'S AIR SPACE AND TERRITORY AS
WELL AS THE COUNTRY'S OIL RESOURCES.
3. SOME LOCAL WAGS HAVE MADE LIGHT OF THE FIRST UFO
SIGHTINGS WHICH CAME NEAR THE END OF THE LONG AND
TRADITIONALLY EXUBERANT HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS OF ID-AL-ADFA.
HOWEVER WE HAVE LEARNED RECENTLY OF AN EVENT COINCIDENT WITH ONE OF THE
UFO SIGHTINGS WHICH HAS

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