

Washington, D.C. 20539

March 5, 1984

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
TO: -ETRD - Vehicles File

FROM:

SUBJECT: Notifying Congress of truck sale

On March 2 I phoned Allison Fortier, minority staffer on the HFAC Europe and Mideast Subcommittee, to advise that we had notified Commerce that we have no foreign policy objection to the licensing of 2000, five-ton trucks, worth some \$227 million, to be exported to Iraq. I told Ms. Fortier that these trucks are among the four CCL categories requiring foreign policy review for export to regions of tension, and that we had denied a similar license application in the summer of 1982. I noted that in 1982 we had just removed Iraq from the terrorism list, and had questions about putting it back under anti-terrorism trade controls. Moreover, at that time Iraq was less obviously on the defensive in the war. I noted that components of the trucks are manufactured in IL, IN, OH, PA, NY, MI. I emphasized that this information is commercially sensitive, particularly because the sale has not been completed pending financing. I stated that my object in informing her was to let her use the information with appropriate members, so that they would not feel blindsided when learning about the sale later from other sources. I advised that Ambassador Murphy had also informed Senator Boschwitz of the sale. Ms. Fortier asked whether we knew, or had asked Iraq, if the trucks were to be used for military purposes. I told her we presumed that this was Iraq's intention, and had not asked.

Ms. Fortier said she very much appreciated the report and would maintain its confidentiality. She would advise majority staffer Mike Van Dusen, Cong. Winn, and the Chairman, noting that it is not for publication.

Drafted:

cc: