. U. Carson

On the Record

- The Vice President heard in his regular intelligence briefing that Iraq was trying to acquire Uranium from Niger. As part of the regular briefing process, the Vice President asked a question about the implication of Iraq trying to acquire Uranium from Niger. (Note: During the course of the year, the Vice President asks the Agency many questions.) The Agency responded within a day or two. The Agency said that they had reporting suggesting the possibility of such a transaction but the reporting lacked detail. The Agency pointed out that Iraq already had 500 tons of yellowcake, portions of which came from Niger according to the IAEA.
- The Vice President was unaware of the Joe Wilson trip and did not know about it until June of this year, when it was first discussed in the press.
- The Vice President did not see Wilson's trip report until recently.
- The Vice President saw the NIE last fall, which he took to be authoritative.

Deep Background (as Administration Official)

 The only written record of Joe Wilson trip included that "the former Prime Minister of Niger said he had been approached by and met with a delegation of Iraqi officials in what he believed to be an effort to acquire more Uranium in 1999."

Notes

- · Give straight report on NIE.
- Mention "vigorously pursue."

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