

OCT 27 2004



INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE
2400 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2400

2004 OCT 28 AM 8:02



I-04/014323
ES-1178

USDP *copy provided 1-16/10/27/04*

INFO MEMO

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs
(Peter W. Rodman, 695-4351) *PR* 27 OCT 2004

SUBJECT: Message from PM Koizumi on Hostage Situation

Japanese Ambassador Kato phoned me at 11:25 pm Tuesday 26 October with a message for you from PM Koizumi regarding the Japanese hostage taken in Iraq.

First, the PM wants us to know that "we will never withdraw our forces from Iraq. We will never waver," said Kato.

Second, the GOJ would "appreciate cooperation and information" from the USG with respect to the whereabouts and situation of the hostage, as well as our "best efforts" to secure the hostage's release. (He did not further specify.)

Kato said the same message was being conveyed in Tokyo to Ambassador Baker.

I thanked Ambassador Kato for the message and reiterated the USG'S appreciation for Japan's steadfastness.

Prepared by: ASD/ISA Peter W. Rodman, 695-4351



OSD 17132-04