

# CONFIDENTIAL

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ACCESS FOR LEVEL 4 AND ABOVE

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**Hudson.** Dr. Stone, you were present in Kuwait in March of 1993, is that correct?

**Stone.** That is correct.

**Hudson.** Would you please state for this committee the circumstances under which you were in Kuwait at the time, and by what authority?

**Stone.** Certainly, Senator, and thank you for providing me with the opportunity to speak before you this morning. During March of '93, I was present in Iraq as the appointed Senior Advisor to UNSCOM, a role I have held since the fall of 1991, when I was first asked to assist in reviewing Iraq's biological and chemical weapons capabilities.

As several members of this subcommittee are aware, I am also a standing member of the JASON advisory group, and in this role have co-authored numerous reports providing situation assessments and recommendations to military and executive offices.

**Meriweather.** And what is your current affiliation, Doctor Stone?

**Stone.** At present, and since 1993, I have served as acting Director of Microbiology & Immunology at Stanford University.

**Meriweather.** Thank you.

**Hudson.** Doctor Stone, would you please state for this committee the exact dates during which you were present in Iraq?

**Stone.** I visited our troops on several occasions. This particular trip took place from March 29 to April 23, 1993. Just under a month.

**Hudson.** Thank you. And during this particular trip, were you provided with the proper advance notification that a bombing was to take place in the morning hours of April 18?

**Stone.** I was told that the bombing was to take place on April 20. The bombing, as far as I can tell, took place approximately 48 hours ahead of schedule, and I was given no prior notification. When I requested a copy of the internal directive accelerating the timeframe for the aerial strike, I found that it had come as a unilateral order from the commanding officer.

**Wayans.** Do you recall the name of that officer?

**Stone.** I do indeed, Senator. The C.O. was Lt. General George W. Mancheck.

**Hudson.** I see. And what was your reaction to this unanticipated change in the schedule?

**Stone.** I was surprised, to say the least. Furthermore, when I confronted the Lt. General about his order, and the seeming lack of higher authorization, he refused to provide any details or justification. Mancheck also denied my repeated requests for clearance to his superiors.

This seemed particularly suspicious, since I was scheduled to visit the targeted facilities the next morning as part of a mandated UNSCOM inspection.

**Wayans.** And it is your allegation that you were intentionally misled as to the time of the air strike?

**Stone.** That's correct.

**Meriweather.** To what end, Doctor?

**Stone.** I have good reason to believe that the accelerated air strike was an intentional effort to ensure that I would be unable to inspect the facilities. More to the point, I believe that this was a deliberate effort to prevent me from verifying that Iraqi forces were in possession of several advanced biological and/or chemical agents.

**Hudson.** And what basis do you have for this allegation?

**Stone.** Several of my UN colleagues had already ascertained that the Iraqis were in possession of

agents including EGAR 339, the Sindbis Virus, as well as samples of Type 3 Dengue Virus. And there is ample cause to believe that these agents were first provided to the Iraqis by the United States government.

Both of these strains are documented as within American possession, and it is well-established that our government has, under the banner of strategic initiatives, provided pathogenic materials to known dictators - the same dictators whose attack capabilities we are now struggling to disarm.

**Wayans.** Doctor Stone, I need to ask you this clearly, for the record: are you asserting that Lt. General Mancheck made a conscious effort to interfere with sanctioned UN inspections in Kuwait, in an attempt to conceal the presence of evidence that Saddam received his bioweapon capabilities from American forces?

**Stone.** That is exactly what I'm asserting, yes.

**Meriweather.** Doctor Stone - Jeremy - for chrissakes, I don't think I need to remind you that how serious an allegation this is, even within a closed session. Do you have any hard evidence with which you can prove this?

**Stone.** Come on Tom, are you kidding me? Everyone in the government knows that the U.S. stayed in bed with Saddam Hussein until the exact moment at which it no longer served our interests. Come on, Senators. That's not exactly the best-kept secret in American military history. I know it, you know it, and if Mancheck hadn't broken protocol to initiate a bombing ahead of schedule, Jack Nash would have had enough evidence to make damn sure the American people knew it as well.

**Hudson.** That's enough, Doctor Stone. While we respect your expertise, such aggressive speculation is altogether inappropriate for this setting. If you have nothing factual to substantiate your claims, we need to move on.

**Stone.** Doesn't sound like I have much choice.

**Wayans.** Do you have any additional testimony relevant to the actual business of this committee, Doctor, or are we finished?

**Stone.** I do, yes. Regardless of whether Mancheck's actions reflect an attempt to conceal America's past indiscretions, the air strike that took place on

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April 18, 1993, appears to have resulted in the release of unverified biochemical toxins over an extended area.

Based on recorded wind-patterns from the morning hours of April 18, these toxins may have reached both civilian and military populations in the immediate region. And, while further interviews and examinations are required, it currently appears that there is a high correlation between the soldiers in the affected region, and the subsequent appearance of symptoms consistent with the emerging condition referred to as Gulf War Syndrome.

**Wayans.** But isn't it true that--

**Stone.** I'm not quite finished, Senator. The fact is, it is both possible and probable that Mancheck's decision to bomb the bunker, regardless of his reasons, is directly responsible for a physiological and psychological condition that now afflicts more than 150 members of our armed forces.

**Hudson.** We appreciate your assessment, Doctor, but isn't it true that the condition you refer to as "Gulf War Syndrome" is both unproven, and may very well be a psychosomatic manifestation resulting from irresponsible media coverage and partisan allegations?

**Stone.** I do not believe that to be the case, no. As a matter of fact, I am currently gathering funding for a public research initiative through Stanford that would examine veterans suffering from Gulf War Syndrome in hopes of establishing the origin of the condition --

*DOCUMENT ENDS.*