

Administration Statements on Iraq Training al Qa'ida in Chemical and Biological Weapons

Speaker	Date	Quote	Location
Bush	10/07/02	We know that Iraq and al Qaeda have had high-level contacts that go back a decade. ... We've learned that Iraq has trained al Qaeda members in bomb-making and poisons and deadly gases.	Speech in Cincinnati
Bush	02/06/03	One of the greatest dangers we face is that weapons of mass destruction might be passed to terrorists, who would not hesitate to use those weapons. Saddam Hussein has longstanding, direct and continuing ties to terrorist networks. ... Iraq has also provided al Qaeda with chemical and biological weapons training.	Statement in the Roosevelt Room
Bush	02/08/03	Saddam Hussein has longstanding, direct and continuing ties to terrorist networks. ... Iraq has also provided al Qaeda with chemical and biological weapons training. And an al Qaeda operative was sent to Iraq several times in the late 1990s for help in acquiring poisons and gases.	President's Radio Address
Cheney	09/14/03	We learned more and more that there was a relationship between Iraq and al-Qaeda that stretched back through most of the decade of the '90s, that it involved training, for example, on BW and CW, that al-Qaeda sent personnel to Baghdad to get trained on the systems that are involved.	<i>Meet the Press</i>
Cheney	01/09/04	We know for example from interrogating detainees in Guantanamo that al Qaida sent individuals to Baghdad to be trained in C.W. and B.W. technology, chemical and biological weapons technology.	Rocky Mountain News
Powell	02/05/03	Al-Qaida continues to have a deep interest in acquiring weapons of mass destruction. As with the story of Zarqawi and his network, I can trace the story of a senior terrorist operative telling how Iraq provided training in these weapons to al-Qaida...He says bin Laden and his top deputy in Afghanistan, deceased al-Qaida leader Muhammad Atif, did not believe that al-Qaida labs in Afghanistan were capable enough to manufacture these chemical or biological agents. They needed to go somewhere else. They had to look outside of Afghanistan for help...They went to Iraq. The support that this detainee describes included Iraq	Address to the UN Security Council

Administration Statements on Iraq Training al-Qa'ida in Chemical and Biological Weapons

		offering chemical or biological weapons training for two al-Qaida associates beginning in December 2000. He says that a militant known as Abdallah al-Iraqi had been sent to Iraq several times between 1997 and 2000 for help in acquiring poisons and gasses. Abdallah al-Iraqi characterized the relationship he forged with Iraqi officials as successful.	
Rice	03/09/03	The strongest link of--of Saddam Hussein to al-Qaida--we've never said that he somehow masterminded 9/11 or was even involved in 9/11. ...But the strongest links to al-Qaida are really two. ...And secondly, a very strong link to training al-Qaida in chemical and biological weapons techniques. We know from a detainee that--the head of training for al-Qaida, that they sought help in developing chemical and biological weapons because they weren't doing very well on their own. They sought it in Iraq. They received the help.	<i>Face the Nation</i>
Rice	09/07/03	SNOW: Do you believe, because this is continually a subject of debate, that there was a link between al Qaeda and the regime of Saddam Hussein before the war? RICE: Absolutely. ...But we know that there was training of al Qaeda in chemical and perhaps biological warfare.	<i>Fox News Sunday</i>
Tenet	10/07/02	We have credible reporting that al-Qa'ida leaders sought contacts in Iraq who could help them acquire W.M.D. capabilities. The reporting also stated that Iraq has provided training to al-Qa'ida members in the areas of poisons and gases and making conventional bombs.	Letter to Senator Bob Graham
Tenet	02/11/03	Iraq has in the past provided training in document forgery and bomb-making to al-Qa'ida. It also provided training in poisons and gasses to two al-Qa'ida associates; one of these associates characterized the relationship he forged with Iraqi officials as successful. Mr. Chairman, this information is based on a solid foundation of intelligence. It comes to us from credible and reliable sources.	Prepared statement, SSCI
Tenet	02/12/03	[W]e also know from very reliable information that there's been some transfer of training in chemical and biologicals [sic] from the Iraqis to al Qaeda.	SASC Hearing

Administration Statements on Iraq Training al Qa'ida in Chemical and Biological Weapons

Fleischer	09/26/02	We have solid reporting of senior-level contacts between al Qaeda and Iraqi officials going back a decade, and, as Condi said, of chemical and biological agent training. ...There is credible reporting that al Qaeda leaders sought contacts in Iraq to acquire chemical and other weapons of mass destruction capabilities.	Press briefing
Feith	02/21/03	Well if you're focused specifically on the question of the links between the Saddam Hussein regime and al-Qaeda, people who do not see the link are just not familiar with the evidence, much of which we have in recent months talked about publicly. There have been linkages between the Iraqi government and al-Qaeda going back more or less a decade. They have involved co-operation between the Iraqi intelligence and al-Qaeda operatives on training and combined operations regarding bomb making and chemical and biological weapons.	ABC Interview