



GLOBAL SECURITY INSTITUTE

Robust Monitoring - A Peaceful and Effective Solution to the Iraq Crisis

The debate concerning Iraq's possible weapons of mass destruction and their elimination has devolved into an inadequate debate about inspections vs. war. In the interest of international peace and security, this debate must be transformed into an ongoing debate about how many inspectors/monitors are needed in Iraq to render the world safe.

The Global Security Institute encourages a redefinition of the debate in an explicit and public fashion.

1. UN Security Council Resolutions call for robust monitoring.

The goal of UN Security Council Resolutions 715 (1991), 1154 (1998), 1284 (1999) and 1441 (2002) is to assure Iraqi compliance with the disarmament obligations formulated under UN SC Res. 687 (1991). These resolutions all permit for a gradual transition from original short-term inspections at selected facilities to long term on-site monitoring by a substantial number of UN inspectors (so-called "robust" monitoring) until the Security Council establishes that such monitoring is no longer needed to assure Iraqi compliance with international ABC non-proliferation obligations.



2. President Carter: Robust monitoring represents most effective alternative.

In his January 31 statement, "An Alternative to War" former U.S. President Jimmy Carter stresses that robust monitoring represents the most effective alternative to resolve the Iraq crisis: <http://www.cartercenter.org/printdoc.asp?docID=1165&submenu=news>

"...[W]hat can be done to prevent the development of a real Iraqi threat? The most obvious answer is a sustained and enlarged inspection team, deployed as a permanent entity until the United States and other members of the U.N. Security Council determine that its presence is no longer needed. ...

"Even if Iraq should come into full compliance now, such follow-up monitoring will be necessary. The cost

of an on-site inspection team would be minuscule compared to war, Saddam would have no choice except to comply, the results would be certain, military and civilian casualties would be avoided, there would be almost unanimous worldwide support, and the United States could regain its leadership in combating the real threat of international terrorism."

3. North Korea: Robust monitoring can help resolve crisis.

On Feb. 12, the IAEA is expected to declare North Korea in non-compliance with the NPT and refer the case to the UN Security Council. In this case as in the case of Iraq, robust monitoring sets a better precedent than war in the international community's efforts to assure full, long-term compliance with international disarmament obligations.

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[Download a detailed brief on Robust Monitoring \(PDF\)](#)

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