

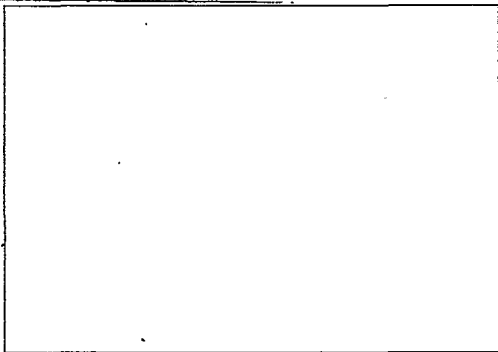
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DECL ON:  
DRV FRM:

TO: Michael F. Scheuer [redacted]  
FROM: [redacted]  
OFFICE: [redacted]  
DATE: 12/20/98 [redacted]  
SUBJECT: Re: urgent re ubl

[redacted] teleconference among the principals that was called as a result of the news that ubl is at the habash house. believe they are seriously considering a missile attack tonight. don't know for sure [redacted]

Mike,  
Thanks for the heads up. [redacted] DCI wanted my views - I said hit him tonight - we may not get another chance [redacted] But given the political mess there I had doubts the decision would be to go ahead - and I was correct. The call [redacted] was disappointing.

[redacted] we have been hammering the Taliban on UBL & that we would hold them responsible & the bombing of Iraq demonstrated the threat was real. The increased security on the streets [redacted] only raises the ante and makes it that much more difficult, dangerous to conduct the raid. I am not a hawk on the bombing [redacted] but we should have done it last night. We may well come to regret the decision not to go ahead.

CC:  
Sent on 21 December 1998 [redacted]

APPROVED FOR  
RELEASE DATE:  
25-April-2012

~~SECRET~~

