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GULF CRISIS - SITUATION REPORT

The situation on the ground in Kuwait is increasingly difficult. The Canadian Embassy in Kuwait is now advising the remaining members of the Canadian community in Kuwait to depart for Baghdad because of the deteriorating situation facing foreigners in Kuwait, particularly the supply of food and the possibility of cuts in water and electricity. This advice is being passed through the warden system which continues to function well as a means of maintaining contact with the Canadian community in Kuwait. The Embassy will be working over the next week to coordinate transportation of members of the Canadian community who wish to travel to Baghdad.

The Embassy in Kuwait remains open. The Canadian diplomatic staff will remain there as long as they are able to offer assistance to Canadians, have sufficient supplies of food and water and as long as their safety is not jeopardized. The Department remains in contact with the Embassy in Kuwait although communication continues to be intermittent. The Canadian Consul from Baghdad is also in Kuwait to assist Canadians.

The Canadian community in Kuwait continues to decrease as those who hold other passports receive exit visas and choose to leave. The Embassy estimates that there are now less than 100 members of the Canadian community in Kuwait.

The Iraqi authorities maintain their restriction preventing adult male Canadian passport holders from leaving Iraq. Canada continues to protest this order and to press Iraq to meet its international obligations and permit all foreigners who wish to leave Iraq to do so.