

*Administration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 2022*

**Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi of Iraq in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia**

*July 16, 2022*

*President Biden.* Well, Mr. President, it's great to see you again. We've known each other for a long time. You are painstakingly building an Iraqi democracy, and it's moving.

And I just want the press to know and you to know: We want to be as helpful as we can in doing that. We have great resources and assets. And putting those together, it will make a big difference for the region.

*Prime Minister Kadhimi.* Thank you, Mr. President. We consider our ties with the United States as one of friendship, a strategic relationship.

We work to implement all the articles of the strategic framework agreement between Iraq and the United States regarding economic cooperation, cultural cooperation, educational, and also security cooperation and fighting terrorist organizations and ISIS.

I'm thankful for the United States, for all of the support that it provided to the—to Iraq throughout this war. And we seek even better relations.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:56 a.m. at the Ritz-Carlton Jeddah hotel. In his remarks, Prime Minister Kadhimi referred to the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terrorist organization. Prime Minister Kadhimi spoke in Arabic, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter. Portions of these remarks could not be verified because the audio was incomplete.

*Categories:* Meetings With Foreign Leaders and International Officials : Iraq, Prime Minister Kadhimi.

*Locations:* Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

*Names:* Kadhimi, Mustafa al-.

*Subjects:* Iraq : Prime Minister; Iraq : Relations with U.S.; Iraq : U.S. assistance; Saudi Arabia : President Biden's visit.

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