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## IRAQ DENIES SECURITY CONCERNS BEHIND US EMBASSY PERSONNEL EVACUATION

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Rania Abu Shamala

A senior Iraqi government official confirmed Wednesday that the US decision to evacuate some nonessential personnel from its embassy in Baghdad is part of broader US diplomatic procedures across the Middle East, and not tied to any specific security threat within Iraq.

Speaking to the Iraqi News Agency (INA), the official said: This step is related to procedures concerning the US diplomatic presence in several Middle Eastern countries and is not specific to Iraq.

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