

Cmd Ctr WATCHO

From: Ops Team ADP Liaison, JCS NMCC (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, December 06, 2003 1:48 PM
To: 'Cmd Ctr WATCHO'
Subject: P4 CDR USCENTCOM

CLASSIFICATION: ~~S E C R E T~~

OPER/OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM//
MSGID/P4/CJCS//

DISTRO/TO:GEN ABIZAIID/USCENTCOM//

GENTEXT/PERSONAL FOR/GEN ABIZAIID FROM GEN MYERS

RMKS/ 1. (S) JOHN, THE JCS MET FRIDAY TO CONSIDER YOUR REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL INFANTRY BRIGADE TO ASSIST IN FILLING GAPS DURING THE TRANSITION BETWEEN OIF 1 AND OIF 2. AFTER CAREFUL DELIBERATION OF THE GLOBAL RISKS ALREADY ABSORBED, THE PREDICTIVE RISK TO OUR FUTURE FORCE, AND THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH COMMITTING THE 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION READY BRIGADE, WE ASK THAT YOU REASSESS YOUR CAPACITY TO SOURCE COVERAGE FOR THE 53/76 ESB WHILE MAINTAINING THE 3RD BRIGADE, 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION AT 180 DAY BOOTS ON THE GROUND, FROM CURRENTLY ASSIGNED OR COMMITTED ASSETS.

2. (S) AS YOU REALIZE, WE HAVE SUPPORTED A NUMBER OF ACTIONS TO HELP MITIGATE RISK DURING THIS CRITICAL TRANSITION PERIOD. WE HAVE DEPLOYED EARLY THE 3RD BRIGADE, 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION (STRYKER BRIGADE); 2ND BRIGADE, 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION; 2ND BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM OF THE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION; AND ELEMENTS OF I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (FORWARD). ADDITIONALLY, WE HAVE EXTENDED 1ST BRIGADE, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION FROM 6 MONTHS TO 12 MONTHS TO FACILITATE CONTINUITY IN SECTOR. THE US ARMY HAS ALSO WORKED HARD TO COORDINATE STAY BEHIND EQUIPMENT TO EXPEDITE THE FLOW OF FORCES IN THEATER TO SUPPORT FASTER RSOI AND TRANSFERS OF AUTHORITY.

3. (S) PLEASE GIVE ME AN ASSESSMENT OF WHERE YOU MIGHT HAVE TO TAKE RISK IN ORDER NOT TO EXTEND THE 3/82 OR DEPLOY THE DRB. THE CHIEFS AND I REMAIN COMMITTED TO PROVIDING YOU WITH TRAINED AND READY FORCES TO WIN THIS SUSTAINED CAMPAIGN WHILE BALANCING READINESS OF FORCES FOR FUTURE AND OR EMERGING GLOBAL REQUIREMENTS.

4. (U) WARMEST REGARDS, DICK.//
DECL/ORIG:LT GEN N. A. SCHWARTZ, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS/15A
/DATE:20131205//

Approved for Release
Fwd to Cmd Ctr Fwd
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