



Phantom Strike Back Brief

The overall classification of this briefing is ~~SECRET//REL to USA, MCFI~~

Approved by: 1CD G2

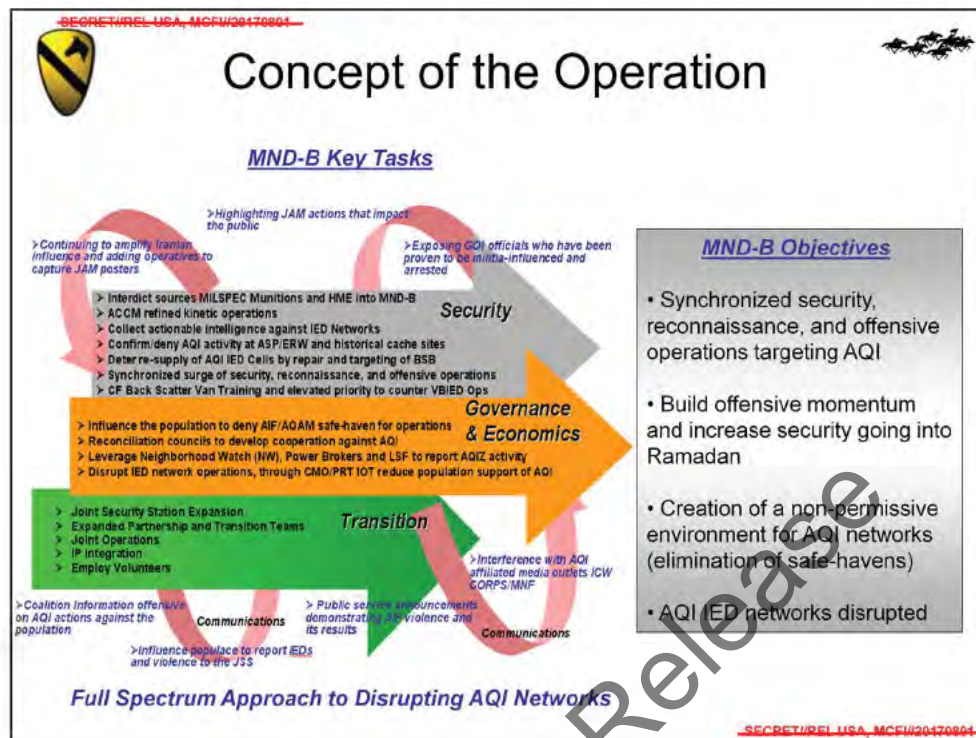
Classified by: Multiple Sources

Reason: EO 12958 (as amended) – 1.4(a), (c) and (d)

Declassify on: 201700801

As of: 01 AUG 07

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MND-B attacks IED networks and staging areas, denies AQI sanctuary, and disrupts IED networks throughout the AQ IOT preserve freedom of maneuver, disrupt AQI planning and preparation, and prevent AQI from executing surge operations.

Phantom Strike is an intelligence driven offensive operation which targets the critical network vulnerabilities of a sympathetic population (IO), MILSPEC and improvised Munitions (Resupply & Cache), sanctuary and freedom of movement.

MND-B disrupts an AQI surge during Operation Phantom Strike by leveraging the current kinetic operational tempo surge with shaping Reconciliation and Information Operations efforts.

MND-B conducts operations along multiple lines of effort. Governance and economic lines of effort increase the effectiveness of kinetic operations

By orienting non-kinetic operations in a Reconciliation /IO "raid," AQI freedom of maneuver is disrupted enabling security operations that target AQI.


MILSPEC: Military Specifications

ASP/ERW: Ammunition Supply Point/Explosive Remnants of War

ACCM: Army Compensatory Control Measures (i.e Easy Farmer)

LSF: Local Security Forces

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Concept of the Operation

Decisive:

- Intelligence build-up, including an extensive zonal IED analysis and ISR collection plan
- TAI development with associated physical LOCs, precede kinetic operations
- Operations focused to disrupt AQI operations and IED cells in intelligence refined TAIs
- Partnered BCT level kinetic operations
- Aggressive security, reconnaissance, and offensive operations

Shaping: Reconciliation efforts and a robust IO campaign isolate the insurgents from the population.

Sustaining: MND-B continues to focus on the OFAQ campaign objectives, incorporating gained intelligence and TTP into all operations.

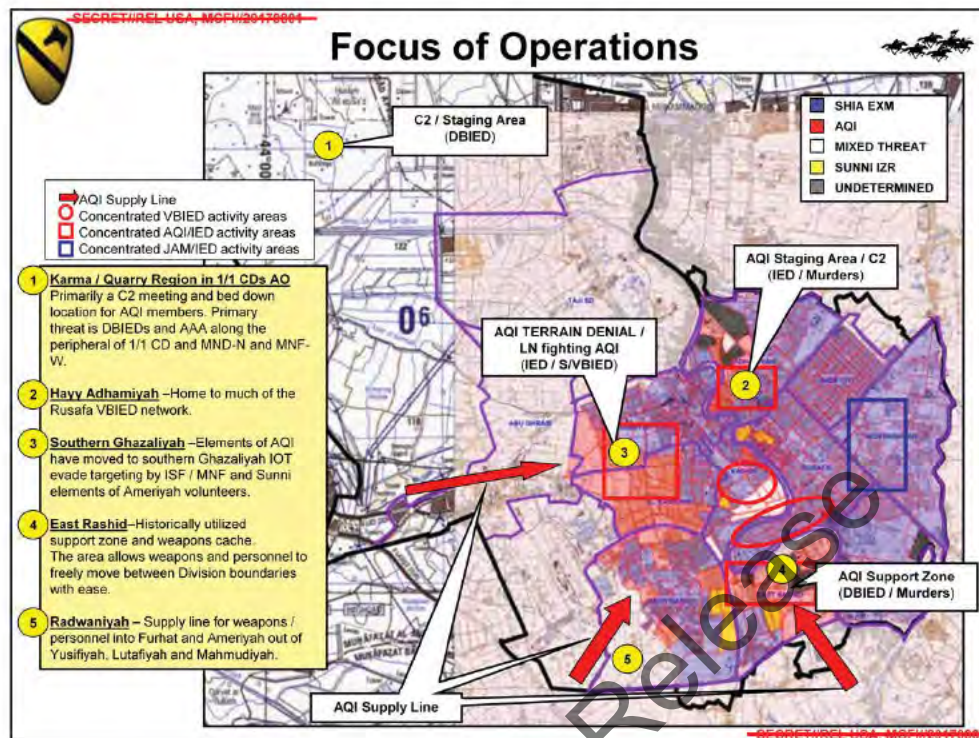
30 July 2007

The current defeat mechanism for extremist organizations in Baghdad is the Operation FAQ methodology and MND-B will continue to clear, control and retain during Operation Phantom Strike while disrupting AQI networks.

In the decisive operation, MND-B conducts intelligence focused BCT level and framework operations to defeat AQI in East Rashid while maintaining control of Adamiyah, Rusafa, and Karadah.

The shaping operation is a surge in non-kinetic operations that simultaneously attacks AQI vulnerabilities. MND-B increases pressure against AQI in the information domain with IO, reconciliation efforts and civic-military operations IOT create a non-permissive environment for AQI operations. This in turn affects AQI decision making, gains actionable intelligence and facilitates kinetic operations.

In the Sustaining phase following operation Phantom Strike, MND-B refocuses on the campaign objectives, incorporating gained intelligence and TTP into all operations.



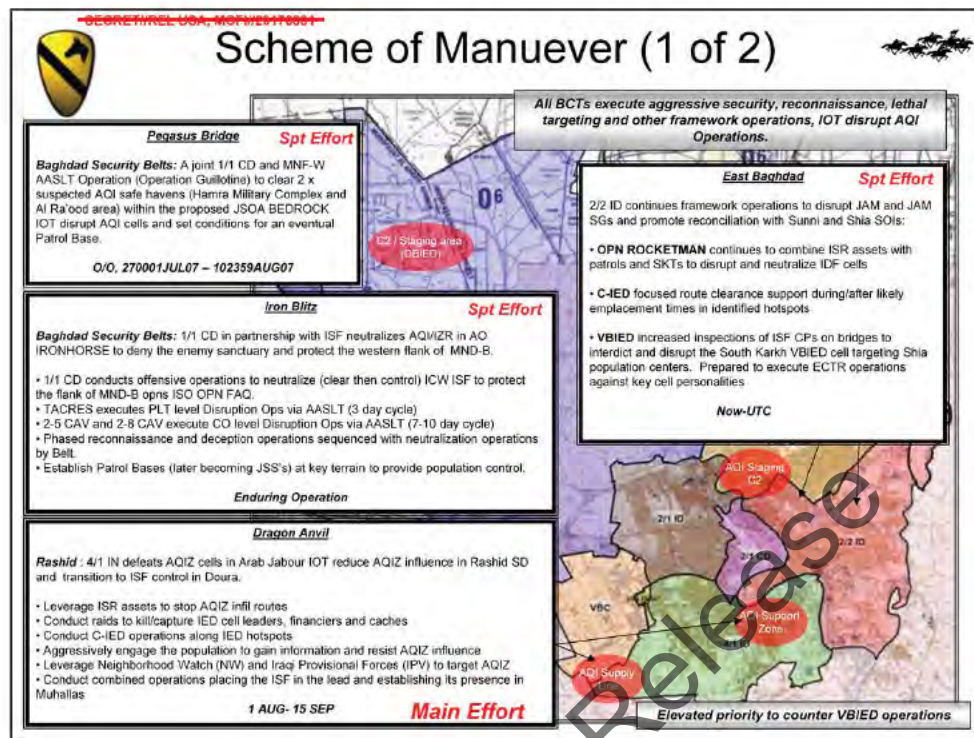
MND-B has identified five AQI safe havens, infiltration routes and support zones. These TAI's focus ISR collection and offensive operations during Phantom Strike and include the physical LOCs essential to restricting AQI freedom of movement.

- (1) In 1/1's AO, AQI uses this safe haven to avoid targeting by CF and planning for operations.
- (2) In Adhamiyah, members of the Rusafa network use this Hayy as a base of operations for attacks in the Rusafa area. Additionally, the Abu Hanifa Mosque and surrounding area serve as meeting locations for AQI senior leadership.
- (3) AQI has shifted it's efforts into Southern Ghazaliyah due to successful targeting by CF and the Ameriyah Freedom Fighters.
- (4) East Rashid has historically been used by the South Karkh, Rusafa, and Southern Belt networks. More importantly, the "5 Acres" area has been used as a cache site with recent discoveries validating storage of supplies

for VBIED's.

- (5) Radwaniyah, the outlying area in the southwest portion of West Rashid, serves as a supply line for AQI to combat JAM and maintain freedom of movement into Ameriyah.

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ISF and CF will increase the OPTEMPO of enduring operations and initiate several new major simultaneous operations to disrupt AQI planning and operations.

Embedded in all BDE plans is the elevated priority MND-B is giving to counter the increase in VBIED activity in MND-B. The increase in attacks could represent an AQI attempt to undermine MND-B recent gains in East Rashid. We have responded with increased tactical over watch of ISF on bridges that feed into the Karadah peninsula and East Baghdad, increased SIGINT and kinetic operations targeting the South Karkh VBIED network, repair of the Southern BSB obstacles, and engagement of the Sunni population and volunteers for information on VBIED manufacturers. Partnership with the ISF is critical. Training CF on Back Scatter Vans so that we provide technical over watch to Iraqi operators is ongoing. ISF partnership training includes improved search methods and disciplined use of technology, to include the profiling and search of smaller sedans which have recently become prevalent as VBIEDs.

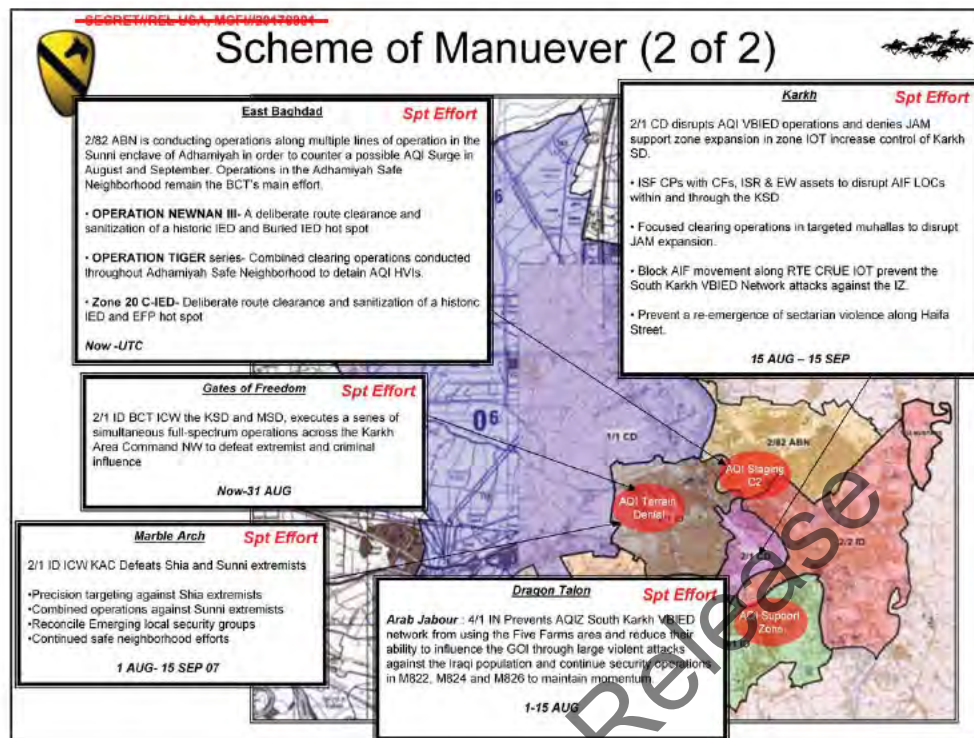
Focused on identified AQI TAI's and associated physical LOC's all BCTs execute aggressive security, reconnaissance, lethal targeting and other framework operations.

The main effort is 4/1 ID Operation Dragon Anvil, the sequel to Dragon Hammer. The Dragon Brigade defeats AQI cells in Arab Jabour IOT reduce AQIZ influence in Rashid SD and transition to ISF control in Doura.

Ironhorse, 1/1 CD, continues with the Iron Blitz enduring operation targeting AQI DBIED staging areas and C2 networks on the Western flank of MND-B.

In East Baghdad, 2/2 ID continues framework operations to disrupt JAM and JAM SGs while promoting reconciliation with Sunni and Shia SOIs: Strikes increased VBIED inspections of ISF CPs on bridges, disrupts and interdicts the South Karkh VBIED cell targeting Shia population centers.

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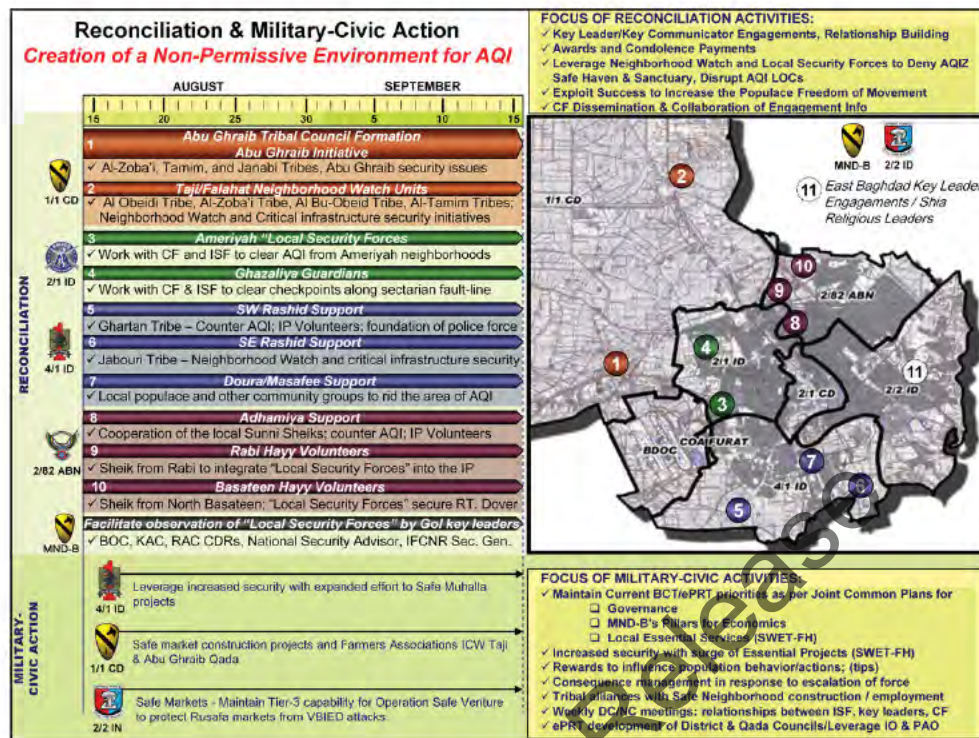


Also in East Baghdad, 2/82 ABN conducts operations in the Sunni enclave of Adhamiyah in order to counter a possible AQI Surge. Operations in the Adhamiyah Safe Neighborhood remain Falcon's main effort along with deliberate route clearance and sanitization.

2/1 ID conducts two operations to defeat Shia and Sunni extremists in AO Dagger. Marble Arch incorporates reconciliation efforts, combined operations and kinetic targeting to secure the population and facilitate safe neighborhood efforts.

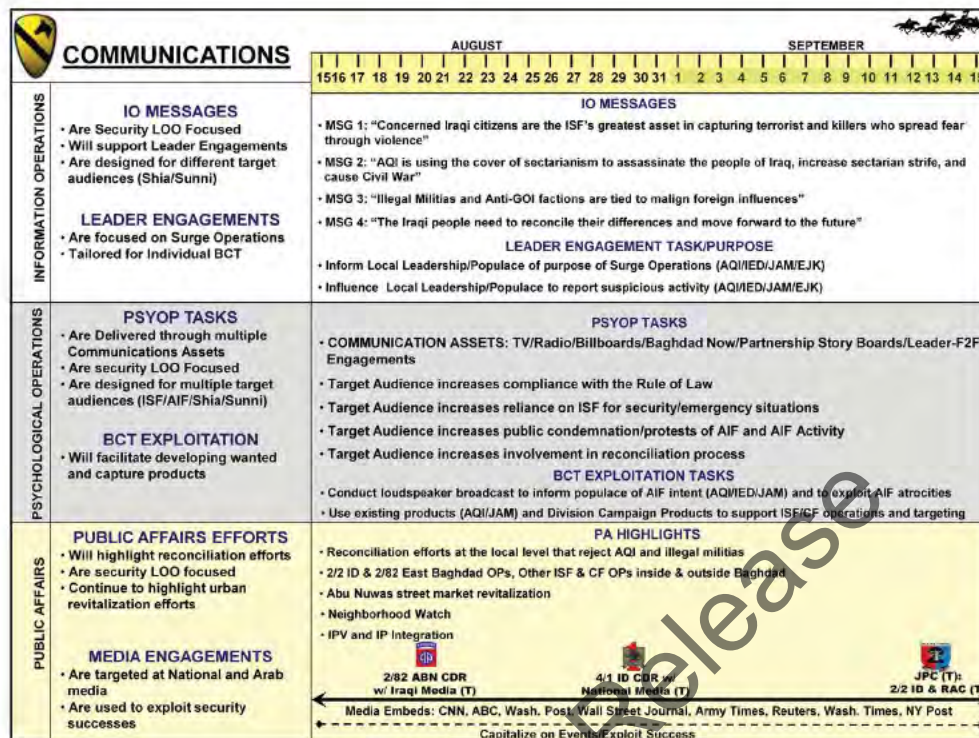
In AO Blackjack, 2/1 CD disrupts AQI VBIED operations and denies JAM support zone expansion IOT increase control of Karkh security district.

Ongoing in Arab Jabour is 4/1 ID's operation Dragon Talon to prevent the AQI South Karkh VBIED network from using the Five Farms area as a staging area. The operation enables continued security operations in M822, M824 and M826 to maintain momentum. This operation is in the early stages but has yielded several caches, detainees and intelligence on two possible South Khark VBIED network bed down sites. A potential extortion operation for VBIED funding near the Jadriyah bridge was also discovered.



Our reconciliation efforts from Taji down to the south Baghdad areas, will consume much of our civic action efforts. Here we must continue to build on relationships, and reach out to Sunni and Shia to further capitalize on this initiative. These reconciliation efforts will reinforce everything else we do from IO message dissemination to focusing our CMO efforts.

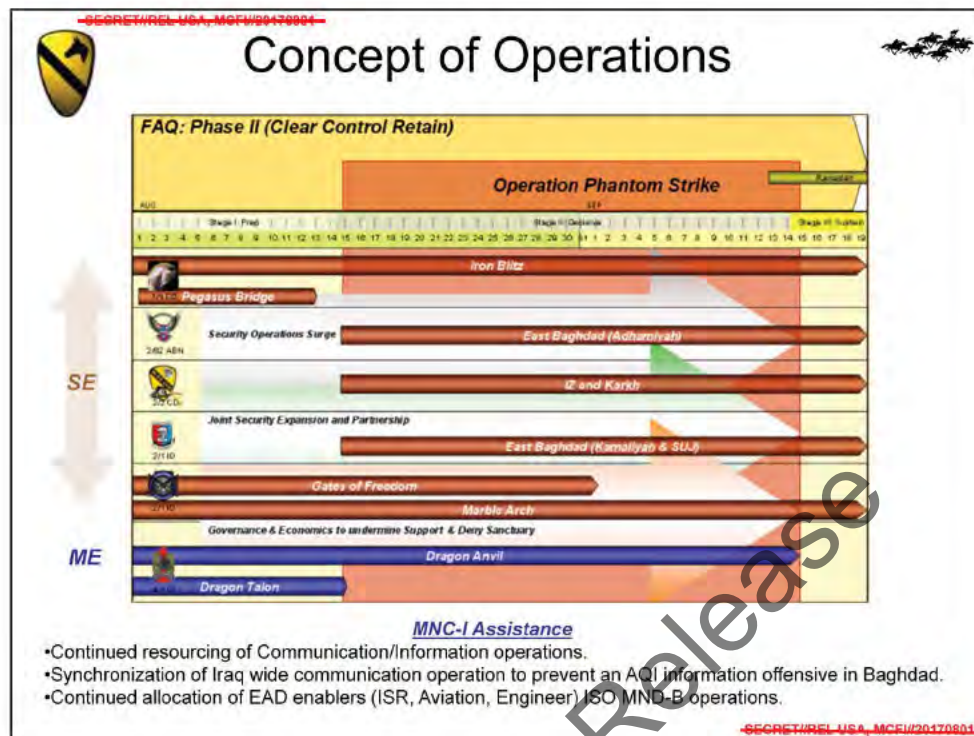
Our CMO operations will complement and reinforce both our security and communications plans. The approved BCT/ePRT Joint Common Plans are well into the execution phase.



There are currently four IO Messages that MND-B will use during the AQI Surge Period and will be used to facilitate all Leader Engagements. Leader engagements will be used to inform/influence to support surge operations, and can be tailored specifically for each BCT

We have four PSYOP tasks that are Security LOO Focused that MND-B will deliver through multiple communication assets. More importantly is the BCTs conducting PSYOP operations to exploit events during surge operations, that will further assist MND-B level operations.

Public affairs will continue to highlight reconciliation efforts to support security during surge operations, and will continue to highlight revitalization efforts to continue to highlight that Iraq/MND-B is continuing to move forward During the surge period Media Engagements will be focused on National Media and Arab Media to ensure that MND-Bs message is getting out on all fronts.



The main effort for operation phantom strike in MND-B remains the Dragon Brigade with operations to disrupt AQI in Arab Jabour and East Rashid. Supporting efforts across all LOO are conducted throughout MND-B.

Operation Phantom is nested with phase II of Operation FAQ and builds momentum for MND-B going into Ramadan.

Other resourcing at Current Levels, MND-B requires no additional assistance from MNC-I for Operation Phantom Strike.

