1920s Revolutionary Brigade
Key Takeaways

- The 1920s RB known desired end state, a Sunni dominated Iraq, coupled with their participation in CF operations within the city likely aggravates Shi’a paranoia.

- Successful operations by the 1920s RB against AQI has challenged their control in many areas throughout the city. This makes the 1920s a viable target for AQI; likely conducting operations similar to those against the Gol and CF.

- Upon agreement to work with CF, 1920s RB members are entered into BATS and are overtly/covertly observed and controlled. These concerned local nationals (CLN), who reside with CF, have become known as the Baqubah Guardians.

- The alliance of convenience between CF and 1920 RB will likely not lead to a full reconciliation. Though ground-level elements working with CF/ISF have the potential to abscond from 1920s and be incorporated into the government process, the 1920 RB as an organization is unlikely to maintain an alliance not directly beneficial to their cause.

- Without a corresponding alliance between the Shi’a-dominated government and 1920 RB elements of any level, the conflict underlying the existence of the 1920 RB will lead to further violence in the future.
1920 RB in Baqubah

- Elements of the 1920 RB conducted successful operations against AQI in Baqubah
  - Low level fighters display a willingness to work with CF/ISF; primary interest is neighborhood security
  - 1920 RB leadership end state is a Sunni dominant Iraq; any alliance with CF is likely one of convenience
  - 1920 RB challenging AQI control has led to local conflict

- Baqubah Guardians, between 300 and 400 members, begin conducting patrols within the city’s neighborhoods
  - Individuals entered into BATS/HIDES systems; offered future preferred employment
    - Concerned Local Nationals (CLN) issued uniforms; live directly with CF

- Reporting does not reflect CF assessment of the city
  - Two women threatened and had their vehicle vandalized by five members of the Concerned Local Nationals in Khatoon area
  - Underage members display disrespect towards the citizens and CF

ASSESSMENT: The conflict between AQI and the 1920 RB continues to degrade AQI operability in Baqubah. However, there is no indication that 1920 RB leadership has altered their goals – only that their desire to eliminate AQI in their areas of influence currently takes priority. The alliance of convenience between CF and 1920 RB will not necessarily lead to a full reconciliation, as the desired end states diverge drastically. Though ground-level elements working with CF/ISF have the potential to abscond from 1920s and be incorporated into the government process, the 1920 RB as an organization is unlikely to maintain an alliance not directly beneficial to their cause – and likely will not have any compunctions about resuming violent activity once their near-term goals are met. Without a corresponding alliance between the Shi’a-dominated government and 1920 RB elements of any level, the conflict underlying the existence of the 1920 RB will lead to further violence in the future.