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**Meetings with KRG Officials
Irbil/Saladin
4 November 2007**

Meeting with KRG PM Nechervon Barzani (at Irbil Airport)

[Tone: Nechervon was very statesman-like and said all the right things]

Nechervon's points. Turks still believe the PKK situation can be resolved militarily and the Turkish Army is leading that charge, likely against the wishes of PM Erdogan. The KDP has a long history of fighting against the PKK, several times in coordination with the Turkish Army. The PKK is likely in a position now to be approached with a political solution and "Cemal" (Jamal), the leader of the military wing of the PKK is very good. US must take over the Irbil base when vacated by the Koreans.

Kurds claim to be taking the following steps against the PKK

- 1) Publicly denounce the PKK
- 2) Monitor Irbil and Sulaymaniya Airports
- 3) Allow the installation and use of the PISCES system at both airports
- 4) Put checkpoints on resupply routes leading into the PKK-held areas
- 5) Ensure KRG hospitals do not treat PKK wounded
- 6) Put tight entry and exit controls on Mahkmoor Refugee Camp
- 7) Stop media forays into PKK-held areas
- 8) Close the Democratic Solution Party office in Irbil (a PKK front)
- 9) Find methods to control the flow of finances to the PKK
- 10) Put out a press release on 4-5 Nov outlining these steps

CG's points.

- 1) It must be the Turks-Iraqis-Kurds-US unified against the PKK
- 2) Massoud must calm down and be a productive part of the solution to the PKK- he also cannot threaten to withdraw Kurdish soldiers from the Iraqi Army in the event of an attack
- 3) If PKK attacks Turkish targets again, the KRG must land squarely with Turkey
- 4) GoI needs Kurdish leaders to actively support key legislation and the budget
- 5) US will work with the Turks to get them to accept an official delegation that includes Iraqi KRG leaders

Meeting with KRG President Massoud Barzani (at Saladin Presidential Office)

1.4b

Barzani's points. The Turks are not working hard enough from their side to resolve this situation. Turk tone toward the Kurds hardened considerably when the KRG was formed after 2003 and the Turks do harbor ill-intent toward the KRG, not just the PKK.

1.4b

1.4b

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CG's points:

- 1) Need [1.4b] to be a calming force for a peaceful resolution—need to be more conciliatory toward the Turks
- 2) No making excuses for the PKK—they are a terror group on Iraqi soil
- 3) Reiterated “everyone against the PKK” stance
- 4) Pushed the need for [1.4b] personal support to key legislation and budget

Additional topics of interest:

Makmour Camp: [1.4b] said that he supports the refugees returning to Turkey, but “has no control over the UN camp”

Sharqat area (Zaab Triangle): [1.4b] expressed a desire to move more Pesh troops down toward that area (NNE of Baiji) to help clean the area of Al Qaeda (but likely also to expand Kurdish influence west of Kirkuk)

Iranian Consulates: apparently, consulates will open in both Irbil and Suly this coming week, though not with Qods Force in official positions [Note: both CG and AMB Crocker signed a letter to Talibani asking that Iranian consulates not open in the KRG]

Peshmerga vs the PKK

1992—KDP, PUK, and Turks fight the PKK

1996—KDP fights the PKK which is supported by Iran, Syria and the PUK

1997—KDP and the Turkish Army fight the PKK and destroy the military arm.

PKK flees to Iran and total losses to the KDP is over 3,500 peshmerga

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