

MNC-I BUA Intel Daily Slides

Feb 08

Approved for Release

~~CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, MCFI//20100201//~~
~~For display only to IIRG~~

Turkey Revives Natural Gas Project in Northern Iraq

- Late January, state-owned Turkey Pipeline Company (BOTAS) launched a feasibility study for planned Iraq – Turkey natural gas pipeline
 - The two countries signed project MOU in Aug 07, updating a 1996 provisional agreement
 - Proposed pipeline will export 10 billion cubic meters of natural gas annually from northern Iraq to Ceyhan, Turkey
 - Pipeline will parallel existing Kirkuk to Ceyhan crude oil export pipeline
 - Estimated cost of project in 1996 was more than \$2.5B



Projected pipeline pathway and natural gas deposit locations

~~(C//REL)~~ **Assessment:** Construction of pipeline and associated infrastructure would take approximately 2-4 years to complete. Export line would be positive step toward increased resource, revenue development, potentially opening Iraqi natural gas supplies to the world market.

~~CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, MCFI//20100201//~~
~~For display only to IIRG~~

2

• In late January state-owned Turkey Pipeline Company (BOTAS) launched a feasibility study for a planned Iraq – Turkey natural gas pipeline ("New pipeline planned to transport Iraqi gas via Turkey", New Kerala News Channel, 28 January 2008; "New pipeline to transport Iraq gas via Turkey", Today's Zaman, 28 January 2008; "Turkey starts study of Iraq gas pipeline", UPI, 28 January 2008; "Feasibility studies for Iraq-Turkey natural gas pipeline", World Bulletin, 27 January 2008)

- The two countries signed project MOU in Aug 07, updating a 1996 provisional agreement (AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 003254, Natural Gas From Iraq, 281320Z SEP 07; "New pipeline to transport Iraq gas via Turkey", Today's Zaman, 28 January 2008; "Turkey starts study of Iraq gas pipeline", UPI, 28 January 2008)
- Proposed pipeline will export 10 billion cubic meters of natural gas annually from northern Iraq to Ceyhan, Turkey (AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 003254, Natural Gas From Iraq, 281320Z SEP 07; "New pipeline planned to transport Iraqi gas via Turkey", New Kerala News Channel, 28 January 2008; "New pipeline to transport Iraq gas via Turkey", Today's Zaman, 28 January 2008; "Turkey starts study of Iraq gas pipeline", UPI, 28 January 2008; "Feasibility studies for Iraq-Turkey natural gas pipeline", World Bulletin, 27 January 2008)
- Pipeline will parallel the existing Kirkuk to Ceyhan crude oil export pipeline ("New pipeline planned to transport Iraqi gas via Turkey", New Kerala News Channel, 28 January 2008; "New pipeline to transport Iraq gas via Turkey", Today's Zaman, 28 January 2008; "Turkey starts study of Iraq gas pipeline", UPI, 28 January 2008; "Feasibility studies for Iraq-Turkey natural gas pipeline", World Bulletin, 27 January 2008)
- Original estimated cost of the project in 1996 was more than \$2.5 billion (AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 003254, Natural Gas From Iraq, 281320Z SEP 07)

Strategic Theme 1: Joint project will support Iraqi goals to develop national petroleum sector infrastructure

Strategic Theme 2: Joint project will expand Iraqi export and revenue capacity

Approved for Release



SECRET//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180202//
For Display Only To IRQ



Najaf Takes Measures to Enforce Freeze

- Najaf-based senior Sadrists believe freeze will be extended
- Ubaydi realizes non-compliance must be brought under control
 - Concern problems would spread
 - Believe Special Groups are large portion of problem
 - Najaf-based Supervision Committee to send warnings to non-compliant commanders
 - Decision to replace commanders rests with Supervision Committee



Salah al-Ubaydi

1.4c, 1.4d

SECRET//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180202//
For Display Only To IRQ

Western Baghdad Jaysh al-Mahdi Leadership Take Measures to Enforce Freeze After Being Singled Out as Root of Problem, Mid- to Late January 2008; Various Commanders Replace

1.4c

292237Z Jan 08

Senior Sadrist reportedly Consider JAM Bde in S. Karkh as only Bde not adhering to freeze

1.4c

11 Jan 2008

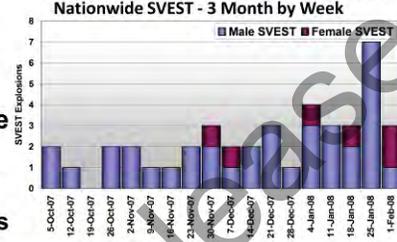
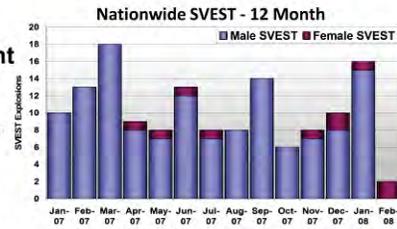


SECRET//REL TO USA, MCF//20100203//
For display only to IIRG



Iraqi Female Suicide Bombers

- **AQI's use of female suicide bombers remains limited**
 - Trends analysis does not indicate significant increase in female suicide attacks
 - No indication of increased female suicide bomber recruitment in credible intel reports
 - Press speculation regarding female suicide bombers could increase false reporting
 - Unclear if female suicide bombers indicate increasing AQI desperation in tactics
 - OSINT indicates AQI use of female suicide bombers dates to 2005
 - However, female bombers likely receive less scrutiny by security
- **1 Feb attacks - extensive OSINT coverage**
 - Speculation regarding mentally disabled, unwitting and/or foreign status of bombers remains unconfirmed
 - Government circles widely condemn attacks
 - Initial Iraqi press also condemning attacks



1.4c

SECRET//REL TO USA, MCF//20100203//
For display only to IIRG

CIOC Trends data – SIGACTS III, and TF Troy Tracker

OSINT:

Al Jazeera – Scores killed in Iraq Market Blasts, 1 February 2008

Reuters – Iraq vows to “crush terrorists” after 99 killed, 1 February 2008

BBC News – Iraq market bombs toll nears 100, 2 February 2008

Washington Post – Death Toll Rises in Friday’s Baghdad Bomb Attacks, 2 February 2008

Approved for Release

~~CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180104//~~
~~For display only to IRG~~

Syria to Host Arab League Summit

- (U) 28 Jan, Arab League Sec. Gen. Amr Mousa announced SY to host summit as scheduled in late March
 - Summit is a prestigious annual event attended by Arab heads of state
 - Hosting summit would boost Syria's regional credentials
- (U) 19 Jan, Mousa described meeting in Damascus with Asad as "totally positive"
 - After Damascus visit, Mousa expressed importance of future visit to Riyadh
- (U) Presidential vacuum in Lebanon has threatened SY's bid to host Arab League summit
 - 5 JAN, Saudi King Abdallah said SA would not participate in summit in Damascus unless president elected in Lebanon
 - "Informed source" disclosed "Arab efforts" to move venue for summit to Arab League (AL) HQ in Egypt



(U)

Secretary General Mousa with President Asad

~~(C//REL)~~ *Assessment: A successful summit in Damascus could improve Syrian relations with its moderate Arab neighbors, which are pressuring Asad to adopt more constructive regional security policies. The meeting also could serve to further strengthen bilateral relations between Damascus and Baghdad.*

~~CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180104//~~
~~For display only to IRG~~

5

Sources:

- Christian Science Monitor, 08JAN08, Can the Arab League Solve Lebanon's Political Crisis
- Reuters, 19JAN08, Arab League Chief in Syria over Lebanon Crisis
- Petra, 28JAN08, Mousa: Arab Summit to be held in Damascus on 29-30 March

CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, MCF//20180205//
For display only to Iraq

Sadr's Popularity in Decline

- Jan 08: PRTs report declining Sadr Trend popularity due to:
 - Continuing JAM violence
 - Weakened service provisions, street presence outside Baghdad; increased corruption
 - No clear mission after reduced CF presence
- Jan 08: Only 5% of Iraqis named Sadr as most trusted public figure; Sadr 4th of 5; behind Allawi, Sistani, Maliki
- Nov 07: MND-B polling showed steady trends between Jan 07 and Nov 07 in Iraqis citing militias as "biggest threat," but nearly ten-fold increase among Shi'a

Group	Jan 07	Nov 07
Nationwide	~7%	~6%
Shia	~2%	~19%

(U)

CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, MCF//20180205//
For display only to Iraq

6

JAN 08: PRTs Report Declining Sadr Trend Popularity (Baghdad 000296, 31 Jan 08)

DEC 07: (Poll Charts MNF-I Trust Figure Dec 07)

NOV 07 and Graphs (MND-B poll interviews 4224 Baghdad respondents from 05 – 11 November 2007 with a margin for error of 1.5 percent; MNC-I poll interviewed 8487 respondents nationwide from 08 – 23 November 2007 with a margin of error of 1 percent;)

Page 8 redacted for the following reason:

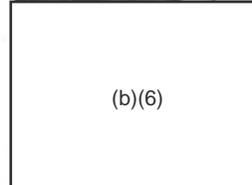
1.4b, 1.4d

Approved for Release

CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180206//
For Display Only to IRO

Diverging Themes Among Sunni Resistance Groups

- (U) Joint statement by Hamas al-Iraq (Hal) and Islamic Front for Iraqi Resistance (JAMI), both members of Political Council for Iraqi Resistance (PCIR)
 - Allege “organized crime” behind the Baghdad marketplace bombings
 - Call for international investigation
- (U) JARF (also PCIR member) releases hard line statement
 - Describes incidents as “*crimes committed by the occupation forces and the agent government*”
 - Denounces and condemns those behind the attacks
 - Calls for retaliation and protection of the innocent



Aftermath of 1 FEB Attack

1.4c

CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180206//
For Display Only to IRO

8

Sources:

- 1) [1.4c] FEB 3 2008, HAMAS-Iraq and JAMI condemn the recent bombings at Baghdad markets; imply that the Coalition was responsible
- 2) 23 1626C JAN 08 HBIED ATTK ON IA IN MOSUL
- 3) [1.4c] IQATF MND-B EXSUM (Female Suicide Bomber Atmospherics)
- 4) [1.4c] 2FEB 08 London Quds Press (Internet Version-WWW)

JAMI = (Al-Jabha al-Islamiya lil-Moqawama al-Iraqiya)

JAMI part of PCIR

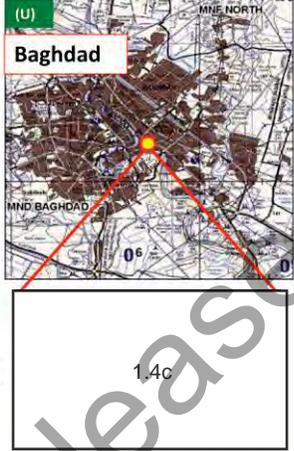
Claims to have existed since 2004 [1.4c]

Dr. Sayf Al-Din Mahmud, the spokesman of JAMI

SECRET//REL TO USA, MCF//20180207//
For display only to IRO

Threat to GoI Officials at ING Conference

- **Late January: Reporting of conference planned for 9 Feb**
 - To be held at National Theatre, Baghdad
 - Considerable Badr involvement
 - Shahmani to propose a new national plan
 - Invitations have been sent to all parties, including Sadrists
- **Early February: Possible Attack Plans reported**
 - Possible attacks threatened against Iraqi Government Officials
 - Possible use of VBIED, suicide belts, unspecified explosives



Assessment: Currently, there is no known specific threat directed toward the ING conference. Attendance of GoI Officials has not been confirmed, but their participation may present a target of opportunity as militant groups attempt to use the conference to execute outstanding threats.

SECRET//REL TO USA, MCF//20180207//
For display only to IRO

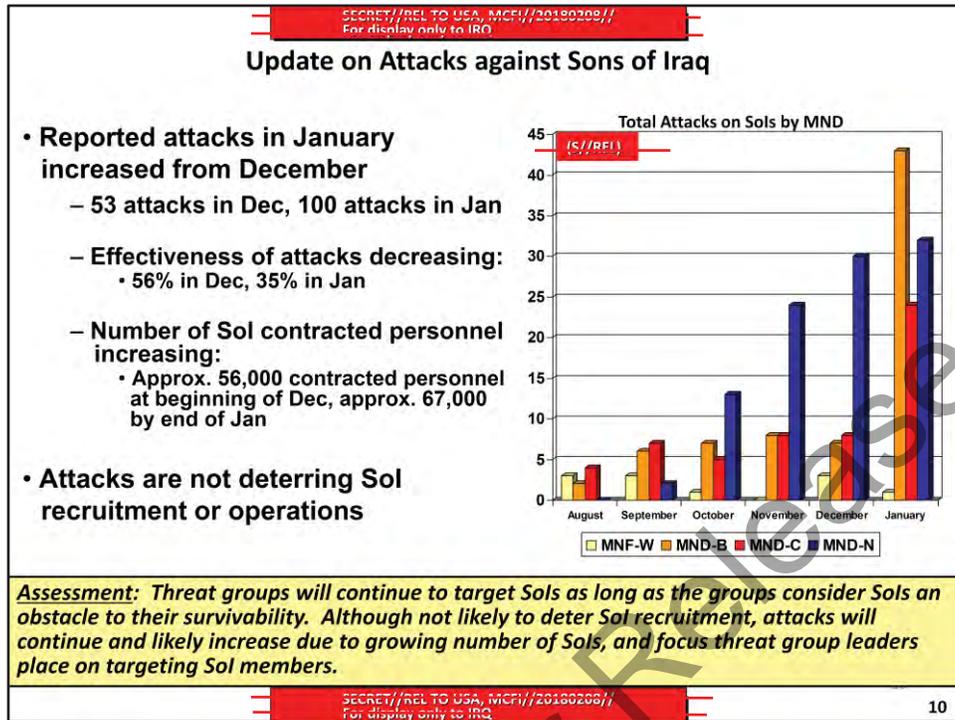
9

Sources:

1.4c

23 Jan 08
1 Feb 08

- Threat Report: Alleged planned attacks against coalition and MNF-I forces in IZ
- Threat Report: Islamic State of Iraq planned to kill Iraqi VP Mahdi, with a vehicle-borne
- Threat Report: Location of AQI and Juno al-Sama' Members in Baghdad, IZ



Sources:

- CLC attack numbers for Jan 08 from Effects Assessment Cell, MNC-I
- CACE Reconciliation Compilation, 05 Feb 08
- Theme: CLCs continue to be an effective force multiplier against AQI as they fill security gaps in their area of operations. Their effectiveness in curtailing AQI's freedom of movement and operations will persist in drawing attacks from AQI and on a smaller scale, JAM.

SECRET//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180209//
For Display Only To IRQ

Potential Splintering between JAM and Baqir's Group

- **Friction between JAM and Baqir's Group at a checkpoint in Sadr City**
 - Baqir advocated JAM discontinue operations in center of city
 - Baqir authorized his group to remove JAM members that get in their way
- **Baqir's earlier policy was to engage with JAM**
 - Designed to prevent JAM collapse
 - Appeared to reject Sadr's leadership
 - Intended to establish close relationship with Sadr City JAM commander

(U)



2007 photo of JAM fighters in Sadr City

Assessment: Baqir sees Sadr City as sanctuary with JAM's role to secure the edges from encroachment by CF and ISF. Baqir's authorization to remove and discipline JAM members in effort to solidify positions in Sadr City could lead to violence between groups and larger scale splintering of JAM and SG Criminals.

SECRET//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180209//
For Display Only To IRQ

11

Shia Insurgent Shaykh Baqir and Associates Encounter Difficulties with Mainstream Jaysh al-Mahdi Commander Tahsi in Sadr City, Early February 2008

1.4c

021918Z Feb 08

Shia Insurgent Shaykh Baqir Outlines Chain of Command, Expectations for Group in Baghdad to Help Prevent Collapse of Jaysh al-Mahdi, Late December 2007

1.4c

281913Z Dec 07

~~CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180210// For Display Only To IRO~~

Russia to Forgive Majority of Iraq's Saddam-Era Debt

- **Expected restructuring of \$13B outstanding**
 - Deal to apply to 91% of Iraq's estimated \$13 billion obligation to Russia
 - Iraq's obligation to Russia would be limited to approximately \$1 billion
 - Agreement will be signed during Zebari's 11 February trip to Russia
- **Progress on other Iraqi obligations**
 - Early repayment by Gol on \$471 million IMF agreement
 - Russian agreement follows late 2007 Iraqi settlement with the Government of Bulgaria



(U) Iraqi Foreign Minister Zebari with Russian Counterpart Sergei Lavrov in September 2007

Assessment: *Russia's announcement is another positive development in Iraq's ongoing effort to restructure its obligations with international creditors. As part of the agreement, however, Russia is likely to expect preferential treatment in Iraq's tender for the development of the West Qurna Oil Field in al-Basrah Province.*

~~CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180210// For Display Only To IRO~~

12

Sources:

- Fox News, 080208, Iraqi President Welcomes Russian Decision to Write-off Debt
- AP, 080208, Iraq Welcomes Russian Debt Write-Off
- Dow Jones Newswires, 080208, Iraq Welcomes Write-Off
- IMF Press Release, 071214, Iraq Completes Early Repayment of Entire Outstanding Obligations to the IMF
- IMF Press Release, 080104, US Praises Bulgaria's Debt Settlement with Iraq

~~SECRET//REL TO USA, MCF//20170211~~
For Display Only to Iraq

Diyala Highlights Abna al-Iraq Shift in Concerns

- **Baqubah highlights concerns**
 - Demonstrations call for PDoP removal
 - Threaten to withdraw from checkpoints
 - Members recognize leverage
 - Tension between Abna al-Iraq and ISF
 - AQI will likely attempt to exploit issue
- **Regional concerns**
 - **Gol support**
 - **Employment prospects**
 - **Pay**
 - **Recognition**
 - **Inclusion in national-level issues**

(b)(6)



SUNNI ARMED GROUPS WITHDRAW SUPPORT FOR U.S. FORCES AND IRAQI GOVERNMENT
AL-QADISIYA GOV. TO 24/7/AM/08/001 BY ABNA AL-IRAQI

"We are securing our area, we want to be official Iraqi Security Forces, and we want to be officially recognized by the Iraqi government."

(S//REL) Assessment: Improved security situation allows Abna al-Iraq to concentrate on secondary issues. The Abna al-Iraq movement has been integral to the improved security situation and national support must continue to prevent threat groups from returning.

~~SECRET//REL TO USA, MCF//20170211~~
For Display Only to Iraq

13

Sources:

1. Concerns

(U) Task Force 1.4a special OSINT report: Middle East Online, 8 Feb 08; Voices of Iraq, 9 Feb 08; Al Jazeera, 8 Feb 08; Eye Media Company, 9 Feb 08

2. Diyala make-up

~~(S//REL MCF//DISP IRQ)~~ Diyala Operations Center: 9 Feb 08, email correspondence between team lead and 1AD MND-N Reconciliation

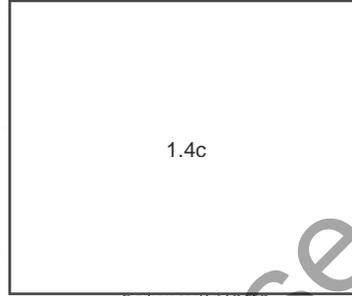


SECRET//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180212//
For display only to IRQ

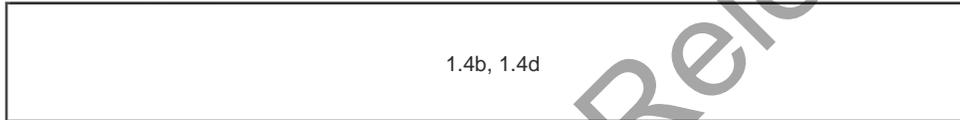


The ING Conference Update

- (U) Shahmani unveiled two-phase National Plan:
 - (U) Phase 1:
 - Extricate Iraq from international custodianship, promote a sovereign Iraq
 - Dissolve sectarianism and racism
 - (U) Phase 2:
 - Implement a complete political program in order to finalize Iraqi sovereignty and combating violence and extremism.
- (U) ING members - renounced violence, extremism, and welcomed anyone wishing to promote peace.



Conference Held 9 FEB
NATIONAL THEATRE, Karadah



SECRET//REL TO USA, MCFI//20180212//
For display only to IRQ

14

Sources:

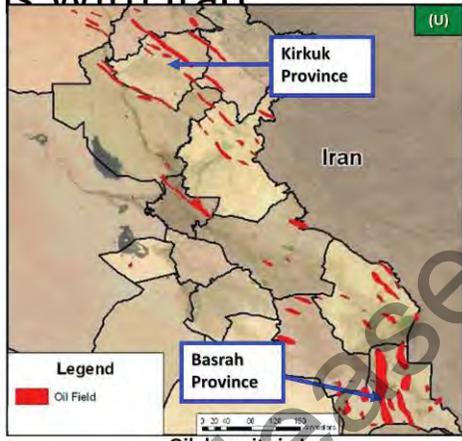
- 1). IOTF Arabic Media Coverage – Sunday 10th February 2008: Iraqi National Gathering held foundation conference in Baghdad yesterday
- 2). Report on Formation of Iraqi Patriotic Bloc, Remarks by its Leader Al-Shahmani,
 *Aswat al-Iraq in Arabic 09 Feb 08*
- 3). Inauguration of the Iraqi National Gathering Calls for the Abolition of Sectarianism, Voice of Iraq, 09 February 2008

Approved for Release

~~CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, IRG, MCFI//20180213//~~
Display Only to IRG

Major Oil Companies Begin Negotiations With Iraq

- (U) Several large international oil companies concluded first-round negotiations with GoI
 - Negotiations focused on technical support agreements (TSAs) for five oil fields
 - Further development of these fields could increase national production by up to 500,000 barrels per day
 - Negotiations will continue on 25 February, agreements could be signed as early as March 2008



The map, titled "Oil deposits in Iraq", shows the geographical distribution of oil fields. Red dots indicate the locations of oil fields, with a concentration in the southern and central regions. Two provinces are specifically labeled: Kirkuk Province in the north-central part and Basrah Province in the south. A legend in the bottom-left corner identifies the red dots as "Oil Field". A scale bar at the bottom indicates distances up to 100 kilometers. A green box with the letter "(U)" is located in the top-right corner of the map area.

Oil deposits in Iraq

~~(C//REL) Assessment:~~ Large international oil companies will continue to pursue support agreements under expectation they will be favored during bidding for Iraqi oil exploration contracts later this year. Companies' perceptions of security environment will ultimately determine their level of investment in Iraq.

~~CONFIDENTIAL//REL TO USA, IRG, MCFI//20180213//~~
Display Only to IRG

15

- MoO just concluded first-round negotiations with several large international oil companies (Hassan Hafidh, "Oil Majors to Resume Talks on Iraq Tech Pacts", Dow Jones, 11 Feb 08; Ben Lando, "Iraq Oil Deals Near Completion", UPI, 4 Feb 08)

- Negotiations focused on the terms of technical support agreements (TSAs) for five producing oil fields (Hassan Hafidh, "Oil Majors to Resume Talks on Iraq Tech Pacts", Dow Jones, 11 Feb 08; Ben Lando, "Iraq Oil Deals Near Completion", UPI, 4 Feb 08; "Iraq Set to Sign Oilfield Agreements", Offshore Technology, 1 Feb 08)

- Further oil field development could increase national production by 500,000 barrels per day (Hassan Hafidh, "Oil Majors to Resume Talks on Iraq Tech Pacts", Dow Jones, 11 Feb 08; "Iraq Set to Sign Oilfield Agreements", Offshore Technology, 1 Feb 08)

- Negotiations will continue on 25 February, TSAs could be signed as early as March 2008 (Hassan Hafidh, "Oil Majors to Resume Talks on Iraq Tech Pacts", Dow Jones, 11 Feb 08; "Iraq Set to Sign Oilfield Agreements", Offshore Technology, 1 Feb 08)

Strategic Theme #1: Iraq working with international investors to develop oil resources.

Strategic Theme #2: Oil field expansion projects to increase national crude oil output.

Approved for Release

SECRET // REL TO USA MCFI//20180214//
For display only to IRQ

AQI Media Efforts Degraded

- **AQI issues statement signed 10 FEB**
 - Denies 01 FEB Baghdad and 23 JAN Mosul attacks
 - Statement in response to calls by online supporters of AQI; calls attacks “shocking and malicious”
- **AQI media slow to respond to accusations**
 - 5-day lag-time in July 07
 - 10-day lag-time in February 08
- **Posting written and structured poorly**



Al-Furqan Media Establishment
(مؤسسة الفرقان للإنتاج الإعلامي)

1.4b, 1.4d

SECRET // REL TO USA MCFI//20180214//
For display only to IRQ

16

Sources:

- Christian Science Monitor, 080201, Female Suicide Bombers Shatter Baghdad Calm
- 00974-08, 080111, Passage of Media Collection- OBJ Fritz
- (b)(3) 50 USC 3024(i) Overview and Strategies of AQI
- Caversham BBC Web Monitoring, 080211, ISI Denies Responsibility for Attacks