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CCJ3 Information Paper

JOINT STAFF ASKS: WHAT ARE THE SPECIFIC QUANTITIES AND TYPES OF WEAPONS IN UNSECURED CACHES IN THE 4ID AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY?

Purpose: To respond to the Joint Staff’s request for additional information regarding unguarded Iraqi ammunition caches in 4ID’s AOR.

Discussion: 4ID established the goal of consolidating, demilitarizing and securing munitions by 31 DEC 03. To achieve this, they are coordinating with the CJTF-4 staff to increase their transportation and EOD assets for safe consolidation and/or disposition of found ammunition caches, increasing security with additional / reallocated security forces, and for supply of necessary demolition material for local authorities to conduct on-site destruction.

- Munitions in unsecured caches vary based on size of cache, purpose of cache and utilization during consolidation operations.
  - The 13 large caches (8 sq km average) are generally fixed aviation or ground force storage sites.
    - Aviation sites generally contain:
      - Gravity bombs (50% - 500 kg, 1000kg, 1100kg).
      - Missiles (25% - SA2, SA6, SA8), and
      - Cluster bombs (25% - South African).
    - Ground sites generally contain:
      - Mortars (10% - 60mm, 82mm, 100mm, 120mm, 160mm),
      - Artillery and Cannon Projectiles (50% - 100mm, 102mm, 105mm, 120mm, 122mm, 125mm, 130mm, 155mm),
      - Rockets (5% - 57mm, 84mm and 107mm),
      - RPGs (10% - OG7, OG9, PG7, PG9),
      - Large caliber small arms (10% - 12.7mm 14.5mm, 20mm), and
      - Miscellaneous munitions (15% - AT/AP mines, SAMS, AA projectiles).
    - The small cache sites (buildings, buried, hidden) contain:
      - Mortar rounds (25% - 60mm, 82mm, 100mm, 120mm),
      - Small arms (30% - 7.62mm x 39, 7.62 x 54 and 9mm),
      - SAMs (5% - SA-7),
      - Mines (10% - AT/AP, Valmar 67, VS-50, VS 2.2), and
      - Artillery munitions (30% - 155mm, 130mm).

- 4ID prioritizes Captured Enemy Ammunition (CEA) that must, due to operational constraints, remain unsecured. Priority is based upon the threat posed by the munitions in the cache.

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- Priority is given to immediately securing, consolidating or destroying surface-to-air missiles (MANPADS), C4/PE4/TNT, mines (all types), and grenades (hand thrown and rocket propelled).

- Unsecured munitions are generally non-mobile and in areas not frequented by Iraqi looters.

- Sites are secured to the level of available resources based upon ongoing operations.

- Priority is always given to high threat munitions and to the greatest threat to Coalition Forces and Iraqi populace. General guidance is to first secure and consolidate sites closest to population centers and with largest number of munitions.

  Priority munitions

  - Munitions frequently used as IEDs are:
    - Projectiles 155mm, 122mm, 120mm, 105mm, 100mm,
    - Mortar 120mm, 105mm, 82mm, and 60mm, and
    - SA-3 warheads.

  - Munitions frequently used in attacks are:
    - MANPADS (SA-7s, etc.),
    - Hand grenades,
    - Rocket propelled grenades (RPG-7, OG-9, OG-7),
    - Land mines (AP/AT and sea mines), and
    - 107mm, 54mm and 122mm rockets.

Recommendation: Review/approve response as written for release to the Joint Staff.