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From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, January 02, 2004 11:27 PM
To: Sanchez, Ricardo S., (LTG)
Cc: Gallinetti, Jon A. (O-8); Sargeant, Stephen T. (O-7); Keefe, Daniel J BG USA CJTF [4] V CORP Chief of
b 3 b(6)
Subject: Amb Bremer Kirkuk (~~SECRET~~)

Classification: ~~SECRET~~
Caveats: NONE

Sir,

On Friday 2 January Amb Bremer and Amb Greenstock, and a heavy Governance entourage, took a one-day trip north. They spent two hours in Kirkuk, meeting with MG Odierno, (b)(3), (b)(6) and CPA GC Emma Sky. Then they traveled to the Irbil area where they met simultaneously with Barzani and Talabani. CPA will share their written read-out but here are a couple early points, focused on Kirkuk since Amb Bremer may raise this with you in the morning:

The team in Kirkuk laid out for Amb Bremer the full array of concerns about Kurdish encroachments and pretensions. They provided a detailed account, mostly small things like giving new Kurdish names to organizations, giving Kurds preferential treatment at hospitals, that together suggest a concerted overall agenda. Amb Bremer and Amb Greenstock quickly got the picture. Meeting with Barzani and Talabani - at the end of the meeting - they raised this series of concerns, going through a number of the specific points verbatim, as presented in Kirkuk. They stressed that they will not tolerate destabilization in Kirkuk. They said it all very nicely and diplomatically - Barzani and Talabani, they noted, were no doubt not involved personally but have control over their followers.

MG Odierno discussed the the forthcoming force rotation in Kirkuk and "expressed concern" about the hand-over to [1.4b]

MG Odierno apparently noted that Gen Abizaid had asked him to participate in a trilateral meeting "called by EUCOM" and including the TGS and CJTF [4] MG Odierno apparently expressed concern that this is another indication of increasing [1.4b] interest and involvement in northern Iraq.

(Just after Amb Bremer returned to Baghdad, he asked CJTF [4] through his front office, for the "instructions" given to MG Odierno for that meeting. We explained to [b 6] that formal written instructions from higher were not given. We did provide to CPA - attached - CJTF [4] Commander's intent to MG Odierno. This original source of this paper was an email from BG Keefe to MG Odierno - the version provided to CPA was...nipped and tucked just a bit.)

Very respectfully,
[b 6]

[1.4a, (b)(6)]