

Major Decisions – First 100 Days

- **Issue:** Curtail 2 BCT - 1/10 BCT (APR 06) and 2/28 BCT (MAY 06)
- **Lead (Office & POC):** MNC-I Force Generation – (b)(3), (b)(6)
- **Discussion:** Course of Action 1 “Baseline” of the MNF-I Commander’s PLW 2006 Off Ramp plan indicates that MNF-I Cdr will make a decision in MAR 2006 to curtail 1/10 MTN (APR 06) and 2/28 IN (MAY 06).
- **Background:** US Joint Staff PLANORD (1 DEC 05) directed the development of COAs to reduce US BCTs in Iraq in 2006; MNF-I developed 3 x COAs for the off ramping of US Forces. COA 1 “Baseline” (10+1 x BCT by OCT 06) consists of the curtailment of 5 x US BCTs by October 2006; COA 2 “Stretch” is essentially a sequel of COA 1 and based on conditions allows MNF-I to off ramp 2 additional US BCTs by December 2006 (8+1x BCT Set by DEC 06). COA 3 “Exploitation” is an accelerated off ramp that begins in February 2006 and ends in September 2006 thus achieving a 8 + 1 x BCT by September 2006. MNC-I is currently pursuing COA 1 based on MNF-I Cdr’s guidance. The first decision point occurs in March 2006, in which the MNF-I Commander will make his decision to curtail 1/10 MTN in April 2006 and 2/28 IN in May 2006.
- **Higher HQ Guidance:** MNF-I Cdr’s guidance is to make a decision in March 2006 to curtail 2 x US BCTs (1/10 MTN – April 2006 and 2/28 IN – May 2006), which takes US Forces in the ITO to a 13 + 1 x BCT set by May 2006.
- **Facts:** JS approved OIF 06-08 Force Rotation is 13 x BCTs in Iraq + 1 x BCT for Call Forward and 1 x BCT in PTDO.
- **Assumptions:** Insurgency will not grow in post-December election period; sectarian violence will not destabilize Iraq; AIF attacks will occur in same battlespace (ERV, TRV, Baghdad to Baqubah, Tal Afar to Mosul, and Bayji to Kirkuk); GOI will not be fully seated until late April 2006; US enablers are still required to support and sustain ISF; and Iraqi Army will remain on glide path for assumption of battlespace per the DEC TRA projections.
- **Risk:** 95% of the AIF attacks occur in 6 provinces (Ninawa, Al Anbar, Baghdad, Salad ad Din, Diyala, and Al Tamim), as MNF-I off ramp forces, battlespace realignment will be required to address these uncovered areas.
- **Issues and Challenges:** Balance PLW requirements with operational and security requirements.
- **Recommendations / MNC-I Position:** TBD, based of MNF-I feedback from SECDEF and January TRA assessment.
- **Decision Point:** 15 MAR 06