Point Paper

Topic: What actions should occur over the next 7 days as a result of the capture of Saddam Hussein?

1. Force Protection
   - Maintain strong force protection posture AOR wide in anticipation of protest or terrorists acts as the result of Saddam's capture (Al Qaeda)
   - Don't let our guard down as a result of capturing Saddam
   - Increase vigilance and stay alert, rather than committing additional forces for Force Protection

2. Operations
   - Maintain pressure but focus on intel collection
   - Hiatus for intrusive actions in favor of precision operations based on actionable intelligence
     - Iraqi people may believe that future intrusive operations are not necessary now that we have Saddam
     - Could have negative impact on COG and push them away from the coalition
     - Delay Operation Buford (focused mainly in Sunni Triangle)

3. Security
   - Tighten border vigilance for fleeing remnants that are abandoning ship
   - Implications of the Hajj as opportunity for escape; may lay low now but use Hajj flow for cover
   - Increase ISR on Rat Lines, smuggling routes
   - What are the most likely destinations for fleeing HVTs?
   - Will foreign fighter infiltration increase?

4. Diplomacy
   - CPA lead negotiations with IGC for truth and reconciliation process for Sunni Baath
     - Seize the initiative before the capture of Saddam wears off
     - Opportune time for reconciliation
     - May be time to extend olive branch to Sunnis

5. Strategic Communications
   - Stress right to due process/rule of law
   - Decision on who will prosecute (Iraq Court, U.S. Court, Hague)
   - Use Iraqi media to deliver our message
   - Gain Iraqi Cleric support
   - Saddam is gone, but foreign fighters and FRees are trying to undermine the future of Iraq by hurting Iraqis and destroying critical infrastructure.
• Help the coalition help Iraq move to a brighter future

6. Saddam Hussein Disposition
• Keep at BIAP for 96 hours for interrogation
• Move to another location in Iraq
• Move to USN ship in international waters – interim solution
• Move to third country – legal implications
• Bottom Line: USG Policy Issue

6. Monitor Perceptions of Iraqi People
• Must carefully gauge our actions and next moves but not relinquish the initiative
• Iraqi will be watching our near term actions closely
• Iraqi views on Saddam are mixed, need to listen to their grievances

7. Theater Strategic
• Engage Syria to strengthen borders/cooperate on
• Impact of capturing Saddam:
  • Discovery and movement of:
    ▪ Finances
    ▪ Key Personalities
    ▪ 1.4a
• Monitor response of key nations 1.4a
• Coordinate with EUCOM (Libya)