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Declassified by: MG Michael X. Garrett,
USCENTCOM Chief of Staff
Declassified on: 201506



Corps Shaping Operation XXX ISO Operations RIVER BLITZ AND RIVER BRIDGE

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Feb – Mar Events

- 155 BCT TOA 14 Feb 05
- Operation RIVER BLITZ 20 Feb –05 Mar
- Ashura (MNF-W) 19 Feb 05
- MOI Operation Salman Pak (MND-B) Feb/MAR
- 1CD/3ID RIP/TOA 27 Feb
- TNA will select Presidency Council during Feb/Mar
- Operation RIVER BRIDGE 10-25 Mar
- Arbaeen (MNF-W) ~25-31 Mar
- MOAG movement March/April
- Hiditha Dam Maint 15 Mar – 15 May

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Threat Update

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Insurgent Goals

- Strategic goals remains unchanged
 - Undermine the legitimacy of ITG
 - Force the coalition to depart
 - Reestablish control of Iraq
- Way Ahead
 - Continue attacks to create insecure environment
 - Decrease ITG effectiveness
 - Prevent growth of security forces
 - Leverage Sunni dis-enfranchisement
 - Create ethnic or religious friction
- Tactics
 - Standoff attacks
 - Intimidation
 - Infiltration
 - Propaganda

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MNF-W Threat Assessment

- Disparate network remnants have coalesced into loose affiliations in order to counter a common enemy found in the MNF
 - Relocated, reoriented, reengage
 - Disrupt democratic process and deter Iraqi participation
- Group Leaders remain constant
 - Memberships change and overlap
- Attack methods remain consistent
 - Low risk; High gain
- Attacks focus on two primary goals
 - Destabilize security environment
 - Discourage Iraqi cooperation with ITG/MNF
- Insurgents increasingly conduct operations exploiting MNF boundaries

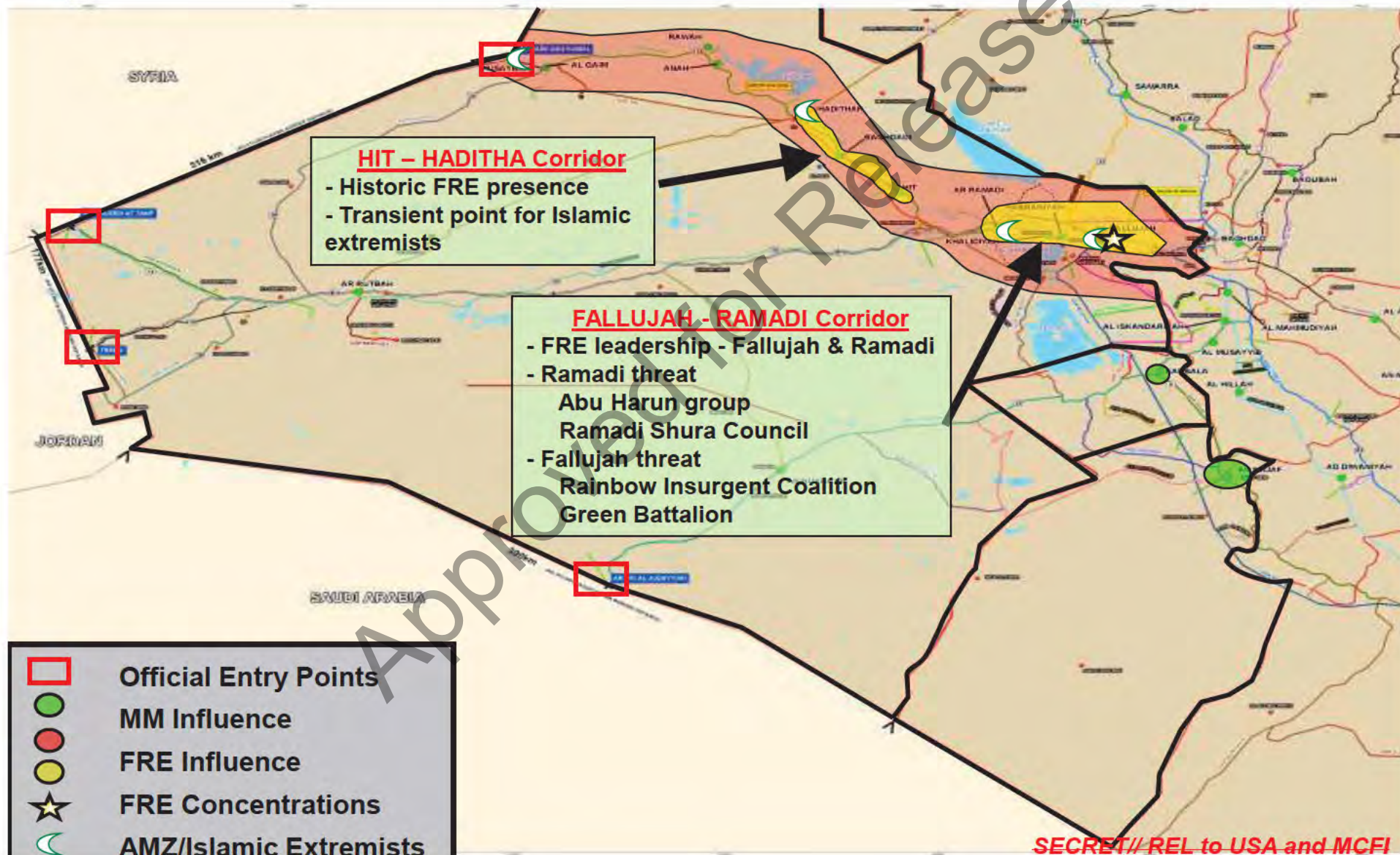


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MNF-W Insurgent Movement Corridor



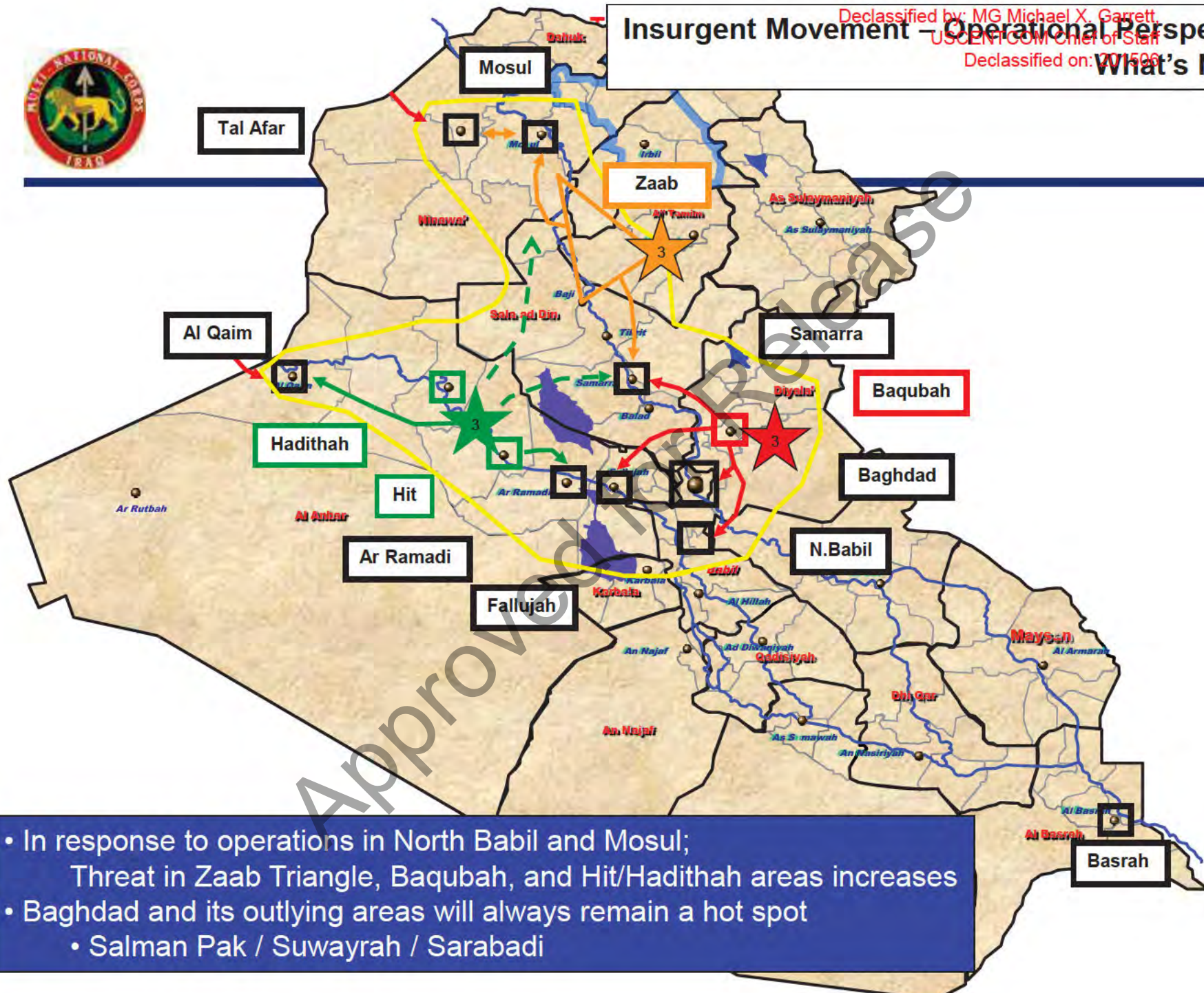
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Insurgent Movement – Operational Perspective

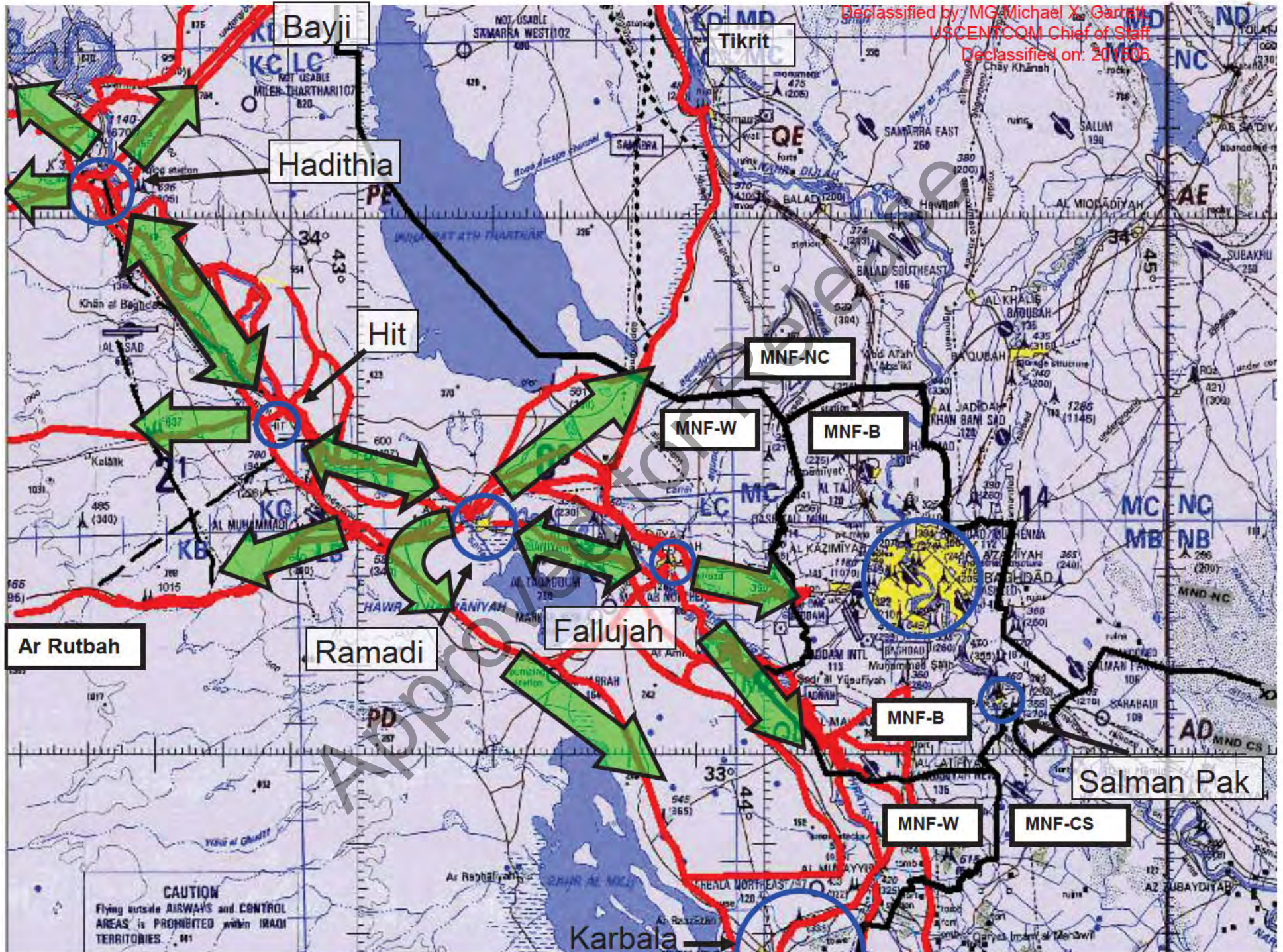
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What's Next?



- In response to operations in North Babil and Mosul;
Threat in Zaab Triangle, Baqubah, and Hit/Hadithah areas increases
- Baghdad and its outlying areas will always remain a hot spot
 - Salman Pak / Suwayrah / Sarabadi

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ISR Support to I MEF

Task: Conduct focused intelligence collection, surveillance, and reconnaissance operations.

Purpose: IOT support Coalition Force operations in the western Al Anbar Province (AO Atlanta) and identify and track insurgent movement prior to, during, and following operations.

Concept: Corps level intelligence assets will be prioritized and massed to support and reinforce the I MEF collection plan.

1.4c

1.4c

assets will be focused to support the I MEF scheme of maneuver as well as movement corridors and lines of drift outside the area of operations.

Priority of Effort: MND-W, MND-B, MNB-NW, MND-NC, MND-CS, MND-SE

Period of Focus: 21 Feb – 7 Mar

Effect: Disruption of AIF networks in western Al Anbar Province (AO Atlanta).



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Proposed Mission

**MNC-I conducts shaping operations from 18 FEB thru 25 MAR 05
ISO Operations RIVER BLITZ and RIVER BRIDGE to disrupt
AIF/FRE forces operating in Al Anbar province and facilitate
RIP/TOAS.**

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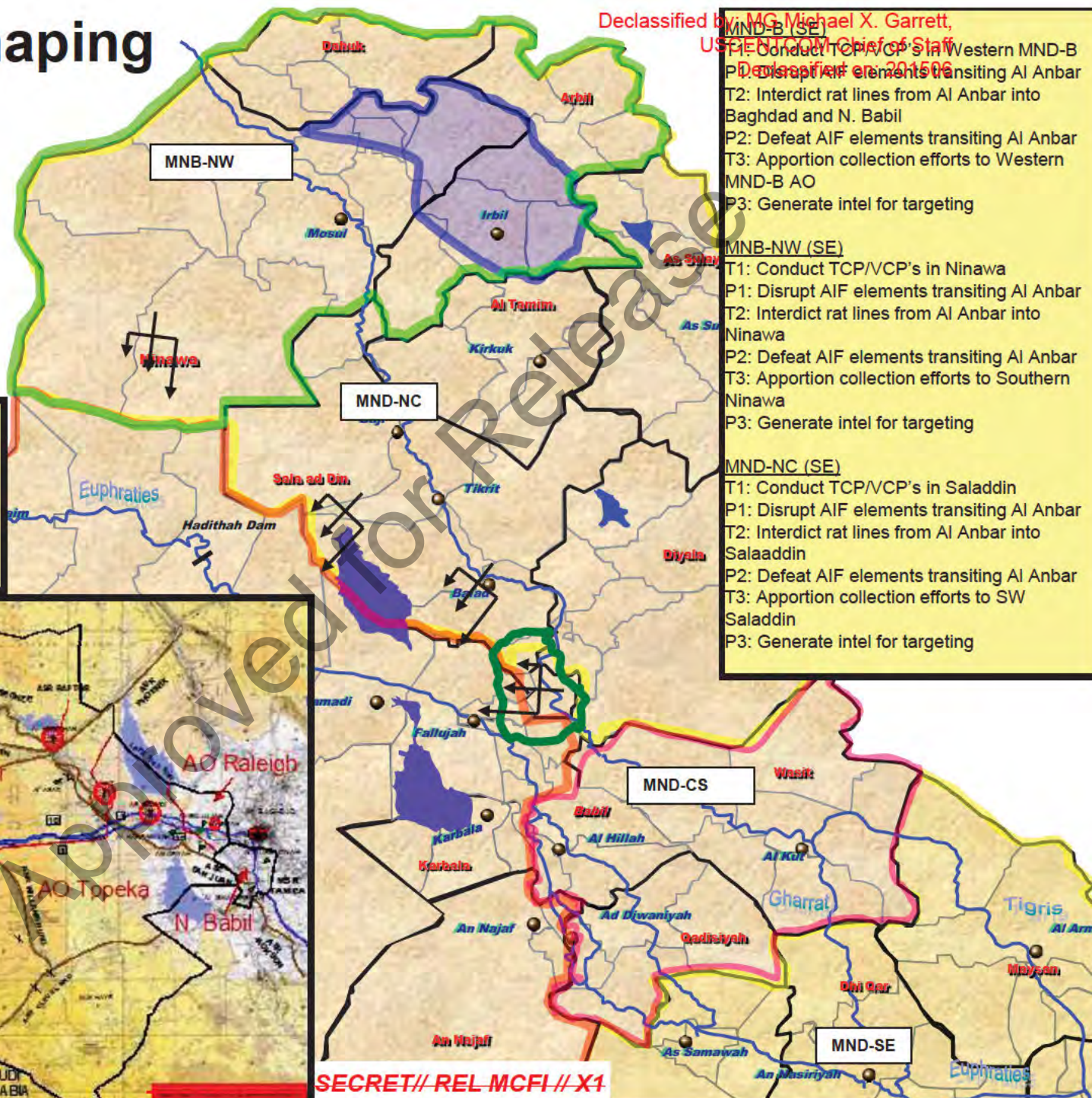
Proposed Commanders Intent

- **The Purpose:** To maintain pressure on AIF/FRE elements to prevent their consolidation, generate actionable intelligence on HVI's, bolster public confidence in ISF and set conditions for MSC RIP/TOA's .
- **Key Tasks:**
 - Synchronize Effects to isolate AIF in Al Anbar and increase popular support for ITG/TNA.
 - Prioritize/Sync ISR assets
 - Maximize ISF Presence to enhance public perception of ISF capability
 - Deny AIF/FRE safehaven's/sanctuary
 - Interdict AIF/FRE in Al Anbar
- **End State:** To have disrupted the enemy's ability to re-establish operating bases and continue operations, increased public confidence of ISF capability thereby improving the security situation, completing unit RIP/TOA's.



Corps Shaping CONOP

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MNF-W (ME) conducts offensive operations in Al Anbar Province to disrupt and defeat AIF elements and generate intelligence IOT set the conditions for Operation RIVER BRIDGE and our RIP with 2^d Marine Division.

RCT-7 (ME): Conduct offensive operations along river cities corridor.

T1: Conduct small unit raids, VCPs, CSK and CS&S in river cities area
P1: Disrupt and defeat AIF elements and generate intel for future targeting
T2: Interdict rail lines north of the Euphrates River between Hit - Husaybah
P2: Disrupt AIF

2 BCT (SE 1): Isolate Ramadi

T1: Isolate Ramadi
P1: Interdict AIF movement into and out of Ramadi
T2: Interdict rail lines north of the Euphrates River between Ramadi - Hit - Hadithah
P2: Disrupt AIF
T3: Conduct small unit raids, VCPs, CSK and CS&S in Jazariyah and Soifa areas
P3: Disrupt AIF and generate intel for future targeting

RCT-1 (SE 2): Focus disruption efforts north and east of Fallujah

T1: Conduct small unit raids, VCPs, CSK and CS&S
P1: Disrupt AIF and generate intel for future targeting
T2: Continue CA efforts to rebuild and repopulate Fallujah
P2: Restore basic services

MND-B (SE)

T1: Conduct TCP/VCP's in Western MND-B

P1: Disrupt AIF elements transiting Al Anbar

T2: Interdict rail lines from Al Anbar into Baghdad and N. Babil

P2: Defeat AIF elements transiting Al Anbar

T3: Apportion collection efforts to Western MND-B AO

P3: Generate intel for targeting

MND-NW (SE)

T1: Conduct TCP/VCP's in Ninawa

P1: Disrupt AIF elements transiting Al Anbar

T2: Interdict rail lines from Al Anbar into Ninawa

P2: Defeat AIF elements transiting Al Anbar

T3: Apportion collection efforts to Southern Ninawa

P3: Generate intel for targeting

MND-NC (SE)

T1: Conduct TCP/VCP's in Saladdin

P1: Disrupt AIF elements transiting Al Anbar

T2: Interdict rail lines from Al Anbar into Salaaddin

P2: Defeat AIF elements transiting Al Anbar

T3: Apportion collection efforts to SW Saladdin

P3: Generate intel for targeting

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Shaping in the Corps AO

- Continue to Develop and Refine Targets
 - Corps Intel Collection focus on AI Anbar
 - Continue to build Intelligence thru striking known targets and assessing second and third order effects
 - Capture/Kill AIF facilitators IOT reduce AIF ability to affect operations in Fallujah-Ramadi-Hit
- Build Pressure
 - Select and prosecute key targets IOT focus AIF inward (localized containment)
 - Disrupt AIF ability to coordinate throughout the Corps AO
 - Capture and detain known AIF coordinators
 - Safe houses, meeting places, caches, heavy equipment, AIE patrols, crew served weapons, IDF, communications
 - Further separate the people from the insurgents
 - Exploit opportunities to discredit the AIF
 - Interdict AIF freedom of maneuver
- Set Conditions for Decisive Effect across Corps AO
 - Interdict Main AIF LOC's (Rat Lines) IOT disrupt flow of FRE and AIF within Iraq
 - Destruction of AIF/FRE C2 targets
 - Continue to conduct joint targeting with TF 1.4a and OGA

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Endstate for Shaping in the Corps AO

- Enemy
 - Disrupt the AIF intimidation campaign
 - Disrupt enemy ability to coordinate across the Corps AO and reinforce Fallujah-Ramadi-Hit operations
 - Interrupt the enemy timeline/decision making cycle
 - Force the enemy to focus inward
 - Attrit the enemy's combat power
 - Enemy convinced that the same or greater degree of security exists in Corps AO denying them safehavens
 - AIF safe-havens denied throughout Corps AO (Gaps/Seams)
- Friendly
 - MEF TOA complete
 - MND-B TOA complete
 - Reduced AIF influence over Sunni Leadership

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Tasks to Subordinates (1 of 4)

- MND-B/MND-NC/MNB-NW
 - Increase TCP/VCPs operations in order to disrupt AIF transiting Al Anbar
 - Interdict infiltration and exfiltration routes from/into Al Anbar
 - Increase collection effort along infiltration routes from Al Anbar
 - Provide LNO Team to I MEF to synchronize operations/intel development
 - Increase security operations IOT prevent potential “Flair-ups” in sympathy
 - BPT Manage internally displaced persons within their AOs
 - BPT provide ASR security on ASR Golden to Fallujah (MND-NC)
- OPRES Planning Priorities
 - BPT reinforce MEF Operation River Bridge vic Haditha Dam/Hit
 - BPT escort MOAG though MNF-W from Hit to Taji
 - BPT provide 1 x Co Team to provide security on ASR Golden
- C2/ISR
 - Coordinate with CAOC to position Corps Aerial ISR Platforms to support I MEF
 - BPT Coordinate with other MSCs to facilitate movement of MITs
 - BPT Preposition Sensitive Site Exploitation Teams (CEXC, DOCEX)

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Tasks to Subordinates (2 of 4)

- PMO
 - BPT Surge Detainee Ops
- JIATF-FRE
 - BPT deal with refocusing of ISR/SOF assets
 - Prioritize efforts on those targets which may be in the AO
- EW
 - Provide 1.4g suppression
 - Coordinate EA attack
- STRATCOM
 - Engage ITG to make public statements ISO the operation
 - Counter Propaganda and Misinformation
 - Facilitate dissemination of information to the ITG/DCG
 - Gain MOD/MOI public support for the operation
 - Sync mitigation efforts for Haditha Dam repair project



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Tasks to Subordinates (3 of 4)

- IO
 - SYNC Themes and Messages with I MEF (MEF = Release authority for Ramadi Operations)
 - Exploitation Cell
 - UAV/Gun Camera footage
 - COMCAM
 - AIF Atrocities
 - ISF Successes
 - Mitigate Collateral Damage
 - Explain Haditha Dam repair process to mitigate negative impact
- PAO
 - ICW MEF PAO Facilitate coverage by the Pan-Arabic and international Media
 - Coordinate/deconflict themes and releases between MSC's
 - Coordinate themes and messages prior to MNF-I release

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Tasks to Subordinates(4 of 4)

- CMO
 - BPT Coordinate with MNF-I/IIG/IA/NGOs to deal with internally displaced persons
 - BPT Assist CAG in coordination of CMO
- C8
 - BPT allocate additional CERP funds for high impact projects
 - BPT allocate additional CERP funds for kinetic operation mitigation
- PSYOP
 - Develop product to support
- OPSEC
 - Maintain Operational Surprise by concealing scope of operation
 - Identify EEFI for the ISO the operation
- Combat Camera
 - ISO of IO Exploitation/PA efforts
 - Facilitate Image Collection and dissemination
 - Document CF/ISF actions and AIF Atrocities

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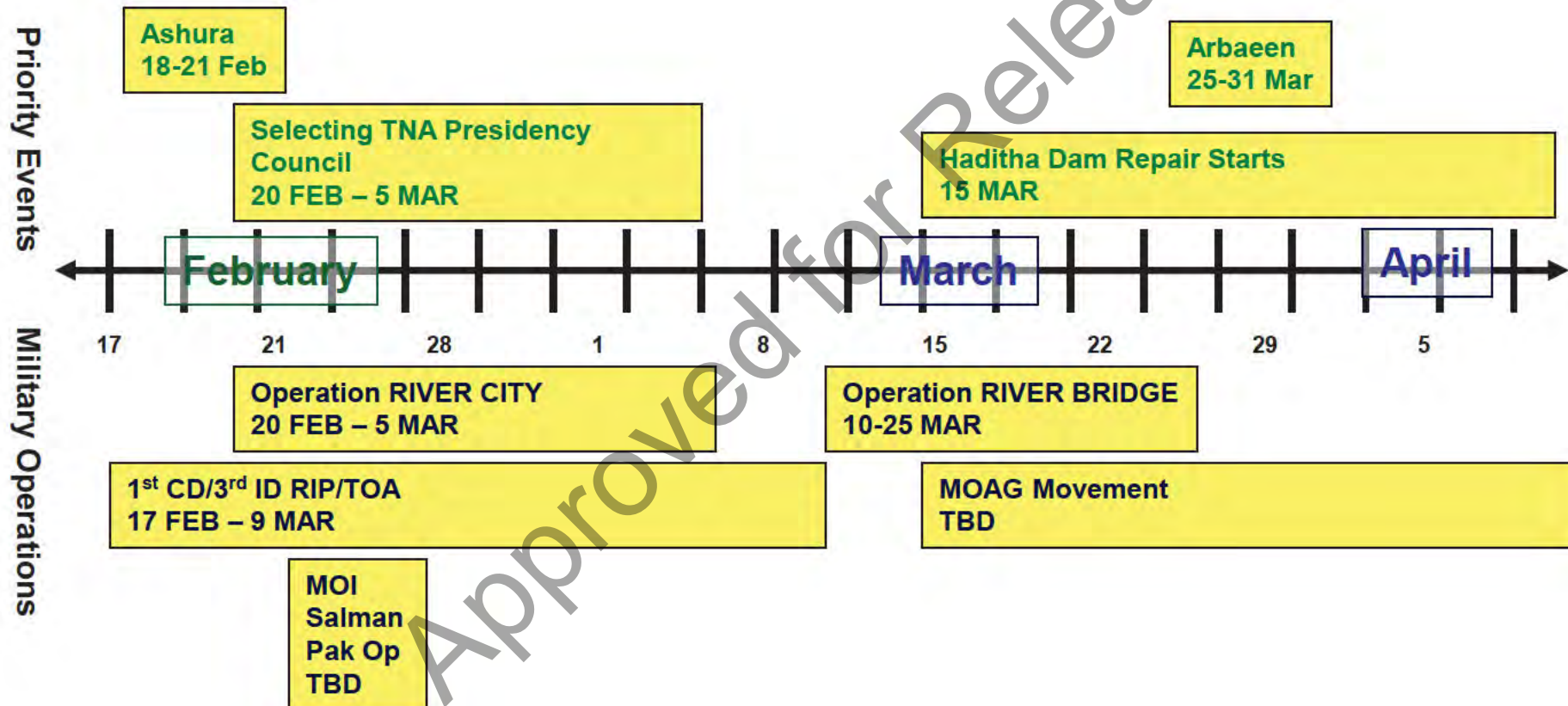


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Timeline



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MSC Feedback

- MND-B
- MNB-NW
- MND-NC
 - Requests immediate return of N TRP/4-278 ACR from MNB-NW

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