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OSD Policy 27 Jun 03

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: Douglas J. Feith *AJF 6/27/03*

SUBJECT: Iraqi Security Force

- Iraq's internal security situation would be improved by the presence of a security force composed of Iraqis.
 - This force could replace U.S. forces required for internal security missions and would thereby reduce the risks faced by U.S. forces.
 - An Iraqi force would also reduce the possibility of confrontation between U.S. personnel and Iraqis.
- Plans to restructure the police and create a New Iraqi Army will not produce additional forces in the near term. In addition to these longer-range projects, it would be desirable to have a large Iraqi security force on the streets of major cities within weeks.
- The Iraqi security force would have the following characteristics:
 - An Iraqi force, organized initially into a brigade of 2,000 personnel.
 - Ethnically mixed units.
 - Continuous CENTCOM control.
 - Capable of urban security patrols, response to crimes in progress, and security of fixed installations.
 - Vetted for association with the former regime.
 - Trained to the basic military training level.
 - Armed with assault rifles and pistols.
- One way to quickly assemble this force would be to ask the former opposition ("G-7") to ask local leaders to provide personnel for such a force.

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- Local leaders who know the Baathis in their communities would vet the personnel provided.
- The personnel would be armed, trained, and led by CENTCOM Special Operations Forces. Initial training would be no longer than one week and would build on basic military skills already possessed by the recruits.
- Security force salaries and equipment costs would be a CENTCOM responsibility.
- Once personnel report for service in the Security Force, they would have no further contact with the leader or political party that nominated them.
- On demobilization (date and circumstances to be determined by the Commander, CENTCOM) security force personnel who had served honorably would be eligible for transfer to the New Iraqi Army or for preferential consideration for civil service positions.

* SOF WOULD BE IN CHARGE 24 HOURS A DAY FOR TEAM BUILDING, "CARE AND FEEDING" OF THE FORCE.

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