

Iraq Weekly Status Report

February 13, 2008

**Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs
US Department of State**



TABLE OF CONTENTS

HIGHLIGHTS	3
POLITICAL	
• Governance & Legislation	4
• Provincial	6
SECURITY	
• Situation Update	10
• Security Transition	12
ECONOMIC	
• Economic & Government Capacity Update	15
• Oil	16
• Electricity	20
• Financial Indicators	22
DIPLOMATIC	
• Economic Engagement	25
• Political Engagement	26
• Coalition	27
Notes, Source Citations and Contact Information	28



HIGHLIGHTS

- The Council of Representatives cooperated to pass three key pieces of legislation February 13 by voting on the proposed laws as a package. **(POLITICAL, page 4)**
- The UN announced that 4 million Iraqis suffer from hunger and over 10 million Iraqis do not have safe water, and appealed to donors for \$265 million in support. **(POLITICAL, page 4)**
- An AQI-written document captured by Coalition Forces shows a negative outlook for AQI's long-term presence and success in Anbar province. **(SECURITY, page 10)**
- USAID reported that their stabilization programs generated jobs for over 15,000 Iraqis during this reporting period. **(ECONOMIC, page 15)**
- Iraq's Foreign Ministry sent a letter of warning to Iran regarding accusations that Iran is illegally pumping Iraqi crude oil. **(ECONOMIC, page 16)**
- Russia has agreed to write off \$12 billion in Iraqi debt to help Iraq's economy. **(DIPLOMATIC, page 25)**



POLITICAL - Governance & Legislation

CoR Passes Three Key Pieces of Legislation:

- On February 13, Iraq's Council of Representatives (CoR) passed three key pieces of legislation: the 2008 budget; the Provincial Powers Law; and an Amnesty Law. The provincial powers law will help establish the balance of authorities between the central and provincial governments. The law requires that the parliament pass an Elections Law within ninety days and requires provincial elections be held no later than October 1, 2008. The Amnesty Law sets provisions by which Iraqis held in GOI detention facilities can be released. The majority of persons held in detention by the GOI are Sunni. The CoR agreed to vote on the three laws as a package in order to obtain the political compromises necessary to gain support from Iraq's main political blocs.

UN Makes \$265 Million Appeal to Donors:

- The UN announced February 12 that four million Iraqis suffer from hunger, and 40% of the country's 27 million people do not have safe water. "Four million Iraqis cannot guarantee they're going to have food on their table tomorrow," the United Nations humanitarian coordinator for Iraq, David Shearer, said. The UN's current appeal to donors includes estimates of \$97 million for food, \$37 million for shelter, \$32 million for health care, \$26 million for human rights assistance, \$21 million for water and sanitation and \$18 million for education. The USG announced February 13 that it will make an immediate contribution of over \$125 million to the UN and other international organizations to help displaced Iraqis.



POLITICAL - Governance & Legislation

Red Cross Raising Funds for Iraqis in Need:

- The International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Societies announced February 12 a campaign to raise \$19 million to provide food, other supplies, and health care to the 900,000 most vulnerable people in Iraq. The assistance will be distributed by the Iraqi Red Crescent over the next year.

Defense Secretary Gates Makes Surprise Visit to Iraq:

- During a surprise visit to Iraq February 10, U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates pressed the GOI to pass Provincial Powers legislation that governs the distribution of power between Baghdad and Iraq's 18 provincial governments. Gates pushed for progress on the power-sharing law during a working dinner with senior Iraqi officials, including Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki, President Jalal Talabani and Vice President Tariq al-Hashimi.

Al-Sistani's Health in Question:

- The Associated Press reports that Iraq's most influential Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, has greatly reduced his workload in recent months, raising questions about his health and the possible implications of any change in his role in Iraq. A change in al-Sistani's role would likely have significant consequences for both Iraq and the U.S., as al-Sistani is viewed as an extremely powerful figure in Iraq and a stabilizing force in the south of the country. Al-Sistani's age is believed to be 79 or 80.



POLITICAL - Provincial

Diyala Provincial Government Increasingly Responsive:

- As a result of recent security improvements, both Diyala's provincial council and the governor's office are increasingly responsive to delivering services at the district level. Governor Ra'ad has made it a priority to visit each Qada (district) to meet with residents and Nahiya (sub-district) representatives to discuss their needs and the current level of services. Director Generals, assistant governors, and one or two Provincial Council members usually accompany Governor Ra'ad on his Qada visits. Improved service delivery is having a positive effect on the security environment as Diyala residents are more willing to work with the Iraqi Army and Police forces.

Success in the Ninewah Major Crimes Court:

- The Ninewah Major Crimes Court, which tries the most difficult terrorism and corruption cases, completed another successful panel in Mosul in January. Senior Baghdad judges returned January 22 to Mosul and tried 28 cases in seven days, charging 31 individuals with 37 separate crimes, including the sensitive corruption trial of the former Ninewah Provincial Council Chairman.



POLITICAL - Provincial

PRT Babil 'My Arabic Library' Books Bring Joy to Babil Educators:

- PRT Babil presented sets of “My Arabic Library” books for fourth and fifth graders to eight schools from Babil Province at a meeting at the PRT headquarters February 10. The Director General for Education, teachers and administrators were all delighted by the books and pledged to put them to good use. “One of the problems with our current textbooks is that most are low quality and lack illustrations and color,” a teacher training supervisor said. “These books are beautiful and will be a great addition to our classrooms.” The books were developed in partnership between the State Department’s Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) and Scholastic, a global publisher of children’s books and educational materials.

Ninewah PRT Emergency Planning Efforts Bear Fruit with Provincial Initiative:

- After months of hard work to raise the profile of emergency preparedness among government officials in Ninewah, the PRT’s efforts paid off January 23 when a large group of provincial and local officials, led by Provincial Governor Duraid Kahmoula, convened to outline the initial steps for an improved emergency action plan for Ninewah province. In cooperation with USAID, the PRT has twice brought in a senior consultant on emergency preparedness to assess the situation in the province and work with the Iraqi civil servants responsible in the event of a serious incident, such as a flood, large-scale fire, or a city-wide terrorist attack.



POLITICAL – Government of Iraq

Coalition Affiliation (at time of appointment)
United Iraq Alliance
Kurdistani Alliance
Iraqi Accord Front
Iraqi National List
Other / Independent

(F) = Female

*Formerly Tawafuq

**Formerly Sadrist/UIA

***Formerly Iraqiya

Prime Minister

Nuri al-Maliki

President

Jalal Talabani

Deputy President

Tariq al-Hashimi

Deputy President

'Adil 'Abd al-Mahdi

Deputy Prime Minister

* Vacant

Deputy Prime Minister

Barham Salih

Minister of Agriculture

Ali al-Bahadeli

Minister of Communications

*** Vacant

Minister of Culture

* Vacant

Minister of Defense
Abdul Qadir Muhammed
Jasim al-Mufraji
Minister of Displacement & Migration
Abd al-Samad Rahman
Sultan
Minister of Electricity

Karim Wahid

Minister of Education

Khudayyir al-Khuza'i

Minister of Environment

Narmin 'Uthman (F)

Minister of Finance

Bayan Jabr

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Hoshiyar Zebari

Minister of Health

Saleh al-Hasnawi

Minister of Higher Education

* Vacant

Minister of Human Rights

Wijdan Mikha'il (F)

Minister of Industry & Minerals

Fawzi al-Hariri

Minister of Interior

Jawad al-Bulani

Minister of Justice
*** (Safa al Safi
acting)
Minister of Housing & Construction

Bayan Daza'l (F)

Minister of Labor & Social Affairs
Mahmud Muhammad
Jawad al-Radi
Minister of Oil

Husayn al-Shahristani

Minister of Planning

Ali Baban

Minister of Trade

Abd al-Falah al-Sudani

Minister of Science & Technology

Ra'id Fahmi Jahid

Minister of Municipalities & Public Works

Riyad Ghurayyib

Minister of Transportation

** Vacant

Minister of Water Resources

'Abd al-Latif Rashid

Minister of Youth & Sports

Jasim Muhammad Ja'far

Minister of State for Civil Society
* (Wijdan Mikha'il
Acting) (F)
Minister of State for National Dialogue Affairs

Akram al-Hakim

Minister of State for National Security Affairs

Shirwan al-Waili

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs

* Vacant

Minister of State for Governorates Affairs

Sa'd Hashim

Minister of State for Tourism and Antiquities

** Vacant

Minister of State for Women's Affairs

** (Narmeen Othman Acting)

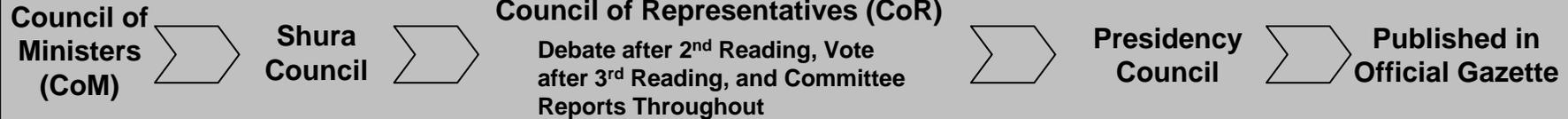
Minister of State for CoR Affairs

Safa al-Safi



POLITICAL – Key Legislation and Refugee Update

Legislative Process



Provincial Powers

PASSED: CoR approved law on February 13. Awaits approval by the Presidency Council and publication in the Official Gazette.

Elections

Provincial Powers Law requires the Elections Law to be passed by the CoR within 90 days. Provincial Elections are required to be held no later than October 1, 2008. The Prime Minister's Office is currently drafting the law, which will set the legal basis and structure of provincial and national elections

Hydrocarbons Package

The level of control allocated to the central government in the July 2007 draft version of the Framework Law (currently in CoR Committee) is the key point of disagreement; there may be more progress on the Revenue Management Law, currently with the Shura Council, in the coming months

Amnesty Law

PASSED: CoR approved law on February 13. Awaits approval by the Presidency Council and publication in the Official Gazette.

Pensions Amendment

PASSED: Published in the Official Gazette December 2007

De-Ba'athification Reform

PASSED: Approved by default by the Presidency Council February 2008. Must still be published in the Official Gazette)

Refugee Update

Refugees in the region: 2-2.4 million

Internally displaced persons in Iraq: 2.2-2.4 million

Total number of Iraqi refugees admitted to the U.S. during to date in FY07-FY08: 3,222



SECURITY - Situation Update

Al-Qaida Leader's Diary Reveals Organization's Decline:

- Coalition Forces discovered a 39-page typed document on al-Qaida in Iraq (AQI) and the revealing diary of AQI operative Abu Tariq during a November 2007 attack in which Abu Maysara was killed. Analysis of the tone and content of the typed document holds that the document was written by a mid-to high-level AQI emir in the summer of 2007. The document reveals a negative outlook on AQI's long-term prospects in the al-Anbar area, due in large part to a loss of popular support in Anbar province. The author suggests that AQI move its remaining foreign fighters to an area where they might have greater success in achieving its plans. Officials do not believe that the document indicates that AQI has been defeated and assert that AQI remains a substantial, dangerous threat to Iraq. Additionally, the diary of Abu Tariq demonstrates the effect volunteer citizen groups are having on suppressing the insurgency and weakening AQI. The diary indicates that AQI views the volunteer citizen groups as a threat to its operations and alludes to a definitive reduction in the number of fighters supporting AQI.

Citizen Assistance Leads to Progress in Security:

- Assistance and information from Iraqi citizen groups have enabled CF to identify weapons caches and liberate innocent Iraqis being held prisoner. A tip from a 'Sons of Iraq' member February 8 enabled soldiers from Troop C, 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, to seize an EFP cache in Jurf Nadaf, southeast of Baghdad. Additionally, CF Soldiers from Troop B, 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division were led by a citizen in the village of Minori to a cache in Arab Jabour.



SECURITY – Situation Update

Mahdi Army Rogues Anxious to End Ceasefire:

- During pre-dawn raids February 11, Coalition Forces detained 25 members of Iraqi Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's Mahdi Army militia in Baghdad. Those detained are part of a group of Mahdi Army militiamen who have rejected Sadr's August ceasefire, the contingent targeted by the raids. The militia members who are violating the ceasefire are suspected of being responsible for numerous kidnappings, mortar fire and attacks by explosively formed penetrators (EFPs). In light of an increase in Mahdi Army attacks, Sadr threatened to expel militiamen who do not comply with the ceasefire. Sadr's six-month ceasefire expires at the end of February, though Iraqi media sources speculate that Sadr plans to extend the ceasefire for another six months. Top officials in the Sadr movement in parliament urge Sadr not to renew the ceasefire, claiming that security forces are persecuting members of the Mahdi Army.

Defense Secretary Gates Defends Halt in Troop Drawdown:

- U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said February 11 that he favors a short pause in troop draw downs from Iraq after about 30,000 soldiers have been withdrawn by July. Gates supported this position by stating that the security situation in Baghdad remains fragile. "I think that the notion of a brief period of consolidation and evaluation probably does make sense," he told reporters.



SECURITY – Security Transition

Twenty-five New Troops Join Iraqi Security Forces Unit:

- A three-week training course taught by U.S. Special Operations Forces (SOF) graduated twenty-five new Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) troops who will operate in the area of Ramadi. This recent graduating class consists of troops from all local tribes and is one of the first such ISF units in the area. As al-Anbar's security is transitioned back to the GOI, the ISF will work closely with the SOF. ISF recruits were instructed on the need for physical training, how to secure a building and how to conduct searches once an area is secure.

Continued Expansion of Iraqi Police Force:

- On February 2, Iraqi Police (IP) officials and Coalition military police gathered at the Camp Fiji training facility for the graduation of 493 new Iraqi Police officers. The ceremony included an IP demonstration of techniques learned during the two-week training period at the academy. The new IP officers demonstrated how they will increase safety in Iraqi neighborhoods using weapons training, combat techniques, structure-clearing techniques, and first aid and defensive maneuvers against small-arms attacks. Capt. Mohammad, Iraqi Police's Forward Unit training commander, noted that "this increase in police force will better the peace for the citizens." The training class was led by Iraqi Police trainers. Eventually the Iraqi Police expansion program intends to train more than 12,000 new Iraqi Police recruits from surrounding provinces.



SECURITY – Security Transition

New Rifles and Training for Iraqi Army's Presidential Brigade:

- At Besmaya Range Complex February 5 the Iraqi Army's Presidential Brigade exchanged their AK-47 model rifles for newer, more accurate M-16s. Upon receipt of a new weapon, each soldier's photograph, fingerprint, voice, retinal scan and name were entered into a biometrics system for weapon accountability. Soldiers also received training from Besmaya's staff over a three-day period on general marksmanship, weapon care and maintenance, body position during firing, and trigger squeeze. The training also included firing exercises to qualify each soldier on his rifle. The new M-16 rifles were purchased with Iraqi funds through Foreign Military Sales, a program that permits the transparent purchase of military equipment, materiel, and services from foreign countries.



SECURITY - Iraqi Security Forces

Iraq Security Forces as of January 1, 2008 ^a			
Component	Current Authorized Personnel ^b	Assigned Personnel ^c	Total Trained Personnel to date ^d
Ministry of Interior (MoI) Forces ^e			
Iraqi Police Service ^f	288,001	275,300	155,248
National Police ^g	33,670	32,389	41,399
Border Enforcement	38,205	39,649	27,959
Total MoI	359,876	347,338	224,606
Ministry of Defense (MoD) Forces ^h			
Army	186,352	159,938	174,940
Support Forces	17,369	18,794	19,750
Air Force	2,907	1,305	1,370
Navy	1,483	1,115	1,194
Total MoD	208,111	181,152	197,254
Counter Terrorism Bureau			
Special Operations	4,857	3,126	3,485
Total Iraqi Security Forces	572,844	531,616	425,345

a Numbers do not include ministry staffs.

b Numbers reflect Government of Iraq (GOI) authorizations.

c Numbers are based upon GOI payroll data and do not reflect present for duty totals.

d Numbers reflect assigned personnel that have received training.

e Numbers reflect total ISF personnel trained to date, some of which are no longer assigned due to casualties, AWOL, and normal separation.

f MoI strength does not reflect investigative and administrative forces, the MoI HQ, MoI Forensics, Dignitary Protection, or contracted guards.

g MoI Police Support Unit, Provincial Security Force, and Emergency Response Unit personnel are part of the Iraqi Police Service and does not include other Ministry FPS.

h The MoD strength are derived from Modified Tables of Organization and Equipment (MTOEs).



ECONOMIC – Economic & Government Capacity Update

USAID Job Generation in Baghdad:

- USAID's stabilization and other programs have generated jobs and other activities for 15,088 workers each workday this reporting period. Short-term employment was provided to 5,007 workers and long-term employment to 11,155 workers. Areas concerned include Adhamiyah, Doura/Rasheed, Mahmodiya, Karkh, Mansour, Sadr City, Karada and 9 Nissan districts.

Iraq Bank Modernization:

- Rafidain Bank, Iraq's largest state-owned bank, will soon begin a vast core banking technology implementation project. Misys and B-Plan Information Systems have been selected to oversee the implementation. Misys will implement the core banking system and the electronic clearing system across Rafidain's 148 domestic and seven regional branches. The Minister of Finance, Bayan Jabar said, "I am determined to modernize the banks. My wish is that every Iraqi citizen has a Visa card and for every Iraqi citizen to have a bank account which he is able to manage through the internet, regardless of whether he is a government employee or not."

Diwaniyah Completes al-Hamzah Water Project Conduit:

- The Ministry of Water Resources completed work on the extension of the al-Hamzah conduit situated in the southeast of Diwaniyah province. The project involved more than 30,000 acres of land at a cost of 275 million Iraqi dinar. The project will serve about 2,400 farmers in Hamzah District and will rehabilitate thousands of acres of fallow land to increase future agriculture production.



ECONOMIC – Oil

Crude Oil Update:

Price averages in world markets closed with the following prices:

Basrah Light at \$87.022/ barrel

Dated Brent at \$91.864/barrel

WTI Cushing at \$91.134/ barrel

Oman/Dubai at \$84.338/barrel

Revenue estimates:

2006: \$31.3 Billion

2007: \$ 41.0 Billion (estimate)

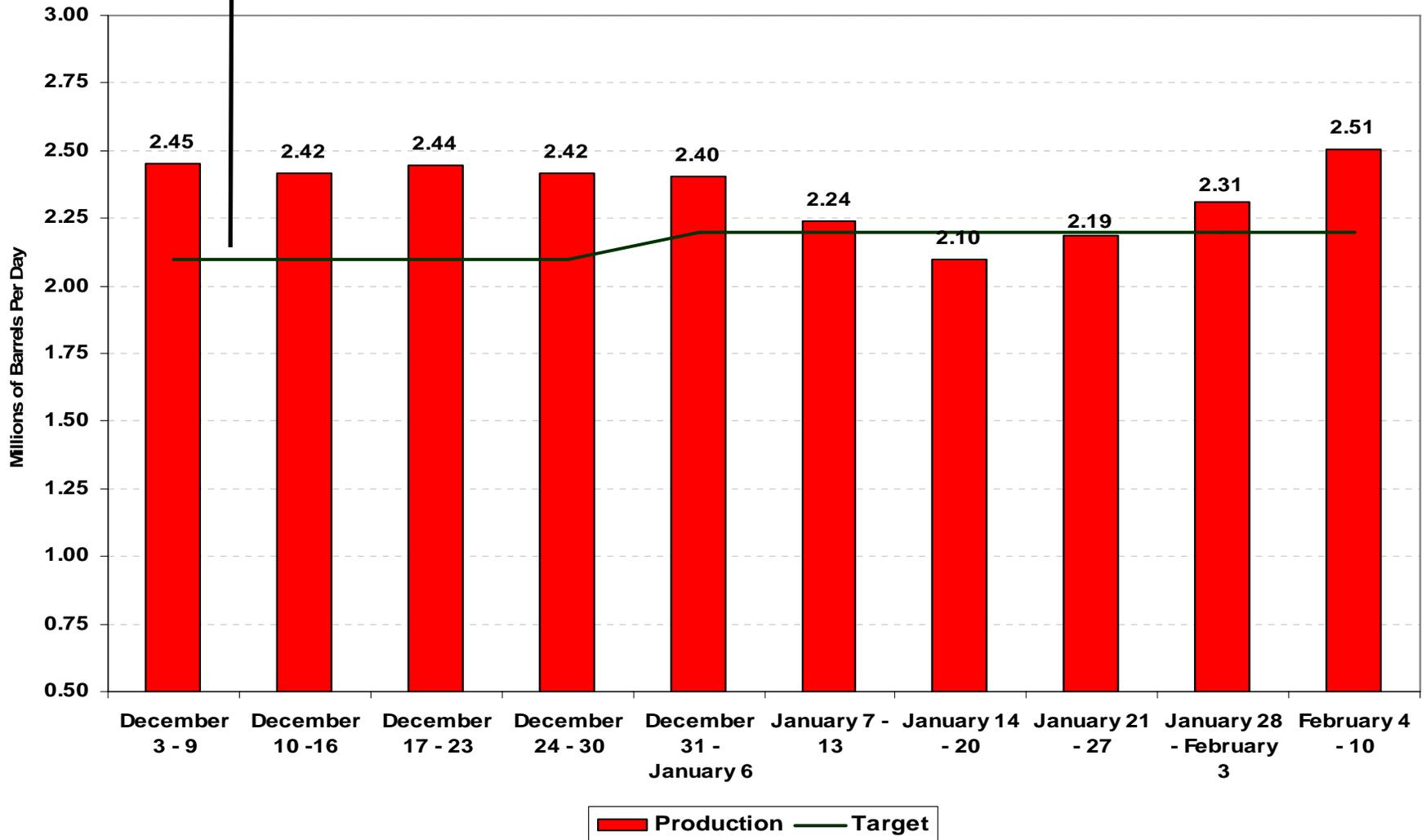
Iraq Accuses Iran of Stealing Oil:

- Iraq's Foreign Ministry sent a letter of warning to Iran regarding accusations that Iran is illegally pumping Iraqi crude oil. This warning stemmed from a report from the Commission of Public Integrity (CPI). According to the CPI, Iran seized 15 oil wells in southern Iraq and was also practicing slant drilling. The report went further and implicated Iran and Kuwait in fuel smuggling. The report stated that the Iraqi Ministry of Oil is not exercising sufficient oversight, and is unable to keep tabs on the production and movement of refined products.



ECONOMIC – Crude Oil Production

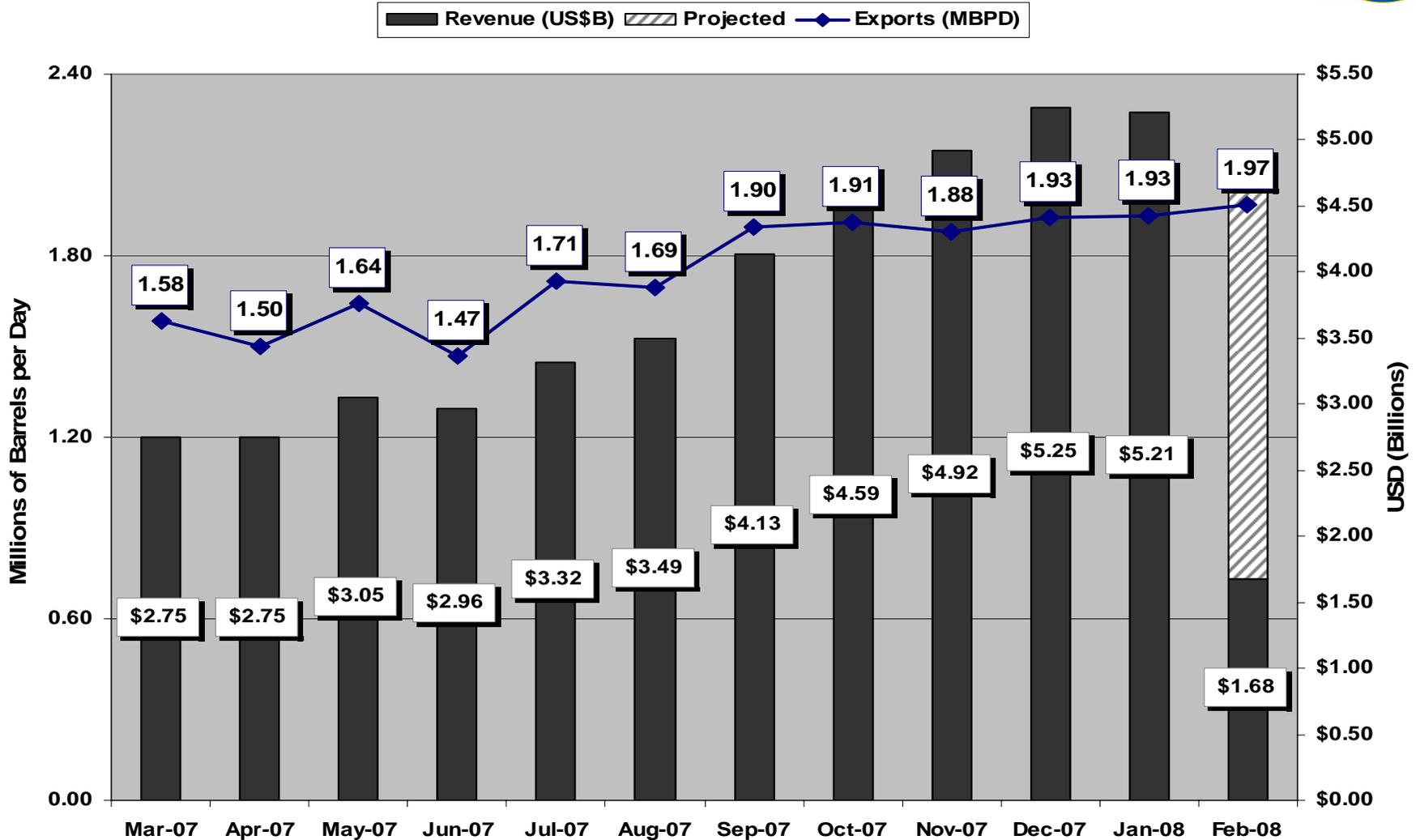
Iraqi Oil Ministry 2007 Goal: 2.1 MBPD; 2008 Goal: 2.2 MBPD





ECONOMIC – Crude Oil Export

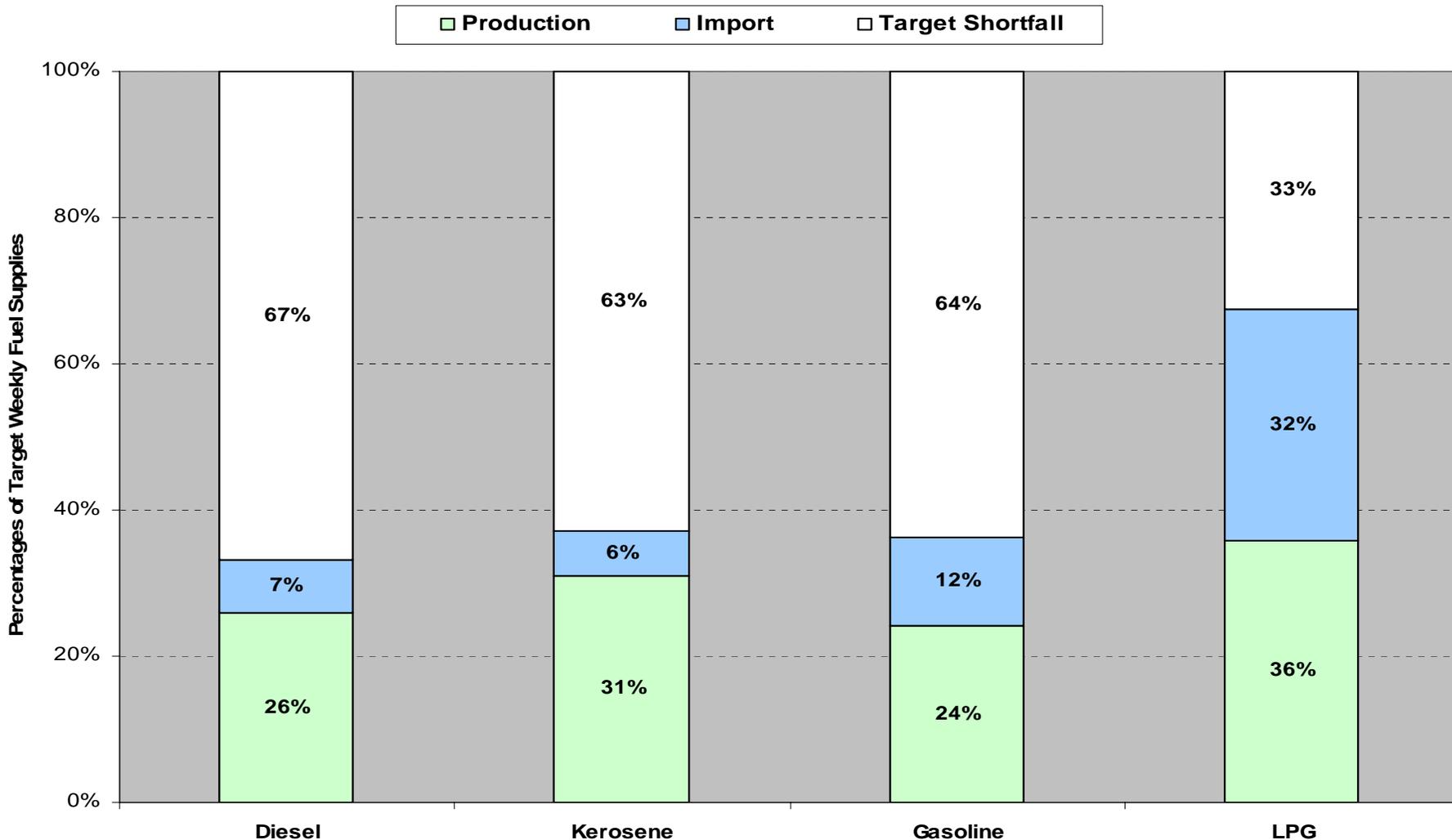
DEPARTMENT OF STATE



- 2006 Revenue Estimate: \$31.3 Billion
- 2007 Revenue Estimate: \$41.0 Billion
- 2008 Revenue Estimate: \$6.89 Billion (ytd)



ECONOMIC – Total Critical Refined Product Supplies



Note: This is a daily average for February 4 – 10

- Diesel: 8.1 ML supply of 24.5 ML target
- Gasoline: 9.7 ML supply of 26.8 ML target
- Kerosene: 5.4 ML supply of 14.6 ML target
- LPG: 3,438 tons supply of 5,100 tons target



ECONOMIC – Electricity

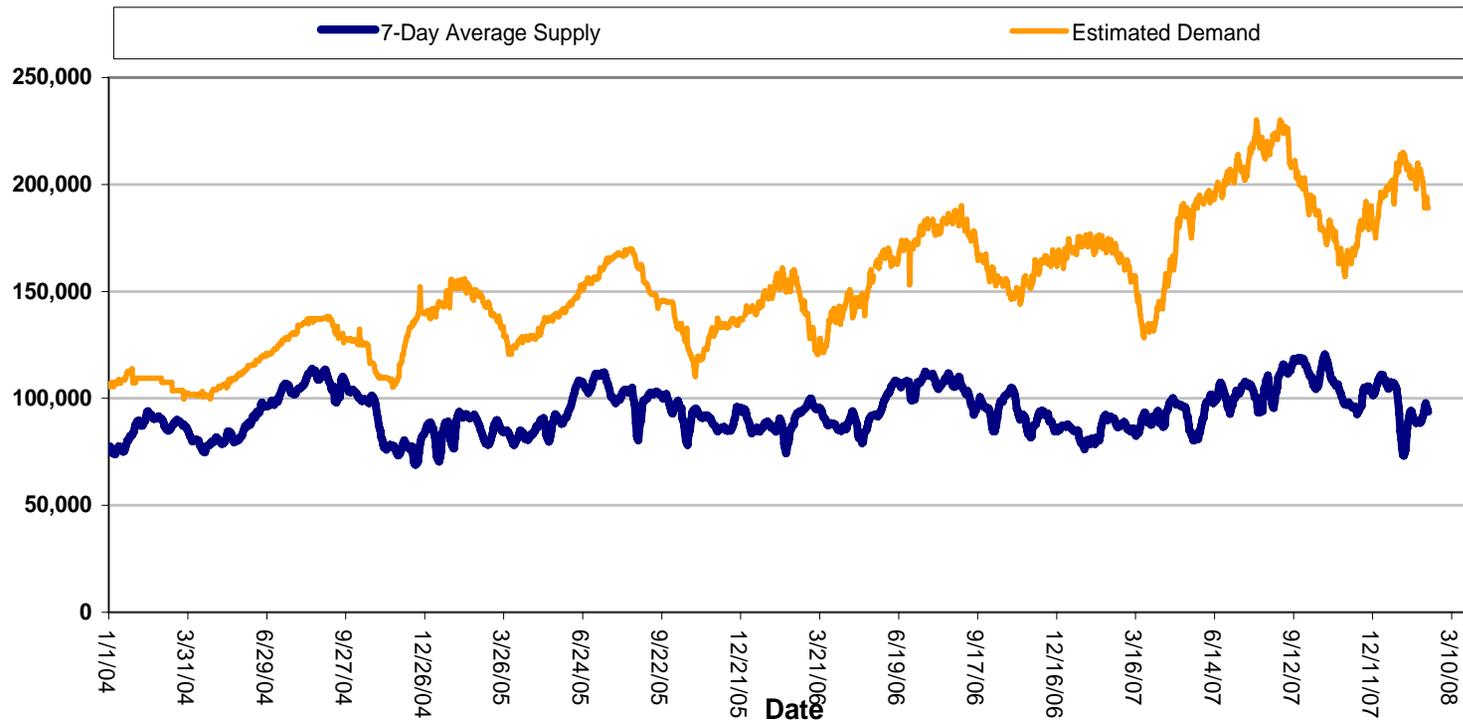
Car Bomb Causes Northern Iraq Power Outage:

- On February 11, large areas lost power in Iraq due to incidents at the Mosul and Baiji power stations. A car bomb specifically targeted power lines at the Mosul station. The explosion at the Baiji station affected a gas pipeline and disrupted gas flow to the station, which was consequently shut down. Electricity Ministry spokesman Aziz Sultan claimed that insurgents were responsible. Sultan went on to say that the ministry is working to complete repairs in two days.



ECONOMIC – Electricity

Daily Electricity Supplied and Estimated Demand in Iraq Since January 2004

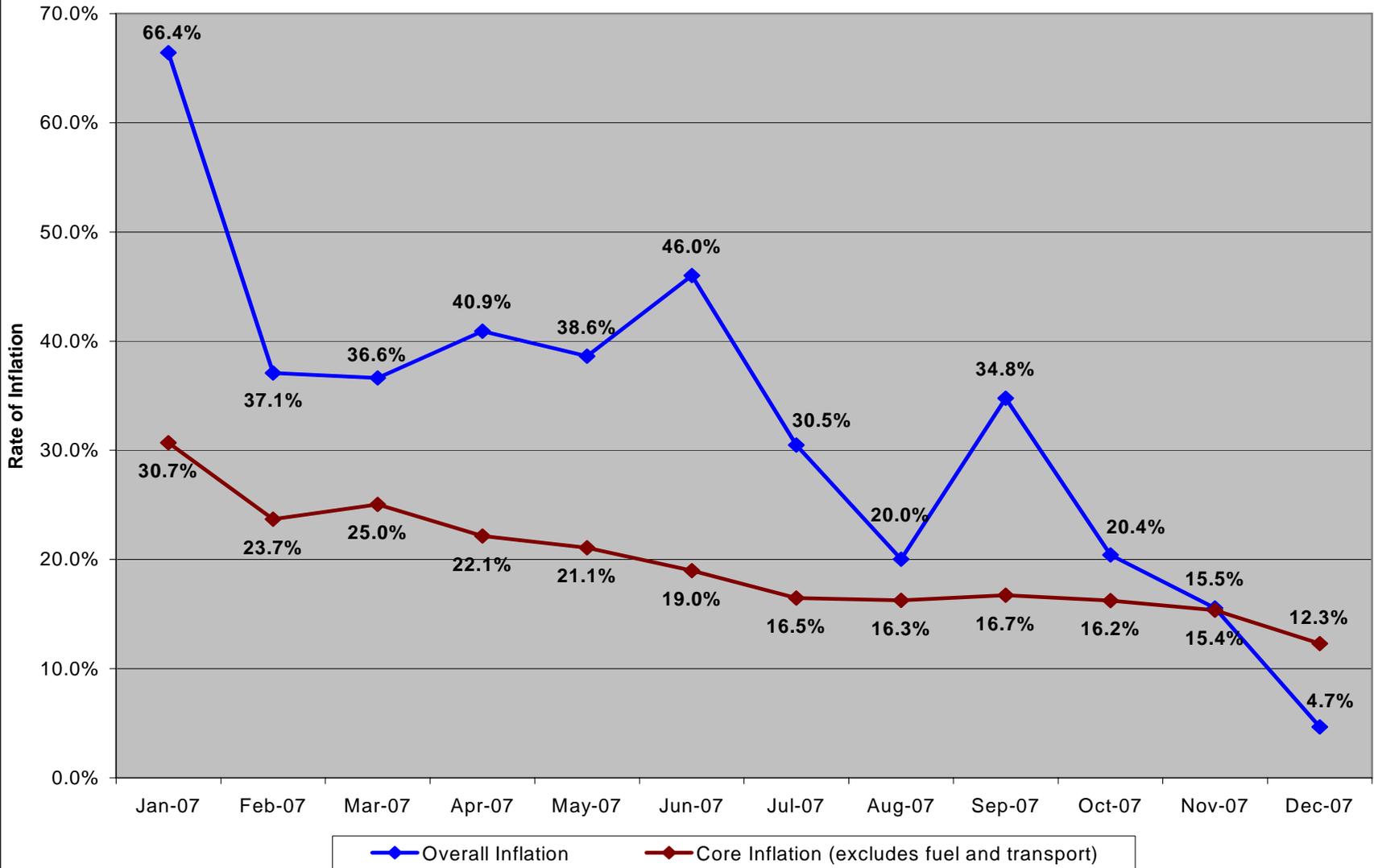


- For February 6-12, daily electricity demand was 12% above the same period last year. Daily supply from the grid was 4% above the year-earlier period and met 49% of demand, compared with 52% for the year-earlier period.
- For February 5-11, average hours of power via the electricity grid after meeting demand from essential services: Baghdad 8.0 and nationwide 10.7. Year-ago levels were Baghdad 6.6 and nationwide 8.7.



ECONOMIC – Economic Indicators

Year-on-Year Inflation





ECONOMIC – Financial Indicators

Economic Indicator	This Week	Last Week	Last Month	Last Year
Iraqi Commercial Bond Sales				
Price (USD)	\$70.73	\$67.60	\$66.76	\$62.82
Yield	8.98%	9.43%	9.56%	10.16%
Central Bank's USD Currency Auction				
USD Sold	\$98,985,000	\$90,985,000	\$107,435,278	\$66,957,492
NID Exchange Rate	\$1,211	\$1,211	\$1,214	\$1,254.00
Total Employed by USG Programs				
	82,608	95,609	95,414	N/A



ECONOMIC - Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) 1 and 2

Sector	Allocated	Un-allocated	Committed			Obligated			Disbursed		
			Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change
Security and Law Enforcement	\$4,985	\$20	\$4,961	\$4,960	\$0	\$4,961	\$4,960	\$0	\$4,856	\$4,858	\$2
Justice, Public Safety and Civil Society	\$2,264	\$44	\$2,253	\$2,253	\$0	\$2,250	\$2,249	\$0	\$2,145	\$2,148	\$3
Electricity Sector	\$4,201	\$25	\$4,068	\$4,068	\$0	\$4,048	\$4,048	\$0	\$3,736	\$3,741	\$5
Oil Infrastructure	\$1,714	\$11	\$1,602	\$1,601	-\$1	\$1,602	\$1,601	-\$1	\$1,559	\$1,560	\$1
Water Resources and Sanitation	\$2,084	\$18	\$1,981	\$1,983	\$2	\$1,971	\$1,973	\$2	\$1,770	\$1,772	\$2
Transportation and Communications	\$454	\$3	\$451	\$451	\$0	\$451	\$451	\$0	\$399	\$402	\$4
Roads, Bridges and Construction	\$332	\$1	\$318	\$318	-\$1	\$318	\$318	-\$1	\$242	\$245	\$3
Health Care	\$813	\$10	\$784	\$784	\$0	\$775	\$775	\$0	\$718	\$718	\$1
Private Sector Development	\$821	\$2	\$821	\$821	\$0	\$821	\$821	\$0	\$806	\$806	\$0
Education, Refugees, Human Rights, Governance	\$426	\$10	\$423	\$423	\$0	\$423	\$423	\$0	\$395	\$395	\$0
Admin Expense (USAID, STATE)	\$213	\$0	\$210	\$210	\$0	\$210	\$210	\$0	\$210	\$210	\$0
Total	\$18,306	\$143	\$17,872	\$17,871	\$0	\$17,829	\$17,829	\$0	\$16,834	\$16,855	\$21
IRRF II Non-Construction	-	-	\$7,932	\$7,932	\$0	\$7,911	\$7,911	\$0	\$7,659	\$7,667	\$7
IRRF II Construction	-	-	\$9,420	\$9,419	\$0	\$9,398	\$9,398	\$0	\$8,659	\$8,672	\$14
IRRF II Overhead	-	-	\$520	\$520	\$0	\$520	\$520	\$0	\$516	\$516	\$0
IRRF I Total	\$2,475	\$0	\$2,291	\$2,291	\$0	\$2,232	\$2,232	\$0	\$2,139	\$2,139	\$0
Grand Total IRRF I & II	\$20,781	\$143	\$20,163	\$20,162	\$0	\$20,061	\$20,061	\$0	\$18,973	\$18,994	\$21



DIPLOMATIC – Economic Engagement

Russia to Forgive \$12 Billion of Iraq's Debt:

- According to media reports, Russia has agreed to write off \$12 billion of Saddam-era debt owed by Iraq to help Iraq's economy. Russian oil companies, in turn, will invest up to \$4 billion in Iraq, including Russian oil company Lukoil's development of the West Qurna oilfields. Iraq's remaining \$900 million debt to Russia will be repaid over 17 years.

Kurdistan Regional Government Hosts "Invest in the Future" Luncheon:

- On February 11, KRG Representative in Washington, D.C. Qubad Talabani hosted a luncheon at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to promote foreign investment in the Kurdistan Region. Talabani made a strong push for foreign investment in all sectors -- including hydrocarbons. When asked about oil and gas investment, Talabani stated that "USG concerns [about Kurdish oil and gas contracts] are not valid." He expects additional companies to sign such agreements.



DIPLOMATIC – Political Engagement

Jordan Seeks Help with Iraqi Refugees:

- Estimating the cost of hosting Iraqi refugees over the past three years at over \$2 billion dollars, the Government of Jordan is appealing to the international community for financial assistance. The GOI has pledged eight million dollars to Jordan to help meet the costs to the GOJ of Iraqi refugees in the country.

Jordan Agrees to Exempt Iraqi Refugees from Fines:

- King Abdullah II of Jordan agreed to Iraqi Vice President Tariq al-Hashimi's request that Iraqis in Jordan seeking to repatriate be exempt from paying overstay fines. Some Iraqis have noted that these fines, which must be paid in order to leave the country, have discouraged some Iraqis from returning.

Arab States Encouraged to Establish Diplomatic Presence in Iraq:

- On February 7, Senior Advisor to the Secretary and Deputy Coordinator for Iraq David Satterfield called the lack of Arab embassies in Baghdad a "significant absence." He noted that Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Kuwait have not followed through on promises to open embassies in Baghdad and send ambassadors. Media outlets quoted him as saying that "many in the Sunni Arab world are finding it difficult to accept the concept of a post-Sunni Iraq."



DIPLOMATIC – Coalition Contributors

26 Countries with forces in Iraq (including U.S.)

Albania	Denmark	Korea	Romania
Armenia	El Salvador	Latvia	Singapore
Australia	Estonia	Lithuania	Tonga
Azerbaijan	Georgia	Macedonia	Ukraine
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Japan	Moldova	United Kingdom
Bulgaria	Kazakhstan	Mongolia	
Czech Republic		Poland	

TOTAL ~ 10,604 Forces

32 Countries and NATO*
 (including the U.S.)
Support Iraqi Stability Operations

*32 includes the U.S., the 25 countries listed above, and six non-MNF-I countries: Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Turkey

Note: Fiji and New Zealand, participating as a part of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI), are not included.



CONTACT INFORMATION

- This brief draws from multiple sources. References are cited on the following pages.
- Please forward all questions and/or comments to:
NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov



NOTES AND SOURCE CITATIONS (1 of 2)

Slide 4:

- NEA Political Section, NEA-I-POL-DL@state.gov
- February 13 – Reuters - <http://tvnz.co.nz/view/page/536641/1580580>

Slide 5:

- February 12 - AP: <http://www.syracuse.com/newsflash/index.ssf?/base/international-42/120282265920840.xml&storylist=topstories>
- February 11 - The Wall Street Journal - http://online.wsj.com/article/SB120263741021556961.html?mod=hps_us_whats_news
- February 8 - AP - http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080207/ap_on_re_mi_ea/iraq_sistani_s_twilight

Slide 6:

- NEA Political Section, NEA-I-POL-DL@state.gov

Slide 7:

- NEA Political Section, NEA-I-POL-DL@state.gov

Slide 8:

- NEA Political Section, NEA-I-POL-DL@state.gov

Slide 9:

- NEA Political Section, NEA-I-POL-DL@state.gov

Slide 10:

- February 10 – MNF-I Operation Update
- February 11 – MNF-I Press Release

Slide 11:

- February 11 - AFP - http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080211/wl_mideast_afp/iraqunrestsadr
- February 11 - AFP - http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080211/wl_mideast_afp/iraq

Slide 12:

- February 11 - MNF-I Press Release
- February 6 – MNF-I Press Release

Slide 13:

- February 8 – MNF-I Press Release

Slide 14:

- DoD Input to Iraq Weekly Status Report February 5, 2008

Slide 15:

- PRT Weekly Summary February 2-8
- February 6 – Arabian Business - www.arabianbusiness.com/510490-iraq-continues-bank-it-modernization?ln=en



NOTES AND SOURCE CITATIONS (2 of 2)

- DEPARTMENT OF STATE
- Slide 16:
- Department of State, NEA-I-ECON, 202-647-9885
- Slide 17:
- Department of State, NEA-I-ECON, 202-647-9885
- Slide 18:
- Department of State, NEA-I-ECON, 202-647-9885
- Slide 19:
- Department of State, NEA-I-ECON, 202-647-9885
- Slide 20
- February 14 – Reuters: www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSL11377581
- Slide 21:
- POC Department of State, NEA-I ECON, 202-647-9815
 - The chart shows average daily power production in megawatt hours (MWh). 120,000 MWh goal equates to 20 hours at 6000 MW average supplied load or 24 hours at 5000 MW average supply load.
 - Oil Prices are sourced from Bloomberg
- Slide 22:
- Department of State, NEA-I-ECON, 202-647-9885
- Slide 23:
- ITAO Weekly Status Report – February 14, 2008
 - Iraqi Bond Prices sourced from Bloomberg
- Slide 24:
- ITAO Weekly Status Report – February 14, 2008
- Slide 25:
- February 11 – BBC News - <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/7239028.stm>
 - NEA Economic Section, NEA-I-ECON-DL@state.gov
- Slide 26:
- February 12 - AFP: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080212/wl_mideast_afp/iraqrefugeejordaneconomy_080212190901;_ylt=AqwadS98W.6bhTiAy83Np.BX6GMA
 - NEA Political Section, NEA-I-POL-DL@state.gov
 - February 7 – AP - http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080207/ap_on_go_ca_st_pe/us_iraq;_ylt=AqM8fEUyOkq0xDNZlxf2icD5gcF
- Slide 27:
- DoD Input to Iraq Weekly Status Report February 5, 2008