



COALITION PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY  
BAGHDAD



INFO MEMO

January 19, 2004

FOR: THE ADMINISTRATOR  
FROM: Darrell Trent, Senior Advisor to the Iraqi Ministry of Transportation  
SUBJECT: Ministry of Transportation Issues Update

AVIATION - (b)(2),(b)(3):10 USC §130b,(b)(6)

- Hajj Flights Begin.** On January 18, 2004, the first Iraqi Hajj pilgrims boarded flights in Kuwait en route to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Early in the week, it became clear that the company chosen to deliver the flights for the Hajj was going to be in default of its contractual obligations. Three days before flights should have begun, the company was only able to provide proof of one insured plane which did not include passenger insurance. The Iraqi High Hajj Committee decided to cancel the contract and requested the assistance of the CPA to come to their aid in resolving this crisis. CPA Ministries of Transportation, Foreign Affairs and the CPA head of the Hajj Committee worked in a concerted effort with the Head of the Iraq High Hajj Committee to resolve a multitude of issues. The services of a reputable air charter broker in Dubai were engaged and the work began including delivering six airworthy and fully insured aircraft from reliable carriers, review of four contracts by CPA General Counsel and signature by the Head of Iraq High Hajj Committee, waiving of the Saudi Hajj Bond, royalties and landing fees, and waiving of Kuwait passenger tax, allocation of landing slots in Saudi Arabia, and coordination of ground and air operations at the border, Kuwait civil aviation and Saudi civil aviation. In four days, the capability to transport 30,000 passengers was completed and the first flight took off. The schedule to transport the required amount of passengers works within the time limit. Assistance was provided by the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division and CJTF-7 who delivered blankets to pilgrims delayed on the ground. The U.S. Embassies in Riyadh and Kuwait also assisted in expediting waivers and gaining quick cooperation with Kuwait and Saudi Governments. The flow of passengers to the Kuwait border is being coordinated with the flight schedule and the process will continue over the next ten days until the pilgrims are all in Jeddah.
- Aviation Transition Plan Drafted.** The CPA MoT aviation team has distributed the draft "Iraqi Aviation Transition Plan" within CPA and CJTF-7. The plan is focused on preparing Iraq's General Establishment of Civil Aviation (GECA) to take control of all civil aviation matters by July 1, 2004. The plan is broken down into 20 interrelated activities that will, when completed, provide the foundation for civil aviation in Iraq.
- SkyLink Training of Iraqi Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).** SkyLink briefed the CAA on its proposal to train CAA employees as part of transition preparation. If approved, the training would directly support efforts by CPA to transition responsibility for civil aviation to Iraqi personnel.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

- **Delivery of Italian Meteorology Equipment.** Next week, basic meteorological equipment totaling \$1.2 million will be delivered to support Baghdad International Airport (BIAP) commercial aviation operations. CPA/MoT will coordinate with the Oil-for-Food program to provide escort for the delivery of the meteorology equipment from Jordan to BIAP. At the Jordan-Iraq border, the escort team and three Iraqi Meteorological Organization staffers will verify the cargo and escort it to BIAP. On a related note, MoT staff presided over continuing renovations of the Meteorological station at BIAP to improve local weather monitoring for departures and arrivals.
- **ID's for Iraqi Airways Employees.** MoT staff established new vetting and badging system to enable Iraqi Airways ground handlers, baggage handlers, maintenance engineers, passenger escorts, and ground station personnel to operate at BIAP. This week, over 48 badges were issued for Iraqi Airways personnel.
- **MoT/PMO Coordination.** MoT staff coordinated with PMO and Contracting Office to confirm funding sources (FY03 Supplemental, Iraqi 2003 and 2004 budgets) for successful execution of planned aviation projects. The MoT aviation team anticipates limited expenditures for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, 2004. All expenditures are currently forecast for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, 2004.
- **Airport Scope of Work.** The Army Corps of Engineers discussed with the MoT aviation team on a prospective Request for Funds (RFF) to develop airport assessments, clarify scope of work, and organize timelines. The Army will follow-up to verify their capabilities on BIAP reconstruction.
- **DHL Coordination.** DHL is working with MoT staff to enable Iraqi Airways mechanics to assist DHL in the maintenance of ground handling equipment and cargo.
- **Royal Jordanian Concerns.** This week, MoT staff met with the RJ Station Manager and two RJ Senior Captains to discuss improving navigational linkages between Amman and Baghdad, including strengthening the VSAT/AFTN coverage in Western Iraq. MoT staff continues to train Iraqi Civil Aviation Authority employees for VSAT installation and maintenance to strengthen voice and data linkage between air traffic controllers and pilots.

RAILROADS — 

- **Railway Collision Closes Baghdad-Basrah Line.** A head-on collision between two freight trains occurred on January 16, 2004 south of Nasiriyah. One train was a southbound train of track materials and the second was a northbound military container train. Three locomotive drivers were fatally injured and that several of the five Iraqi Republic Railway (IRR) policemen on the military train were seriously injured. A preliminary assessment indicates that the Nasiriyah station staff improperly allowed the southbound train to depart without waiting for the arrival of the northbound train, which was running about one hour late. Fog in the area may also have been a contributing factor. IRR managers have returned to Baghdad from the scene and a full report should be available by January 20<sup>th</sup>.
- **Turkish Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) Delivery.** The first trainload of LPG from Turkey has arrived by rail at the download facility at Wa'eyliya (midway between Mosul and Rabiya). This arrival follows three trains of diesel received at Wa'eyliya from Turkey.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

- **Train Repair Assessment.** An Iraqi Republic Railway management team inspected the line between Baghdad and Basrah, identifying operational wagons and locomotives which had been previously unidentified or set aside for minor repairs. The team also discovered a substantial number of container wagons for use, and at a Samawah workshop, identified 13 locomotives which require minor attention and repair. The Dutch are working in Samawah with the Iraqi Republic Railway to renovate railway facilities.
- **Planned Supplemental-funded Renovations.** MoT staff and PMO's Railway Program Manager visited the Iraqi Republic Railway's Shalschia Shops and the Central Stores to inspect and assess planned renovations.

MARITIME

(b)(2),(b)(3);10 USC §130b,(b)(6)

(b)(5)

- **Iraqi Port Task Force.** The task force will meet on January 20, 2004, to finalize task assignments designed to improve port operations. A report summarizing the tasks will be provided to the CPA Administrator this week.
- **Transportation Minister Port Visit.** On January 15, 2003, the Iraqi Minister of Transportation, Behnam Polous, visited all five Iraqi ports with CPA staff. He met with officials from CPA South, the port operators for Umm Qasr and Khour Al-Zubair and other coalition personnel. His input and feedback.
- **Grain Terminal Discharge.** The 45,000-ton motor vessel *Yi Hui* discharged 6,782 tons of grain in a single day.
- **Navstar 1 Leaving Umm Qasr.** Tugs have been connected up to *Navstar 1* ready to tow the ship out to discharge the cargo and on for scrapping in Pakistan. Prior to being seized by Coalition forces, *Navstar 1* had smuggled oil from Iraq.
- **Umm Qasr's Berth 12.** A US Army troop has left the new port's berth 12, thereby enabling commercial usage of the pier and adjacent property.
- **Dredging at Khawr Az Zubayr.** Maersk Co. has donated a new engine compressor for the dredging ship *Ramalah*, which will enable the *Ramalah* to resume dredging operations at the port of Khawr Az Zubayr.

SURFACE TRANSPORT

(b)(2),(b)(3);10 USC §130b,(b)(6)

- **PRB Action on Oil-for-Food.** MoT staff submitted to PRB a UN-approved contract for truck parts for Land Transport Company as part of Oil-for-Food program. PRB tabled motion until Iraqi Ministry of Transportation (MoT) convinces Iraqi Ministry of Finance that PRB funding is required and that Iraqi MoT funding is unavailable for this project. MoT is working with Iraqi counterparts to develop a resolution to fund these needed spare parts.
- **Truck Transportation Assistance for Oil-for-Food.** The Iraqi Ministry of Transport has signed an agreement with Oil-for-Food to provide two transportation specialists at each border crossing. These representatives will be co-located with the Oil-for-Food border offices and assist in truck transportation matters.

UNCLASSIFIED

SECURITY (b)(2),(b)(3):10 USC §130b,(b)(6)

- **FPS Salaries.** MoT completed 70% of the FPS Turnover of Authority (TOA) data comprehensively listing FPS personnel in the Ministry of Transportation, to enable payment of Ministry FPS officers during March 2004.
- **Streamlining Access for Iraqi civil aviation workers.** MoT updated the Checkpoint Entry Control Point (ECP) Access Roster used for heightened security threat levels, to enable civil aviation workers to operate the airport. Also, the SkyLink shuttle bus will begin transporting Iraqi civil aviation workers from Checkpoint 1 to the main passenger terminal every 30 minutes.
- **BIAP Security Request for Information (RFI).** MoT sent an RFI to CJTF-7 and the 5<sup>th</sup> Corps to identify any shortfalls in BIAP perimeter security and Man Portable Air Defense (MANPAD) suppression measures.

ATTACHMENTS: NONE

COORDINATION: Department Heads

Reviewed: (b)(2),(b)(3):10 USC §130b,(b)(6)

Drafted: (b)(2),(b)(3):10 USC §130b,(b)(6)