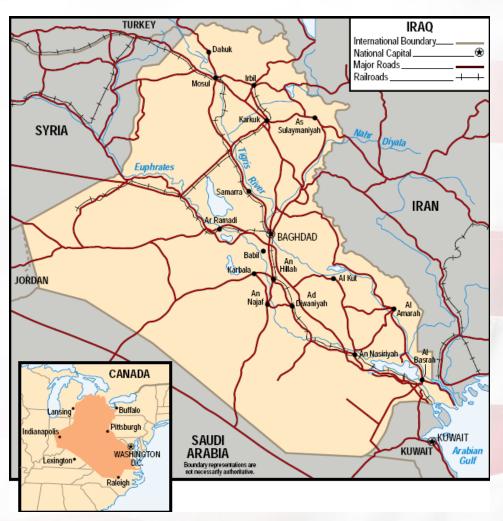
## **IRAQ**

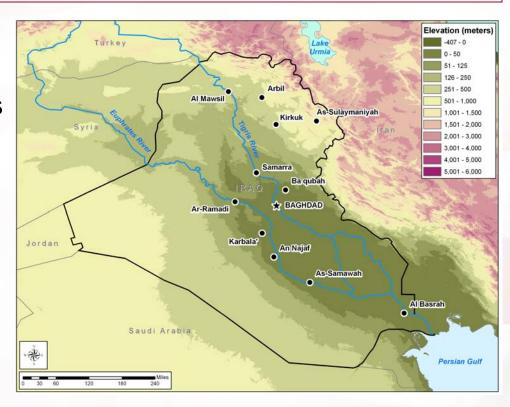
- Plagued by internal & external conflict
- Deteriorated infrastructure
- Poor sanitation





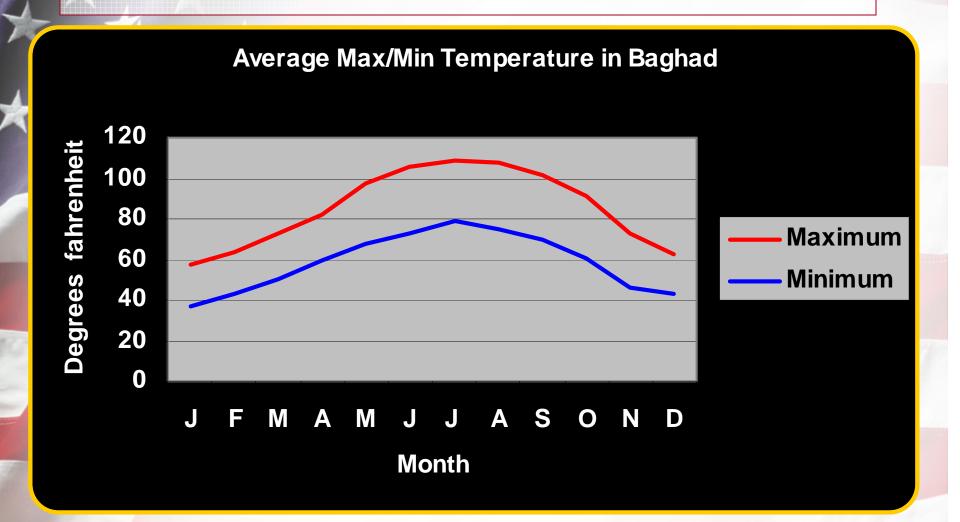
# **Physical Environment**

- Topography
  - Broad Desert Plains
  - Hills
  - Mountains
- Climate
  - Temp extremes
  - 122° F day
  - 37° F night

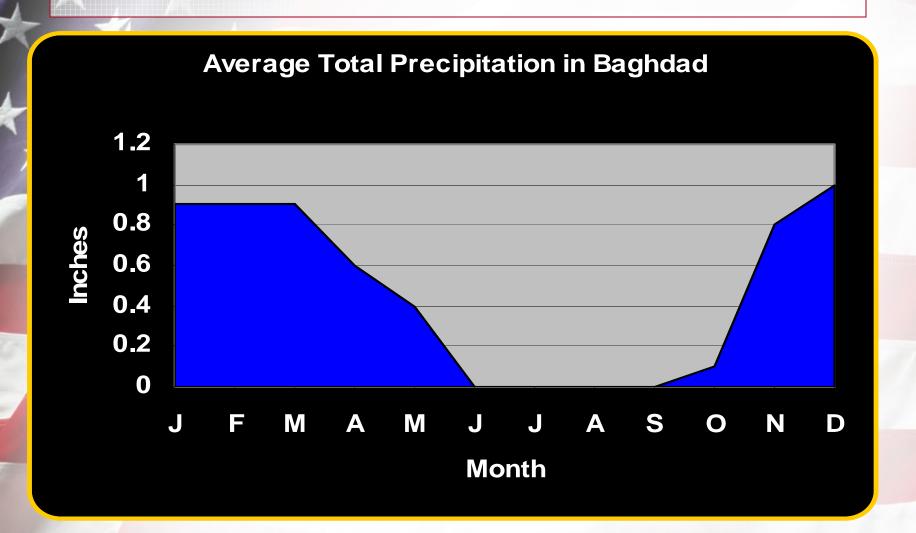


Dust and sandstorms occur year-round; most severe between May and October

# **Physical Environment**



# **Physical Environment**



### **Environmental Health Risk**

- Greatest short-term health risks
  - Ingestion of food or water contaminated with fecal pathogens.

Extreme heat, high altitude, and airborne dust and sand

 Greatest long term risks are associated with air contamination and chemical contamination of food/water



### **Infectious Disease Risk**

INTERMEDIATE RISK for infectious diseases

 Disease risk will adversely impact mission effectiveness unless force health protection measures are implemented

### **Infectious Diseases**

- Foodborne and Waterborne Diseases
  - HIGH RISK = Diarrhea, hep A, typhoid fever
  - -INTERMEDIATE RISK = brucellosis, cholera, hep E
- FHP Priorities
  - Deploy appropriate PM personnel and equipment
  - Consume food, water, ice only from US-approved sources
  - Operate food preparation facilities in accordance with Army doctrine
  - Ensure proper hand washing facilities near all latrines and dining facilities and enforce

- Vector-borne Diseases
  - LOW RISK = Malaria, Leishmaniasis, Crimean-Congo fever, Rickettsioses, Sand-fly fever, Plague, West Nile fever
- FHP Priorities
  - Use DEET on all exposed skin
  - Treat field uniforms with permethrin
  - Use bed nets in field conditions, treat with permethrin
  - Enforce malaria chemoprophylaxis as appropriate

#### Animal-contact Diseases

- INTERMEDIATE RISK = Avian Influenza, Anthrax, Q-fever, Rabies

#### FHP Priorities

- Avoid animal contact
- No mascots
- Report all animal bites and scratches

#### What not to do!



- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
  - INTERMEDIATE RISK = gonorrhea, chlamydia, HIV, Hep B
- FHP Priorities
  - Avoid sexual contact
  - Use latex condoms if sexually active



- Water-contact Diseases
  - INTERMEDIATE RISK = leptospirosis, schistosomiasis
- FHP Priorities
  - avoid unnecessary contact with lakes, rivers, streams, and other surface water

There will not be a sign like this.

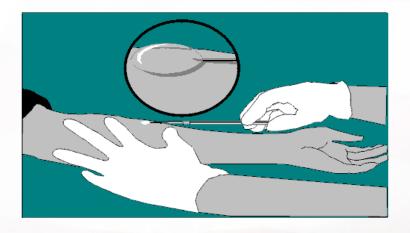
#### **WARNING!**

## LEPTOSPIROSIS HEALTH HAZARD

FRESH WATER STREAMS AND MUD POSSIBLY POLLUTED WITH BACTERIA

> SWIM, BOAT, OR HIKE AT YOUR OWN RISK

- Respiratory Diseases
  - INTERMEDIATE RISK = tuberculosis
- FHP Priorities
  - Tuberculin skin test before and after deployment
  - Avoid close contact with local population



#### **Hazardous Animals & Plants**

#### Animals

 Rabid animals snakes, centipedes, scorpions, spiders

#### Plants

Mole Plant, Belladonna, Strychnine

#### FHP Priorities

- Do not handle animals
- Shake out boots, clothing, & bedding
- Do not touch, chew, eat, or burn unfamiliar plants



#### SUMMARY

- Physical Environment
- Infectious Diseases = Intermediate Risk
- Hazardous Animals and Plants
- FHP measures are simple and effective
  - Use and Enforce
  - Will conserve the fighting strength

