

b(6)
sect

(b)(6)

CPA

From: (b)(6) LT CPA
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2004 10:32 AM
To: (b)(6) CPA
Subject: RE: Chronology

(b)(6) b(6)

These are very rough notes that I was making for myself before you joined us, so please don't include them as official source documents and such. The notes also are not complete as I pretty much stopped when you arrived. That being said, hopefully they provide some good insight for you.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)



ITPT Log.doc (39 KB)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6) CPA
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2004 9:01 AM
To: (b)(6) LT CPA
Subject: Chronology

(b)(6) - Can you email me your chronology of ITPT activity? (b)(6)

21

(b)(6)

Chronology

January

- The DoD Transition Team – Iraq started with 5 people and added me.
- The team operated out of the ASA-I&E office – an interim Secretary was filling the post so the office was open.
- This isolated the team from DoD who was on the other side of the construction barrier.
- Much of the early meetings were “Handshake” meetings – getting the LTG to know people around the building.
- The notable exception was the 1700 meeting.
 - Each assessment team lead came early on, except IT which had already left for Iraq.
 - We started each meeting by going around the table with each assessment team, then: J5, OSD Policy and J8 reps: [redacted] BG Rice, UK rep; round the circle and close with LTG. LTG tried to have people who had just returned from Iraq give a 5-10 ditty on their observations. b(6)
 - Nobody liked the timing of the meeting, including (b)(6) but it was the only time that we seemed to be able to get people together. b(6)
- Security team went out relatively early under Eikenberry.
 - We wound up having great difficulty even getting ahold of our own report that Eikenberry wrote.
- Finance Team went out with OMB and (b) b(6)
- Personnel Team went out with (b)(6) stayed the personnel person throughout the transition.
- 29 Jan – 5 Feb LTG and [redacted] went to Iraq on their first trip b(6)

February

- Assessment teams started doing a lot of work on their reports
 - Briefed to LTG then briefed Deputy and SECDEF

May 11:

- Word came down that DoS pulled out of the Table Top due to “scheduling” issues. The Colonels working on the Table Top went to work on a proposal for a DoD-only exercise.
 - NDU continued its work cross-walking all of the plans and writing scenarios.
 - The possibility of having facilitators play the DoS part was brought up, but didn’t seem to go anywhere.

May 12:

- A handful of DoD staff were picked to provide crowd support in getting Transition Planning Conference attendees to, in and back from DoS which helped out as the

Metro entrance closed, State opened the 23rd St entrance for us and people generally milled about. b(6)

- CAPT (b)(6) briefed facilitators and assistants on the process and due outs for the conference.
 - Key due outs were the nuts and bolts language of two main MOA's (security and support) – with lawyers to clean up later.
 - Power point briefs on the issues addressed and points of the MOA's accomplished.

may 17, 2004

040513 First real day of transition conference. Teams met to discuss issues and hammer out MOA language. At noon, there was a mid-conference review discussing major issues standing at the time. Security standards were the most contentious. DoD brought up the fact that DoD would provide DoD standards of security and request that State sign a waiver. [redacted] jumped in immediately saying that that was a no-go. She wound up hedging her statement and TIPT later found out that State "L" was drafting such a waiver already. The group decided to disagree on this issue at the conference.

040513 The contracting group at the conference had already drafted an MOA, so the effort became fitting the old MOA into the format provided at the conference. There were some word tweaks, but for the most part, it was a cut and paste effort.

b(6) State started by waiving the "non-reimbursable" NSPD flag several times in the meeting, however. State also kept emphasizing how the MOA should be left in "general" terms. State did not want to be "boxed-into" specific requirements. For their part, (b)(6) (b)(6) and COI (b)(6) did not push back on that aspect. [redacted] also pushed for general language stating that the contracting people knew how to do their business – theirs was a operational focus, not policy.

040517 [redacted] announced that CPA (State) had a town hall meeting in Baghdad to discuss pay and benefits issues. Several of the top "winners" were that pay for 3161's would be cut, 3161's would be homeported in D.C. (taking away the TAD money) and that clocks for benefits would be reset (mostly effected inadequate housing counters that kick in only after a certain amount of time in country).

b(6) State stated that the measures were to level the playing field and help morale by ensuring that people working side by side doing the same work would not have unequal pay. Everyone in DoD and BG [Rice] thought that it would lead to people leaving – even those who had volunteered to stay. Most thought that the new rules should be for new hires as many of those staying on would not be in Baghdad for long after the transition – attrition would get rid of the old policy. BG and [redacted] thought that State shouldn't have rocked the boat.

When [redacted] announced the measures at the 040518 1600 meeting in conjunction with other bad news, everyone joked with him saying "any more 'good' news?"

040520 Paul had asked Col [REDACTED] to try and find any documentation about the new State pay measures for 3161's. State hedged saying that lawyers were looking at it. LTG noted in the 1600 meeting that getting any certified paperwork concerning the matter was extremely important to help control rumors.

040520 State announced, emphatically [REDACTED] (word), that it would not sign the security and support MOA's by June 1st. When told about it the next day, LTG had relaxed attitude stating that DoD would have them signed and put in State's lap by June 1st.

040602 Series of breakout sessions at DoD to work out final OPLAN and MOA language.

040604 CAPT [REDACTED] COL [REDACTED] and CDR [REDACTED] traveled to DS office in Roslyn for 10 hour negotiation over security MOA's.

040605 Editing party with the OPLAN.

040607 The noon conference call had many players (all top players from DoD) to try and hammer out final sticking points to the MOA's. One sticking point was milair - DoS wanted dedicated support; DoD wanted "priority" language

040607 The Security MOA's were finalized and forwarded through the DOD and DOS legal offices for signature by Feith and DoS' security secretary (we wanted [REDACTED] but couldn't get him).

040608 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] went to DoS to finish negotiating the support moa. All but three items that lawyers brought up were agreed upon. The lawyers then went their merry way to hash out the final details. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were to sign this MOA.

040610 We were ready to publish the OPLAN, but OGC spent a lot of time making happy to glad changes with a few substantive changes included as well. This upset a lot of people, but it turned out to be a good thing, because many of the edits from the previous weekend's "party" did not make it into the OPLAN.

040611 The MOA's missed their target to getting [REDACTED] to sign on the 10th. The original intent was to have [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] sign separate pieces of paper then have admin fuse the products. [REDACTED] and RADM drove over to State on the 11th to pick up the copy that [REDACTED] had signed evidently on the 10th.