

Operation Plan Sovereign Iraq Executive Summary

In early 2004, the Secretaries of State and Defense established an Interagency Transition Planning Team (ITPT), led by Ambassador Frank Ricciardone and Lieutenant General (Retired) Mick Kicklighter, to develop a transition plan for dissolving the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) and establishing the US Mission in Iraq. For the past six months, DOS and DOD have collaborated in an unprecedented manner to facilitate this critical transition. Their efforts resulted in a planning document entitled Operation Plan Sovereign Iraq.

The ITPT and the Joint Staff distributed Version 3.0 of the plan to the Department of State and throughout the Department of Defense on June 14, 2004. While the ITPT facilitated the drafting of the plan, representatives from several agencies participated in conceptualizing and reviewing the preliminary drafts.

The plan incorporates three stand-alone Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) as annexes. Two separate security and support MOA were signed by the Deputy Secretaries of State and Defense. A stand-alone MOA that apportions responsibility between the Chief of Mission and the Commander USCENTCOM has not yet been completely staffed, but will be forwarded for signature by June 20, 2004. These MOA, which are consistent with planning guidance included in the OPLAN, formalize the key support, security services and security responsibilities during the transition process.

Department of Defense agencies and USCENTCOM are authorized to begin local planning and implementation in accordance with OPLAN Sovereign Iraq. The ITPT will periodically revise portions of the document as required by the Chief of Mission and Commander, USCENTCOM.

OPLAN Sovereign Iraq contains a 25-page primary planning document and 20 annexes, including the Security and Support MOA. The OPLAN is written from the perspective of the US Government and generally lists tasks and planning milestones at the agency level. Within DOD, however, the OPLAN also provides tasks to the Commanders of US Central Command and the Multinational Force – Iraq.

Base Plan. The primary planning document, the base plan uses the military five-paragraph operations order format as its framework. The topic and a summary of each paragraph follows:

1. Situation. The situation paragraph provides important current information about friendly forces, including recent changes occurring in the Iraqi Interim Government, a summary of UNSCR 1546, MNF-I, and the Coalition Provisional Authority.

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Doc 45

2. Mission. This is a brief statement of the Who, What, When, Where, and Why of OPLAN Sovereign Iraq: “On 30 June 2004, the Iraqi Interim Government assumes authority and the CPA is dissolved; the US Government establishes a US Mission Iraq to ensure that the responsibilities and interests of the US Government are preserved and discharged effectively; and in concert with the Multinational Force-Iraq, the Iraqi Government and our Coalition partners and international organizations, continue uninterrupted relief, reconstruction and stabilization efforts.”

3. Execution. This paragraph describes in detail the actions that must take place for the successful establishment of a US Mission Iraq. It includes a Concept of Operations that describes the key milestones and operational phasing from the beginning of the planning effort in March 2004 through the period of Post-Election Normalization sometime after December 2005. It also includes the list of tasks for DOS, DOD, CPA, other agencies, and CENTCOM / MNF-I.

The plan provides for implementation in five phases.

- Phase I (Establishing US Mission Advance Team) focuses on the initial planning to establish the US Mission.
- Phase II (Transition to US Mission) is concerned with the reorganization required to stand up the Mission and prepare to dissolve the CPA.
- Phase III (Post-Transition Execution/Fiscal Year Close-out) addresses those actions necessary to close the books on the Coalition Provisional Authority and to begin support for the Interim Iraqi Government.
- Phase IV (Constitution /Election Support) is concerned with support to the Transitional Government.
- Phase V (Post Election Normalization) focuses on efforts to reduce the US presence as the security situation improves and Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund projects are completed. Through these five phases, the US Government will maintain relief, reconstruction, and stabilization efforts throughout Iraq.

4. Administration and Logistics. This section addresses the provision of administrative and logistical support for the transition and the US Mission - including facilities, personnel, contract support, reimbursement, and medical services. These functions are addressed in greater detail in the various annexes to the base plan.

5. Command and Control. This section discusses command and control responsibilities of the Chief of Mission and the Commander, MNF-I and summarizes the status of US Government employees.

Annexes. There are 20 annexes that expand on the information and taskings provided in the base plan. Each annex that aligns with a Department of State planning sector has an

appendix that details the joint DOD-DOS milestones to be accomplished. A description of each annex follows.

- **Annex A, Command and Control**. Explains the complex US military and civilian command structures, how they interact with each other and with coalition partners, international organizations, and the Iraqi Government. This annex does not have a DOS sector counterpart. It contains an appendix describing logistical and other support to the US Mission through Area Support Group Central and other organizations, and contains an additional appendix providing initial guidance and information on the Mission Operations Center concept, which will continue to be refined.
- **Annex B, Intelligence**. Provides an unclassified intelligence summary that focuses on the key factors impacting stability in Iraq.
- **Annex C, Iraq Reconstruction Inspector General (IR-IG)**. Provides the most recent information on the functions and future role of the IR-IG.
- **Annex D, Chief of Mission**. Focuses on the staff and organizations internal to the US Embassy in Baghdad. The Legal Appendix to Annex D provides the structure and functions of the legal organization in the US Mission.
- **Annex E, Manpower and Personnel Administration**. Outlines the plans and procedures that the US Government will employ in staffing US Government offices and managing personnel in Iraq.
- **Annex F (Facilities and Real Property)**. Provides coordinated guidance to establish facilities for the US Mission in Iraq. This guidance includes the operational standards and the maintenance and facilities management requirements.
- **Annex G, Contracts and Acquisitions**. Describes the contract support provided by the Head of Contract Authority (HCA) and the Program Management Office (PMO) in the collective management of Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Funds.
- **Annex H, Information Technology and Communication**. Discusses maintenance of existing information and communications technology (ICT) systems and the establishment of new systems for US Government employees and designated other users. Central to this guidance is a plan for a seamless transition of ICT services between DOD and DOS. Appendix 1 to this annex, Military Postal Support, details the US Government plan for providing postal services to authorized users in Iraq.

- **Annex I, Logistics.** Identifies the plans and procedures for providing specified logistics and administrative services to US Government agencies in Iraq. Appendix 2 to Annex I, Military Air Support Operation in Support of the US Mission, defines the military air support that will be provided to the COM by the Commander, MNF-I.
- **Annex J, Consular.** Provides an overview of consular services planned for the new Mission.
- **Annex K, Security.** Identifies the key security roles and responsibilities throughout the five phases of transition, with an emphasis on resolving ambiguous control issues, anticipating unique missions, and detailing anticipated resource requirements.
- **Annex L, Finance.** Provides guidance concerning the key financial management issues pertaining to US Government activities in Iraq.
- **Annex M was not used.**
- **Annex N, Contractor Security.** This annex is still being drafted and will be issued as soon as possible. It will address contractor management and security issues, with respect to physical security and the privileges and immunities agreed to by the Iraqi Interim Government.
- **Annex O, Regional Teams.** Describes the configuration, composition, mission, support and lines of control associated with the regional teams at Mosul, Kirkuk, Al Hillah, and Basrah. It also discusses teams led by Foreign Service officers who will be embedded with US military major subordinate commands.
- **Annex P, Justice.** Describes the US Government's relationship with, and support to the Iraqi courts, tribunals and commissions. The annex supports the development of effective, efficient bodies within Iraq that have the capacity to administer justice, enforce the laws, and institute a national anti-corruption campaign.
- **Annex Q, Health Service Support.** Outlines the specific roles and responsibilities for US Government agencies in providing health service support to eligible US citizens.
- **Annex R, Public Affairs.** Provides an overview of the public affairs and strategic communications responsibilities of US Government personnel in Iraq.

- **Annex S and Annex T, the Security and Support Memoranda.** These are the detailed agreements signed at the Deputy Secretary-level at the Departments of State and Defense, which define specific roles, responsibilities and procedures governing DOD and DOS organizations during the phases of transition.