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DEPARTMENT OF STATE ARA/NEA REARCS

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SUBJ: IRAQ: KURDISH STRAIMS (U) DOI: 26 DEC 91 (AS OF BIBB EST)

MAJOR POINTS

2. SANTY BAGHDAD'S PUBLIC STATEMENT THAT BARZANT IS IN CHARGE OF NORTHERN SECURITY (b)(1),1.4 (c)

DISCUSSION

11 3. 13/NFT IN HODERH IRAQI HISTORY, INTRA-KURDISH RELATIONS HAVE BEEN MARKED BY CONFLICT AND RIVALRIES, AND RELATIONS BETWEEN VARIOUS KURDISH GROUPS AND THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN CHARACTERIZED AS

PAGE 03 RUEKJCS4844 3 E G R &

CONSTANTLY SKIFTING. DESPITE THE APPARENT SOLIDARITY DEMONSTRATED BY THE PARTICIPATION OF DIVERSE KURDISH GROUPS IN THE KURDISH FRONT

(b)(1),1.4(c)

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4. TSTATT THE TWO MOST PROMINENT MEMBERS OF THE KE, MASSOUD BARZANI OF THE KURDISH DEMOCRATIC PARTY (KDP) AND JALAL TALABANI OF THE PATRIOTIC UNION OF KURDISTAN (PUK), HAVE LONG BEEN RIVALS FOR CONTROL OF THE KURDISH MOVEMENT.

(b)(1),1.4(c)

DURING THE KURDISH UNREST OF THE 1968S AND 1978S, BARZANI'S FATHER, MUSTAFA, UNICATERALLY REACHED A DEAL WITH BAGHDAD TO END THE FIGHTING. TALABANI, WHO WAS THEN A MEMBER OF THE KDP, AND OTHER KDP LEADERS WERE FORCED INTO

2782232 816472 TEMPORARY EXILE. THE DEGREE OF ENMITY WAS SUCH THAT FOR A PERIOD DURING THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR, TALABANI AND THE PUX FOUGHT AGAINST THE BARZANIS AND THE KDP, WHICH FOUGHT FOR THE IRANIANS. ALTHOUGH SOME

OTHER LEADERS IN THE KE, HOTABLY THE KURDISH POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (KPDP) LEADER SAMI RAHMAN, HAVE REPORTEDLY IRIED TO BRIDGE THE

GAP BETWEEN BARZANI AND TALABANI, NO SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS HAS BEEN

PAGE 84 RUEKICS4844 9 E G R E T APPARENT.

-BARZANI'S ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS WITH BACHDAD ARE VIEWED WITH SUSPICION BY TALABANI. PUK SPOKESMEN HAVE REPEATEDLY VOICED THEIR DISPLEASURE WITH THE RESULTS OF BARZANI'S TALKS. BARZANI HAS STATED THAT HIS GOAL IS TO GET THE BEST AGREEMENT POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME. TALABANI HAS ATTACKED THIS APPROACH, EMPHASIZING THE NECESSITY FOR REACHING A SATISFACTORY PACT WITH BAGHDAD, NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES. A KEY ASPECT OF THIS DIFFERENCE IN APPROACH IS THE CITY OF KIRKUK. TALABANI HAS DEMANDED THAT IT BE RECOGNIZED AS KURDISH AND INCLUDED IN ANY AGREEMENT.

(b)(1),1.4(c)

6. - 19/NF7 FOLLOWING THE MOST RECENT DISCUSSIONS, BARZANI RETURNED TO THE KURDISH REGION WITH CIFTS FROM BAGHDAD, WHICH INCLUDED AT LEAST 2.888 RIFLES ISOME SOURCES REPORT UP TO 28.888), CARS, SHEEP, AND HONEY. ALTHOUGH ALL THE KF PARTIES, INCLUDING THE PUK, TAKE OR

HAVE TAKEN CIFTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT,

IS THE IRAGI GOVERNMENT'S STATED INTENTION TO MAKE BARZANI

PAGE BS RUEKJCS4844 S E G R E T RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECURITY OF THE KURDISH REGION.

(b)(1),1.4(c)

7. - (C) KURDISH FRONT MEMBERS & PARTY LEADERS

KURDISH DEMOCRATIC PARTY: MASSOUD BARZANI

PATRIOTIC UNION OF KURDISTAN: JALAL TALABANI

KURDISH PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY: SAME RAHMAN

KURDISTAN SOCIALIST PARTY: RASOUL MAHMAND

(RAQI COMMUNIST PARTY: AZIZ MONAMMED KURDISH TOILERS' PARTY: KADIR AZIZ

PASSOX/KURDISH SOCIALIST PARTY: MULAHSIM SHIWAM

ASSYRIAN PARTY: YAKOV YOUSSEF

OTHER NEW PARTIES/ORGANIZATIONS HOT FORMALLY IN THE RF INCLUDE THE KURDISH TRIBAL SOCIETY, DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE FOR INDEPENDENCY OF KURDISTAN, AND THE KURDISH CONSERVATIVE

-STATT SHALL-SCALE INTERMITTENT CLASHES AND SPLITS AMONG VARIOUS KURDISH GROUPS HAVE ALREADY OCCURRED. KOP FORCES REPORTEDLY HAVE ARRESTED OTHER KURDS FOR ENGAGING IN DISTURBANCES. THE PUK IS

PAGE B6 RUEKJCS4B44 3 E C R E

SAID TO HAVE ORDERED ITS TROOPS TO TAKE OVER SEVERAL KPDP POSITIONS IN CHAMCHAMAL. ALTHOUGH THE ONGOING KURDISH DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE NORTH ARE DIRECTED PRIMARILY AGAINST THE TRADE GOVERNMENT, (b)(1).

THAT THE PROTESTS ARE ALSO

PUK INSPIRED TO DISCREDIT BARZANI. (b)(1)

WHEN TALABANI ORDERED THE DEMONSTRATIONS

TO CEASE. 11

OUTLOOK

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE ARA/NEA REARCS

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