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FROM

FM [REDACTED]

CONTROLS

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DOCNO

SERIAL: (U) [REDACTED]

COUNTRY: (U) IRAQ (IZ); JORDAN (JO); JAPAN (JA); CHINA (CH); CYPRUS (CY); SAUDI ARABIA (SA); ISRAEL (IS); IRAN (IR).

IPSP: (U) [REDACTED]

SECTION 1 OF 2

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

SUBJ: [REDACTED] -- IRAQI ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

IN AMMAN, JORDAN (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED ~~SECRET~~ ~~NOFORN~~.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 20040719

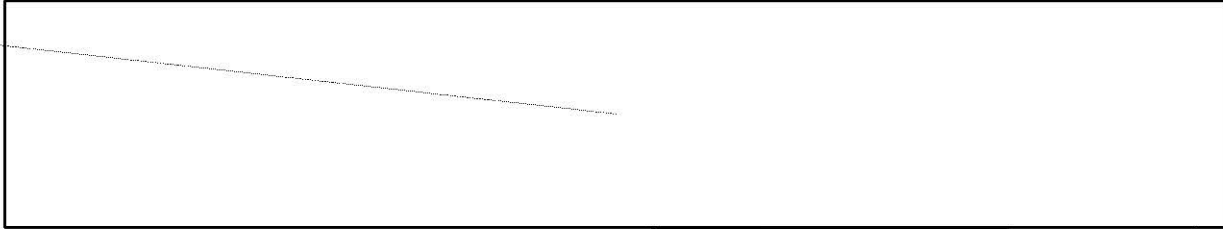
REOS: (U) [REDACTED]

SUMMARY: (~~S/NF~~) AN IRAQI ECONOMIC CONFERENCE WAS HELD IN AMMAN, JORDAN. PROMINENT IRAQI LEADERS ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS WAYS TO ACCELERATE THE PRIVATE SECTOR ECONOMY IN IRAQ.

TEXT: 1. (~~S/NF~~) BACKGROUND. FROM 19 TO 20 JULY 2004, **TALAL BUZEA MEAJL ((AL-GAOD))** (ALTERNATE SPELLING - **AL-GAAOD**) SPONSORED AN ECONOMIC CONFERENCE FOCUSING ON REVIVING THE IRAQI ECONOMY, PARTICULARLY IN THE AL ANBAR // [REDACTED] IZ, PROVINCE. **AL GAOD** IS AN IRAQI NATIONALIST AND BA'ATHIST WHO COMES FROM A WEALTHY IRAQI FAMILY. HE IS A UNITED STATES (U.S.) TRAINED ENGINEER WHO OWNS AN ENGINEERING COMPANY. **AL GAOD** CALLED THE CONFERENCE OF PROMINENT IRAQI LEADERS TO DISCUSS WAYS TO ACCELERATE

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(b)(1), 1.4 (b)



(b)(6), (b)
(7)(C), (j)(2)

JAPAN. THE TWO ATTENDEES FROM JAPAN



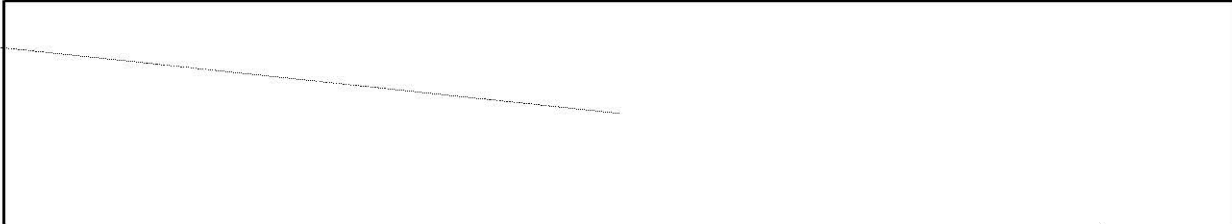
AMONG THE APPROXIMATELY 90

IRAQI PARTICIPANTS WERE: FORMER REPUBLICAN CORPS COMMANDERS, FORMER INTERIOR POLICE FORCE PERSONNEL, PROMINENT BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSORS. THE CONFERENCE WAS HELD AT THE SHERATON HOTEL, AMMAN, JO.

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USC 424

3. ~~(S//NF)~~ **AL GAUD'S INTERESTS.** **AL GAUD** IS INTERESTED IN THE OIL RESERVES LOCATED IN THE AL ANBAR REGION AND ESTABLISHING AN OIL REFINERY IN RAMADI // [REDACTED] IZ. **AL GAUD** PURCHASED AN OIL PLATFORM LOCATED OFF THE COAST OF CYPRUS, WHICH HAD BEEN CLOSED FOR TWO YEARS. **AL GAUD** WANTS THE U.S. TO ORGANIZE A WESTERN IRAQI OIL COMPANY IN CHARGE OF DEVELOPING THE OIL RESERVES IN AL ANBAR. **AL GAUD** WOULD HEAD THIS COMPANY. HE WOULD THEN MOVE

(b)(1), 1.4
(b), 1.4 (c)



4. ~~(S//NF)~~ CONFERENCE AGENDA. **AL GAUD** FORMED FIVE COMMITTEES OUT OF THE ATTENDEES, AND EACH COMMITTEE PRESENTED ITS IDEAS ON FIVE DIFFERENT AREAS; THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN IRAQ, THE SECURITY SITUATION, THE IRAQI ARMED FORCES, THE TRIBAL SITUATION AND TRIBAL NEEDS AND ECONOMIC POLICY AND INVESTMENT PRIORITIES.

5. ~~(S//NF)~~ TOPICS OF DISCUSSION. THERE WERE EIGHT ACTION STEPS GENERALLY AGREED TO BY THE CONFERENCE ATTENDEES.

5A. ~~(S//NF)~~ REVIVING THE OLD IRAQI ARMY. THE OLD ARMY MUST BE REVIVED WITH A CLEAN OFFICER CORPS TO PROVIDE SECURITY OF THE BORDERS AND AGAINST IN-COUNTRY VIOLENCE. THE CONFEREES WERE CONCERNED ABOUT IRANIAN AGENTS PENETRATING THE BORDERS TO CAUSE DISRUPTION OF GOVERNMENT STABILITY.

5B. ~~(S//NF)~~ MAKING AL ANBAR A MODEL GOVERNATE WHICH OTHER GOVERNATES WOULD WANT TO COPY. THIS INCLUDES REPLACING THE CURRENT AL ANBAR GOVERNOR WITH A NON-CORRUPT ONE.

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5C. ~~(S//NF)~~ AGREEING ON A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT WITH THE IRAQI NATIONALISTS, WHO ARE THE BULK OF THE INSURRECTION FIGHTERS.

(b)(1), 1.4 (c)

IRAQI INTERIM GOVERNMENT WILL DELAY THE JANUARY 2005 ELECTIONS, AND THE CONFEREES WERE AGAINST ANY DELAY. CONFEREES INTEND TO CONDUCT A REFERENDUM IN FALLUJAH, [REDACTED] IZ, OR RAMADI TO DEMONSTRATE ELECTIONS COULD BE SAFELY HELD AND DEEMED CERTIFIABLE.

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USC 424

5F. ~~(S//NF)~~ OBTAINING U.S. AND WESTERN JOINT VENTURE PARTNERS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF BUSINESS VENTURES. THE CONFEREES WERE EAGER TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL SUPPORT. THE IRAQIS ASKED THAT A MECHANISM BE ESTABLISHED TO ENSURE WESTERN-IRAQI BUSINESS INTERACTIONS OCCUR.

5G. ~~(S//NF)~~ ESTABLISHING A JOINT COALITION/IRAQ COMMISSION TO AID IN CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES OF THE NEW IRAQ. THIS COMMISSION WOULD HELP THE CONFEREES THINK THROUGH DIFFICULT CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES THEY MUST ADDRESS, AND HELP TO UNTANGLE THE STATE-OWNED, STATE DIRECTED ECONOMY SO THAT IT DOES NOT LEAD TO FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF ALL IRAQI BUSINESS. THE JAPANESE THINK THEY CAN FINANCE SUCH A COMMISSION AND ARE RESEARCHING WAYS TO DO SO. A U.S. BASED INVESTMENT COMPANY IS ALSO TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO FINANCE THIS COMMISSION.

5H. ~~(S//NF)~~ HOLDING ADDITIONAL CONFERENCES TO CONTINUE DIALOG. THE CONFEREES FELT U.S. PARTICIPATION IS NECESSARY TO CONTINUE DIALOG THEY FOUND TO BE HELPFUL.

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