

PRIORITY

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INCOMING

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ARA/NEA REARCS

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(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)

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TO DIACURINTEL

(b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)

*1/2 per
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PINS
Kurdish*

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SECTION 01 OF 07

(b)(3):10 USC 424, (b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)

(b)(3):10 USC 424, (b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i)

SUBJ: IRAQ: KURDISH STRAINS (U)

DOI: 26 DEC 91 (AS OF 0100 EST)

1)

MAJOR POINTS

1)

(b)(1), 1.4 (c)

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

1)

DISCUSSION

1)

3. ~~ISMP~~ IN MODERN 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

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

(b)(1), 1.4 (c)

4. ~~ISMP~~ THE TWO MOST PROMINENT MEMBERS OF THE KF, 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)

(b)(1), 1.4 (c)

DURING THE KURDISH UNREST OF THE 1960S AND 1970S, BARZANI'S FATHER, MUSTAFA, UNILATERALLY 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

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TEMPORARY EXILE. THE DEGREE OF ENMITY WAS SUCH THAT FOR A PERIOD DURING THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR, TALABANI AND THE PUK FOUGHT AGAINST THE BARZANIS AND THE KDP, WHICH FOUGHT FOR THE IRANIS. ALTHOUGH SOME OTHER LEADERS IN THE KF, NOTABLY THE KURDISH POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (KPDP) LEADER SAMI RAHMAN, HAVE REPORTEDLY TRIED TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN BARZANI AND TALABANI, NO SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS HAS BEEN

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APPARENT.

5. ~~ISMP~~ BARZANI'S ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS WITH BAGHDAD 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 DEMANDS THAT IT BE RECOGNIZED AS KURDISH AND INCLUDED IN ANY AGREEMENT. (b)(1), 1.4 (c)

6. ~~ISMP~~ FOLLOWING THE MOST RECENT DISCUSSIONS, BARZANI RETURNED TO THE KURDISH REGION WITH GIFTS FROM BAGHDAD, WHICH INCLUDED AT LEAST 2,000 RIFLES (SOME SOURCES REPORT UP TO 20,000), CARS, SHEEP, AND MONEY. ALTHOUGH ALL THE KF PARTIES, INCLUDING THE PUK, TAKE OR

HAVE TAKEN GIFTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT, (b)(1), 1.4 (c)

IS THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT'S STATED INTENTION TO MAKE BARZANI

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RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECURITY OF THE KURDISH REGION. (b)(1), 1.4 (c)

7. ~~ISMP~~ KURDISH FRONT MEMBERS & PARTY LEADERS
- KURDISH DEMOCRATIC PARTY: MASSOUD BARZANI
- PATRIOTIC UNION OF KURDISTAN: JALAL TALABANI
- KURDISH PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY: SAMI RAHMAN
- KURDISTAN SOCIALIST PARTY: RASOUL MAHMAND
- IRAQI COMMUNIST PARTY: AZIZ MOHAMMED
- KURDISH TOILERS' PARTY: KADIR AZIZ
- PASSOK/KURDISH SOCIALIST PARTY: MULAHSIM SHIYAN
- ASSYRIAN PARTY: YAKOV YOUSSEF
- OTHER NEW PARTIES/ORGANIZATIONS NOT FORMALLY IN THE KF INCLUDE THE KURDISH TRIBAL SOCIETY, DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE FOR INDEPENDENCY OF KURDISTAN, AND THE KURDISH CONSERVATIVE
8. ~~ISMP~~ SMALL-SCALE INTERMITTENT CLASHES AND SPLITS AMONG VARIOUS KURDISH GROUPS HAVE ALREADY OCCURRED. KDP FORCES REPORTEDLY HAVE ARRESTED OTHER KURDS FOR ENGAGING IN DISTURBANCES. THE PUK IS

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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 IRAQI GOVERNMENT, (b)(1), 1.4 (c) THAT THE PROTESTS ARE ALSO PUK INSPIRED TO DISCREDIT BARZANI. (b)(1), 1.4 (c) WHEN TALABANI ORDERED THE DEMONSTRATIONS TO CEASE.
1)
OUTLOOK
1)

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93D 88, box 4 - (15695) folder PINS NOV-DEC 1991 KURDS

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FINAL SECTION OF 02

ACCELERATE THE FACTIONALISM. AS LIVING CONDITIONS DETERIORATE

DURING THE WINTER. KURDISH LEADERS

(b)(1),(b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(6),1.4 (c)

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