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D Cts(Ops) (211-05)

14 Oct 05

PJHQ - DCJO(Ops)

Copy to:

MA/CJO
MA1/DCDS(C)
DG Op Pol
ACGS

Comd JHC
COS LAND
DJC-D(Mil)
DJtCap

IRAQ: ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO COUNTER INCREASED IED THREAT IN MND(SE)

Reference:

PJHQ/OPTELIC/ADDNRESOURCES/LM/DCJO(OPS) dated 12 Oct 05.

1. Thank you for your note at Ref, requesting additional resources to counter the developing IED threat in MND(SE), particularly during the RiP.
2. The increase of 14 Warrior (WR) AFVs is agreed. The provision of WR crews will require further work, but the initial solution to cover the RiP/Referendum period will have to be from forces already allocated to you¹, which should not involve extensions in theatre for personnel due to return home without further consideration of presentational aspects with MOD. I understand that timescales for HQ LAND to deliver additional WR trained and operationally ready crews will take approx
3. The requirement for one additional Merlin, 2 crews and support, and an uplift of 180 Merlin hours per month for JHF-I until mid Dec 05 is also agreed. You will be aware that JHC declared that the previously agreed aviation support surge commitment had to end by 5 Dec 05 for fleet sustainability issues. It is therefore important that we identify the longer-term requirements as early as possible through your FLR. In the meanwhile, I am tasking DJtCap to lead a wider BH review so that we have a clear and early understanding of our options/impact should the surge requirement endure.
4. I would be grateful if you could confirm that the increase in WR numbers does not reduce (or otherwise change) other vehicle requirements in theatre, and also any potential impact of changes to helicopter use on support to other users such as OGD personnel.

ACDS(Ops)

¹ Including from 7 Armd Bde and 12 Mech Bde currently deployed

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