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Neil Crompton, IPU

Iraq: Police Service

I attach a paper on the Iraqi Police Service sent to the Foreign Secretary by Robert Davies, the Chief Police Adviser in Iraq. The Foreign Secretary would be grateful for advice on the points he raises.



12 October 2004

(Kara Owen)

cc: PS
PS/Baroness Symons
PS/PUS
Stephen Pattison
John Williams
Heads: CIG
Special Advisers

sent 13/10
① *cl. inc*

② *DM - Rb please. grateful for draft reply pls. below*

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From: ROBERT DAVIES
Sent: 06 October 2004 09:19
To:
Subject: The Iraqi Police Service

Dear Kara,

These are the points I would have made to the Foreign Secretary if I had had the time last night. I hope they help. Please come back to me if further information is required.

Best wishes.

Robert

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The Iraq Police Service [IPS]

Summary

The IPS is brave but subject to intimidation, in part poorly led, weak in structures according to western standards, and in need of further equipment.

The impatient focus on increasing its size [aspiration force of 130K - there are 130K on current payroll but only 90K accounted for!] has led to a large number of police joining the service as a result of General Petraeus' drive for '30K in 30 days', who have not received any training and who are of questionable integrity and quality.

Two regiments are being formed from Units of soldiers who are simply changing the colour of their shirts. These are to form what General Casey calls the 'assault brigade'. These units and a number of other key front police are to report direct to the Minister, unlike other units that report to a Deputy Minister. The poor quality of leadership is being buttressed by Generals with a military background being transferred to the police.

There is almost no phase 1 investigation taking place and no forensic examination of serious crime. Intelligence gathering is weak and the inability of the IPS to plan operations is causing all sorts of serious problems in combined operations.

Coalition support provided

Five ways:

1. Civilian Police Assistance Training Team [CPATT], American led and comprising military and retired US police, focusing on organising, equipping and training. Very successful and dynamic. US led.
2. MOI, a small team of 11 UK officers focusing on mentoring selected police generals and advising on policy, operations, criminal intelligence and internal affairs.
3. al Basrah, a small team of 6 UK officers mentoring chiefs of police, liaising with the military and advising the Consulate General.
4. 21 UK officers assisting at Az-Zubayr Police Academy and 5 officers at Baghdad Police College. Others are training in Jordan.
5. Use of private consultancies comprising mainly US and UK retired officers to provide advice at police stations.

Proposed support

There is a proposal to build the capacity of the MOI through the Global Conflict Prevention Pool by the provision of £1.5million of consultancy support.

How the UK could assist further

Immediately

- The IPS needs a professional hostage and kidnapping facility. There is no real intelligence gathering nor attempt to map the significant number of kidnappings.
- Continued support needed for the 'operational planning training' which has just been started.
- The small team of UK advisers could be doubled to cover for leave and to provide a broader range of support for the IPS police chiefs. This is potentially a value for money method or bringing about change. More Home Office forces need to be engaged to broaden the range of advice available to the IPS.
- There will shortly be a need to support the development of the IPS Intelligence strategy. This awaits the Prime Minister's approval.

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Medium and longer term

Provision of consultancy/police support for building the quality of the police.

Consideration needs to be given to planning for a programme of support over two to three years which touches the following activities: structure, ethics and values, service delivery [problem solving policing], investigation of crime, and traffic, human resource and financial management. A start on some of these issues has been made through CPATT. This will require sustained support, particularly as Iraq seeks to move to civilian police primacy. If this is to be predominantly a US operation then the US need to be giving this consideration. The UK, however, may feel that its approach is more suited to the Iraqi police needs. Anticipated cost three million pounds.

Robert Davies
Chief Police Adviser

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