

Sent: Wed, 01 Oct 2003 11:20:51 -0400
From: "Besanceney, Brian R." </O=EOP/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE
GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BRIAN R. BESANCENEY>

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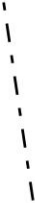
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Talking Points

Iraq: Creating a Secure Environment for Success

- **President Bush has outlined a clear strategy for meeting our three major objectives in Iraq:** 1) improving security by aggressively hunting down and destroying terrorists; 2) expanding the contributions of the international community from the 40 countries that have responded, as well as from other nations, to help the Iraqi people take responsibility for their own security and assume self-governance of their nation; and 3) accelerating efforts to transfer power and authority to the Iraqi people.
- **The wartime supplemental budget request that President Bush submitted to Congress will help the United States to meet its objectives in Iraq.**
 - The vast majority of the President's request goes to American troops fighting the War on Terror so that they have the equipment, pay, and other resources they need to perform their mission.
 - A smaller amount – less than one-fourth – goes to creating conditions on the ground in Iraq that will enable our troops to succeed in their mission – by providing the basic services and humanitarian relief that will make a significant difference in stabilizing the country and the region. All of the items in the reconstruction request are designed to address three stabilization priorities identified by the Coalition Provisional Authority:
 - ✓ **Providing Iraqis with tools to provide for their own security** – including training the

New Iraqi Army, building prisons, protecting judges and prosecutors, investigating crimes against humanity, and establishing a witness protection program.

- ✓ ***Establishing basic living standards, which did not exist under Saddam Hussein, so terrorists and extremists cannot capitalize on poverty and despair*** – including building a children’s hospital, improving sanitation in impoverished areas, and building basic standard housing.
- ✓ ***Creating an environment for significant private investments, so Iraq can be set on a path to economic independence, and not be forever dependent on outside governmental assistance*** – including establishing basic phone and postal systems, and training Iraqis in modern business practices.

Questions and Answers: Line Items in the Reconstruction Request

Why not loan Iraq the money?

The lessons of history are important. Following World War I, the victorious Allies saddled the German Weimar Republic with loans and reparations. Germany’s economy faltered, enabling an extremist fringe group, the Nazis, to rise to power – in part by blaming the Allies for Germany’s economic woes. After World War II, the United States implemented the Marshall Plan -- the overwhelming majority of which was in the form of grants, not loans – and it was an enormous success.

Why spend \$54M for “comprehensive technical and business process studies” of a computer network for the Iraqi postal system?

There is understandable confusion about this line item because it is actually designated for Iraq’s public telephone system (the Iraqi agency that oversees the public telephone system has the word “postal” in its name). Iraq’s antiquated public phone system was knocked out during the war. Working phones will be essential to the functioning of the new Iraqi government and the rebuilding of the Iraqi economy.

Why spend \$9M to “re-engineer” the business practices of Iraq’s postal service, including instituting ZIP codes?

Most of these funds are designated for repairing looted postal facilities. And basic postal service -- like basic phone service -- is critical for business and order and creating conditions to make the economy grow. While the facilities are being repaired, it is logical to upgrade and modernize the system using time-proven techniques, such as postal codes, that have been successful in many other countries.

Why spend \$164M to refine the curriculum for training the Iraqi military?

The faster the New Iraqi Army becomes operational, the less pressure there will be on US troops. And the bulk of the funds are for actually training the New Iraqi Army, not simply for developing a new curriculum. Rapidly standing up the New Iraqi Army is imperative to the success of our mission in Iraq and our overall War on Terror. These funds will help triple the graduation rate of trained battalions from 9 to 27 by next summer (August 2004).

Outside military experts (contractors) will conduct this training for 2 main reasons:

- 1) to reduce the overall number of US soldiers deployed in Iraq; and
- 2) to free up soldiers for combat duties for which they are better trained.

Explain the request for \$400M for two new 4,000-bed prisons at \$50,000 a bed.

There are more terrorists and criminals in custody in Iraq than there are spaces available to imprison them. Many murderers and other violent criminals are currently in tents, and the opportunity for escape is too great. When the prisoners try to escape, they often kill guards or others. This situation must be remedied.

These prisons will be built at a cost per bed (\$50k) that is lower than the US average (\$60 to \$120K). The cost savings will be achieved by constructing the prisons with Iraqi building standards and techniques, which rely on more labor and less high-technology equipment.

Explain the request for \$10M for 100 experts to assist prison reconstruction for six months at \$100,000 each.

Many of Saddam's henchmen were involved with the prison and correction system, and therefore there is a need for outside expertise to help direct the building of prisons. This is below market rate for individuals to enter a country so quickly after major combat operations and assist in this critical effort. The funding also covers their personal security and logistical support, including transportation.

Why spend \$100M to enroll 100 families of five in a witness protection program at \$200,000 each?

We will not eliminate the remaining elements of Saddam's regime without intelligence, and some of the best intelligence comes from the Iraqis themselves. Iraqi intelligence is what led to us finding Uday and Qusay Hussein. But Iraqis are not going to pass along valuable intelligence if they cannot be protected. There have been terrible crimes committed against individuals who have cooperated with the coalition. Winning the War on Terror will require the cooperation of the Iraqi people, and the coalition is committed to protecting those individuals.

Why spend \$100M to finance 500 experts investigating crimes against humanity at \$200,000 per person?

We simply cannot and will not allow the human rights atrocities of Saddam Hussein's regime to be forgotten. Those who committed these acts will be investigated and prosecuted to the full extent of international law. Justice must be served, especially for the families of victims. We must assist the Iraqi people in bringing to justice those responsible for the brutality and torture that took place in their country.

The cost estimate is based on an almost identical effort in Kosovo. The average cost per expert and investigator is \$100,000, which reflects the historical cost of the particular skills involved, as well as the danger of working in Iraq. Additional costs per person include an average of \$100,000 to provide security protection for the individuals performing the work, as well as logistical support (transportation, lodging, administrative support, equipment, etc.).

Explain the request for \$20M to protect 400 judges and prosecutors at \$50,000 a person.

An independent and fully-functioning judiciary is essential to ensure that justice is fair and swift, and to guard against Iraq reverting to a terrorist breeding ground. Much of the previous court system was corrupt.

New judges are being recruited, but in the existing security environment, they and their families need protection. 860 judges and prosecutors are now being vetted by the judicial review committee.

These funds will go to protect judges and prosecutors and their families and to secure courthouses that have been recent terrorist targets (including armed attacks on courthouses in the South and at the Rusafa courthouse in Baghdad). With these funds, the families of each judge and prosecutor will be provided around the clock security protection and some security modifications to their homes. The security guards, who are risking their lives, are paid \$60 or \$120 per month, depending on their level of responsibilities.

Explain the request for \$100M to build seven communities, complete with 3,258 houses.

To succeed in Iraq, we must provide basic living standards for the Iraqi people, or the extremists and terrorists will capitalize on poverty and despair. Iraq needs more than a million houses, and many families live in cardboard houses on the sites of open dumps.

Why spend \$2M for 40 garbage trucks at \$50,000 apiece?

Under Saddam Hussein, sanitation services were often provided only to the wealthy and politically connected. Proper sanitation services will help improve the drinking water situation and public health, two basic and pressing needs. Garbage deposited in poorly designed sites or at the edge of town can contaminate the ground water in a country where less than 1 in 10 has access to potable water. These funds will go a long way toward improving the basic living conditions of the Iraqi people.

TALKING POINTS

IRAQ: CREATING A SECURE ENVIRONMENT FOR SUCCESS

- **President Bush has outlined a clear strategy for meeting our three major objectives in Iraq:** 1) improving security by aggressively hunting down and destroying terrorists; 2) expanding the contributions of the international community from the 40 countries that have responded, as well as from other nations, to help the Iraqi people take responsibility for their own security and assume self-governance of their nation; and 3) accelerating efforts to transfer power and authority to the Iraqi people.
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