



2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment

TASK FORCE LANCER

MAJ Troy Denomy
Operation Iraqi Freedom II
Sadr City
Shoot "Em" In The Face



Briefing Agenda



- Introduction
- AO/AI (Terrain) Overview
- Demographics
- Enemy
 - Who is the Enemy
 - Weapon Systems Used
- Operations/Tactical Considerations
 - Lancer Fury (Sadr City Ambush)
 - Friendly Operations
- Final Thoughts
- Questions



Task Organization



TF 2-5 CAV

A/2-5 CAV (M2A3 & M1114)

C/2-5 CAV (M2A3 & M1114)

B/1-12 CAV (M1A2SEP (4) & M1114)

HHC/2-5 CAV (M2A3 & M1114)

A/115 FSC

C/2-5 CAV

1/C/2-5 CAV (3 x M2A3 & 3 x M1114)

2/C/2-5 CAV (4 x M2A3 & 2 x M1114)

3/C/2-5 CAV (4 x M2A3 & 2 x M1114)

HQs/C/2-5 CAV (2 x M2A3 & 1 x M1114)

* Deployed Strength- 138 soldiers; Redeployed 125 soldiers

* C/2-5 CAV later augmented w/ 8 M2A2ODS

* Armsroom Concept was used for all vehicles



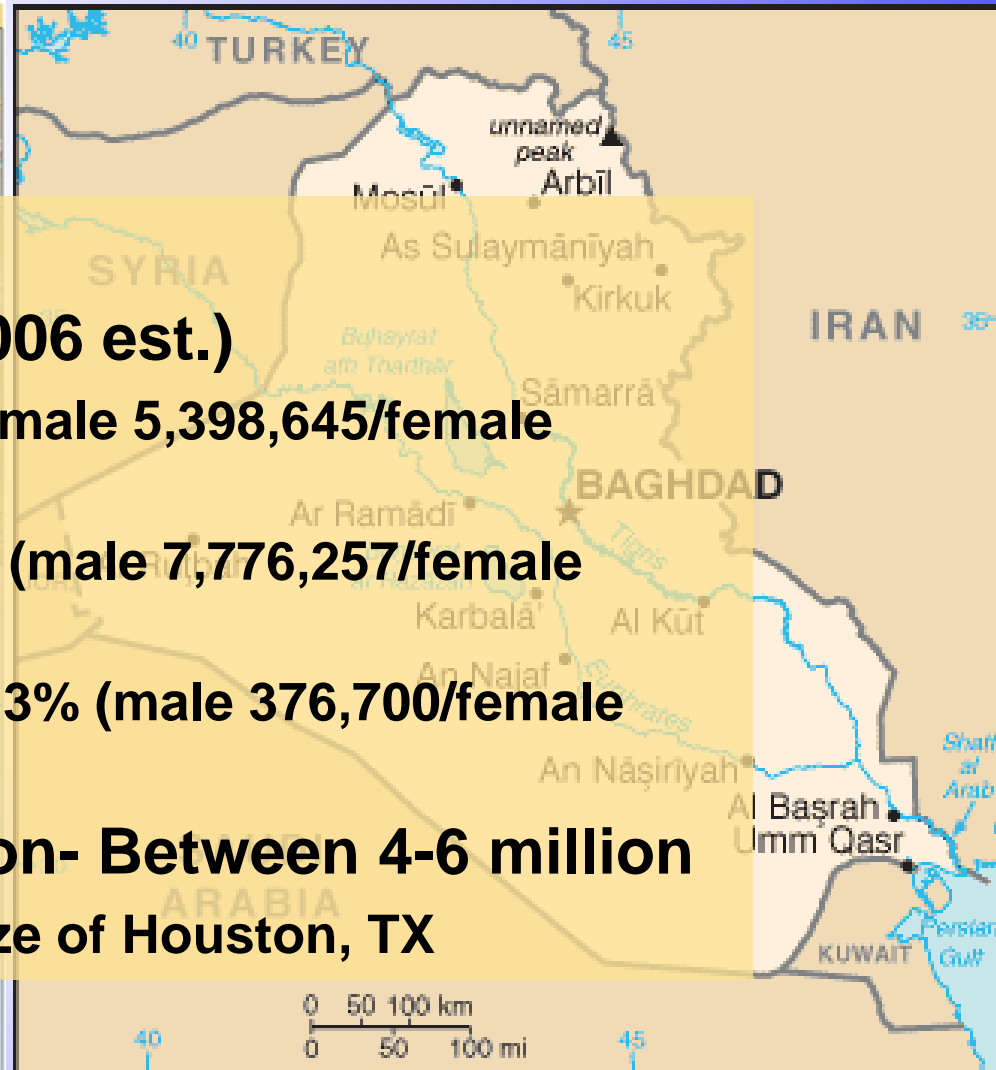
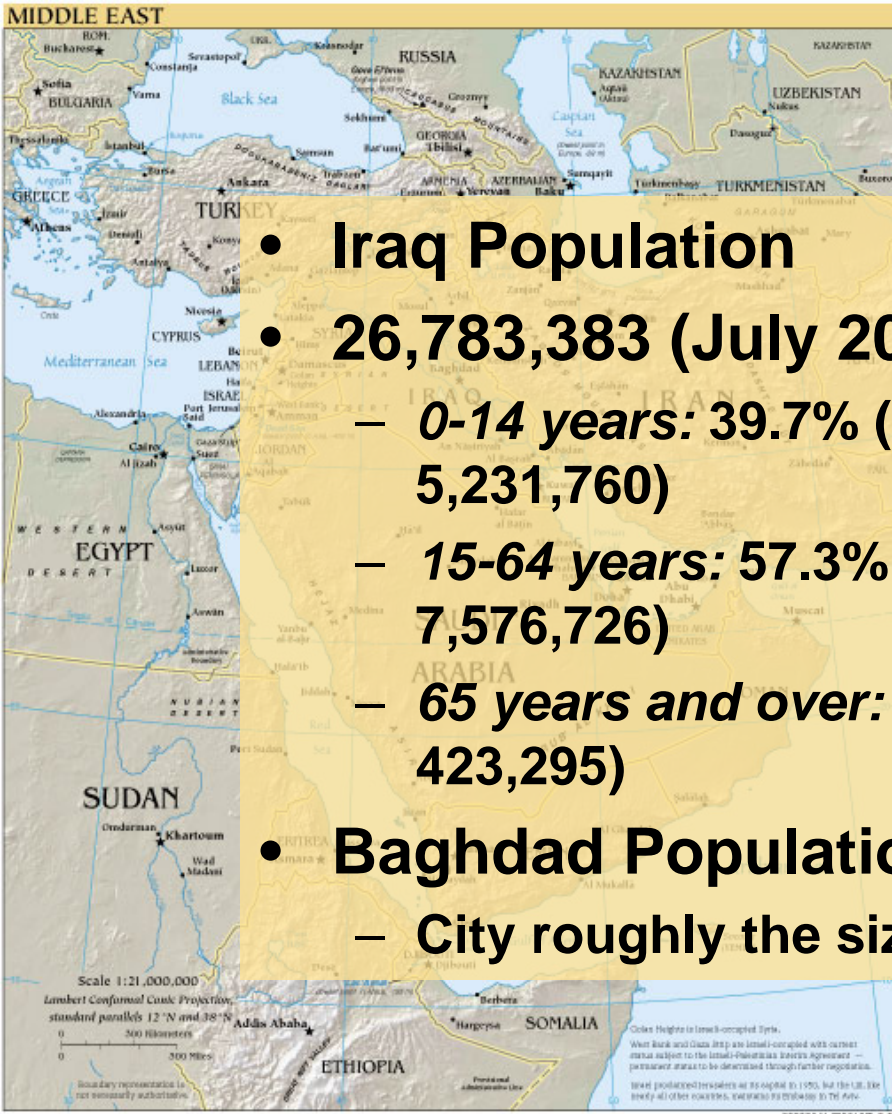
AO/AI



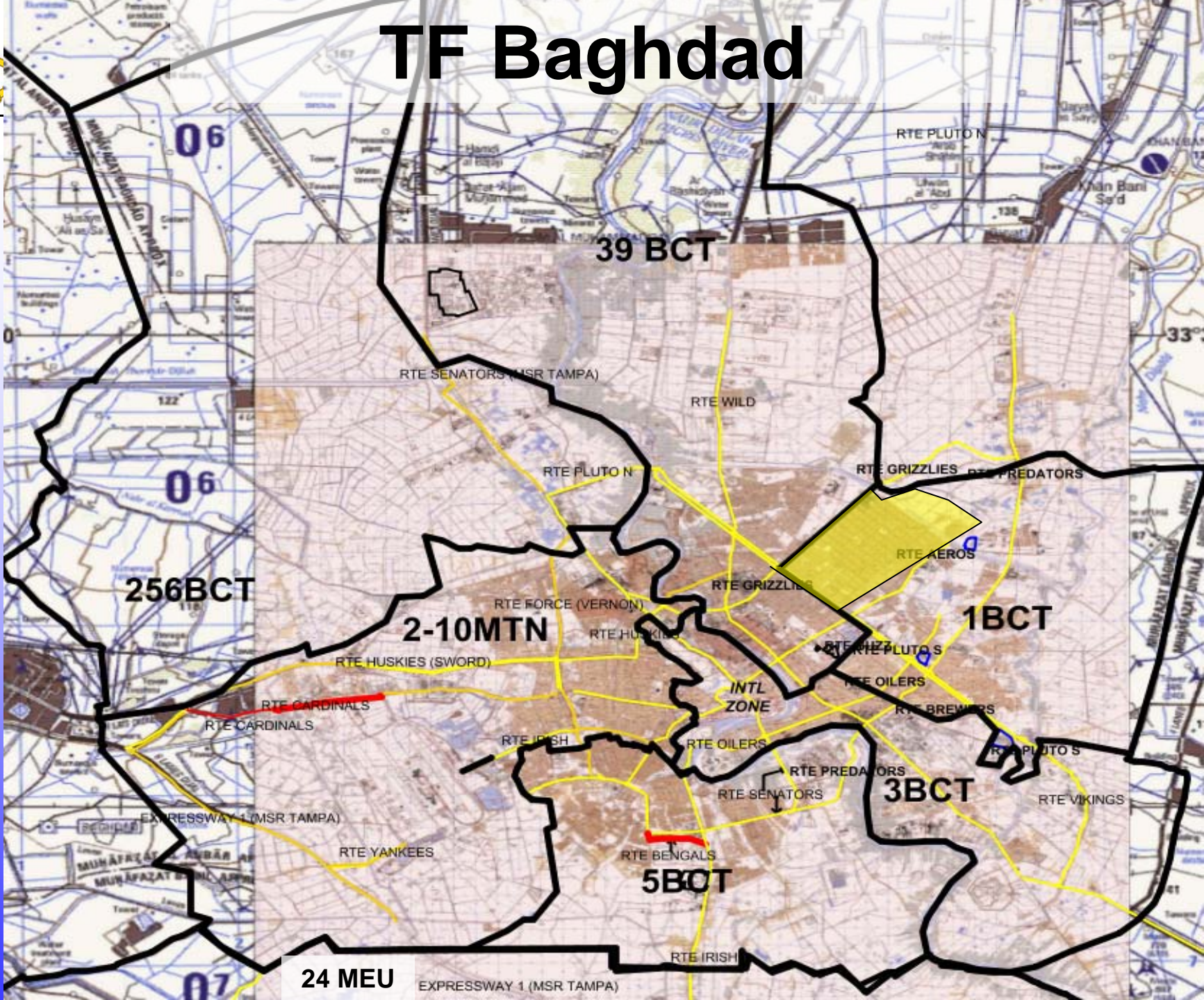
Iraq



- **Iraq Population**
- **26,783,383 (July 2006 est.)**
 - **0-14 years: 39.7%** (male 5,398,645/female 5,231,760)
 - **15-64 years: 57.3%** (male 7,776,257/female 7,576,726)
 - **65 years and over: 3%** (male 376,700/female 423,295)
- **Baghdad Population- Between 4-6 million**
 - **City roughly the size of Houston, TX**

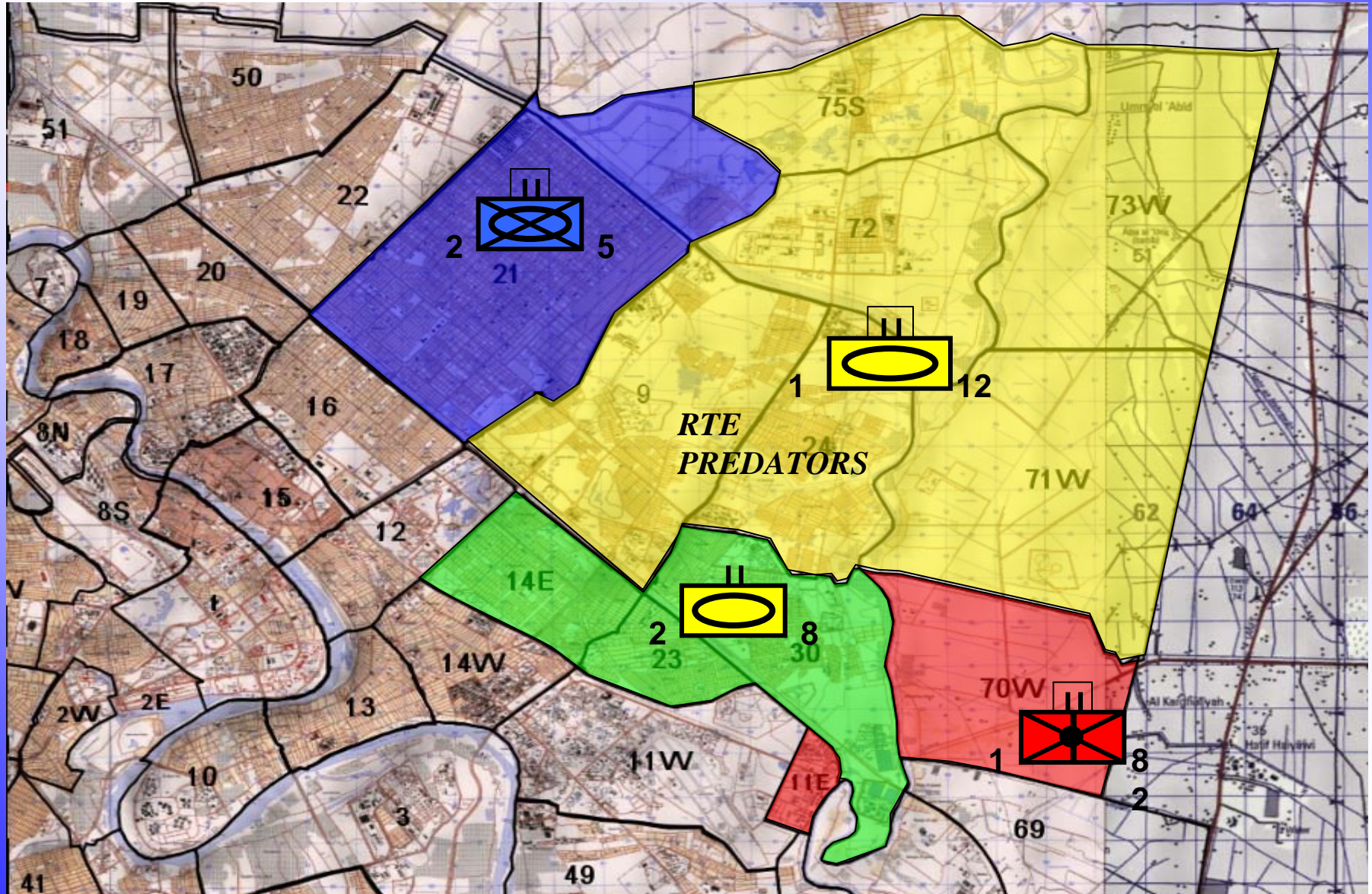


TF Baghdad





1 BCT AO/ TF 2-5 AI





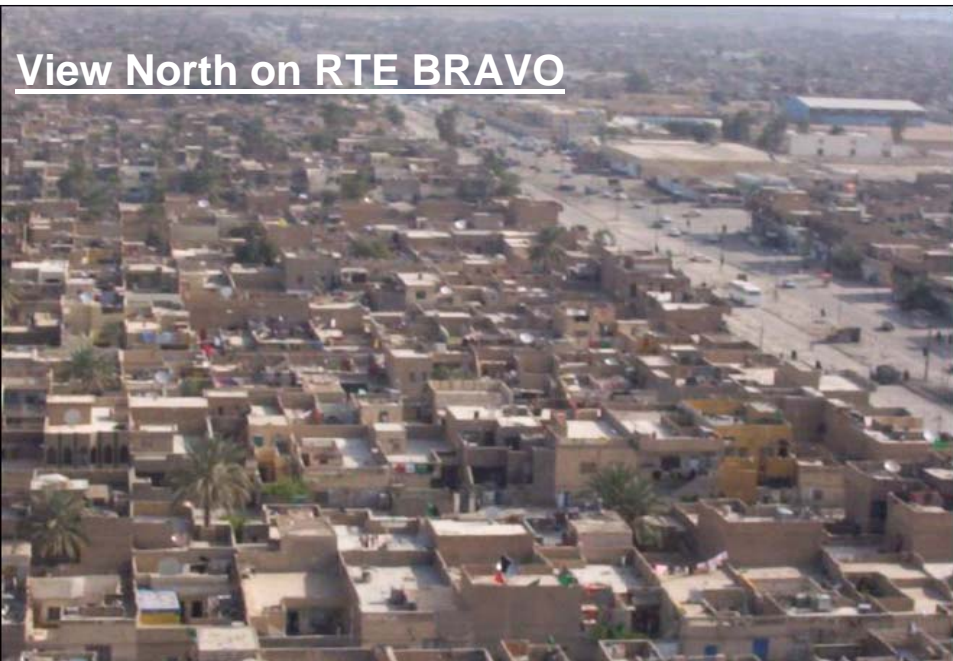
Terrain / Enemy

Terrain

View North from RTE FL (E-W) and DELTA (N-S) Traffic Circle



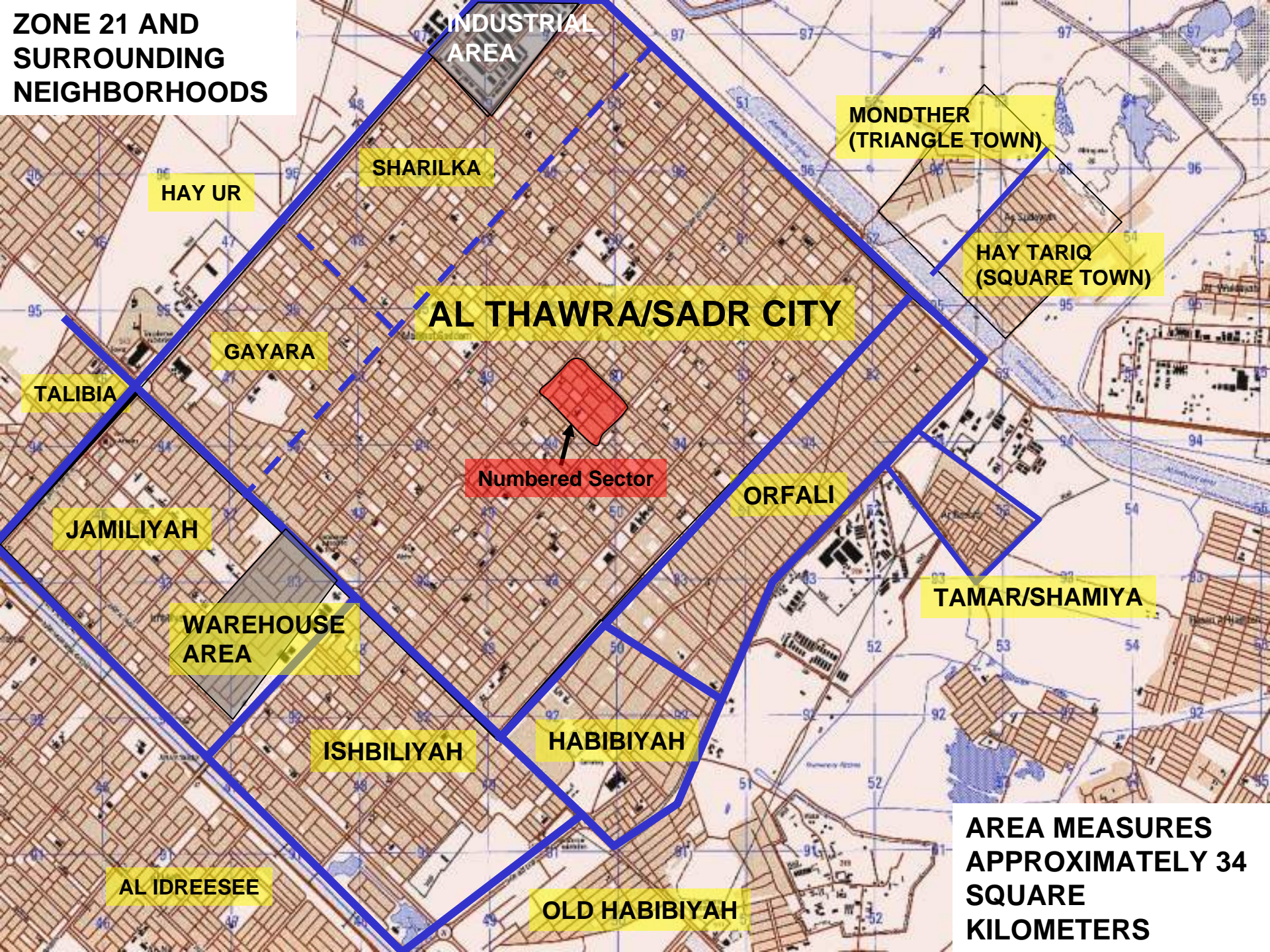
View North on RTE BRAVO



View of Meridi Market on RTE DELTA



**ZONE 21 AND
SURROUNDING
NEIGHBORHOODS**



**AREA MEASURES
APPROXIMATELY 34
SQUARE
KILOMETERS**



SADR CITY DEMOGRAPHICS



- **POPULATION: 2.5 – 3 MILLION**

- 34 SQUARE KMs
- DENSITY: 73,500 PEOPLE PER SQUARE KILOMETER
- 8-30 PEOPLE PER HOME

- **RELIGION:**

- MAJORITY SHIA, APPROXIMATELY 4% SUNNI
- **IMAMS AND MOSQUES**
- Mosques: 67 total
 - Shia-87% (58 total)
 - Sunni-13% (9 total)

- **BALTIMORE**
- **49.6 SQUARE KMs**
- **POPUL~ 629K**
- **30% LARGER CITY WITH 2-2.5 MILLION LESS PEOPLE**

- **TRIBES:**

- APPROXIMATELY 42 DIFFERENT TRIBES

- **POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

- SADR BUREAU, SCIRI, ISLAMIC DAWA, FAELIH KURDISH ASSN., COMMUNIST PARTY, AL GHADEER ASSN., AND POSSIBLE HEZBOLLAH

- **IRAQI SECURITY FORCES**

- 7 POLICE STATIONS AND ONE PATROL STATION



ENEMY





Who is the Enemy



- What does insurgent mean? Who are they?
 - Terrorist/Foreign Fighters
 - Former Regime Elements (FRE)
 - Sunni and Shia Militias
 - BADR Corps/Brigade (SCIRI)
 - Mahdi Army (Muqtada al Sadr)



Motivations

TTP's

Targets

Internal Support



Muqtada al-Sadr

External Support

Differing Agendas



THE SADR BUREAU



- The *Sadr Bureau*- a leading Shi'a organization in Iraq
- Derives its popularity from the peoples' love of Mohammed Sadiq al Sadr, an Islamic social revolutionary assassinated by hands of the former regime
- **Similar to Sinn Fien, Hamas, Hezbollah**
- The Sadr Bureau and its Mahdi's Army were responsible for two insurgent uprisings in April and August of 2004
- Robust political influence through the Sadr current
- Uses religion, kidnappings, threats, and assassination to intimidate and influence the local population (**Mafia Like**)



Old Sadr Bureau



Hikma Mosque



Mohsen Mosque

Mahdi Army





MAHDI (Mehdi) ARMY

(Jaish al-Mahdi)



- The Al Mahdi Army (Muqtada's Militia) was established for the sake of defending the highest religious authority in An Najaf.
- The call for the army was justified under the perception that the Coalition had failed in its efforts to provide security.
- The Sadr Bureau publicly disbanded the militia while privately maintaining their capability to conduct limited offensive operations.



Enemy Weapon Systems



SPG 9



OG-7

Iranian Nader round

SPG 9 rounds

PG-7



RPG 18





Enemy Weapon Systems (Cache)





Combat Operations



Sadr City Events (Pre-TOA)



Events leading to the 9 October attack were a result of events inside Sadr City.

09 Oct – CF patrol ambushed by 200 AIF personnel by Sadr Bureau

Flag cutting incident near Mosen Mosque while a patrol is in the vicinity of the Sadr Bureau

Imam killed when a tank crushed his car in Sadr City

DAC Chairman killed by CF

Suicide VBIED vicinity Jamila Patrol Station

CF moved off of Route Delta and were out of contact.

Sadr City Events (2 Mar – 4 Apr)

02 MAR – Ashura begins, 40 day mourning period for Imam Hussein, concludes with Arbaeen 9-11 APR

2-5 CAV ADVON arrives

04 APR – Thousands of MM attack CF and IPS (Initiated by ambush on TF 2-5 CAV patrol)

02 APR – Hundreds of MM conduct demonstration in Green Zone that turns violent

02 APR – Mahdi Army conducts large parade in Sadr City, marching in company formations in uniform w/ guidons

28 MAR - CPA closes Howza newspaper (60 days) for violation of CPA order #14

24 MAR - CF detain top Sadr lieutenant Yaqobi in Najaf

02 March – Increase in MM guarding mosques (based upon Kadimya attack)

31 MAR – TF 2-5 CAV arrives
4 APR 1800 – TF 2-5 conducts TOA
1805 – 1/C/2-5 Ambushed on Route Delta

04 APRIL 2004



L06 and C/2-5 CAV- Attack north on RTE AEROS to RTE SILVER to RT DELTA. Pass by 1/C/2-5 CAV due to in-op communication with lead M2A3s (due to RPG/IED hits). A/2-37 reports moving north on RT DELTA and converaina with friendly forces in contact.

C/2-37 AR- Attacks north on RTE DELTA and black RTE under intense SAF and RPG fire. Conducts Link Up with 1/C/2-5 CAV. Conducts CASEVAC. Escorts operable vehicles and personnel back to FOB. TF LANCER re-arms, re-fuels and conducts follow on operations at police stations.

Continues to sustain heavy SAF, and loses all communication. 2 destroyed numerous casualties. Returns to FOB EAGLE.

C/2-5 CAV - During the attack to F A/2-5 CAV - north on RT BRAVO, Encounter complex and RT COPPEL obstacles, SAF, RPG fire and IEDs. One BR/ Mike and L: M114 destroyed. Travel back down RT Continue d BRAVO to RTE COPPER. Conduct intense SA/ CASEVAC. RTE CHARLIE.

04 1 Concurrently- C/2-37 AR SP from Martyr's Monument. Attacks north on RTE DELTA. 1/C/ Encounters complex obstacles and intense Rep the Concurrently- C/2-37 AR moves back to DAC and conducts CASEVAC.

Subsequently, and is engaged by SAF and RPGs. Two vehicles are destroyed. Platoon moves, cleans a building and defends.



Friendly KIA: 8
Friendly WIA: 51
Enemy KIA: ~650
Enemy WIA: Unk

5 - 9 APRIL 2004

Task Org at each IP Station:
1 x Mech PLT (+)
1 x Section Tanks
1 x Dismounted Platoon

<u>Enemy BDA</u>			
	04 APR	05-09APR	Total
EF KIA	~650	~150	~800
EF WIA	~500	~5	~500
Detainees	0	7	7
Total			~1300
<u>Friendly BDA</u>			
TF 2-5 KIA	8	0	8
TF 2-5 WIA	51	0	51
Captured/MIA	0	0	0
Total			59

Valor Awards (TF 2-5 CAV):

- 2 x Silver Star
- ~13 x BSM w/ V
- ~9 x BSM
- ~16 x ARCOM w/ V
- 59 x Purple Hearts

Valor Awards (C/2-5 CAV):

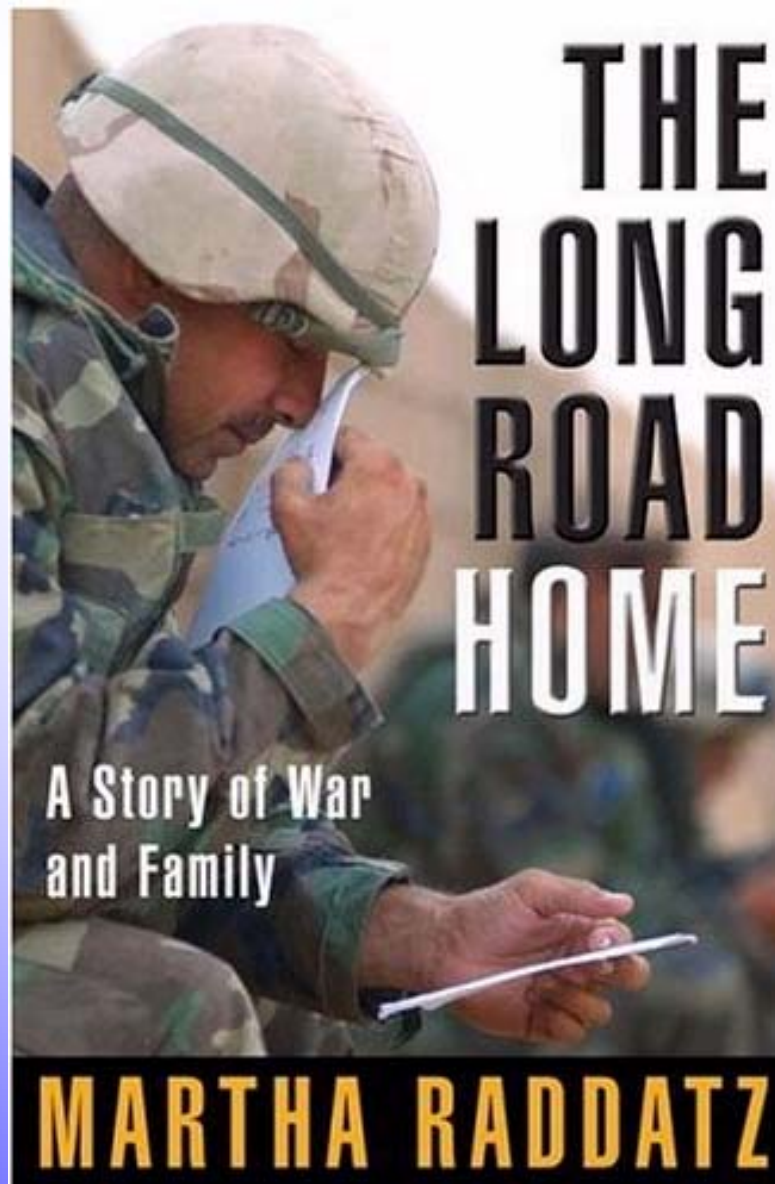
- 1 x Silver Star
- 8 x BSM w/ V
- 4 x BSM
- 9 x ARCOM w/ V
- 23 x Purple Hearts

Seize Nassir Station
TF 2-8 CAV

residents to attend
Friday prayers.



**For More Detail- In a bookstore
near you**





Friendly Operations



- Follow on Operations:
 - 88 days of sustained combat
 - Patrols/raids during day, fight at night
 - Enemy continued to learn and adapt-
“Combat Darwinism”
 - Daily Multiple Indirect Fire Attacks-
Becomes 2nd most attacked FOB since
Vietnam
 - Weapons buy-back
 - “Cease Fire”- JUN-JUL04



Friendly Operations

- **Projects- Civil and Infrastructure**
 - (Sewage, Water, Electricity, Attitude, Trash [SWEAT] Polling)
- **2nd Shia Insurrection- 05AUG04-16OCT04**
 - Enemy increase IEDs and planning (Enemy clearly AAR'd first insurrection)
 - 60 Days of continuous fighting and occupation of southern portion of city with limited objective attacks to the north
- **Political Cease Fire in prep of Elections**
 - Weapons turn-in
- **Out of Sector Attack ISO of Elections**
- **Elections**
- **RIP/TOA**



So What?



- Never forget the Warfighter at the pointy edge of the spear!
- Commit everything you do to that Warfighter and attack every job you have with the Warfighter in mind.
- Never underestimate the enemy.
- Always train your subordinates to assume your position--- Do Not Become One Deep!
 - Transitions are when organizations are the most vulnerable--- whether in combat or not!
- Although you go home every night, there are Warfighters who do not...



Questions?