

# Iraq Weekly Status Report

**January 3, 2008**

**Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs  
US Department of State**



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## HIGHLIGHTS

- PM Maliki announced he is healthy after undergoing a medical check-up in London due to exhaustion. (**Political, page 4**)
- KRG President Barzani, Jalal Talabani, and Tariq al-Hashimi signed a “Letter of Common Understanding” outlining a joint vision for a unified democratic Iraq and a commitment to reconciliation. (**Political, page 4**)
- Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces killed or captured 51 al-Qaeda operatives in December. (**Security, page 7**)
- The Iraqi Military Academy at Rustamiyah graduated 229 newly-commissioned officers for the Iraqi Army and Iraqi Air Force December 29. (**Security, page 8**)
- The GOI announced a cut-back of food rations. The Trade Ministry will keep five necessary items, including flour, oil, rice, and infant milk. The GOI will also take steps to reduce the number of people depending on the government-run Public Distribution System. (**Economic, page 10**)
- South Korea’s Parliament voted to extend the ROK’s deployment of troops to Iraq through 2008. (**Diplomatic, page 21**)



## POLITICAL - Governance & Legislation

### Maliki: I Am in Good Health:

- Maliki was flown to Britain for a medical check-up after suffering from exhaustion. In a New Year's address, Maliki said, "I would like to reassure everyone that I am in good health." Maliki met with Prime Minister Gordon Brown January 3, and will return to Baghdad over the January 5-6 weekend.

### Iraqi Amnesty Bill Sent to Parliament:

- The GOI sent the parliament speaker a draft amnesty bill January 1, which could affect the release of around 5,000 detainees from Iraqi prisons. The bill would not affect the 25,000 Iraqis under detention by US Military forces, including former regime Baathists and prisoners charged with terrorist activities.

### Loyalists Commemorate Saddam Hussein's Death:

- A small crowd of Saddam Hussein loyalists gathered at the former Iraqi leader's gravesite in Awja, central Iraq, to commemorate the first anniversary of his hanging. Iraqi and U.S. security forces were present to prevent any violence associated with the event, but none was reported. Shiites, who suffered under Hussein's regime, celebrated the anniversary. Saddam Hussein was found guilty of committing Crimes against Humanity and executed in December 2006.

### Kurds, Iraqi Islamic Party Sign Agreement:

- KRG President Barzani, Jalal Talabani, and Tariq al-Hashimi signed a "Letter of Common Understanding" outlining a joint vision for a unified democratic Iraq and a commitment to reconciliation. The agreement establishes a mechanism to coordinate and exchange points of view between the parties. The agreement coincides with a critical letter which Iraqi Kurdish leaders recently sent to Maliki.



## POLITICAL - Provincial

### KRG Succession in Question:

- Kurdish leaders continue to discuss whether to replace Nechervan Barzani as KRG president when his term expires this year or extend his term. Under an agreement between the PUK and KDP, a PUK candidate was set to replace him and party official Kosrat Rasul was seen as the leading PUK candidate. Consideration is now being given to extending Nechervan's term—a move which President Talabani is said to favor.

### GOI to Provide Aid to Kurdish Families:

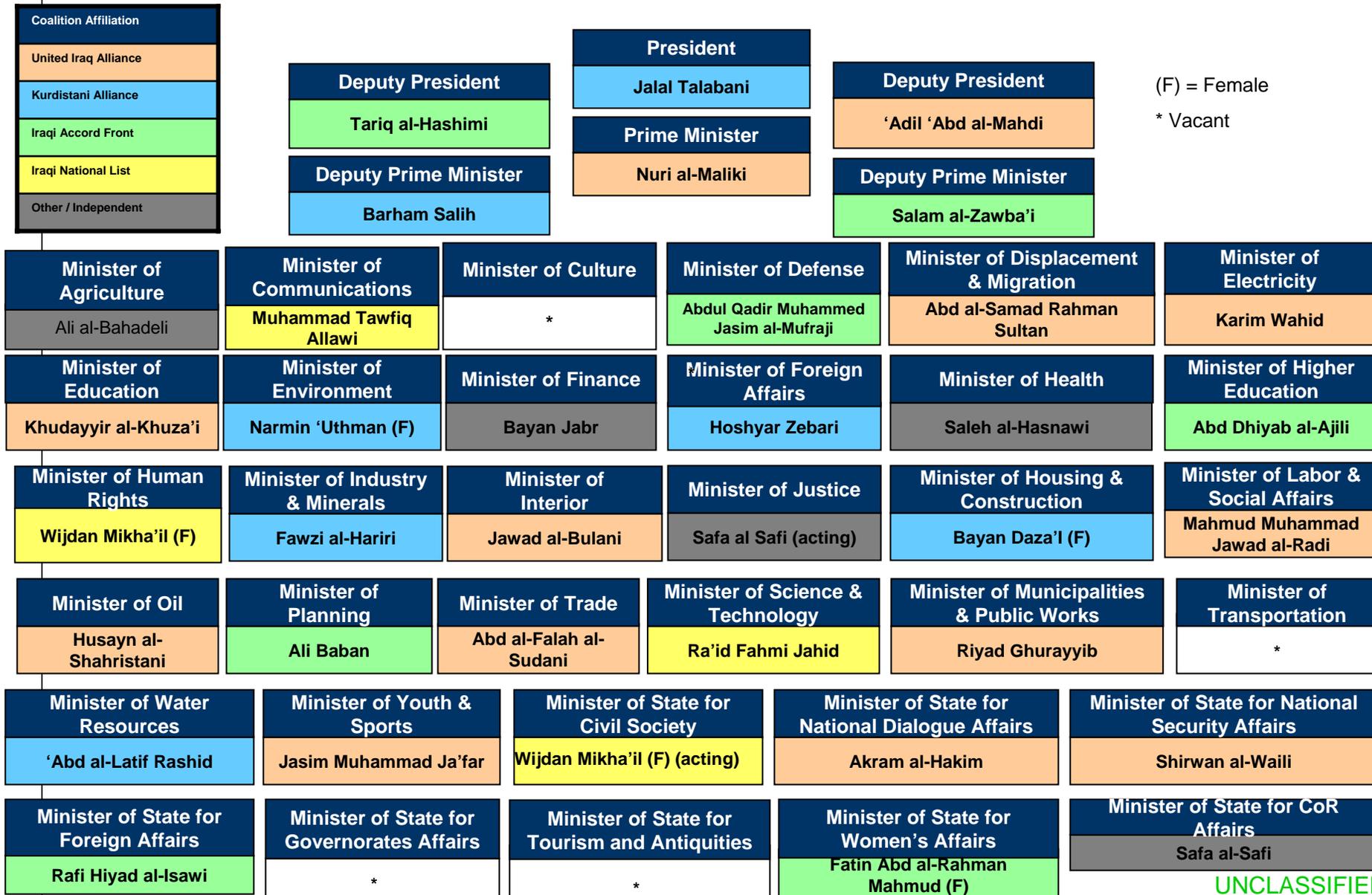
- Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki authorized financial support for Kurdish families having lost their homes due to Turkish air attacks on suspected PKK rebel sites in Northern Iraq. Maliki ordered the government December 30 to pay one million Iraqi Dinars (about \$830) to every Kurdish family displaced by the Turkish bombings, although the number of families to receive aid has not been released.

### KRG Lawmakers Approve UNAMI Plan:

- The Kurdistan National Assembly gave its consent to UNAMI's proposal to spearhead a six-month effort to address outstanding issues related to Article 140 and disputed territories. Press reports suggested that the approval was grudging: lawmakers voiced displeasure that a referendum on Kirkuk and disputed territories was not held by December 31 and blamed Baghdad authorities for the delay. The vote coincided with a visit by Ambassador Crocker to the KRG.



# POLITICAL - Government of Iraq





## SECURITY - Situation Update

### Coalition Efforts against AQI:

- Brigadier General Kevin Bergner reported January 2 that in the month of December 51 Al Qaeda operatives were killed or captured by Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces. Of those captured there were:
  - 8 regional, city and functional emirs; 9 cell leaders; 6 involved in media and propaganda activities; 5 foreign terrorist facilitators; 7 vehicle bomb and improvised explosive device facilitators; 16 other facilitators, such as religious advisors, financiers, intelligence gatherers and weapons traffickers

### Iraqi Courts Prosecute Extremists:

- The Iraqi courts are prosecuting captured extremists. Iraqi judges in Iraqi courts found two AQI terrorists guilty of terrorism December 30.
  - Umar Wah-dallah Dod al-Zan-gana, also known as Abu Nur, had been AQI's Military Emir of Baghdad and was involved in over 800 attacks against Iraqi citizens and Iraqi Security and Coalition Forces. Abu Nur was also involved in the brutal deaths of four Russian diplomats and was the mastermind of the attack on Sadr City in late 2006 that involved five suicide car bombs.
  - Khalid Abdul Fata Da'ud Mahmud al-Mashadani, also known as Abu Shu-hed, was captured July 4. He was the senior Iraqi in the AQI organization and was al Qaeda's overall Emir for Media and Propaganda activities in Iraq.



## SECURITY - Security Transition

### Iraqi Military Academy Graduates New Officers:

- The Iraqi Military Academy at Rustamiyah graduated 229 newly-commissioned officers for the Iraqi Army and Iraqi Air Force December 29. This class is the second group to attend the one year program, which is broken into three 15-week blocks.
- Out of the 229 graduates, 44 have been selected as pilot candidates and are slotted to go into the Iraqi Air Force. These pilot candidates will return to the academy for English language training before being sent to Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq, for flight school.

### Iraqi Ministry of Defense Hosts BEAR Grand Opening:

- The Iraqi Ministry of Defense hosted the grand opening of the Budget, Execution, Acquisition and Requirements (BEAR) – Operations Center at the Ministry of Defense headquarters in Baghdad December 30.
- The office also allows for a centrally managed internal Ministry of Defense budget execution process for accountability of current contracts and Foreign Military Sales cases.
- The Foreign Military Sales program manages government-to-government purchases of weapons and other defense articles, defense services, and military training. The center will serve as an intermediary, usually handling procurement and logistics issues.



# SECURITY - Iraqi Security Forces

Component <sup>a</sup>	Current Authorized Personnel <sup>b</sup>	Assigned Personnel <sup>c</sup>	Assigned & Trained Personnel <sup>d</sup>	Total Trained Personnel to date <sup>e</sup>
<b>Ministry of Interior (MoI) Forces <sup>f</sup></b>				
Iraqi Police Service <sup>g</sup>	271,850	255,601	142,138	174,025
National Police	33,861	32,517	32,517	36,504
Border Enforcement	38,000	38,751	31,376	31,431
<b>Total MoI</b>	<b>343,711</b>	<b>326,869</b>	<b>206,031</b>	<b>241,960</b>
<b>Ministry of Defense (MoD) Forces <sup>h</sup></b>				
Army	186,352	141,991	141,991	173,545
Support Forces	17,369	17,208	17,208	18,208
Air Force	2,907	1,075	1,075	1,286
Navy	1,483	1,106	1,106	1,194
<b>Total MoD</b>	<b>208,111</b>	<b>161,380</b>	<b>161,380</b>	<b>194,233</b>
<b>Counter Terrorism Bureau</b>				
Special Operations	3,967	3,283	2,578	3,485
<b>Total Iraqi Security Forces</b>	<b>555,789</b>	<b>491,532</b>	<b>369,989</b>	<b>439,678</b>

a Numbers do not include ministry staffs.

b Numbers reflect Government of Iraq (GOI) authorizations.

c Numbers are based upon GOI payroll data and do not reflect present for duty totals.

d Numbers reflect assigned personnel that have received training.

e Numbers reflect total ISF personnel trained to date, some of which are no longer assigned due to casualties, AWOL, and normal separation.

f MoI strength does not reflect investigative and administrative forces, the MoI HQ, MoI Forensics, Dignitary Protection, or contracted guards.

g MoI Police Support Unit, Provincial Security Force, and Emergency Response Unit personnel are part of the Iraqi Police Service and does not include other Ministry FPS.

h The MoD strength are derived from Modified Tables of Organization and Equipment (MTOEs).



## ECONOMIC – Economic & Government Capacity Update

### Food-Ration Program Cut:

- After weeks of speculation, the Government of Iraq announced that monthly food rations will be cut by half. The GOI will also take steps to reduce the number of people depending on the government-run Public Distribution System. Mohammed Hanoun, the Ministry of Trade Chief of Staff, said that \$7.2 billion was requested for the program for 2008 but was not approved. This figure represented an almost 100 percent increase from 2007 due to the rise of food prices, such as wheat, across the globe. The Trade Ministry will keep five basic food items, according to Hanoun, including “flour, rice, oil, and infant milk.”
- In July 2007, Oxfam International released a report stating that 60 percent of Iraqis utilize the system. This is down 36 percent from 2004. The report went on to state that a little less than half the population lives in poverty and that child malnutrition has risen nine percent in the last four years. Although no statements have been made to this point, this may have prompted the GOI to retain products essential to cooking and childcare while cutting other items such as tea, sugar, and soap.



## ECONOMIC – Economic & Government Capacity Update

### Kirkuk Economic Development Training:

- The Kirkuk PRT reported that the Kirkuk Economic Development Task Force Strategic Training Workshop was held in December. 14 members of the Task Force, Kirkuk citizens representing the Provincial Council, the Farmer's Union, and Kirkuk University, were present. The Task Force produced vision and mission statements, as well as a work plan.

### Iraq Works Toward WTO Accession:

- The Ministry of Trade has completed drafts of three key trade-related documents that will be submitted to the WTO upon approval by the GOI. These documents were completed in cooperation with other GOI ministries and include a set of responses to questions submitted by WTO members. Additionally, a set of technical WTO accession documents and a Legislative Action Plan were drafted. The Legislative Action Plan details the GOI's anticipated scheduled steps and timelines to pass and implement WTO-required legislation.



## ECONOMIC - Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) 1 and 2

Sector	Allocated	Unallocated	Committed			Obligated			Disbursed		
			Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change
Security and Law Enforcement	\$4,985	\$20	\$4,964	\$4,964	\$0	\$4,961	\$4,961	\$0	\$4,849	\$4,850	\$1
Justice, Public Safety and Civil Society	\$2,264	\$44	\$2,257	\$2,258	\$1	\$2,244	\$2,252	\$8	\$2,130	\$2,131	\$1
Electricity Sector	\$4,201	\$25	\$4,069	\$4,066	-\$3	\$4,047	\$4,044	-\$3	\$3,657	\$3,675	\$19
Oil Infrastructure	\$1,714	\$11	\$1,599	\$1,599	\$0	\$1,599	\$1,599	\$0	\$1,549	\$1,551	\$2
Water Resources and Sanitation	\$2,084	\$18	\$1,973	\$1,975	\$1	\$1,972	\$1,971	\$0	\$1,743	\$1,755	\$11
Transportation and Communications	\$454	\$3	\$451	\$451	\$0	\$450	\$451	\$1	\$378	\$396	\$19
Roads, Bridges and Construction	\$332	\$1	\$321	\$318	-\$3	\$321	\$318	-\$3	\$238	\$239	\$1
Health Care	\$813	\$10	\$791	\$791	\$0	\$775	\$775	\$0	\$710	\$710	\$0
Private Sector Development	\$821	\$2	\$821	\$821	\$0	\$821	\$821	\$0	\$802	\$802	\$0
Education, Refugees, Human Rights, Governance	\$426	\$10	\$421	\$421	\$0	\$421	\$421	\$0	\$390	\$390	\$0
Admin Expense (USAID, STATE)	\$213	\$0	\$210	\$210	\$0	\$210	\$210	\$0	\$208	\$208	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,306</b>	<b>\$143</b>	<b>\$17,877</b>	<b>\$17,873</b>	<b>-\$3</b>	<b>\$17,820</b>	<b>\$17,823</b>	<b>\$3</b>	<b>\$16,654</b>	<b>\$16,706</b>	<b>\$52</b>
IRRF II Non-Construction	-	-	\$7,930	\$7,932	\$3	\$7,911	\$7,914	\$3	\$7,600	\$7,621	\$21
IRRF II Construction	-	-	\$9,427	\$9,421	-\$6	\$9,389	\$9,389	\$0	\$8,539	\$8,570	\$32
IRRF II Overhead	-	-	\$520	\$520	\$0	\$520	\$520	\$0	\$515	\$515	\$0
<b>IRRF I Total</b>	<b>\$2,475</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,291</b>	<b>\$2,291</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,232</b>	<b>\$2,232</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,139</b>	<b>\$2,139</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Grand Total IRRF I &amp; II</b>	<b>\$20,781</b>	<b>\$143</b>	<b>\$20,168</b>	<b>\$20,164</b>	<b>-\$3</b>	<b>\$20,052</b>	<b>\$20,055</b>	<b>\$3</b>	<b>\$18,793</b>	<b>\$18,845</b>	<b>\$52</b>



## ECONOMIC – Oil

### Crude Oil Update:

*Price averages in world markets closed with the following prices:*

Basrah Light at \$90.54/ barrel

Dated Brent at \$94.153/barrel

WTI Cushing at \$96.196/ barrel

Oman/Dubai at \$88.78/barrel

*Revenue estimates:*

2006: \$31.3 Billion

2007: \$34.4 Billion (ytd)

### Iraq Oil Exports Up:

- 58.9 million barrels of oil were exported in November from Iraq, making it the most productive month in three years. The Ministry of Oil announced that the month's exports yielded \$4.94 billion. Basra produced approximately 1.6 million barrels per day compared to 300,000 per day in Kirkuk. Asim Jihad, a Ministry spokesman, stated, "The Oil Ministry has set a plan, encouraged by the improvement of security in the north, to increase the export rate of Kirkuk's terminal to reach up to 500,000 barrels per day at the beginning of 2008."



## ECONOMIC – Oil

### Iraq to Cut Oil to South Korea:

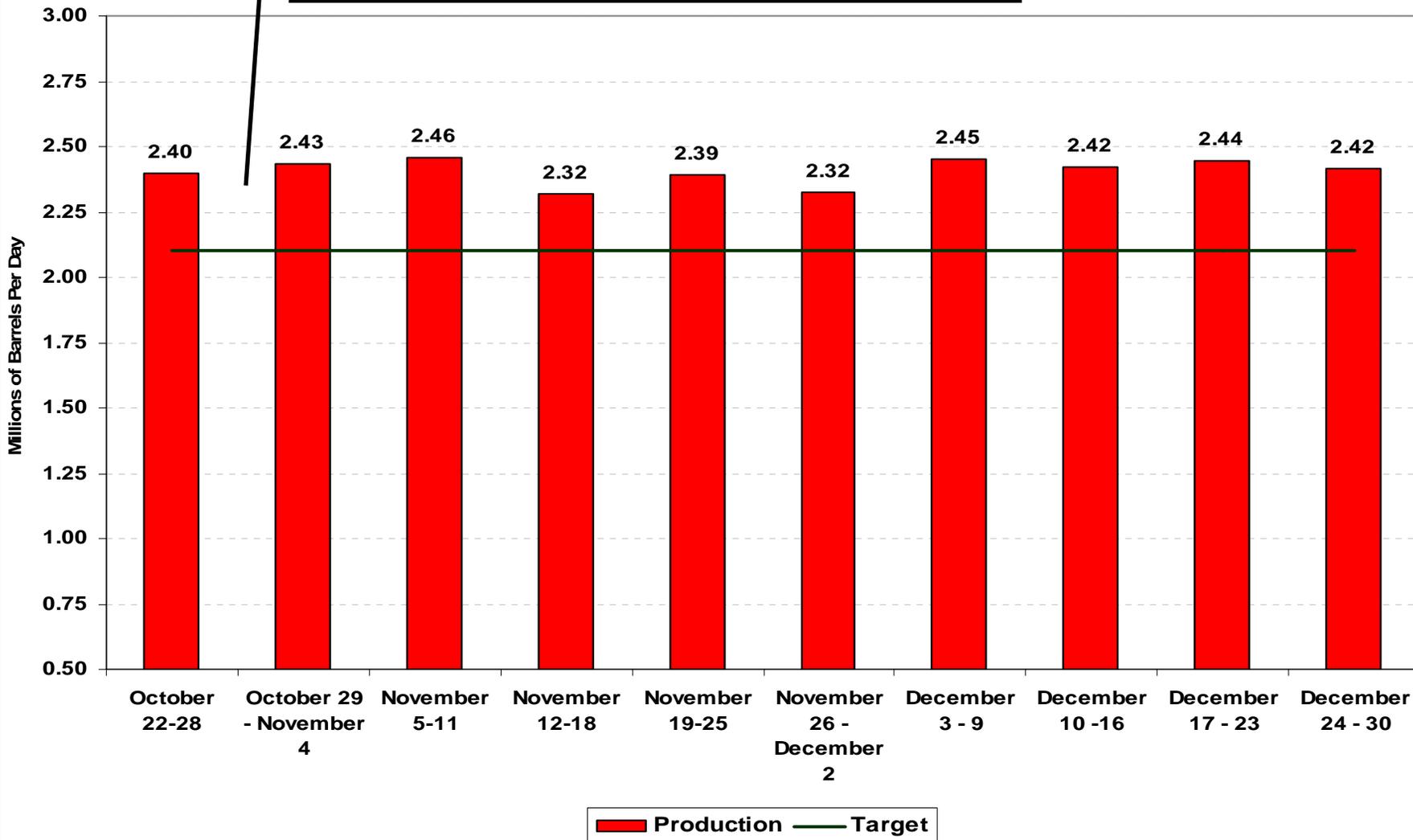
- The Korea National Oil Corporation signed an exploration and production contract in November 2007 for a KRG exploration bloc. The deal is currently in the spotlight since the Oil Ministry in Baghdad has threatened to cease exporting oil to South Korea in retaliation for signing a deal with the regional government before a new framework is in place. A spokesman for the Ministry of Oil, Assem Jiham, stated, “The ministry has made it clear that no contracts should be signed until a new national oil law is passed. There was a clear warning to these companies that they will be blacklisted and excluded from any future cooperation with the ministry.”
- South Korea reportedly imported 42 million barrels of oil from Iraq through the first 11 months of 2007. Korea’s oil imports from Iraq are three times what they were in 2006, and Iraq is now Korea’s sixth largest provider of crude. Any disruption in this supply could have a negative impact on the Korean economy.



# ECONOMIC – Crude Oil Production

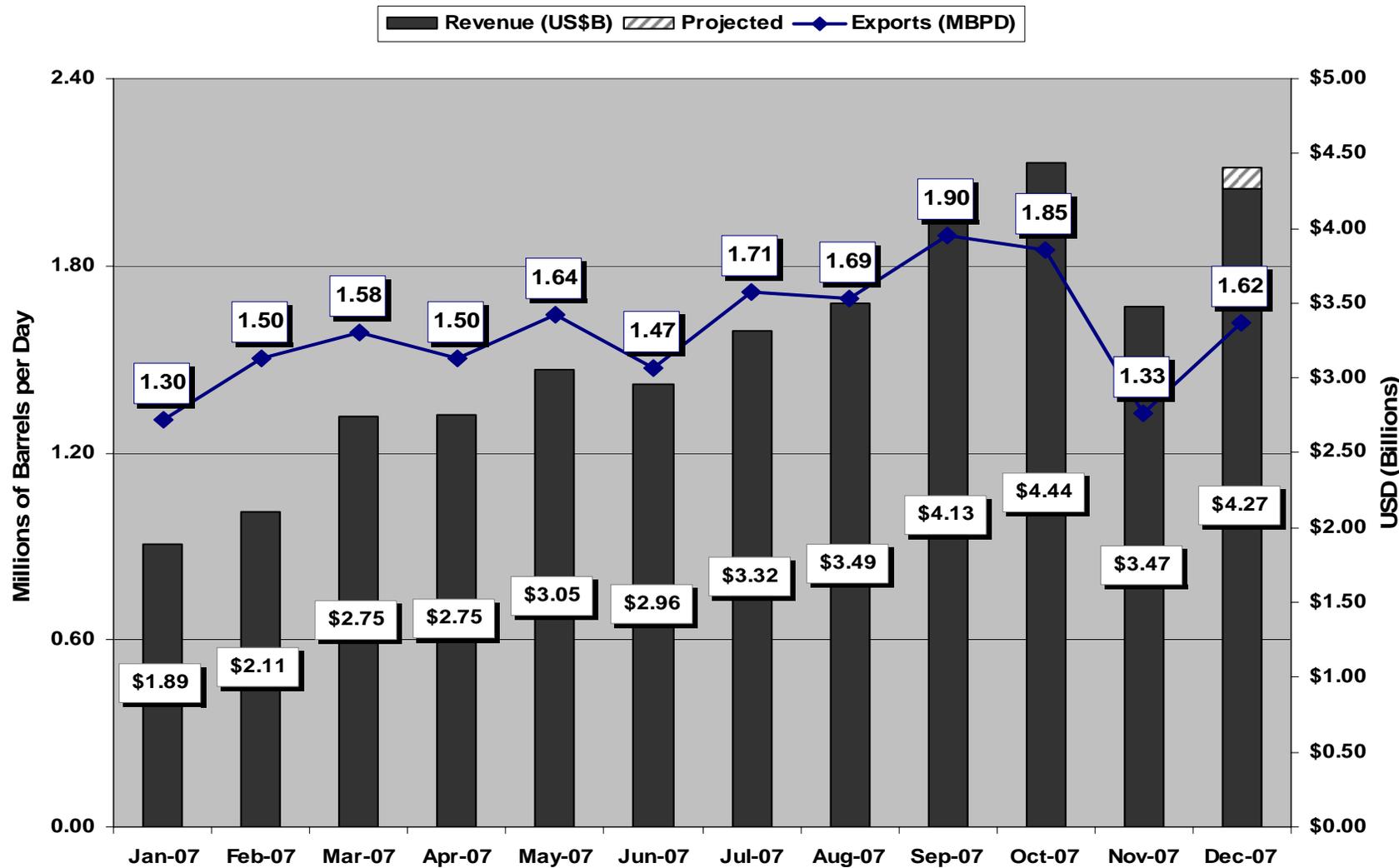
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**2007 Iraqi Oil Ministry Goal: 2.1 MBPD**





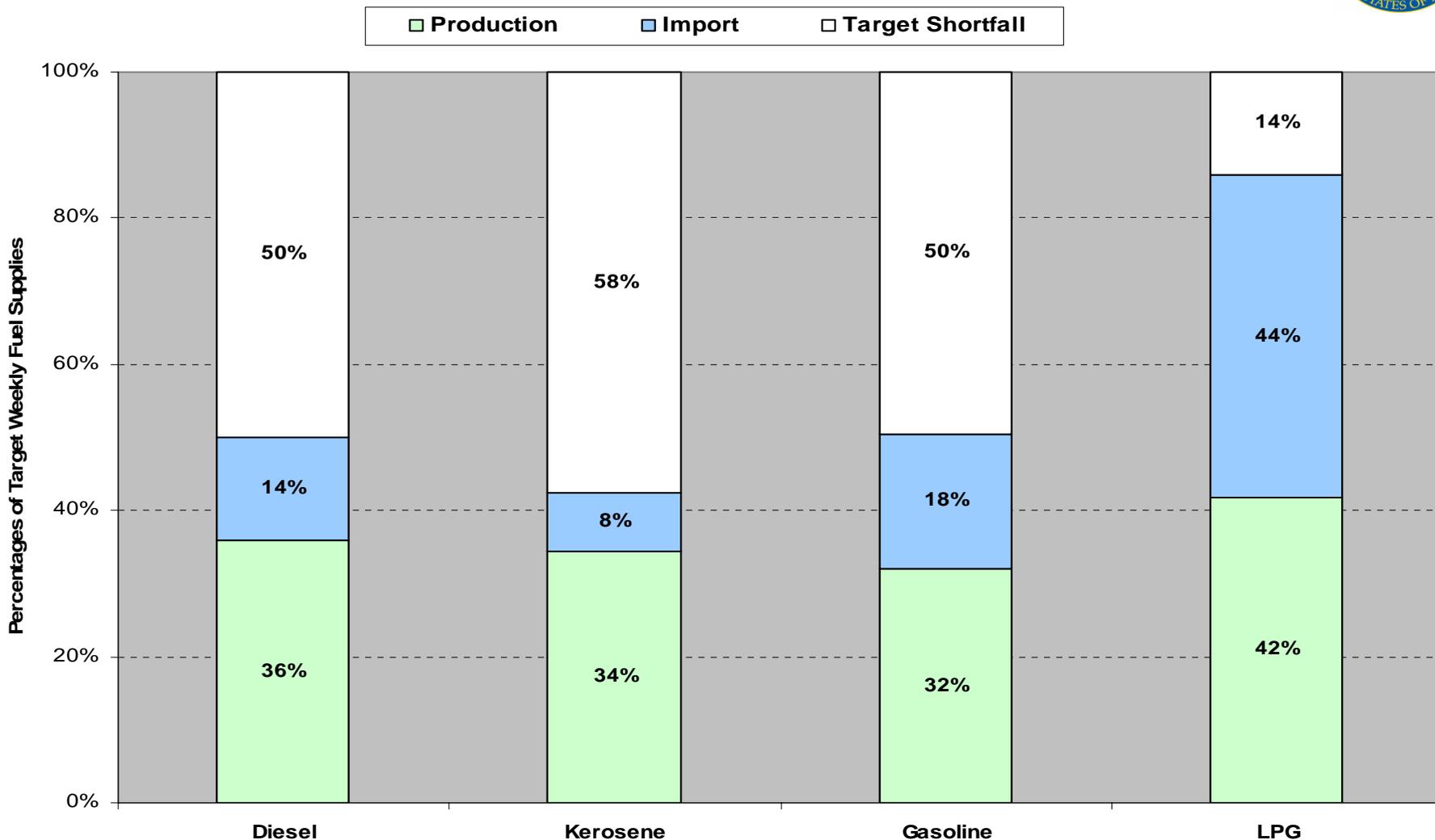
# ECONOMIC – Crude Oil Export



- 2006 Revenue Estimate: \$31.3 Billion
- 2007 Revenue Estimate: \$38.6 Billion (Year to Date)



# ECONOMIC – Total Critical Refined Product Supplies



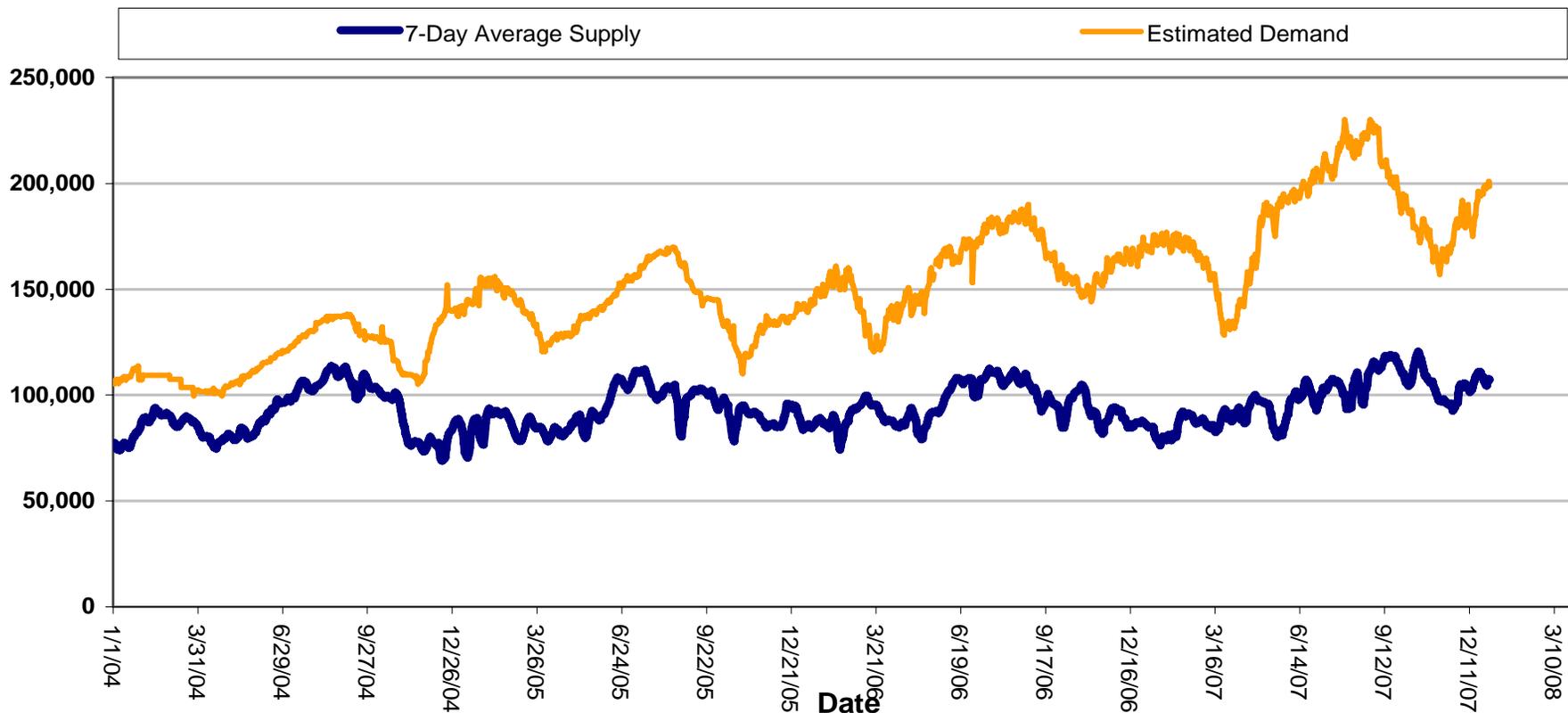
Note: This is a daily average for December 24 - 31

- Diesel: 12.2 ML supply of 24.5 ML target
- Gasoline: 13.5 ML supply of 26.8 ML target
- Kerosene: 6.2 ML supply of 14.6 ML target
- LPG: 4,381 tons supply of 5,100 tons target



## ECONOMIC – Electricity

### Daily Electricity Supplied and Estimated Demand in Iraq Since January 2004

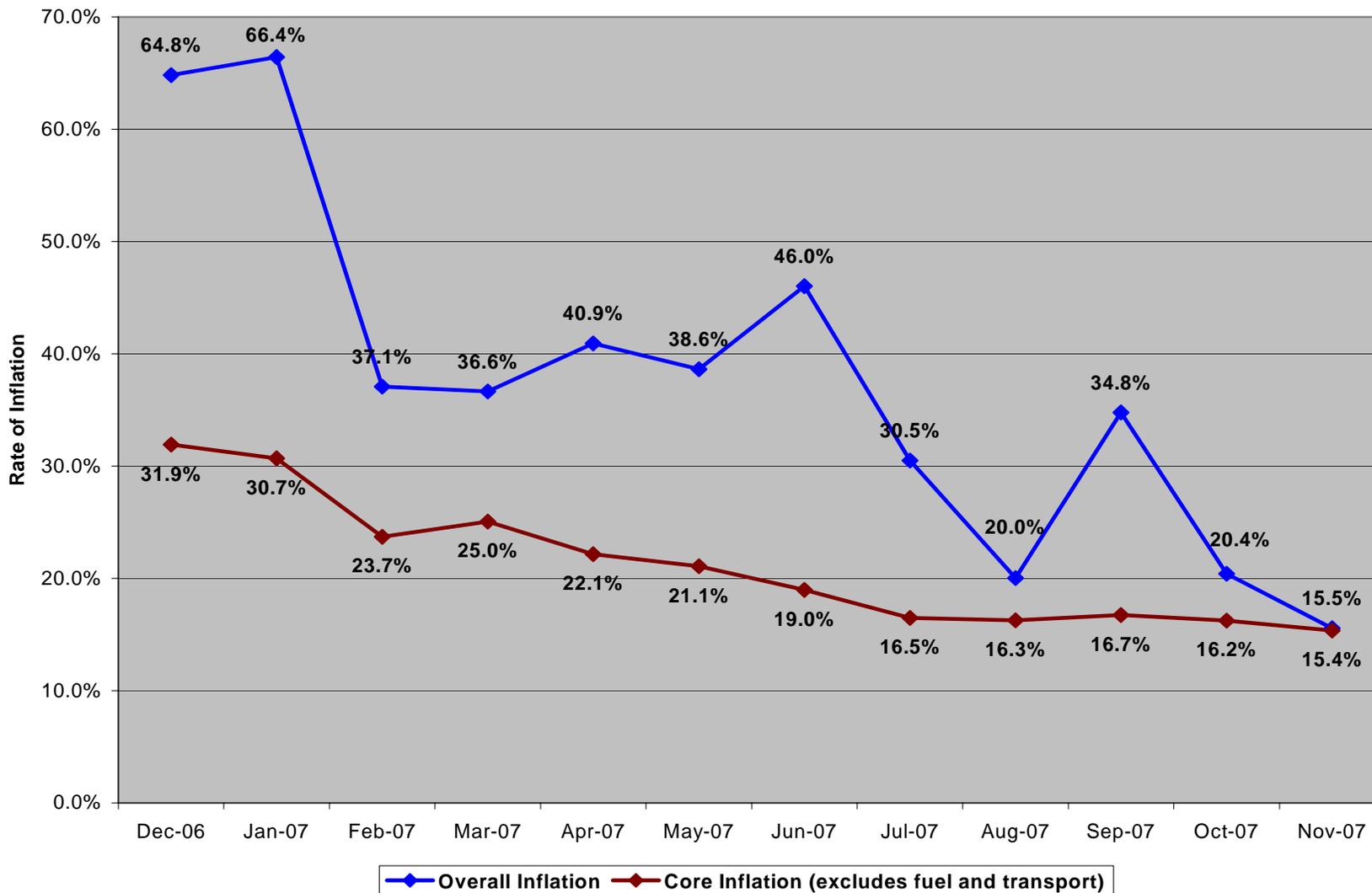


- For December 27-January 2, daily electricity demand was 17% above the same period last year. Daily supply from the grid was 25% above the year-earlier period and met 54% of demand, compared with 50% for the year-earlier period.
- For December 24-30, average hours of power via the electricity grid after meeting demand from essential services: Baghdad 9.1 and nationwide 11.1. Year-ago levels were Baghdad 6.9 and nationwide 8.7.



# ECONOMIC – Economic Indicators

## Year-on-Year Inflation





## ECONOMIC – Economic Indicators

Economic Indicator	This Week	Last Week	Last Month	Last Year
<b>Iraqi Commercial Bond Sales</b>				
Price (USD)	\$66.47	\$66.61	\$62.87	\$67.75
Yield	9.60%	9.58%	10.17%	9.30%
<b>Central Bank's USD Currency Auction</b>				
USD Sold	\$49,266,667.0	\$19,093,333	\$73,395,000	\$48,721,684
NID Exchange Rate	\$1,216	\$1,216	\$1,227	\$1,469.60
<b>Total Employed by USG Programs</b>				
	111,922	111,398	110,481	N/A



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## DIPLOMATIC – Political Engagement

### ROK Extends Troop Deployment:

- South Korea's Parliament voted December 28 to extend the ROK's deployment of troops in Iraq through 2008, while reportedly halving the number of Korean soldiers there to 600.

### Japan Donates Tents for IDPs:

- Japan announced December 27 that it will donate 1,000 tents in response to a UNHCR request for relief supplies for Iraq's internally displaced population. UNHCR made its request in anticipation of conditions worsening with the onset of winter for the approximately 90,000 IDPs in northern Iraq.



## DIPLOMATIC – Coalition Contributors

### 26 Countries with forces in Iraq (including U.S.)

Albania	Denmark	Korea	Romania
Armenia	El Salvador	Latvia	Singapore
Australia	Estonia	Lithuania	Tonga
Azerbaijan	Georgia	Macedonia	Ukraine
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Japan	Moldova	United Kingdom
Bulgaria	Kazakhstan	Mongolia	
Czech Republic		Poland	

**TOTAL ~ 10,961 Forces**

**32 Countries and NATO\***  
 (including the U.S.)  
**Support Iraqi Stability Operations**

\*32 includes the U.S., the 25 countries listed above, and six non-MNF-I countries: Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Turkey

Note: Fiji and New Zealand, participating as a part of the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI), are not included.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

- This brief draws from multiple sources. References are cited on the following pages.
- Please forward all questions and/or comments to:  
[NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov](mailto:NEA-I-IPOG-DL@state.gov)



## NOTES AND SOURCE CITATIONS (1 of 2)

- DEPARTMENT OF STATE
- Slide 4:
- January 2 IIC / Press Reports
  - USA Today, Jan 1
  - AFP, December 30
  - December 27 IIC
- Slide 5:
- January 2, IIC
  - Reuters, 31 December
  - December 27 IIC
- Slide 6:
- NEA Political Section, NEA-I-POL-DL@state.gov
- Slide 7:
- BG Bergner's Operational Update – January 2; [http://www.mnf-iraq.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=16175&Itemid=131](http://www.mnf-iraq.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=16175&Itemid=131)
  - AFP - [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080102/pl\\_afp/iraqunrestqaedatoll\\_080102150056;\\_ylt=AqGkbOkOkNtR1mmWzBDxTQBX6GMA](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080102/pl_afp/iraqunrestqaedatoll_080102150056;_ylt=AqGkbOkOkNtR1mmWzBDxTQBX6GMA)
- Slide 8:
- MNF-I Press Release – 29 December
  - MNF-I Press Release – 30 December
- Slide 9:
- DoD Input to Iraq Weekly Status Report January 2, 2008
- Slide 10:
- December 27 – International Press Service – Yahoo News – [http://news.yahoo.com/s/oneworld/20071227/wl\\_oneworld/65731564101198796661](http://news.yahoo.com/s/oneworld/20071227/wl_oneworld/65731564101198796661)
- Slide 11:
- PRT Weekly Summary, December 14-21 2007, Kirkuk
  - December 28 – Iraq Issues Checklist – Economic/Assistance (U)



## NOTES AND SOURCE CITATIONS (2 of 2)

Slide 12:

- December 30 – Arabian Business – <http://www.arabianbusiness.com/507213-iraq-oil-exports-high-three-month-high?ln=en>

Slide 13:

- December 28 – Associated Press – Yahoo Finance – [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/071228/iraq\\_skorea\\_oil\\_deals.html](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/071228/iraq_skorea_oil_deals.html)

Slide 14:

- Department of State, NEA-I-ECON, 202-647-9885

Slide 15:

- Department of State, NEA-I-ECON, 202-647-9885

Slide 16:

- Department of State, NEA-I-ECON, 202-647-9885

Slide 17:

- POC Department of State, NEA-I ASSIST, 202-647-9815
- The chart shows average daily power production in megawatt hours (MWh). 120,000 MWh goal equates to 20 hours at 6000 MW average supplied load or 24 hours at 5000 MW average supply load.
- Oil Prices are sourced from Bloomberg

Slide 18:

- Department of State, NEA-I-ECON, 202-647-9885

Slide 19:

- Information regarding the Employment Update was sourced from the ITAO Weekly Report – January 3, 2008.
- ITAO Weekly Status Report – January 3, 2008
- Iraqi Bond Prices sourced from Bloomberg

Slide 20:

- ITAO Weekly Status Report – January 3, 2008

Slide 21:

- IIC - 28 December 2007
- IIC – 27 December 2007

Slide 22:

- DOD Input to Weekly Status Report, updated bi-weekly