

Iraq Weekly Status Report

September 5, 2007

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



Table of Contents

This report provides weekly updates in the eight key areas identified as pillars of U.S. government policy for victory in Iraq.

SECTION	SLIDE
<u>Highlights</u>	3
1. <u>Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgents</u>	5
2. <u>Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance</u>	8
3. <u>Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government</u>	10
4. <u>Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services</u>	13
5. <u>Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy</u>	18
6. <u>Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights</u>	27
7. <u>Increase International Support for Iraq</u>	28
8. <u>Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents</u>	30
<u>Sources and Contact Information</u>	31
<u>Notes and Source Citations</u>	32



Highlights

1. Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgents

A power struggle between rival Shiite groups erupted August 28 during a religious festival in Karbala. Street battles resulted in the killing of 51 people and wounding of 274. Iraqi Security Forces responded rapidly to reinforce and maintain control of the situation. Iraqi government leaders also responded effectively by increasing security measures and providing on-the-ground leadership to help ensure restraint and order.

2. Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance

Iraqi Army Forces stopped a series of attempted insurgent attacks in Mosul August 26, including three separate VBIED attacks.

3. Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government

The Iraqi Council of Representatives (CoR) reconvened September 4 but has not yet taken up key benchmark legislation critical to American support ahead of a report to Congress on progress in Iraq. The CoR reconvened with 164 members and adjourned after 90 minutes when lawmakers asked for time to read 10 bills that had been presented for their consideration.

4. Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services

Electricity Minister Karim Wahid announced September 1 that 150 new power generators were set up in different areas in Baghdad to enhance supply and lessen the cut-off hours.



Highlights

5. Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy

Central Bank of Iraq (CBI) Governor Sinan al-Shabibi acknowledged that the CBI's monetary policies have decreased Iraq's core rate of inflation. The 12-month core inflation rate (excluding fuel and transport) was 16.5% in July, down from 31.9% at the end of 2006.

6. Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law

Iraq's top five political leaders announced an agreement August 26 to release thousands of prisoners being held without charge and to reform the law that has kept thousands of members of the Ba'ath Party out of government jobs.

7. International Support for Iraq

British troops completed a pull-out from their last remaining position in Basra City by transferring the remaining 550 troops from Saddam Hussein's former palace to Basra Airport. Gordon Brown, the Prime Minister, said the pull-out reflected a shift from a "combat" to an "overwatch" role that included training of Iraqi forces.

8. Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents

At least 200 journalists and media workers have been killed in Iraq since the March 2003 U.S.-led regime change in the country, Paris-based watchdog Reporters Without Borders said in a statement August 31.



[1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency

Iraqi Security Forces Respond to Violence in Karbala:

- A power struggle between rival Shiite groups erupted on August 28 during a religious festival in Karbala. Street battles resulted in the killing of 51 people and wounding 274. Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) responded rapidly to reinforce and maintain control of the situation. Iraqi government leaders also responded effectively by increasing security measures and providing on-the-ground leadership to help ensure restraint and order.

Progress Against al-Qaida Terrorist Networks:

- Operations in Tarmiyah on August 20 resulted in the death of Ali Latif Ibrahim Hamad al-Falahi, an al-Qaida in Iraq (AQI) leader who oversaw terrorist operations in the northern belts of Baghdad. He was an AQI Emir for Tarmiyah who coordinated VBIED (Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device) attacks in Baghdad and also led AQI operations in the Taji area. His group was also likely responsible for the April 12 bombing of the Sarafiyah Bridge in Baghdad.



[1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency

Coalition Forces and ISF Target the Karkh VBIED Network:

- MNF-I Spokesman, Brigadier General Bergner, reported August 29 that Abu Ali, Abu Suhayb, Abu Safa, and Abu Mariam are all in Coalition forces (CF) custody for obtaining, building, and placing VBIEDs as part of the Karkh VBIED network in west Baghdad. Abd al-Rahman was involved in VBIED operations as well as the movement of foreign terrorists to Baghdad from the Syrian border. He was killed August 15. Abu Ibrahim was the key supplier of the VBIED materials to this network. The South Karkh cell was one of the worst perpetrators of VBIED attacks that have murdered thousands of Iraqi citizens.

CF and ISF Reopen Water Flow to Khalis:

- CF and ISF targeted AQI elements last week who were disrupting the flow of water through the canal system leading to the city of Khalis, north of Baghdad. Combined engagements resulted in 33 terrorists killed and three detained. Three weapons caches were seized consisting of an anti-aircraft gun with 2000 rounds of ammunition, 150 pounds of homemade explosives, rocket propelled grenades, and small arms. Upon completion of this operation, the combined task force re-opened the canal's gate and water is once again flowing to the city of Khalis.



[1.] Defeat the Terrorists and Neutralize the Insurgency

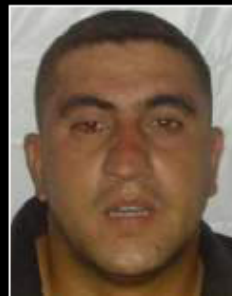
Karkh Terrorist Network



**Husayn Abbas
Hasan Farhanaka
aka Abu Ali***



**Husayn Ali Husayn
Sulayman
aka Abu Suhayb***



**Thamir Hassan
Ali Abdallah
aka Abu Safa***



**Kazim Latif Kazim
Hinawi
aka Abu Mariam***



Shakir



**Abu Ibrahim
al Falahi**



Abd al Rahman



[2.] Transition to Security Self-Reliance – Iraqi Security Forces

Iraqi Army Repels Insurgents in Mosul:

- Iraqi Army Forces stopped a series of attempted insurgent attacks in Mosul August 26. Iraqi soldiers stopped three separate VBIED attacks, killing two insurgents and capturing one. Another Iraqi Army patrol disrupted an attempted ambush site, forcing the insurgents to flee the area, and then found and cleared two additional car bombs. On the west side of Mosul, an Iraqi Army patrol killed four gunmen in two vehicles who were carrying assault rifles and rocket propelled grenade launchers and munitions.

Iraqi Special Forces Detain al-Qaida Emir:

- Iraqi Special Operations Forces, with U.S. Special Forces as advisers, detained a suspected al-Qaida in Iraq (AQI) Emir and a terrorist cell member during an intelligence driven operation August 30 in Baghdad. Reports indicate the Emir has directed and conducted kidnappings and murders of local nationals. The Sunni extremist is believed to have participated in indirect fire attacks against local citizens. The suspects are currently being detained for questioning for their involvement in the injury and death of Iraqi citizens and other criminal activity.



[2.] Transition Iraq to Security Self-Reliance – **Iraqi Security Forces**

Ministry of Interior Forces

COMPONENT	TRAINED & EQUIPPED
POLICE	~135,000
NATIONAL POLICE	~ 26,300
OTHER MOI FORCES	~32,900
TOTAL	~194,200*

Ministry of Defense Forces

COMPONENT	OPERATIONAL
ARMY	~163,500***
AIR FORCE	~900
NAVY	~1,100
TOTAL	~165,500**

Total Trained & Equipped ISF:

~359,700****

* Ministry of Interior Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are included in these numbers

** Ministry of Defense Forces: Unauthorized absence personnel are not included in these numbers

*** Army numbers include Special Operations Forces and Support Forces

**** Does not include the approximately 144,000 Facilities Protection Service personnel working in 27 ministries

Data as of August 31, 2007



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government

Iraq's Parliament Reconvenes after Summer Recess:

- The Iraqi Council of Representatives reconvened September 4 but has not yet taken up key benchmark legislation critical to American support ahead of a report to Congress on progress in Iraq. The CoR reconvened with 164 members and adjourned after 90 minutes when lawmakers asked for time to read ten bills that had been presented for their consideration.

Iraqi Commissioner Denies He Fled Country to Avoid Corruption Charges:

- Prime Minister Maliki said that Radhi al-Radhi, head of the Commission Public Integrity, fled the country after being charged with corruption. Al-Radhi denied the claim and stated that he was attending a Justice Department course in the U.S. along with 11 staffers.



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government

GOI Calls for Militias to Freeze Operations:

- The Iraqi Government called on armed groups to follow the lead of the biggest Shiite militia and freeze their operations. A statement by Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki's office welcomed the decision by Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr to halt attacks by his Mahdi militia for up to six months as a step toward "affirming security and stability." The GOI said Sadr's move offered "a good chance" to "suspend the work of other militias" to restore "the integrity and sovereignty of Iraq."

Maliki Seeks Advice from Sistani:

- Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki met September 5 with the leader of Iraq's Shiite majority, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, to discuss the government crisis in which nearly half his cabinet has quit. Sistani is the sponsor of the Prime Minister's ruling United Alliance and rarely leaves his home in the holy Shiite city of Najaf in southern Iraq. After the meeting, Maliki told reporters he came to Najaf to seek Sistani's advice on filling empty ministerial posts and to get his thoughts on the possibility of reforming the government.



[3.] Help Iraqis to Forge a National Compact for Democratic Government - Iraqi National Unity Government

(F) = Female

* Vacant

		Deputy President Tariq al-Hashimi	President Jalal Talabani	Deputy President 'Adil 'Abd al-Mahdi	
		Deputy Prime Minister Barham Salih	Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki	Deputy Prime Minister Salam al-Zawba'i	
Minister of Agriculture *	Minister of Communications Muhammad Tawfiq Allawi	Minister of Culture *	Minister of Defense Abdul Qadir Muhammed Jasim	Minister of Displacement & Migration Abd al-Samad Rahman Sultan	Minister of Electricity Karim Wahid
Minister of Education Khudayyir al-Khuza'i	Minister of Environment Narmin 'Uthman (F)	Minister of Finance Bayan Jabr	Minister of Foreign Affairs Hoshyar Zebari	Minister of Health *	Minister of Higher Education Abd Dhiyab al-Ajili
Minister of Human Rights Wijdan Mikha'il (F)	Minister of Industry & Minerals Fawzi al-Hariri	Minister of Interior Jawad al-Bulani	Minister of Justice Safa al Safi (acting)	Minister of Housing & Construction Bayan Daza'l (F)	Minister of Labor & Social Affairs Mahmud Muhammad Jawad al-Radi
Minister of Oil Husayn al-Shahristani	Minister of Planning Ali Baban	Minister of Trade Abd al-Falah al-Sudani	Minister of Science & Technology Ra'id Fahmi Jahid	Minister of Municipalities & Public Works Riyad Ghurayyib	Minister of Transportation *
Minister of Water Resources 'Abd al-Latif Rashid	Minister of Youth & Sports Jasim Muhammad Ja'far	Minister of State for Civil Society Wijdan Mikha'il (acting)	Minister of State for National Dialogue Affairs Akram al-Hakim	Minister of State for National Security Affairs Shirwan al-Waili	
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rafi Hiyad al-Isawi	Minister of State for Governorates Affairs *	Minister of State for Tourism and Antiquities *	Minister of State for Women's Affairs Fatin Abd al-Rahman Mahmud (F)	Minister of State for CoR Affairs Safa al-Safi	



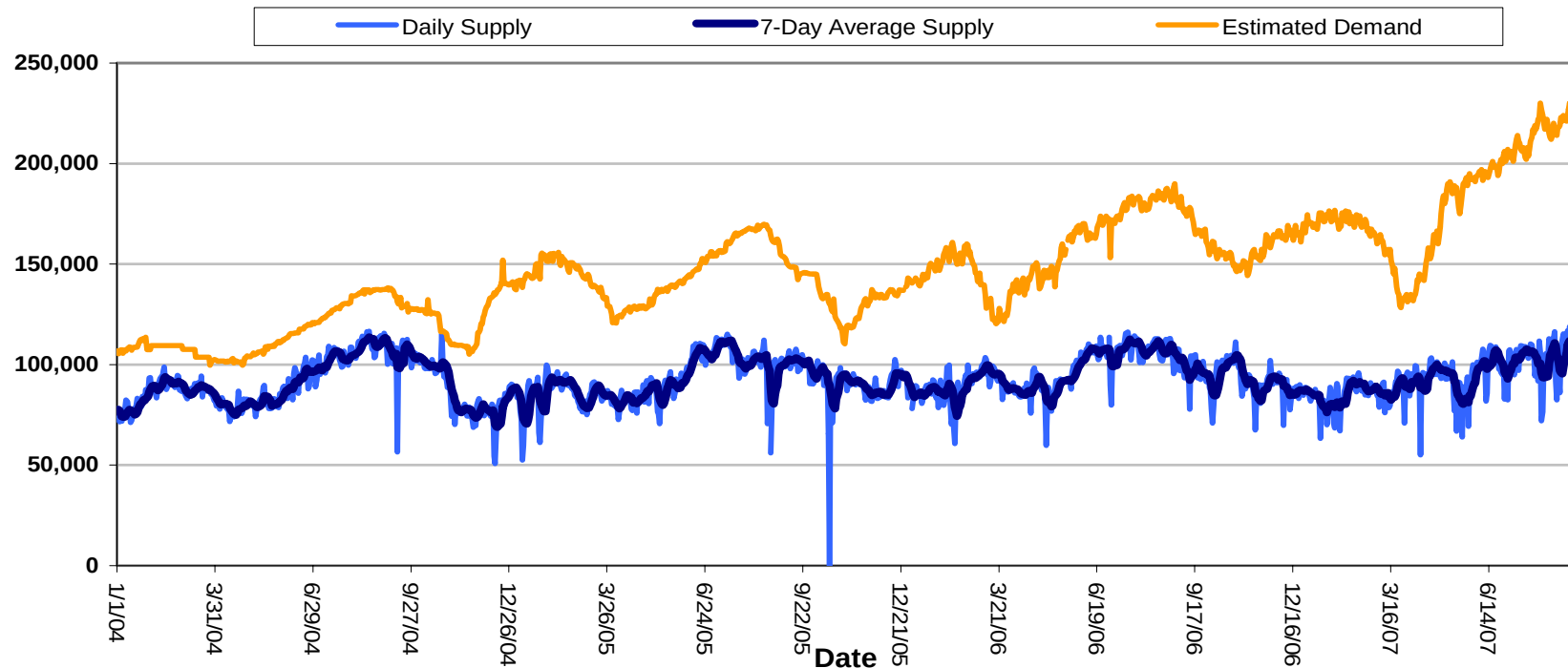
[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Financials from Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) 1 and IRRF 2

Sector	Apportioned	Committed			Obligated			Disbursed		
	Apportion	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change	Last Week	Current	Change
Security and Law Enforcement	\$5,004.79	\$4,967.72	\$4,967.72	\$0.00	\$4,966.76	\$4,966.76	\$0.00	\$4,811.80	\$4,811.80	\$0.00
Electricity Sector	\$4,216.87	\$4,140.99	\$4,137.92	(\$3.07)	\$4,020.62	\$4,017.55	(\$3.07)	\$3,444.61	\$3,444.44	(\$0.17)
Oil Infrastructure	\$1,724.70	\$1,610.07	\$1,610.07	\$0.00	\$1,559.89	\$1,559.89	\$0.00	\$1,473.11	\$1,473.11	\$0.00
Justice, Public Safety and Civil Society	\$2,217.65	\$1,265.71	\$1,265.71	\$0.00	\$1,258.81	\$1,258.81	\$0.00	\$1,102.55	\$1,103.22	\$0.68
Democracy	\$998.35	\$997.34	\$997.34	\$0.00	\$997.34	\$997.34	\$0.00	\$967.19	\$967.19	\$0.00
Education, Refugees, Human Rights, Governance	\$409.84	\$399.76	\$408.44	\$8.68	\$399.76	\$408.36	\$8.60	\$371.19	\$371.20	\$0.01
Roads, Bridges and Construction	\$333.60	\$322.08	\$322.08	\$0.00	\$320.82	\$320.82	\$0.00	\$232.18	\$232.18	\$0.00
Health Care	\$815.55	\$770.68	\$770.54	(\$0.14)	\$761.54	\$761.40	(\$0.14)	\$683.85	\$685.83	\$1.98
Transportation and Communications	\$456.72	\$452.65	\$452.58	(\$0.07)	\$446.98	\$446.91	(\$0.07)	\$358.85	\$358.86	\$0.02
Water Resources and Sanitation	\$2,115.63	\$1,990.84	\$1,990.55	(\$0.29)	\$1,942.99	\$1,942.70	(\$0.29)	\$1,666.58	\$1,666.80	\$0.22
Private Sector Development	\$820.51	\$807.85	\$810.50	\$2.65	\$807.85	\$810.50	\$2.65	\$794.22	\$794.23	\$0.01
Admin Expense (USAID, STATE)	\$210.60	\$209.95	\$209.95	\$0.00	\$209.95	\$209.95	\$0.00	\$188.08	\$188.08	\$0.00
Total	\$19,324.82	\$17,935.64	\$17,943.40	\$7.77	\$17,693.32	\$17,701.00	\$7.68	\$16,094.21	\$16,096.95	\$2.74
IRRF II Construction	-	\$10,250.83	\$10,247.26	(\$3.57)	\$10,015.96	\$10,012.39	(\$3.57)	\$8,848.57	\$8,848.65	\$0.08
IRRF II Non-Construction	-	\$6,687.46	\$6,698.80	\$11.34	\$6,680.01	\$6,691.26	\$11.25	\$6,278.45	\$6,281.11	\$2.66
IRRF II Democracy	-	\$997.34	\$997.34	\$0.00	\$997.34	\$997.34	\$0.00	\$967.19	\$967.19	\$0.00
IRRF I Total	\$2,473.30	\$2,473.30	\$2,473.30	\$0.00	\$2,232.3	\$2,232.3	\$0.00	\$2,139.00	\$2,139.0	\$0.00
Grand Total IRRF I & II	\$21,798.12	\$20,408.94	\$20,416.70	\$7.77	\$19,925.62	\$19,933.30	\$7.68	\$18,233.21	\$18,235.95	\$2.74

[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – Electricity Overview



Daily Electricity Supplied and Estimated Demand in Iraq Since January 2004



- Daily electricity demand August 29-September 4 was 24% above the same period in 2006. Daily supply from the electricity grid was 9% above 2006; it met 50% of total electricity demand, compared with 56% for the year-earlier period.
- Average hours of power via electricity grid after meeting demand from essential services: Baghdad 6.3 and nationwide 10.6. Year-ago levels were Baghdad 6.1 and nationwide 10.6.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Provision of Essential Services**

Public Utilities:

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reports that a recently completed \$14.9 million Gulf Region Central district project in Oubadi, near Sadr City, is connecting homes to a newly functioning sewer collection system. More than 24km of sewer pipe was installed, and four pump stations were constructed; the largest having the capacity to pump 600 liters per second. About 80,000 residents were positively impacted by this project, according to Iraqi engineer Mustafa Haddad, the Deputy Resident Engineer of USACE's Loyalty Office located south of Sadr City. Over 20 Iraqi engineers work out of the office overseeing \$125 million in Baghdad infrastructure improvements.

Electricity:

- Electricity Minister Karim Wahid announced September 1 that 150 new power generators were set up in different areas in Baghdad to enhance supply and lessen the cut-off hours. The new generators will work in a few days time, are of high quality, and can withstand Iraq's hot summer weather, Wahid told independent news agency Voice of Iraq (VOI).
- Iraq will need to spend a total of approximately \$25 billion USD through 2016 to upgrade its power generation and distribution capacity. Wahid also said that the required funding would be provided through the government budget at rate of around \$2 billion a year. He told delegates at an oil conference in Dubai that the total installed generation capacity currently stands at 11,120 megawatts, covering 40 to 50 percent of demand.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Provision of Essential Services**

Petrochemical:

- Iraq is seeking investors for a possible \$1 billion upgrade of a petrochemical plant in Basra and may build a new \$2 billion facility in the country's northern or central regions, according to an industry and minerals ministry official September 2. The Basra plan involves a \$120 million upgrade of the existing complex, which may be developed further by investing \$1 billion into the upgrade, according to Fawzi al-Hariri.

Investment and Trade:

- Two trade and investment seminars in Irbil and Sulaimaniyah recently helped update the business community and government officials regarding Iraq's World Trade Organization (WTO) accession status. The Irbil event was held with the Kurdistan Economic Development Center, and focused on the analysis of investment law. The Sulaimaniyah event focused on the status of Iraq's bid for accession into the WTO, the import and export laws, and the importance of removal of red tape.



[4.] Help Iraq Build Government Capacity and Provide Essential Services – **Government Capacity**

Maysan:

- The Governor of Maysan responded positively to the Maysan PRT's verbal and written request to allow a Joint Engineering Team to be located in Amarah to oversee the reconstruction of a state-of-the-art hospital in the provincial capitol.

Kirkuk:

- The Minister of Municipalities and Public Works gave the Governor vouchers for asphalt in Bayji, which the province can use for road resurfacing projects; he also said that the \$66m Altun Kopri water treatment plant proposal would be placed on the "priority list" for 2008 funding.
- The national power grid supplies Kirkuk with 14 hours of power per day. Eighty percent of the population received about four hours per day, while most outside the city received 2-5 hours depending on the area. Consumers continue to wait 4-8 hours to purchase fuel at stations; fueling vehicles is slow due to reduced pump efficiency during the hot summer months.

Basrah:

- The Basrah PRT has passed the newly-drafted investment and operations budgets for Basrah International Airport to DPM Barham Saleh's Office for approval by the Higher Economic Committee and submission to the Iraqi Civil Aviation Authority and Ministry of Transport for inclusion in the 2008 budget. The DPM's office has indicated that finding the \$40 million USD for airport improvements should be possible. Meanwhile, the MND is using CERP funds to get immediate improvements underway.



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Oil Update and Job Creation

Oil Update:

- Crude oil price averages in world markets for the week ending August 31 closed with the following prices:
 - Basrah Light at \$66.646/ barrel
 - WTI Cushing at \$72.974/ barrel
 - Dated Brent at \$70.654/barrel
 - Oman/Dubai at \$67.686/barrel

Employment Update:

Employment Program	Iraqis Last Week	Iraqis This Week	% Change
Gulf Region District (GRD) (Includes MILCON/OMA)	23,752	23,752	0.00%
US Agency for International Development (USAID)	81,202	81,202	0.00%
Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP)	3,519	3,519	0.00%
Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq (MNSTC-I)	6,877	6,321	-8.08%
Grand Total	115,350	114,794	-0.48%

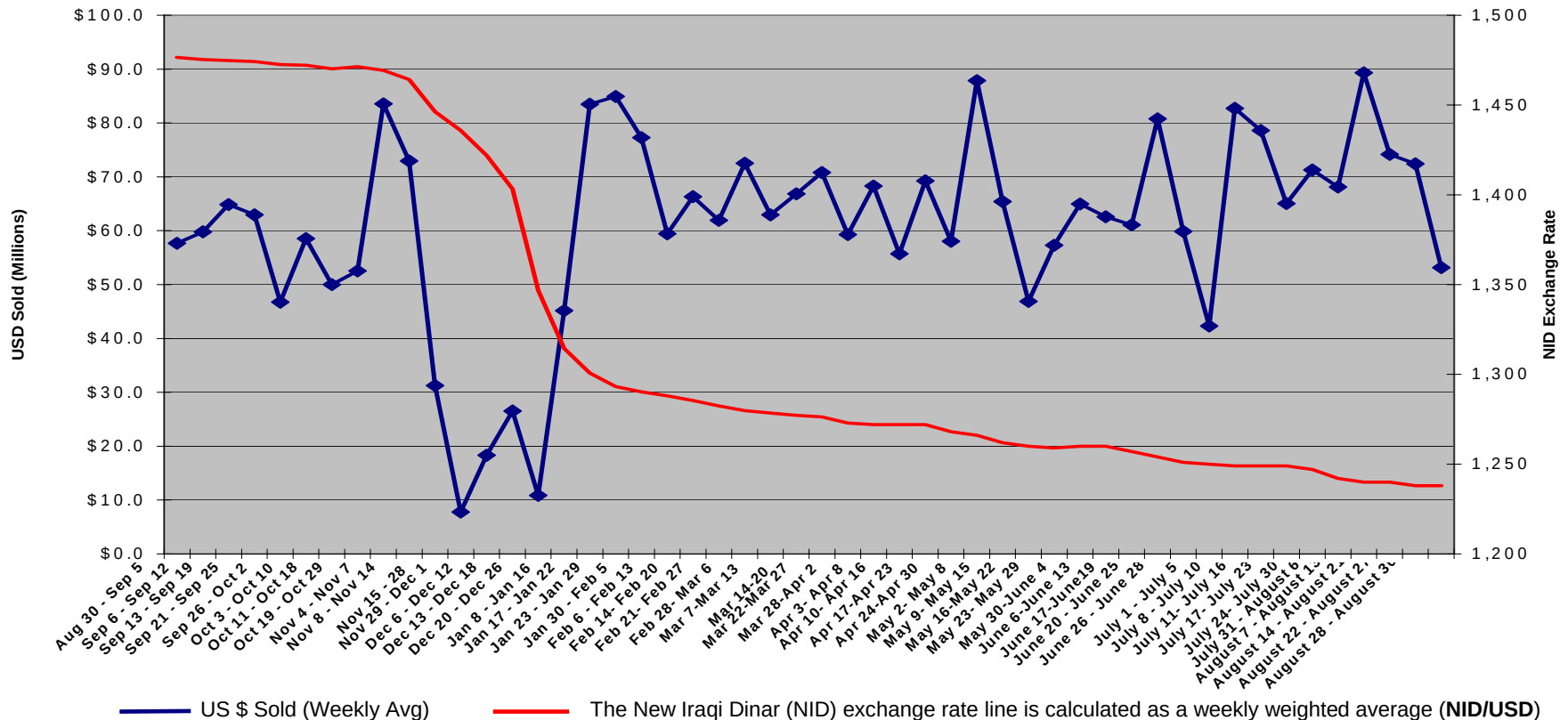


[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy - Banking Sector

Central Bank's US Dollar (USD) Currency Auction:

- The following table shows volume sold of and exchange rates for USD in the Iraqi currency auction since April. Since September, the Central Bank of Iraq (CBI) has slowly appreciated the dinar, as suggested by the IMF, in an effort to rein in galloping inflation. There are early signs that this effort may have begun to bear fruit, as year-to-date inflation is 2.8%, which projects a pace well below the IMF annual target of 30%. However, this decline in the rate of inflation may be temporary, as the CBI has slowed its appreciation of the currency and the rate of inflation (particularly for energy prices) typically picks up in the second half of the year.

Central Bank of Iraq
USD Currency Auction: August 30, 2006 – August 30, 2007





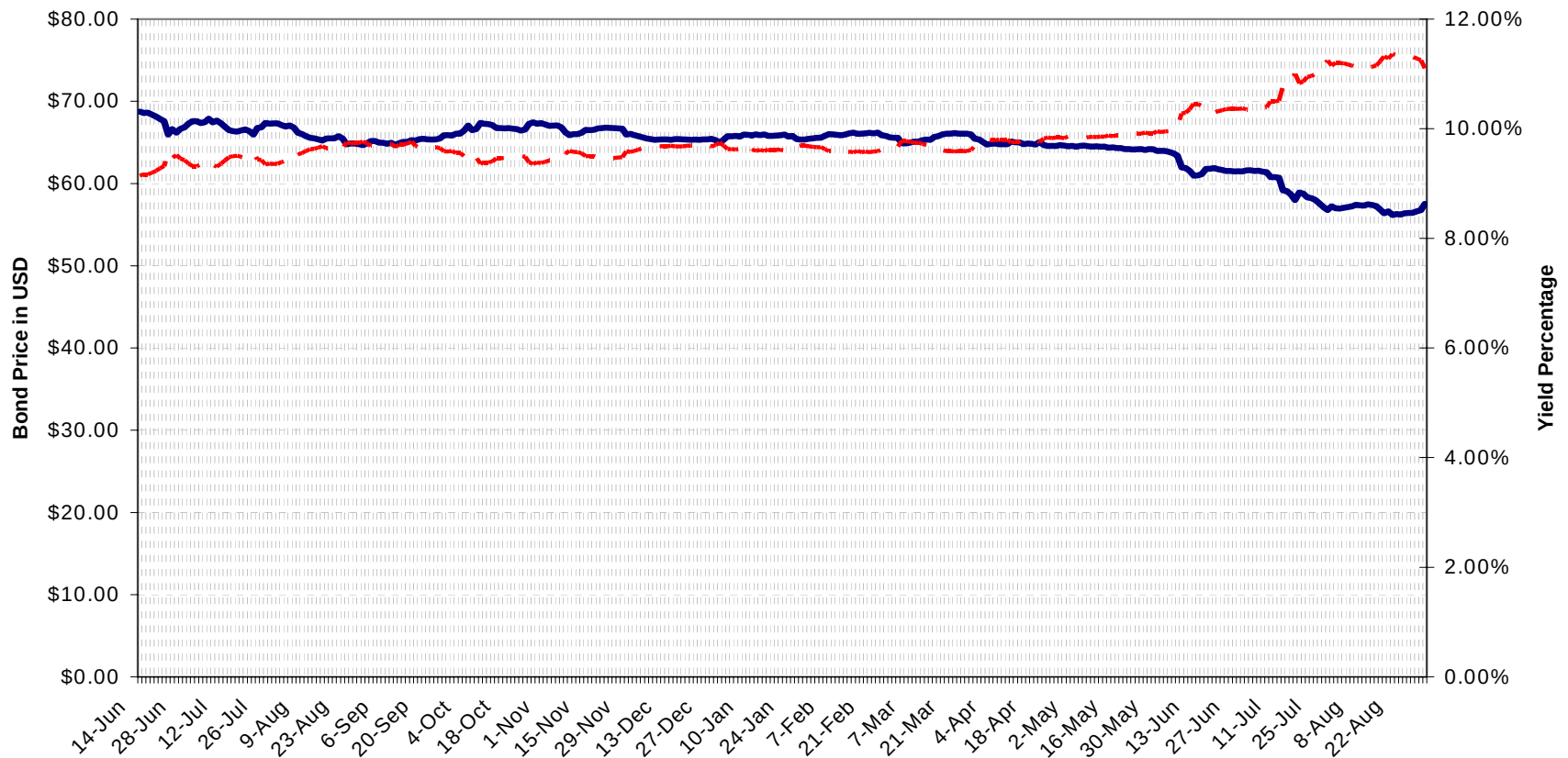
[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Securities Markets

Trading of Iraqi Bonds on the International Secondary Bond Market:

- The following table shows the daily bond resale price and yield on Iraqi bonds issued January 20. The bonds were originally issued to approximately two-thirds of Iraq's commercial creditors as part of a debt exchange arrangement as per Paris Club terms. Iraq's commercial debt was approximately \$22 billion before the debt-swap arrangement. The bonds, which are not yet rated, will mature in 2028.

Iraqi Commercial Bond Sales

June 14, 2006 - August 31, 2007



Trading High = \$73.98 (January 24)

Trading Low = \$64.66 (August 30)



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Economic Events

CBI Governor Shabibi on Inflation:

- Central Bank of Iraq (CBI) Governor Sinan al-Shabibi acknowledged that the CBI's monetary policies have decreased Iraq's core rate of inflation and that the CBI is ready to take further action if needed. The CBI has raised interest rates to 20% and lifted the value of the Dinar against the dollar by over 18% since November 2006. As a result, the 12-month core inflation rate was 16.5% in July, down from 31.9% at the end of 2006.
- Additionally, Shabibi said the Dinar has taken back its role as the currency of choice for Iraqi's, as these actions have increased confidence in the Dinar.

Iraq Union of Accountants and Auditors Assists CBI:

- The Iraqi Union of Accountants and Auditors (IUAA) recently provided a course in International Accounting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards to Central Bank of Iraq (CBI) employees. Thirty four CBI employees attended a comprehensive 60-hour IUAA course held over one month. This course commenced a training program that will include another four courses: Fundamentals of English for Bankers, Excel, Auditing Methods, Methodology and Standards, and Internal Auditing and Internal Controls for Bankers.



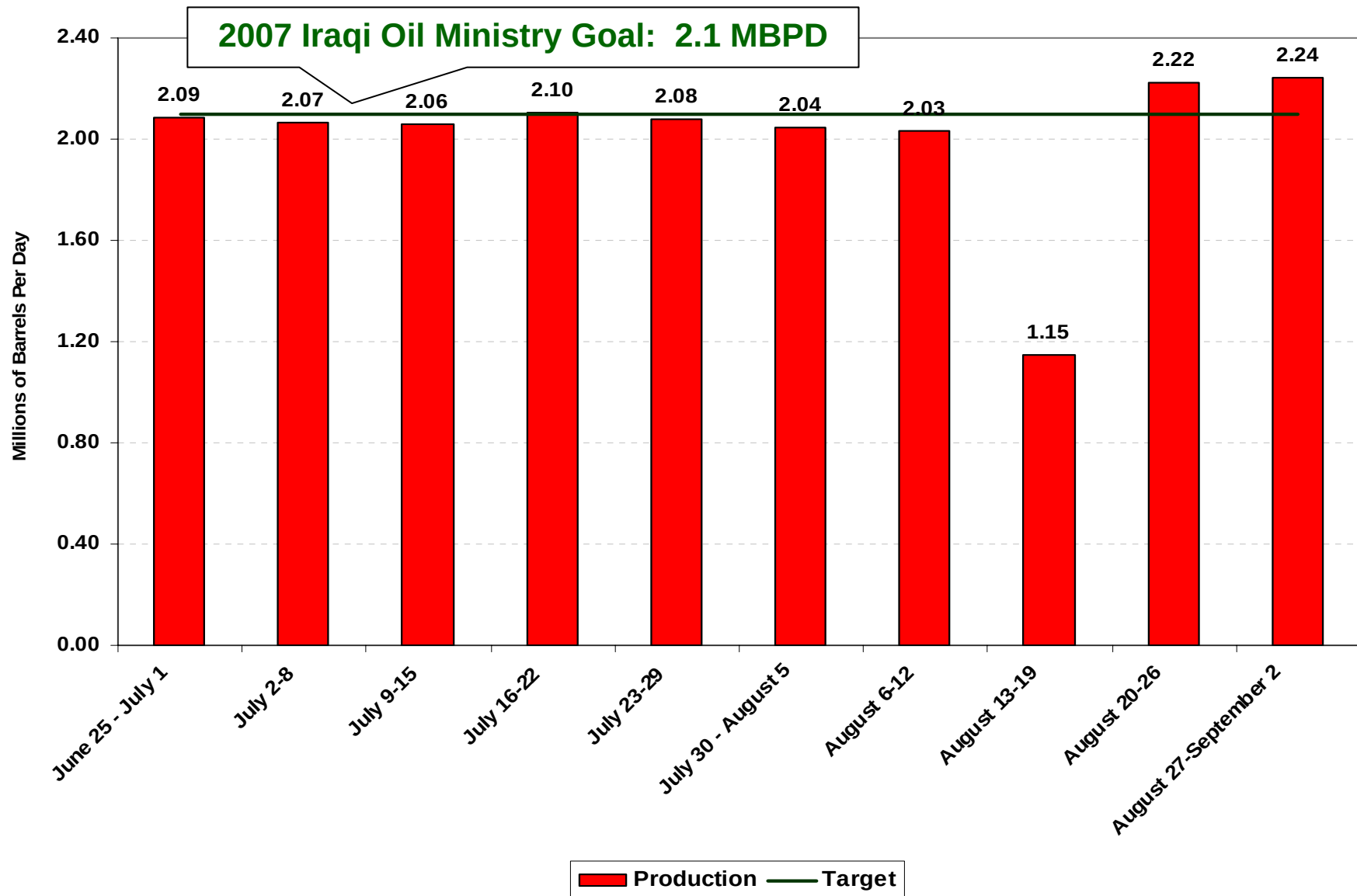
[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Economic Events

Iraqi Company for Bank Guarantees:

- The Iraqi Company for Bank Guarantees (ICBG) set an example of transparency to its shareholders by preparing its interim financial statements for June 30 in accordance with International Accounting Standards. The financial statements were prepared by Pricewaterhouse Coopers with F.H. al-Salman and Company, and then presented to the Semi-Annual General Assembly of Shareholders in Amman in early August.
- The ICBG was established by 11 private Iraqi banks with the help and assistance of the U.S. Agency for International Development – funded Izdiyar project to help Iraqi small and medium-sized enterprises gain increased access to bank loans. ICBG has issued 18 guarantees worth \$358,361 which support approved loans totaling \$482,816.

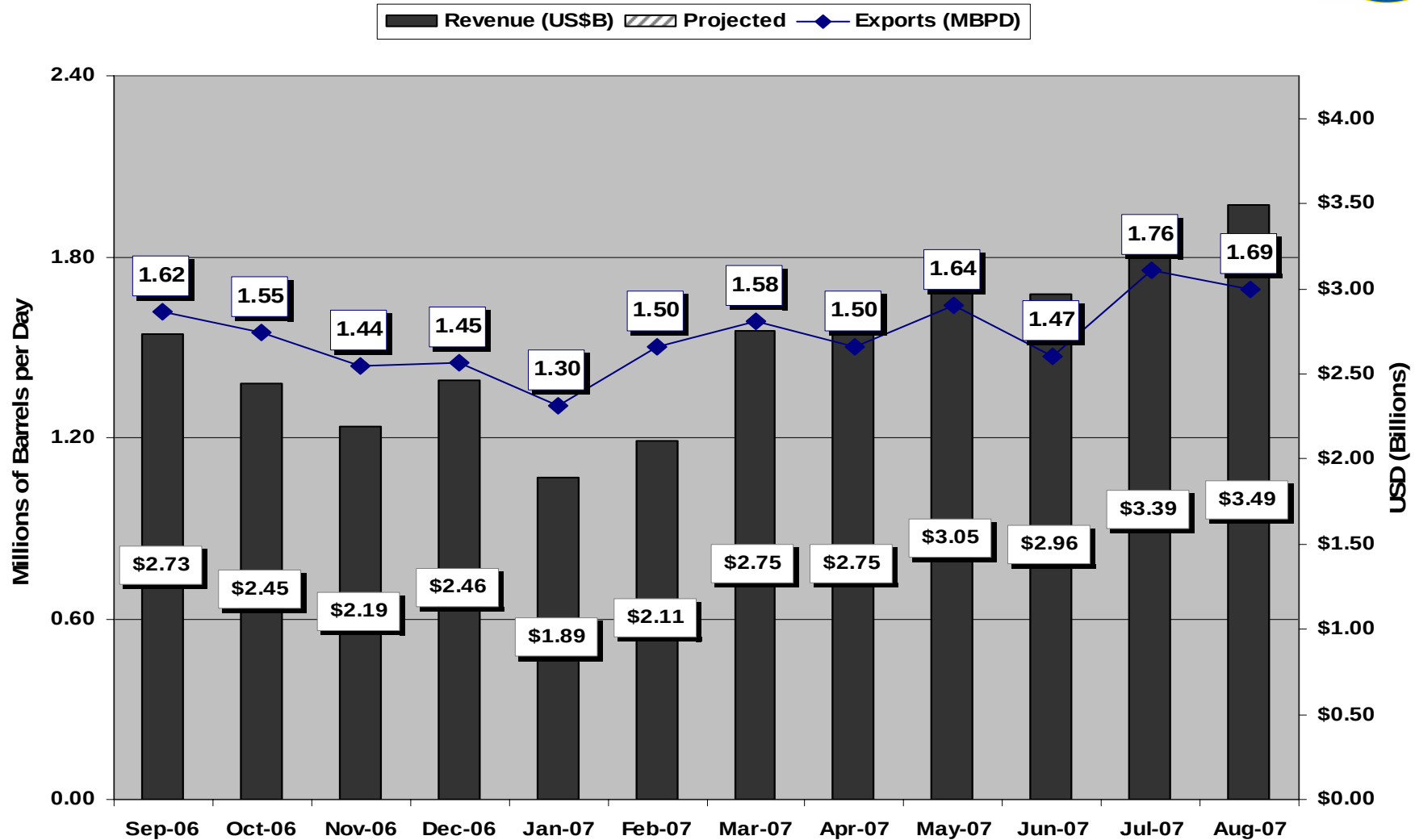


[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Crude Oil Production





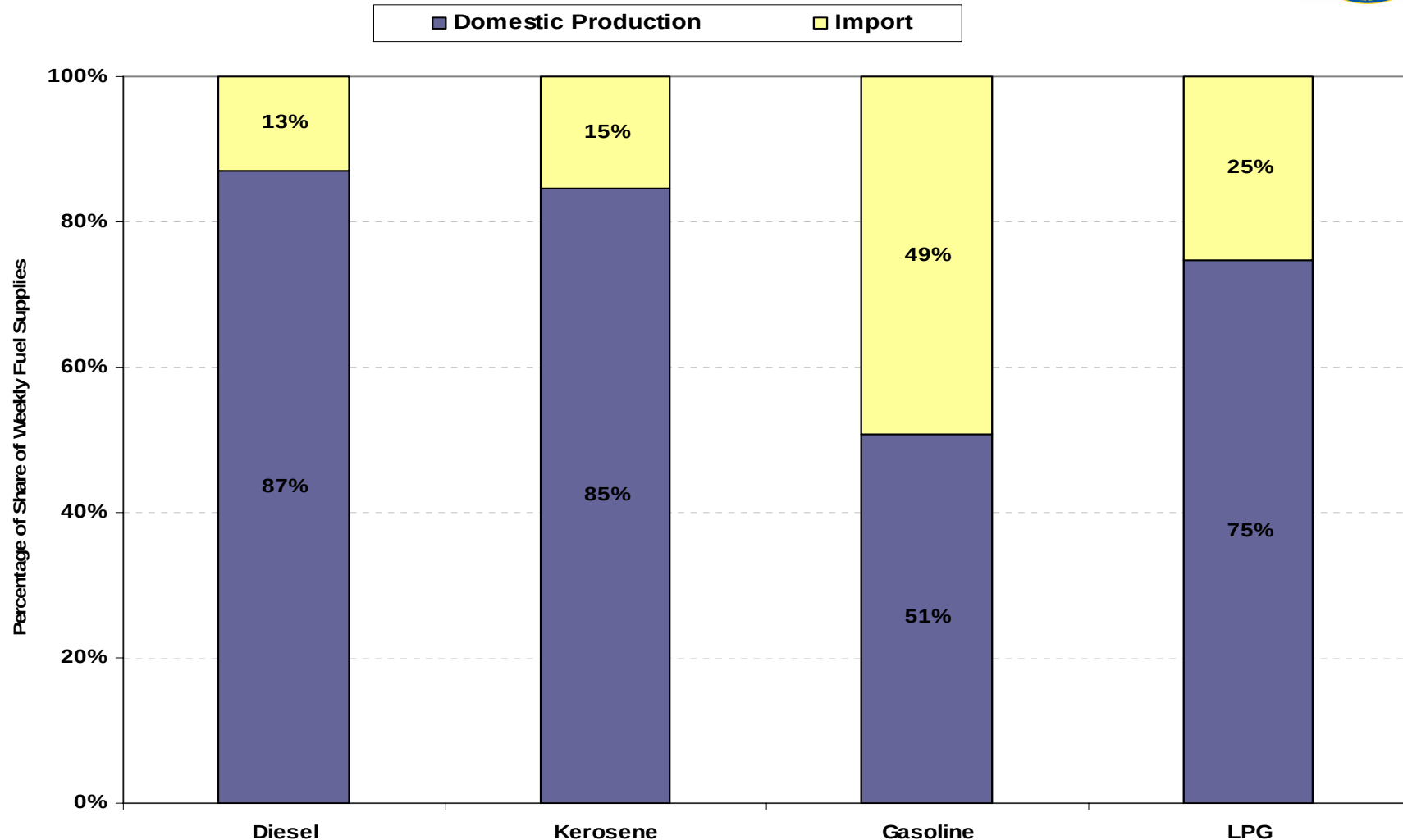
[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Crude Oil Export



- 2006 Revenue Estimate: \$31.3 Billion
- 2007 Revenue Estimate: \$22.4 Billion (Year to Date)



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – Total Critical Refined Product Supplies

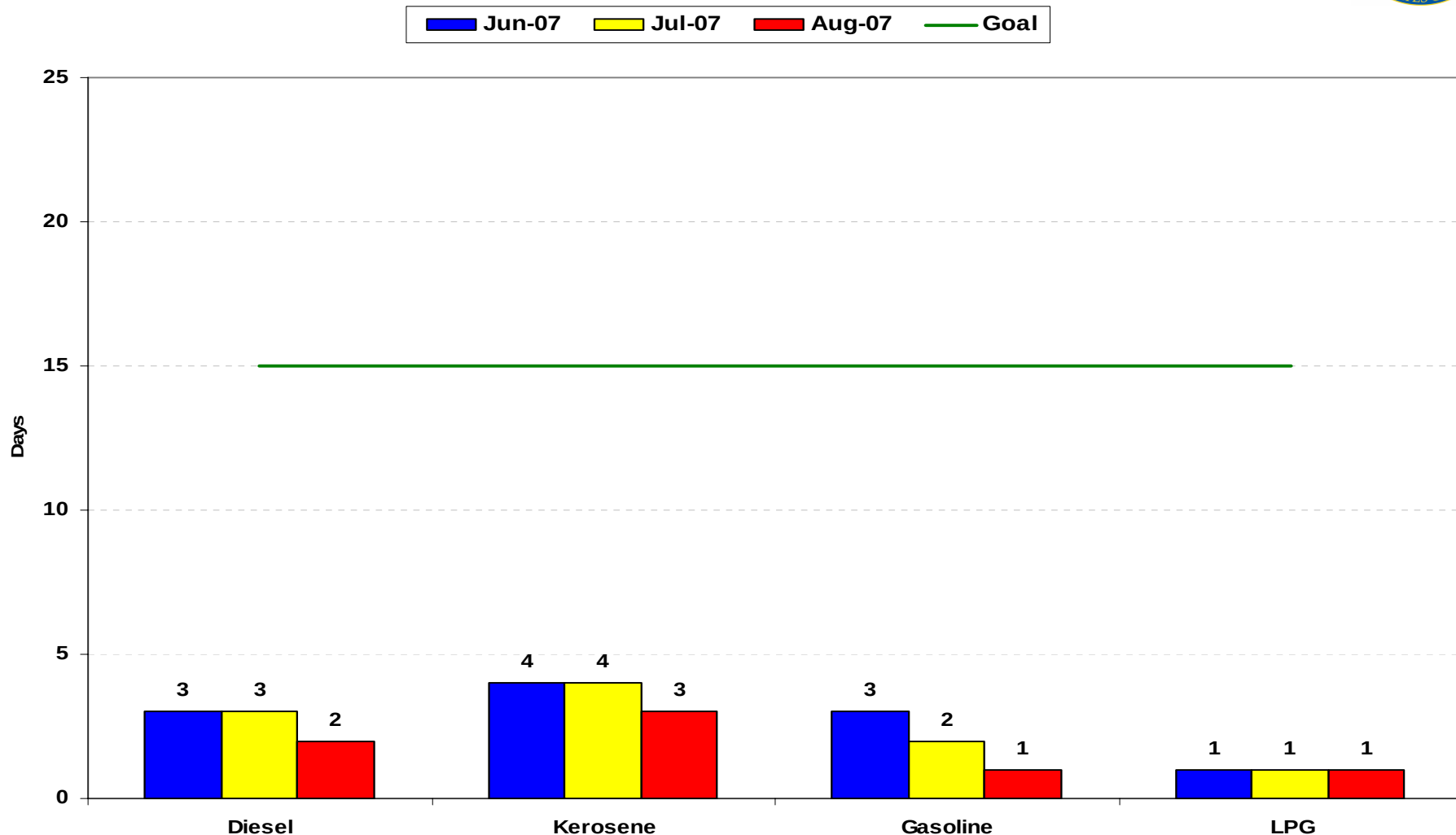


Note: This is a daily average for August 27 – September 2

- Diesel: 11.0 ML supply of 24.5 ML target
- Kerosene: 5.0 ML supply of 11.1 ML target
- Gasoline: 10.8 ML supply of 23.1 ML target
- LPG: 3,015 tons supply of 5,100 tons target



[5.] Help Iraq Strengthen Its Economy – National Stock Levels



- The goal is to have on hand 15 days supply of all refined products, calculated on the basis of maximum consumption over the year and not adjusted for seasonal variation. The numbers given above are monthly averages.



[6.] Help Iraq Strengthen the Rule of Law and Promote Civil Rights— Rule of Law

Iraqi Leaders Reach Accord On Ba'ath Party Prisoners:

- Iraq's top five political leaders announced an agreement August 26 to release thousands of prisoners being held without charge and to reform the law that has kept thousands of members of the Ba'ath Party out of government jobs. The agreement was publicized after several days of meetings between Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki; President Jalal Talabani; Vice President Tariq al-Hashimi; Vice President Adel Abdul Mahdi; and Massoud Barzani, president of the semiautonomous Kurdish region. The announcement clears the way for the Iraqi government to ease restrictions on former Ba'ath Party members. The new law would replace Iraq's Supreme National Commission for De-Ba'athification with a new committee dedicated to prosecuting former party members accused of crimes.
- The politicians agreed to release an estimated 1,700 prisoners who are being detained without specific charges. The issue of the detainees has been a major concern of the Iraqi Accordance Front, the largest Sunni political bloc, which pulled its cabinet ministers out of Maliki's government last month.



[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – **Developments**

UK Troops Complete Withdrawal from Basra Palace Compound:

- British troops completed a pull-out from their last remaining position in Basra City by transferring the remaining 550 troops from Saddam Hussein's former palace to Basra Airport. Gordon Brown, the prime minister, said the pull-out reflected a shift from a "combat" to an "overwatch" role that included training of Iraqi forces.

UN Begins Immunization Campaign for over 4.8 million Iraqis:

- UN agencies are supporting another major effort to deliver critical polio vaccinations to 4.8 million Iraqi children, even in the country's remote areas. Almost 20,000 vaccinators will participate in the house-to-house drive, set to last five days.

Syria Imposes New Visa Restrictions for Iraqis:

- Beginning September 10, Syria will require Iraqis to obtain visas before allowing them to enter the country for economic, trade and educational purposes, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry said August 31. The Syrian move is seen as an attempt to reduce an inflow of more than 30,000 Iraqi refugees every month.



[7.] Increase International Support for Iraq – Contributors to Iraqi Stability Operations

25 Countries with forces in Iraq (in addition to US)

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

TOTAL ~ 11,732 Forces

*Note: Fiji participating as a part of the UN mission in Iraq.

33 Countries and NATO*
(including US)
Support Iraqi Stability Operations

*33 includes the 25 countries listed above, the US, Fiji, and seven NATO, non-MNF-I countries: Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Turkey



[8.] Strengthen Public Understanding of Coalition Efforts and Public Isolation of the Insurgents – **Developments**

Cameraman Killed in Mosul:

- A cameraman working for the al-Mosuliya satellite television network was killed September 3 by a group of gunmen in eastern Mosul, the deputy chief of the Ninewah police department said. The man worked for al-Iraqia television in Ninewah before moving to the newly-established al-Mosuliya television.

200 media employees killed in Iraq since 2003:

- At least 200 journalists and media workers have been killed in Iraq since the March 2003 U.S.-led regime change in the country, Paris-based watchdog Reporters Without Borders said in a statement August 31.



Iraq Weekly Status – General 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



Notes and Source Citations (1 of 3)

Slide 5:

- August 29 - MNF-I Press with Gen Bergner (<http://www.mnf-iraq.com/index>)

Slide 6:

- August 29 - MNF-I Press with Gen Bergner (<http://www.mnf-iraq.com/index>)

Slide 7:

- August 29 - MNF-I Press with Gen Bergner (<http://www.mnf-iraq.com/index>)

Slide 8:

- August 29 - MNF-I Press with Gen Bergner (<http://www.mnf-iraq.com/index>)
- August 29 - AFP (http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070829/wl_mideast_afp/iraqunrestreligion)

Slide 9:

- DoD Input to Iraq Weekly Status Report September 3, 2007

Slide 10:

- August 26 – BBC (http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/6964933.stm)
- August 27 - CBS (<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/08/27/politics/animal/main3207881.shtml>)
- August 29 - AP (http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20070829/ap_on_re_mi_ea/iraq)

Slide 11:

- NEA Political Section, NEA-I-POL-DL@state.gov

Slide 12:

- NEA Political Section, NEA-I-POL-DL@state.gov

Slide 13:

- ITAO Weekly Report, September 5, 2007

Slide 14:

- 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.



Notes and Source Citations (2 of 3)

Slide 15:

- September 4 – PortAl Iraq (<http://www.iraqupdates.com/scr/preview.php?article=21374>)
- September 4 – Forbers (<http://www.iraqupdates.com/scr/preview.php?article=21382>)
- September 3 – Voice of Iraq (<http://www.iraqupdates.com/scr/preview.php?article=21333>)

Slide 16:

- September 4 - Marketwatch (<http://www.iraqupdates.com/scr/preview.php?article=21384>)
- September 4 - USAID (<http://www.iraqupdates.com/scr/preview.php?article=21379>)

Slide 17:

- PRT Weekly Summary, 17-23 August 2007
- PRT Weekly Summary, 17-23 August 2007
- PRT Weekly Summary, 17-23 August 2007

Slide 18:

- Oil Prices are sourced from Bloomberg

Employment Update:

- Information regarding the Employment Update was sourced from the ITAO Weekly Report – August 29, 2007.
- CERP has not reported figures for some time. Until they report accurate data, the number will remain at 0.
- PCO will be reporting on a bi-weekly basis.

Slide 19:

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

Slide 20:

- Iraqi Bond Prices are sourced from Bloomberg

Slide 21:

- September 4 (<http://www.iraqupdates.com/scr/preview.php?article=21380>)
- September 4 – USAID (<http://www.iraqupdates.com/scr/preview.php?article=21375>)

Slide 22:

- September 4 – <http://www.iraqupdates.com/scr/preview.php?article=21378>



Notes and Source Citations (3 of 3)

Slide 23:

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

Slide 24:

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

Slide 25:

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

Slide 26:

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

Slide 27:

- August 27 - Washington Post (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/08/26/AR2007082601185.html>)

Slide 28:

- August 28, 2007 - <http://voanews.com/english/2007-08-28-voa42.cfm>
- August 21, 2007 - <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2007/08/21/ap4040505.html>
- August 28, 2007 - <http://www.africasia.com/services/news/newsitem.php?area=mideast&item=070828102048.zne46yhf.php>

Slide 29:

- Source: DOD Input to Weekly Status Report, updated bi-weekly.

Slide 30:

- September 4: http://www.iraqupdates.com/p_articles.php/article/21370
- September 3: http://www.iraqupdates.com/p_articles.php/article/21310
- August 31: http://www.iraqupdates.com/p_articles.php/article/21258