# OPERATION AL FAJR

THE BATTLE FOR FALLUJAH

### FALLUJAH AND SURROUNDING CITIES



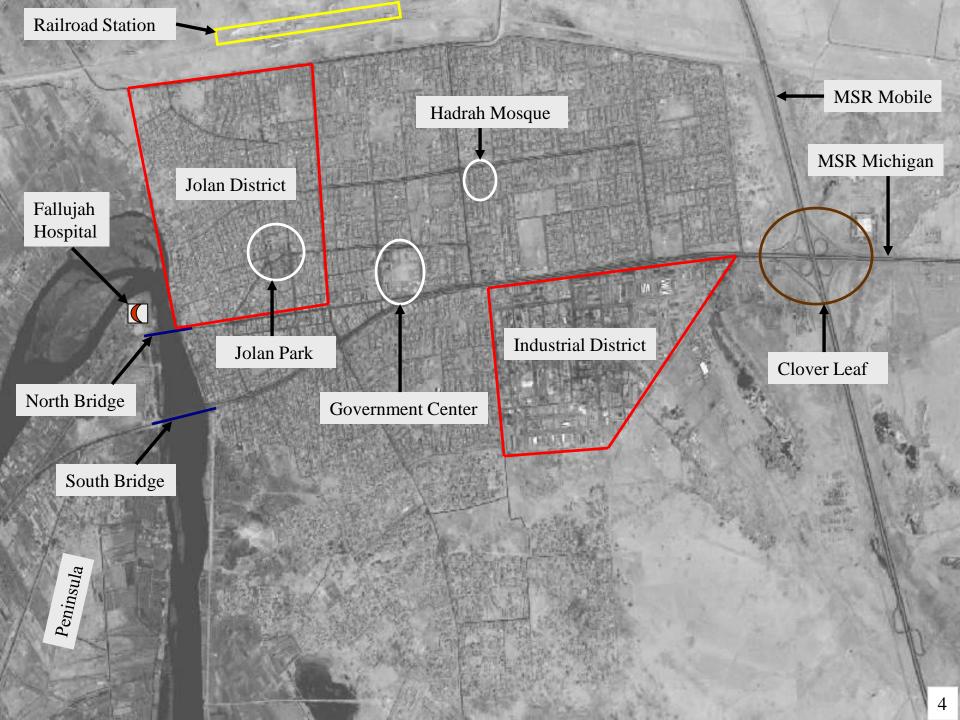


### FALLUJAH OVERVIEW

#### SIGNIFICANCE

- Anti-Iraqi Force (AIF) Control
- AIF Safe-haven & closed city
  - No Iraqi Security Forces(ISF) or Coalition Forces (CF)
- Key city on line of communication to Baghdad
- Key city on line of communication to Ramadi (Provincial Capital)
- **POPULATION** (Approx 239,000)
- Former Regime Element/Sunni dominated
- Unemployment Assessed as High
- **ESSENTIAL SERVICES (Percent Accessible)**
- Water 70%
- Power 70% (9 15 hrs per day)
- Fuel 60%
- Medical 55%
- Public Safety 15%
- Previous Industries Cement, Metal, Glass, Grain Storage
- CITY LEADERSHIP
- Mayor Weak willed, mixed loyalties
- City Council Run by Sheik Janabi (Anti CF)
- ING Weak, Commander/S-2 recently assassinated
- IPs No credible or capable Iraqi Police







# **BACKGROUND**

- AMBUSH OF "BLACKWATER" CONTRACTORS
  - 31 MARCH '04
- CORDON ESTABLISHED AROUND FALLUJAH
- OPERATION VIGILANT RESOLVE COMMENCES
  - 7 APRIL '04
- 1<sup>ST</sup> MARDIV CEASES OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS IN FALLUJAH
  - 30 APRIL '04
- FALLUJAH BRIGADE STANDS UP









# THE ENEMY

#### FALLUJAH BECOMES AN INSURGENT SANCTUARY

#### •FORMER REGIME ELEMENTS (FRE)

- DISENFRANCHISED BA'ATHISTS
- NEVER ATTAINED SAME INFLUENCE UNDER IRAQI INTERIM GOV'T (IIG)

#### • ISLAMIC EXTREMISTS (LOCAL, FOREIGN, AND MIXED)

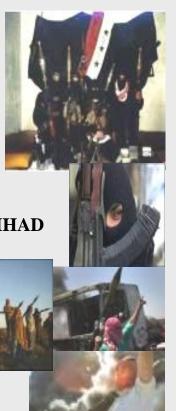
- LOCALS WHO SOUGHT AN ISLAMIC IRAQI STATE BASED ON SHARI'A LAW
- FOREIGN FIGHTERS & LOCALS SOUGHT BREEDING GROUND TO EXPORT JIHAD

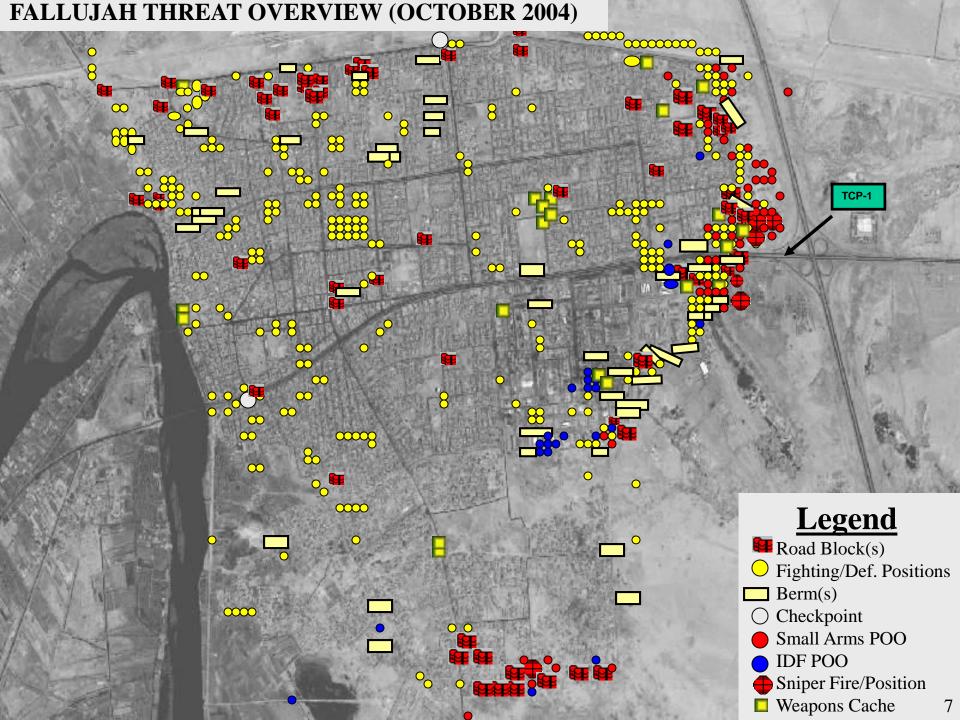
#### • TRIBES

SOUGHT TO REGAIN POWER AND WEALTH

#### • CRIMINALS

INVOLVED IN ALL THREE PREVIOUS GROUPS FOR PERSONAL GAIN







# **ENEMY TACTICS**

- DAISY CHAINED IEDs
- VBIEDs
- SUICIDE BOMBERS
- BOOBY-TRAPPED
  - BUILDINGS
  - CACHES
  - INSURGENTS
- USE OF PROTECTED SITES (e.g. Mosques)
- DEFENSIVE BELTS
- HIT AND FALL BACK

- TUNNEL SYSTEMS
- INDIRECT FIRE
- WEAPONS CACHES
- SNIPERS
- FALSE SURRENDER
- DRUG USE
- VOICE RECORDINGS
  - WOMEN CRYING OUT FOR HELP
- WEARING OF ISF UNIFORMS



# **MISSION**

AT H HOUR ON D+1, 1ST MARINE DIVISION (-)(REIN) ATTACKS TO DESTROY ANTI-IRAQI FORCES IN FALLUJAH IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH LEGITIMATE LOCAL CONTROL









# **COMMANDER'S INTENT**

- ELIMINATE INSURGENT SANCTUARY
- SET THE CONDITIONS FOR LOCAL CONTROL IN CITY
- SUPPORT THE MULTI-NATIONAL FORCE IRAQ (MNF-I) EFFORT TO SECURE APPROACHES TO BAGHDAD





### **METHOD**

- SHAPING:
  - 1. DESTROY/DISRUPT AIF C<sup>2</sup>
  - 2. ATTRITE INSURGENTS
  - 3. DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN INSURGENTS & FALLUJAH RESIDENTS
- CLOSE BORDER POINTS OF ENTRY
- RAPIDLY ASSAULT TO PENETRATE AND DESTROY AIF
  - 1. UTILIZE STRENGTHS OF JOINT/COALITION FORCES
  - 2. COMBINED ARMS
  - 3. PROGRESSION OF FORCE TO REDUCE COLLATERAL DAMAGE
- CONTINUE ENDURING TASKS IN DIVISION AO
- ASSAULT FOLLOWED BY ROBUST CA EFFORTS



# **ENDSTATE**

- INSURGENTS IN FALLUJAH DESTROYED/SANCTUARY ELIMINATED
- IRAQI SECURITY
  FORCES/IRAQI INTERIM
  GOVERNMENT IN CONTROL
  OF FALLUJAH
- DIVISION PREPARED FOR FOLLOW-ON OPERATIONS

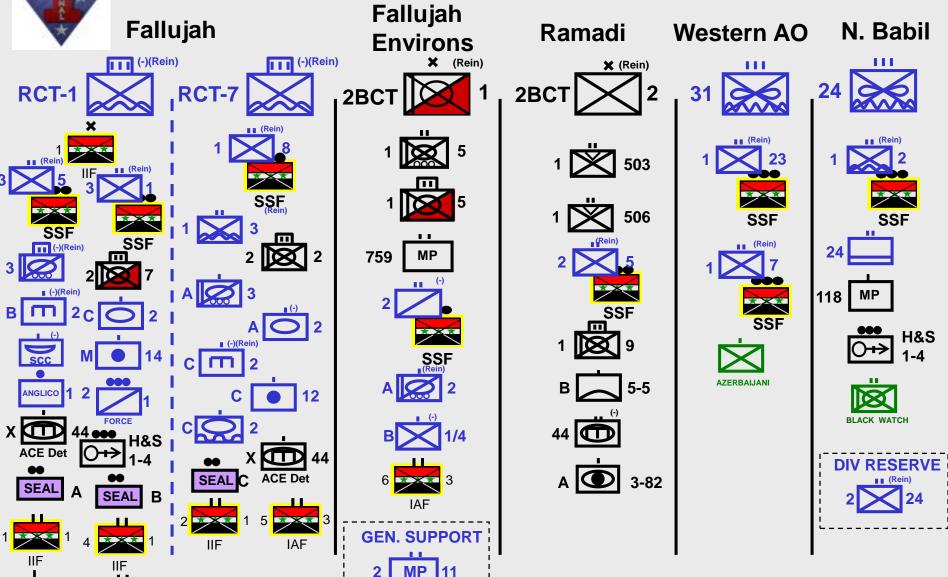




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# TASK ORGANIZATION

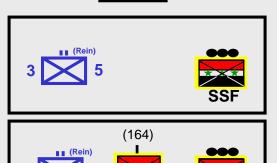


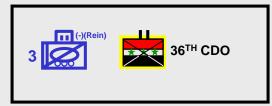


# **IRAQI SECURITY FORCES**

#### 1<sup>ST</sup> MARDIV

#### RCT-1



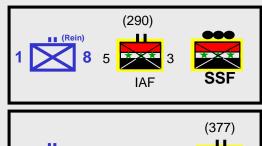


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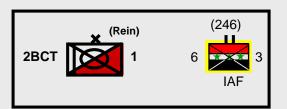


#### RCT-7





#### **BLACK JACK BDE**





# **PHASES**

I – PREPARATION/SHAPING
II – ENHANCED SHAPING
IIIA – ASSAULT
IIIB – SEARCH AND ATTACK
IV – TRANSITION
V – TRANSFER OF CONTROL









# PHASE I (PREPARATION)

- OPERATIONAL PLANNING
- ROC DRILLS/REHEARSAL
- MOVEMENT OF FORCES, RIP/BATTLE HANDOVERS CONDUCTED WITHIN THE DIVISION AO
- INTEGRATION AND TRAINING OF IRAQI SECURITY FORCES
- INTEGRATION OF U.S. ARMY UNITS
- BLACK WATCH TO NORTH BABIL









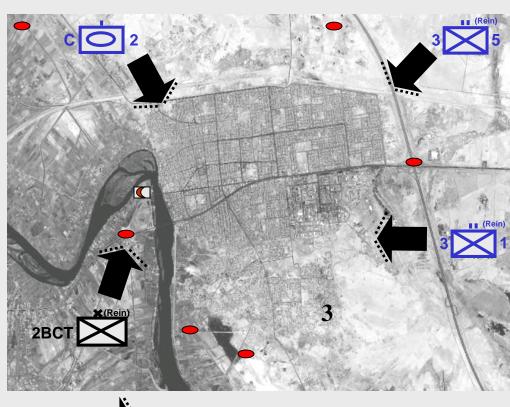


# PHASE I (SHAPING)

- FEINTS
- RAIDS
- CORDON AND SEARCHES
- VEHICLE CHECKPOINTS (VCPS)
- INDIRECT FIRES AND CAS
- INFORMATION OPS AND PSYOPS
- TARGETING OF AIF LEADERSHIP
- SPECIAL OPERATION FORCES TARGETING OF HIGH-VALUE TARGETS

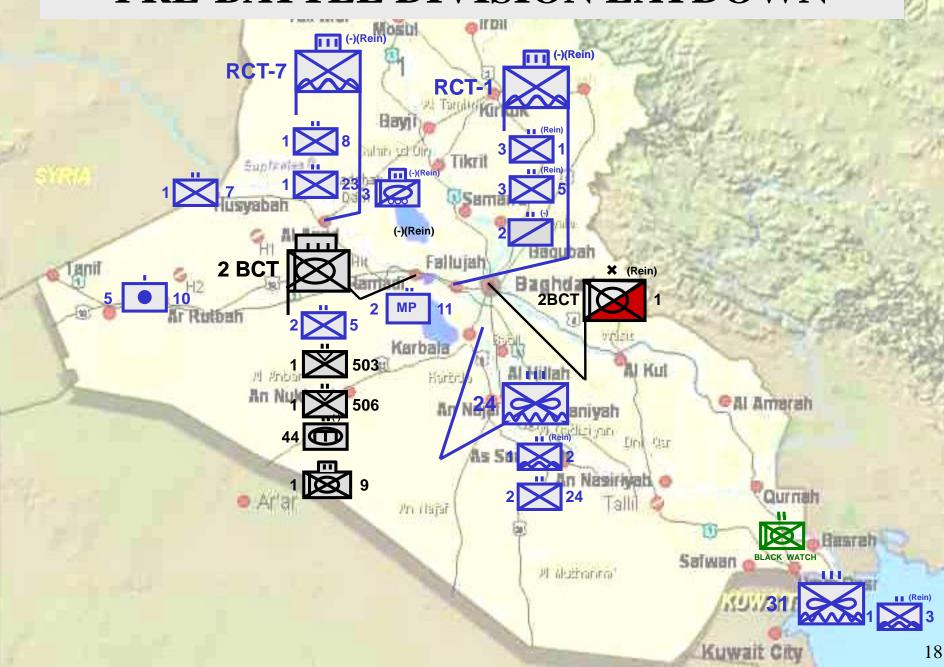
#### **DESIRED ENEMY ENDSTATE**

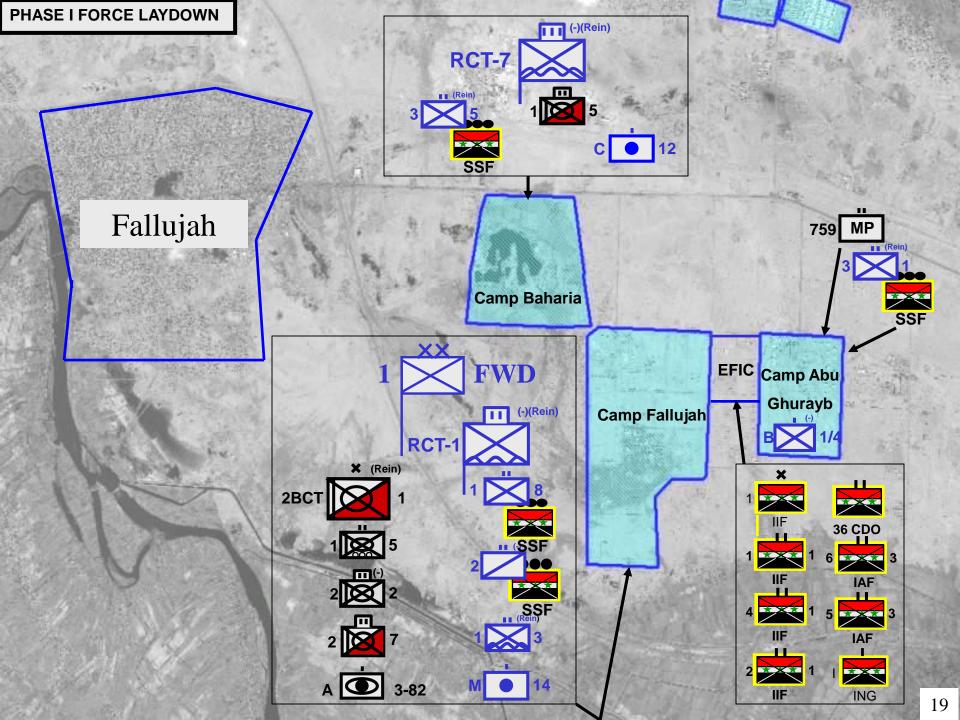
- CONFUSED AS TO MNF INTENTIONS
- WEDGE DRIVEN BETWEEN POPULACE AND AIF
- C<sup>2</sup> NODES EXPOSED AND DESTROYED
- DEFENSES IDENTIFIED
- HEIGHTENED STATE OF PARANOIA AND ANXIETY



► VEHICLE CHECKPOINT

### PRE-BATTLE DIVISION LAYDOWN







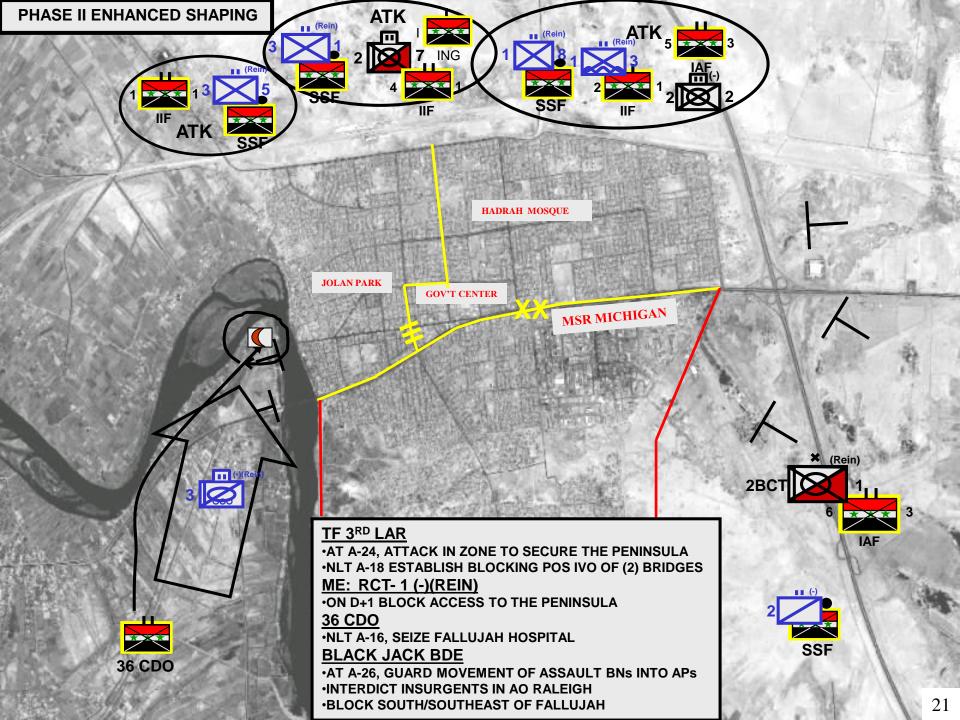
# PHASE II D-DAY (ENHANCED SHAPING)

- ELECTRONIC ATTACK
- ISOLATION OF FALLUJAH BY BLACK JACK BRIGADE
- JOINT FIRES
- MOVEMENT OF FORCES INTO ATTACK POSITIONS
- PENINSULA ASSAULT
- FALLUJAH HOSPITAL SECURED
- BRIDGES SECURED/BLOCKING POSITIONS ESTABLISHED AROUND FALLUJAH
- INTEGRATION OF JOINT SPECIAL OPERATION TASK FORCE SNIPERS INTO ASSAULT FORCES











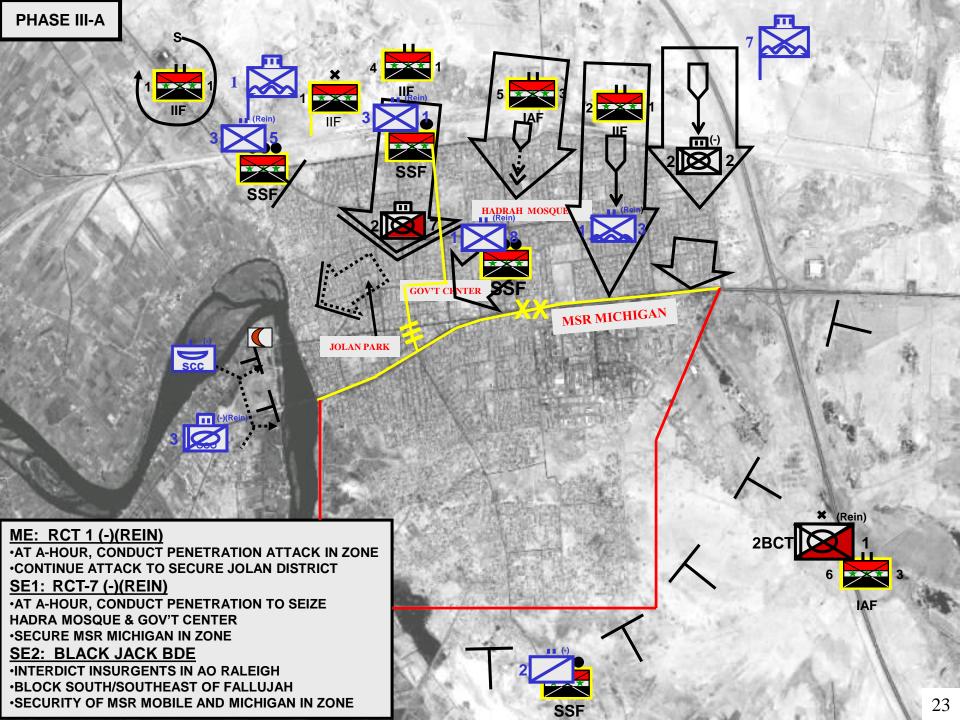
# PHASE III D+1 (ASSAULT)

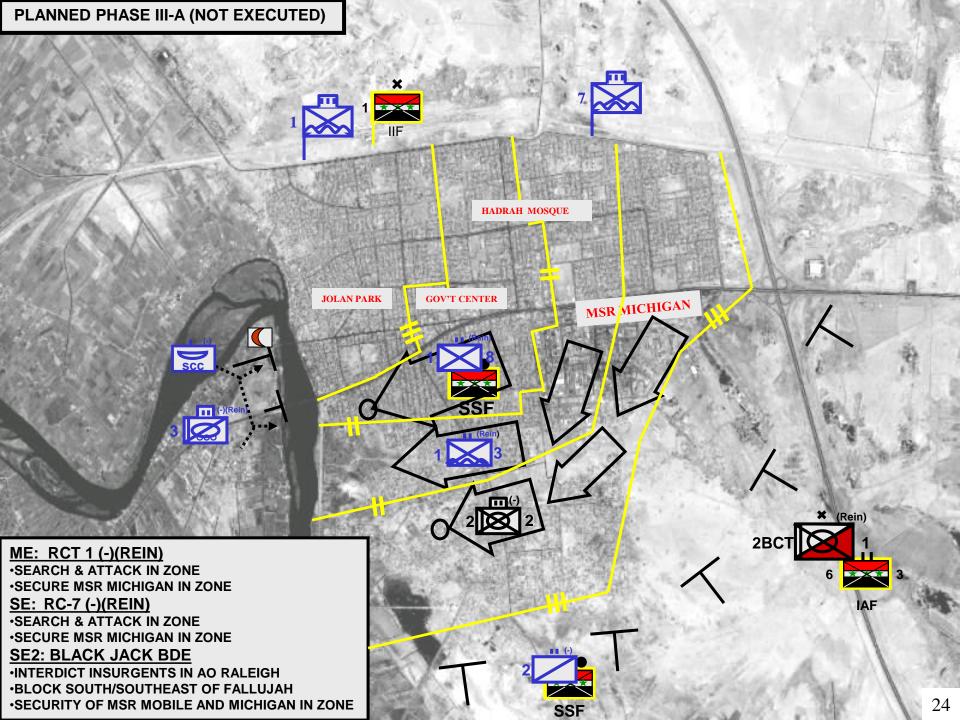
- RAPID PENETRATION INTO CITY
  - EXPLOIT SHOCK, FIREPOWER, AND MOBILITY OF ARMORED FORCES
  - COMBINED ARMS ATTACK
    - ARMY/MARINE ARTILLERY
    - JOINT CAS
    - COORDINATED FIRES IN FALLUJAH KILL BOX
- SEARCH AND ATTACK IN ZONE
- BLACK JACK BRIGADE CONTINUES TO ISOLATE FALLUJAH AND PROTECT DIVISION REAR AREA
- INTELLIGENCE EXPLOITATION/IO MESSAGE

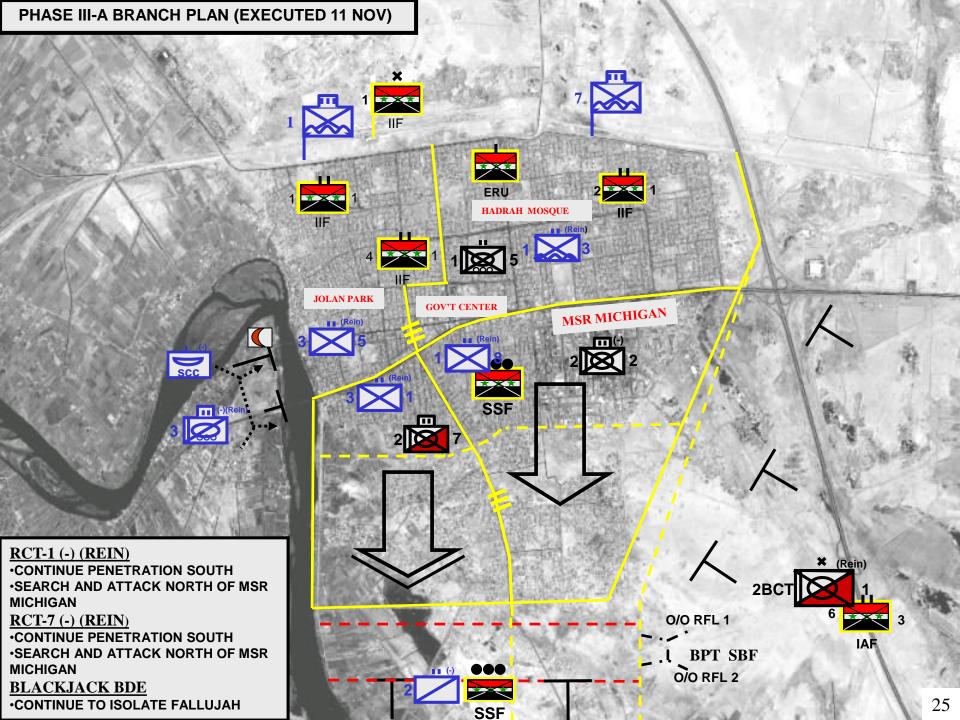


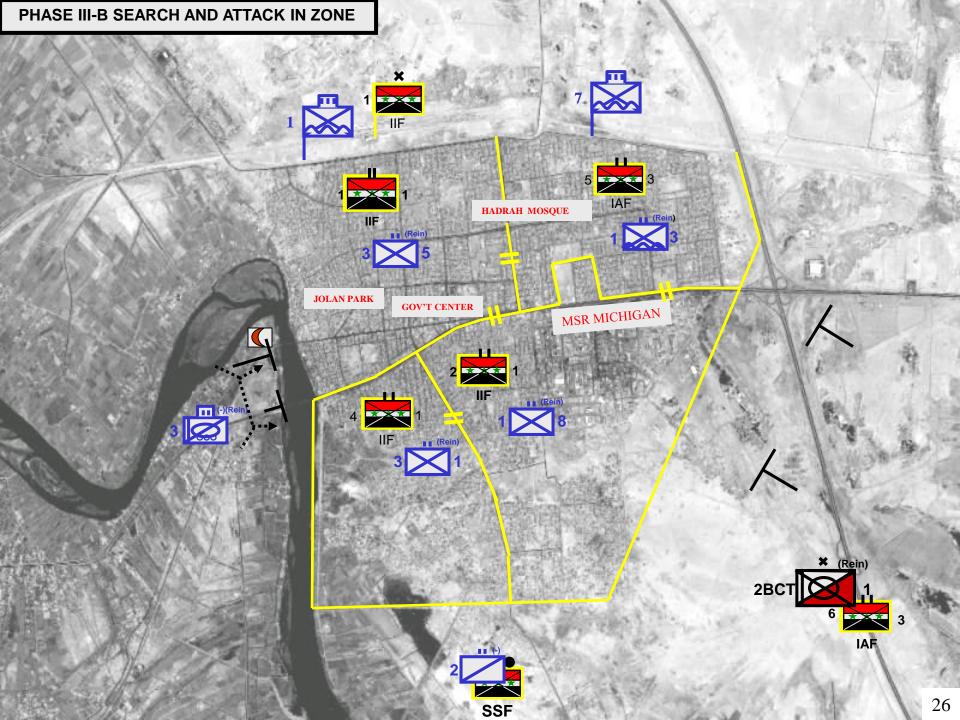


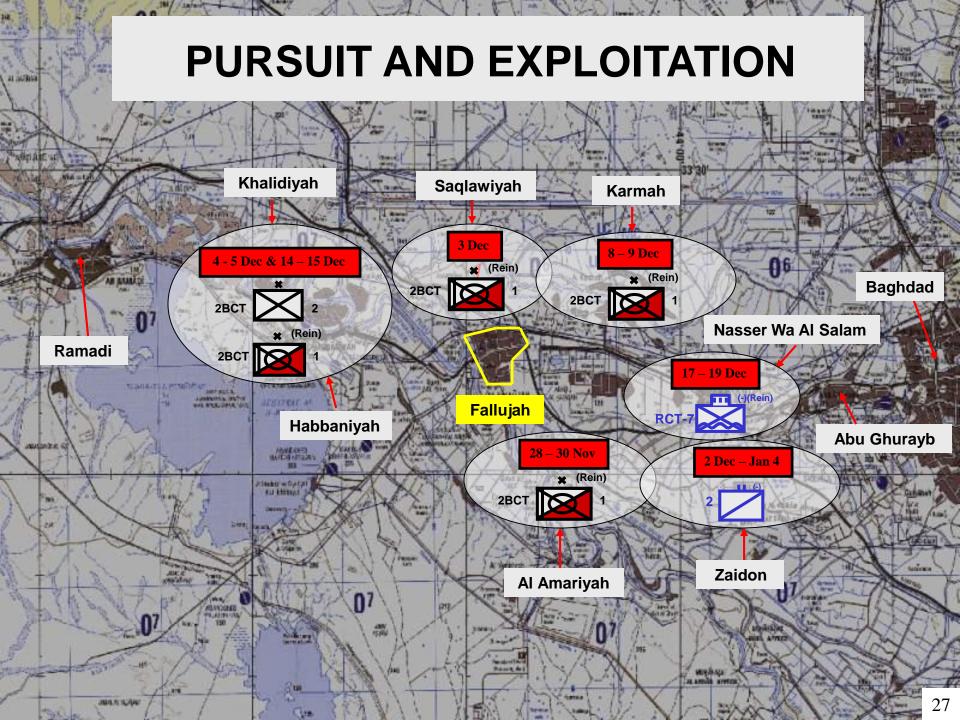














# PHASE III INTO PHASE IV





**SEABEES** 



**USAF DOG TEAMS** 



ARMY/MARINE CAG IRAQI GOV'T OFFICIALS



#### ARMY/MARINE/NAVY EOD



#### ARMY/MARINE ENGINEERS

- REMAINS REMOVAL
- FOOD DISTRIBUTION
- ESTABLISH CMOC
- UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE & CACHE CLEARANCE
- WATER REMOVAL

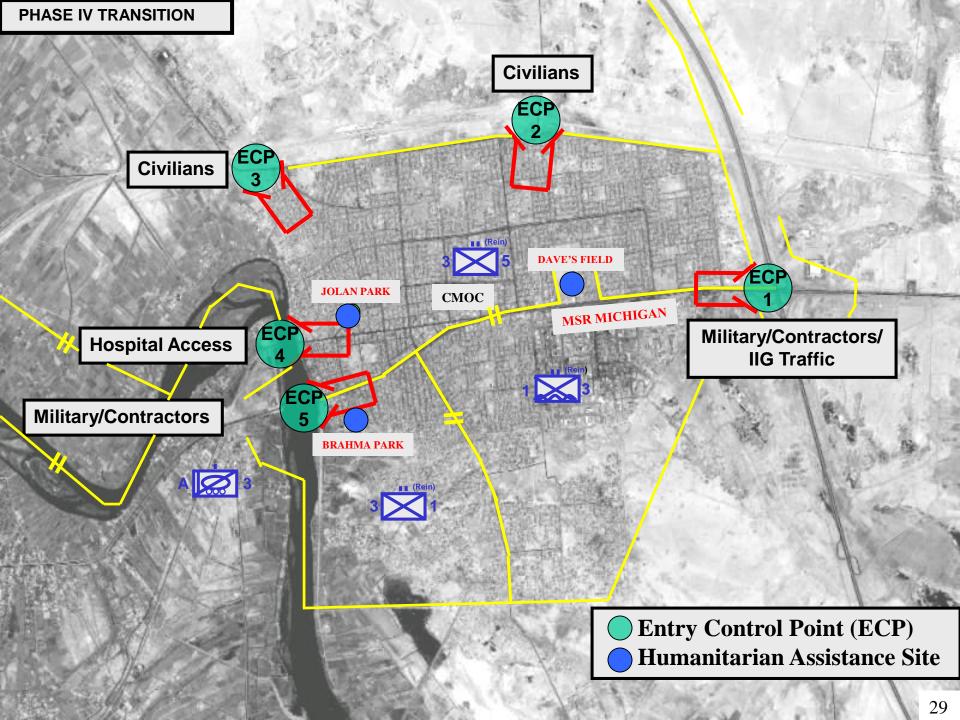
- CONTINUE CLEARING OPERATIONS
- SANITATION IMPROVEMENTS
- ELECTRICAL GRID REPAIRS
- PEST CONTROL
- RUBBLE REMOVAL
- ENTRY CONTROL POINTS ESTABLISHED













# POPULATION RESETTLEMENT

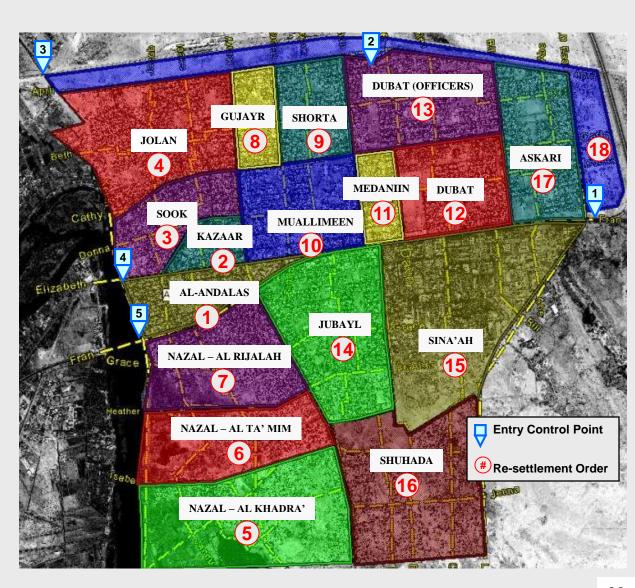
#### • PHASED

- LINKED TOHUMANITARIANRESOURCES & SECURITY
- SUPPORT FROM INTERIM IRAQI GOVERNMENT
- CIVILAFFAIRS RE-ESTABLISHES BASIC NEEDS FOR RETURNING CITIZENS
- ISF AND MNF PROVIDE SECURITY & HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
- RESTORATION OF BASIC SERVICES











### ISF IN FALLUJAH

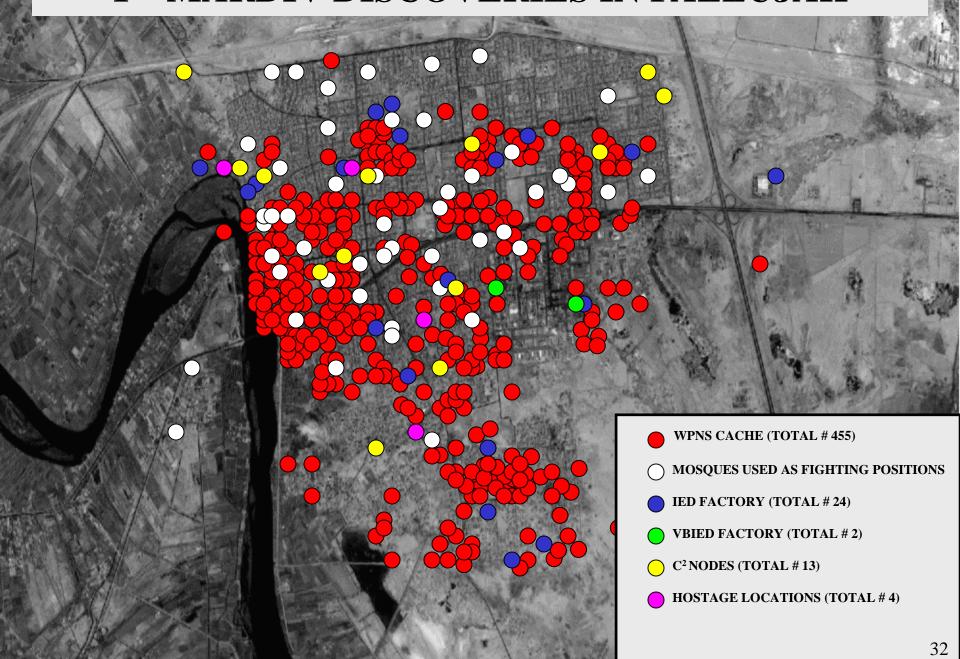
- FOUGHT ALONGSIDE MARINES AND SOLDIERS
  - CLEARED ASSIGNED BATTLESPACE
  - ATTACKED AND SEIZED SENSITIVE TARGETS
    - MOSQUES
    - GOVERNMENT CENTER
  - IDENTIFIED FOREIGN FIGHTERS
  - GATHERED INTELLIGENCE
  - PROVIDED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
  - ASSISTED REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
  - SECURED FIXED SITES
  - CONDUCTED JOINT SECURITY PATROLS
  - REDUCED CACHE







### 1<sup>ST</sup> MARDIV DISCOVERIES IN FALLUJAH





#### INTELLIGENCE WINDFALLS IN FALLUJAH

- IED, EXPLOSIVE, AND CHEMICAL AGENT MAKING MANUALS
- INSURGENT TTP MANUALS
- "MARTYRED" INSURGENT LEDGERS
- INSURGENT PASSPORTS AND IDS (ORIGINAL AND FORGED)
- PROPAGANDA MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT
- The first control of the control of

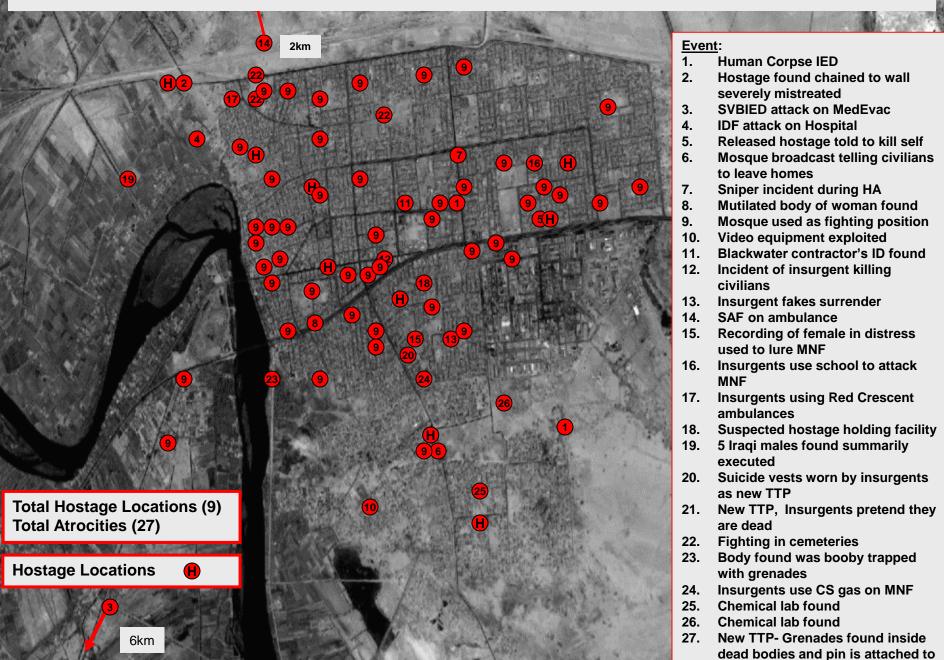


- LEDGERS WITH ILLEGAL ARMS TRANSACTIONS
- FOREIGN FIGHTER INFILTRATION ROUTES
- TERRORIST TRAINING FACILITIES
- DIVERSE ENEMY WEAPON SYSTEMS
- TECHNOLOGIES (NVGS/BODY ARMOR)





#### ENEMY VIOLATIONS OF THE LAW OF ARMED CONFLICT



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### LESSONS LEARNED

- ATTACH UNITS (JOINT/COMBINED) AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE FOR PLANNING/INTEGRATION
- ARMOR/INFANTRY REMAIN COMPLIMENTARY FORCE IN URBAN ENVIRONMENT
- RAPID PENETRATIONS EXPLOITED OUR SUPERIOR FIREPOWER, ARMOR PROTECTION, AND C<sup>2</sup> ADVANTAGES, WHILE DISRUPTING ENEMY C<sup>2</sup>
- PSYOPS/IO/SIGINT KEY TO SHAPING THE BATTLEFIED
- MANEUVER AND KINETIC STRIKES CONDUCTED TO SUPPORT INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION
- COMMANDERS NEED TO BE FORWARD TO ENSURE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS AND TIMELY DECISION MAKING
- ALL MARINE, ARMY, AND IRAQI UNITS MUST BE ASSIMILATED INTO A COMMON COMMUNICATIONS PLAN
- DOCTRINALLY SOUND C<sup>2</sup> AND FIRES ARCHITECTURE OVERCAME T/O SHORTFALLS
- PRECISION MUNITIONS CRITICAL IN LIMITING COLLATERAL DAMAGE/FRATRICIDE
- ISR PLATFORMS ESSENTIAL FOR TARGETING
- DOCTRINE WORKS TACTICAL/OPERATIONAL TERMINOLOGY UNDERSTOOD BY ALL

