



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

HEADQUARTERS  
MULTI-NATIONAL CORPS-IRAQ  
BAGHDAD, IRAQ  
APO AE 09342

20 FEB 2006

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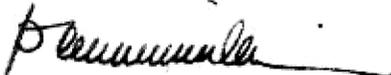
MEMORANDUM THRU Commander, CFLCC, Arifjan, Kuwait 09304-1400

FOR G3, Headquarters Department of the Army, 400 Army Pentagon, Washington D.C. 20310-0300

SUBJECT: Urgent Need for Army Electronic Warfare Expertise

1. The growing threat of radio-controlled improvised explosive devices (RCIEDS) to Ground Forces has required large-scale application of counter-RCIED electronic warfare (CREW) technology. Over 20,000 mobile ground CREW systems are currently employed across the Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) theater, and Multi-National Corps-Iraq will receive an additional 19,558 high-power CREW systems in CY06.
2. The advent of CREW has led to significant challenges in the electronic battle-space including tactical employment, deconfliction with coalition force communications, electronic suite interoperability, and CREW system programming in a variable and dynamic threat environment. Current Army forces lack the electronic warfare (EW) training and expertise to effectively integrate and employ CREW capabilities, and prevent the degradation of battle-space communications and electronic systems performance. This lack of EW expertise has an adverse impact on the employment of these critical systems, which are currently our last line of defense in an RCIED attack. It also fosters low Soldier confidence, particularly where communication fratricide plagues the field, leading some troops to turn their CREW systems off.
3. With the proliferation of RCIED countermeasures in Iraq and Afghanistan, and in future Joint Task Forces and Combined Joint Task Forces, the requirement for EW expertise is a reality for Ground Forces now and into the future. As a short-term solution, the Chief of Naval Operations has agreed to source 230 Navy EW specialists to augment Army forces. The Navy's support will cover the force until March 2007.
4. Request support for a mid-term solution to embed EW expertise in the next OIF rotation force. Further steps should be taken to determine long-term Army requirements and structure. This would include development of a program to produce Soldiers skilled in the conduct of electronic warfare to meet the current and future battlefield requirements.
5. Point of contact is CAPT D.J. "Fuzz" Harrison, OIC Joint CREW Field Office, DSN 318-822-2774, NIPR: david.harrison@iraq.centcom.mil and SIPR: david.harrison@iraq.centcom.smil.mil.

1 Encl  
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