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#2704

COALITION PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY

LPB HAS SEEN

BAGHDAD

ACTION MEMO

*See H.C. for conversation
12/5*

December 4, 2003

FOR: THE ADMINISTRATOR
FROM: Office of the *JP* General Counsel
SUBJECT: Public Notice Regarding Internal Administrative Borders

The Deputy Minister of the Interior advises that the Minister of the Interior, in Statement Number 441, purports to remove the Al Nakheib area from Al Anbar province and attach it to Karbala province.

The attached Public Notice clarifies that the internal borders of Iraq may not be changed in this way during the CPA's temporary administration of Iraq.

The attached letter to the Minister of the Interior requests that the Minister issue a statement indicating that the Al Nakheib area still belongs to Al Anbar province.

RECOMMENDATION: That the attached Public Notice be signed and published, and that the attached letter be signed and provided to the Minister of the Interior.

Approve: _____ Disapprove: _____ Approve with modification: _____

ATTACHMENTS: Public Notice Regarding Internal Administrative Boundaries
Letter to President Al-Hakim

COORDINATION: Governance - ok
Ministry of Interior - ok

UNCLASSIFIED

**COALITION PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY
BAGHDAD, IRAQ**

PUBLIC NOTICE

REGARDING INTERNAL ADMINISTRATIVE BORDERS

December 4, 2003

The Administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) hereby advises all citizens, residents of, and visitors to Iraq of the following.

No person or body, including the CPA, Coalition Forces, the Governing Council, the Ministers, Directors General, Governors, or Provincial or Local Councils, may alter the internal borders, boundaries, or similar administrative geographical divisions of Iraq, and any attempt to do so, including but not limited to, by way of decree, order, proclamation, or public statement, is null and void and of no legal effect. Such adjustments may only be made by the future internationally recognized, representative government of Iraq.

Any attempt by any person, group or organization to exercise authority over any geographical area of Iraq pursuant to any such decree, order, proclamation, or public statement will not be permitted.

L. Paul Bremer III
Administrator



COALITION PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY
BAGHDAD

December 4, 2003

Mr. Abdul Aziz al-Hakim
President, Governing Council
Baghdad, Iraq
APO AE 09335

Dear President al-Hakim:

I am in receipt of a letter from Major General Samir Mahdi Alwailly, Deputy Minister of Interior, to the Governor of Karbala province. This letter, a copy of which is attached, refers to the Minister of Interior's Statement Number 441, dated October 12, 2003, which purports to remove the Al Nakheib area from Al Anbar province and attach it to Karbala province.

The internal provincial boundaries of Iraq may not be changed during the temporary administration of Iraq by the CPA. Such adjustments may be made only by the future internationally recognized, representative government of Iraq.

Accordingly, Statement Number 441 is null and void and of no legal effect, and the CPA will not permit any person, group or organization to exercise authority over any geographical area of Iraq pursuant to Statement Number 441 or any other attempt to alter Iraq's internal boundaries prior to the transitional Iraqi administration's assumption of full sovereignty.

Please issue a public statement affirming that the internal boundaries of Iraq have not changed and remain the same as they were as of April 9, 2003.

Sincerely,

L. Paul Bremer III
Administrator

Enclosure:

Letter from Deputy Minister of Interior to the Governor of Karbala province

Ministry Of Interior
Deputy Minister of Interior
For Operations

NO: 638
Date: 10/14/03

To: Mr. Governor of Karbalaa Province

Subject: Al Nakheib Area

According to the minister's statement # 441 on 10/12/2003
The minister had agreed that Alnakheib area is to be attached to Karbalaa province
instead of Al Anbar province, with coordination of Al Anbar governor and ~~the coalition~~
forces commander in both provinces to execute that decision.

Please be advised With respect

Major General
Samir Mahdi Alwailly
Deputy Minister of Interior
10/14/2003

CC to: Minister of Interior, AlAnbar Governor, and Coalition Forces Commander.