

14M-1221

CIA 1.4(b)(c)

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Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: DEC 02 2014
OSD 1.A(b)(c)

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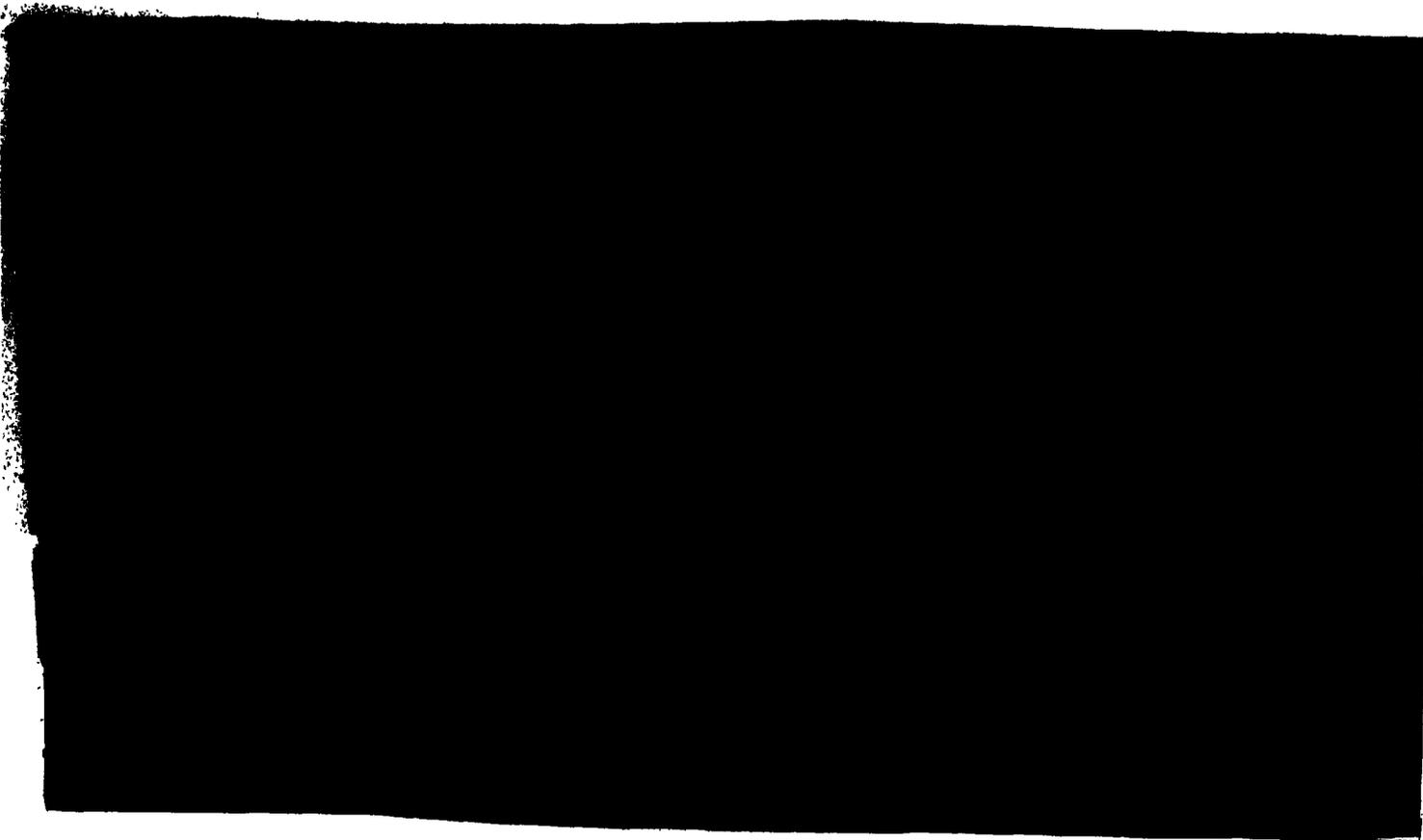
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EO 13526 1.4(b)<25Yrs
EO 13526 1.4(c)<25Yrs

Office of the Secretary of Defense SU.S.C. 5552
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS

Date: 02 DEC 2014 Authority: EO 13526

Declassify: _____ Deny in Full: _____

Declassify in Part: X

Reason: 1.4(b)(c) + SU.S.C. 5552(b)(1); 10 U.S.C. 424, (a), (2)

MDR: 14 -M- 1221

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE REDACTED MATERIAL, NO DIA OBJECTIONS SUBJECT TO CONCURRENT CIA, CENTCOM AND STATE DECLASSIFICATION AND REVIEW DECISIONS.

DOS

TRANSFERRED TO OTHER AGENCY
TRANSFER FOR DIRECT REPLY - DOC

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

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MEMO TO: Secretary Rumsfeld

DATE: November 23, 2004

FROM: Paul Wolfowitz *PW*

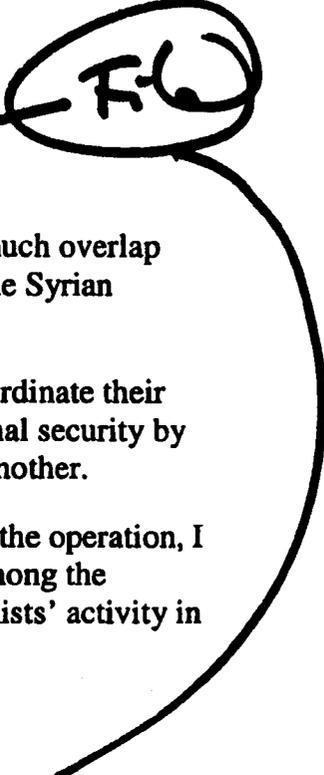
SUBJECT: Ties Among Anti-Iraqi Groups

Don,

The attached biography of Mudhir Kharbit illustrates how much overlap there is among former regime elements, the "jihadists", and even the Syrian regime.

Admittedly, we know very little about how these groups coordinate their activities. And we do know that they focus on preserving operational security by working through secret cells that don't know too much about one another.

However, with characters like Kharbit at the upper levels of the operation, I think one has to assume that there is a good deal of coordination among the different elements. It's a mistake to treat the Salafists' and Saddamists' activity in Iraq as separate and distinct streams of activity.

PW  *forget a folder on this.*

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

BIO INFORMATION ON MUDHIR KHARBIT (S//REL//MCFI)

~~(S//NF)~~ **Purpose.** To provide DEPSECDEF available biographic information on Sheikh Mudhir Abdul Kareem Thabit (Dhiwab) al-Kharbit al-Khalifawi

(U) **Issue.** None

~~(S//NF)~~ **Bottom Line**

- ~~(S//NF)~~ Kharbit uses his wealth, business, and tribal connections to facilitate insurgent operations in Al Anbar province
- ~~(S//NF)~~ Kharbit is a tribal leader and business man with a Mafia-like network. He has connections to smuggling and alleged involvement in the Oil for Food Scandal
- ~~(S//NF)~~ Kharbit has connections to the former regime and was last reported to be operating from Amman, Jordan

~~(S//NF)~~ **Background.**

- ~~(S//NF)~~ Kharbit is reportedly a key facilitator of insurgent operations in western Iraq. His power base is centered in Fallujah and Ar-Ramadi where he is an important tribal leader and business man. He reportedly founded the failed political party, The National Front for the Liberation of Iraq, which had an anti-Coalition platform. Kharbit is also possibly associated with Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's network through the funding of AMZ associate Umar Hadid
- ~~(S//NF)~~ On 16 Jan 04 Coalition forces raided Kharbit's house and detained members of his family. The raids on his home revealed direct support of insurgent operations, including caches of weapons
- ~~(S//NF)~~ Kharbit was a close associate of the Saddam Hussein family and other members of the former regime leadership. He is reported to have international relationships through

tribal and business connections. To include a friendship with President Asad of Syria. He is reportedly interested in becoming the next dictator of Iraq

- ~~(S//NF)~~ Kharbit's family owns the al-Kharbit Company, a multimillion dollar company based in Jordan. He is the leader of a smuggling and facilitation and operating much like an organized crime ring using his family's legitimate business as concealment
- ~~(S//NF)~~ During the Saddam Regime Kharbit was reportedly involved in smuggling operations and the Oil for Food scandal
- ~~(S//NF)~~ Kharbit is the hereditary Grand Sheikh of the Kharbita tribe and has been the leader of the Dulaymi confederation. However, Kharbit turned over those duties to his uncle, Abdul Hamid Kharbit while he is in Jordan. The Dulaymi tribe is one of the most powerful tribes in the Sunni Triangle with over 2 million members.
- ~~(S//NF)~~ Kharbit has a wife and 6 children and was last reported to be in ar Ramadi. Kharbit spends most of his time in Jordan but travels regularly to Syria



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Prepared by: DIA [REDACTED]
Coordinated with: CENTCOM

DIA 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)

DIA 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3); 10 U.S.C. 424

Classified By: MG R L BURGESS JR.
Director for Intelligence, J2

OSD 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3); 10 U.S.C. 424

Reason 1.4(c)
Declassify On: 20291119

OSD 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)

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DIA 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)

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KHARBIT

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please

Prepared by: DIA [REDACTED]
Coordinated with: CENTCOM

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OSD 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3); 10 U.S.C. 424

IRAQ: HVT

(S//NF) MUDHIR AL-KHARBIT: Key insurgent leader, financier, business man and tribal leader based in Ar-Ramadi ... resides in Jordan ... controls great wealth derived from family business and smuggling.

(S//NF) ACTIVITIES: Funds insurgent activities in the al-Anbar Governorate and Baghdad ... supports New Ba'ath Party activities ... not ideologically bound but pragmatically focused on ascending to power ... reportedly involved with oil for food scandal ... spends most of his time in Jordan but travels regularly to Syria.



SECRET REL TO USA,
AUS, GBR and CAN.

(S//NF) ASSOCIATIONS: Saddam appointed family leaders of Khalifa Tribe of the Dulaymi Confederation...involved in rivalry with traditional tribal leaders of Khalifa ... family owns multimillion-dollar Kharbit Company headquartered in Jordan ... ties to Saddam and multiple former regime personalities ... well connected to key regional figures.

ASSESSMENT: (S) Tribal position, business connections and personal ambitions facilitate continued participation in insurgency. He and family represent an engagement option; where we can co-opt and coerce to drive wedges in the Sunni Arab Resistance leadership. At the current time, it is unlikely he feels sufficiently threatened – directly or personal assets – to change aggressive opposition to IIG.

JZ MNFI

~~SECRET//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, AND GBR~~

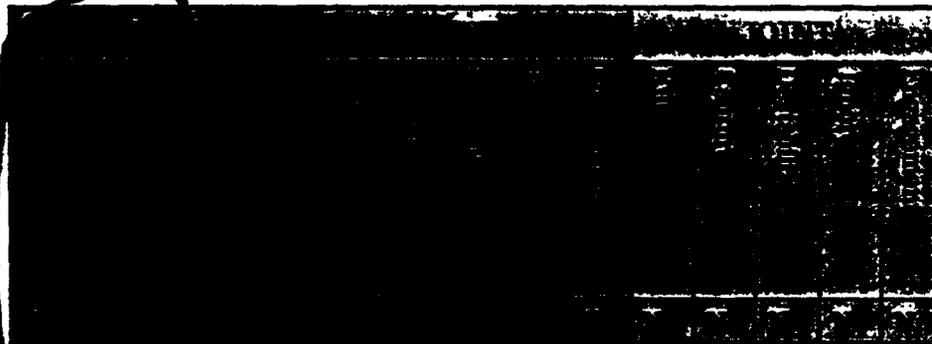


Mudhir Kharbit



FRE TOP 50, #5 - Targeted

- Mudhir Kharbit was a close friend of Saddam and many top Blacklisters
- Mudhir desires to be the next dictator of Iraq
- He runs what is very similar to a Mafia confederation. He is a smuggling magnate worth millions of dollars.
- He is associated with the Khalifa tribe, Humaym, and probably Saif al-Din al-Rawi (BL #14). He is involved in financially supporting insurgent activity throughout Al Anbar province
- LOCATED IN JORDAN



8

~~SECRET//REL TO USA, AUS, CAN, AND GBR~~

Mudhir Kharbit

Who he is

OSD

5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(2)

KILL OR CAPTURE

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Very close with the old regime; sheltered 6 DIA HVT's in

April 2003

Crime boss

insurgent financier

Page determined to be Unclassified
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5
Date: DEC 02 2014

National Front for the Liberation of Iraq

Founded by Mudhir Kharbit in April 2004 (OS Report)

How do they exert control

Provides funds and meets with tribal/insurgent leaders in Jordan

Kharbit family is large, powerful, and is influential

Who they control

His uncle Abdul Hamid Kharbit is trying to reorganize

the Ba'ath Party

Ba'ath / Hezb Al Awda / Saddam Fedayeen / FRE

Senior Financier to Extremists and FRE

Wahhabi / Salafi Terrorists (AL, AQ, Zarqawi Network)

Multiple reporting indicates he financial supports the Zarqawi Network

Multiple Reporting indicates he supports the Wahhabi Cells

Tribal

OSJ
5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(2)

Hereditary Shaykh of the Khalifa Tribe

Former leader of the Dulaymi Confederation

His uncle Abdul Hamid Kharbit is the Current Shaykh of the Khalifa Tribe

Anbar National Conference supported by Kharbits

Tribal Leaders of the Khalifa Tribe

Known Associations

Abd Al Jabbar Al-Qubaysi

Taher Jahil Habbush #16

Haji Thamer (deceased) assessed to be replaced by Abu Ahmed

Mohammed Khalaf Alayian (Abu Riam)

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Conclusion

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5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(2)



12/7/2004

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elections, we will be in this same spot a year from now with a hell of a lot worse security situation.



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OSD 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3); 10 U.S.C. 424

Centcom 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6)

Halfway down the trail to hell...

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 23, 2004 10:18 AM
To: #IFC NATIONAL TEAM; #IFC SENIOR ANALYSTS
Cc: #IFC LEADERSHIP
Subject: FW: Kharbite Assessment
Importance: High

~~CLASSIFICATION: SECRET~~

~~CAVEATS: NOFORN~~

TERMS: NONE

CENTCOM 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)

Team - Interesting feedback from [REDACTED] on "engagement" of Mudhir Karbit.



~~CLASSIFICATION: SECRET~~

~~CAVEATS: NOFORN~~

TERMS: NONE

OSD 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)



A contact at HQMC in DC saw this on your webpage and directed my attention to it. We do not concur with the following assessment on the Kharbit family. They, just like every other tribe in al-Anbar, are an impediment to a stable Iraq, unable to see beyond their own parochial interests. In EVERY case where MNF-W have engaged the tribes, disappointment has followed. There is not one single positive encounter with a single tribe since the arrival of our forces out here. The one shining

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I MEF ASSESSMENT
KILL

example of success that I would have offered you last month has now fallen through with the discovery of the poor state of readiness and professionalism in the Abu Nlmr ING company. So, as we have always stated, the tribes will get you no where.

But worse than the other tribes, the Kharbits are intimately involved in the insurgency. We have discovered weapons caches on their property, letters threatening the governor of al-Anbar, and other nefarious activities within our AO with their fingerprints on it. The package that we have on these folks is a mile thick.

As for Mudhir, he is not the Sheikh of Sheikhs for the Dulaymi Confederation. He was a Saddam-appointed sheikh and is not a real sheikh. The family has admitted this much to us. Mudhir still claims this title and this should be a lesson to us: do we really want a man that claims a title given to him by Saddam? If Mudhir appeals to Saddam's authority as the basis for his status in the tribe, to what authority will he appeal as a political leader in Iraq?

The Sheikh of Sheikhs of the Dulaymi is Shelk Majid Abd al-Razzaq All Sulayman. Mudhir is a megalomaniac who wants to be the president of Iraq. He has incited violence and conspired against MNF via his "Abu Flayas" branch of the family. He rec'd \$25 million from Saddam to continue the fight. He's bad and if he were in al-Anbar today, we'd kill/capture him if we could.

In short, we do not concur that the Kharbits are worthy of engagement. They are a break on the wheel of progress and should be destroyed as a power base in al-Anbar to become a byword among the other tribes that a new era has dawned in Iraq and the Sunni had better get used to the fact that they're no longer in charge. They can (and will) have a say but the Kharbit family is not a good candidate to make this happen.

We'd be happy to provide all the intel we've collected on these miscreants if y'all think it would help set the record straight. We have spoken with reps from Baghdad on this before but I guess, like always, someone didn't get the word. Strangely, we're used to it. These scoundrels continue to rear their heads every so often and we find ourselves having to send our files to diplomats at State [redacted] to head off meetings with Mudhir all the time. The last group we had to wave off was a couple of congressmen who had heard that Mudhir might be a good bet for stability out here....whew! I have to hand it to these villains, they have a lot of perseverance. They are a worthy adversary, but that shouldn't make us feel any sympathy for them.

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The Sulaymans are a much better candidate than the Kharbits. The IFC geopol assessment that was posted to the CENTCOM website is pasted below:

(S/MNF) Geo-Pol Analyst Assessment: This is an excellent opportunity for engagement with a tribe that can heavily influence Anbaris and Sunni Iraqis. The Kharbit Tribe is one of the most powerful and influential in both al-Anbar and Iraq. Mudhir Kharbit, currently living in Amman, Jordan after attacks on his compound by MNF, is the former Sheik of Sheikhs for the

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Duliyami Confederation, the largest tribal confederation in Iraq. Abdullah said that the family has designated him as the contact point with Americans. He is also currently in Amman, because of the security condition in al Anbar. If the Kharbits are truly supportive of the elections, their influence upon the MUC and the IIP could push these organizations back into the political process. Reporting indicates that Mudhir is a key financier of the Sunni insurgency. It is likely that the Kharbits had a representative at the Amman Ba'athist Conference, and their new found willingness to engage is likely indicative of the outcome of that event. The Ba'athists realize a need for political representation in the Iraqi Transitional Government, but will still continue to conduct attacks against the MNF to encourage a withdrawal, while continuing to infiltrate and undermine the ISF and the IIG. Once the MNF withdraws after successful permanent elections, the Ba'athists will be in a prime position to regain control of the government. However, without political representation during the drafting of the permanent constitution, this plan may face serious challenges if a Shi'a/Kurd alliance hinders Sunni rights.

BTW, I'm not so naive as to think that we may not have to deal with the cretins. I just don't want our engagement with them to be based on an intelligence assessment. The intel says that they are the enemy. The intel says that they are working against the new Iraq that we've tried to build. If we engage them, let it be because of a cold, calculated political decision based on raw power that we can't leave here without turning it over to them (which, in my mind, is a defeat) and not on a false understanding that the Kharbit will help us reach our goals.

Semper fidells,

OSD 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)

CENTCOM 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)

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CAVEATS: ~~NOFORN~~

TERMS: NONE

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