

UNCLASSIFIED
PROG 01/12/2005
JNEGROPONTE
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JJEFFREY, LLUKENS
EXEC

AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD
HOMELAND SECURITY CENTER WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC

FOR SECRETARY RIDGE FROM AMBASSADOR NEGROPONTE

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PBTS, PINS, KHLS, IZ
SUBJECT: DEPLOYMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
BORDER SUPPORT TEAMS TO IRAQ

1. I am writing to ask for your personal support and assistance in expediting the deployment of the Department of Homeland Security Border Support Teams to Iraq. Over the past several months, this program, developed by DHS, has become one of the most successful and important tools available to the Coalition and Iraqi Interim Government (IIG) in helping the Iraqis and coalition forces secure the borders. Given the upcoming elections it is critical to the success of the overall mission that we get four Border Support Teams deployed to Ports of Entry not later than January 20. I am requesting that the Department of Homeland Security take whatever steps are necessary to meet that date.

2. I am deeply grateful for the contribution of DHS thus far and for the work of Doug Melvin, your Country Director. Since July, both he and DHS have truly been a valuable resource to the Embassy, Coalition forces, and IIG. I am grateful for your support and assistance and look forward to continued support. I would appreciate your favorable response to this request, and will ask Doug to keep me apprised of any progress. Warmest regards.

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