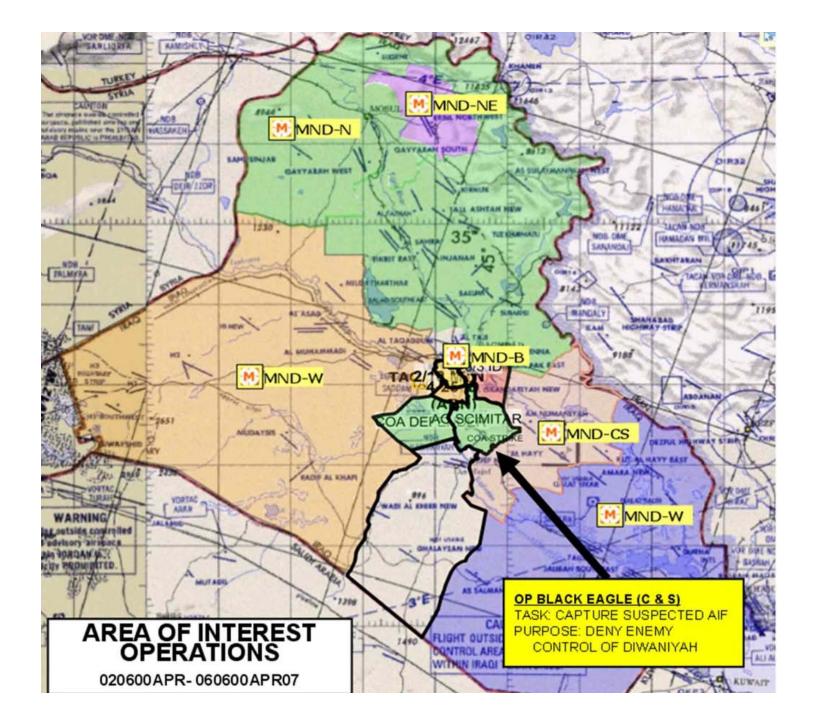
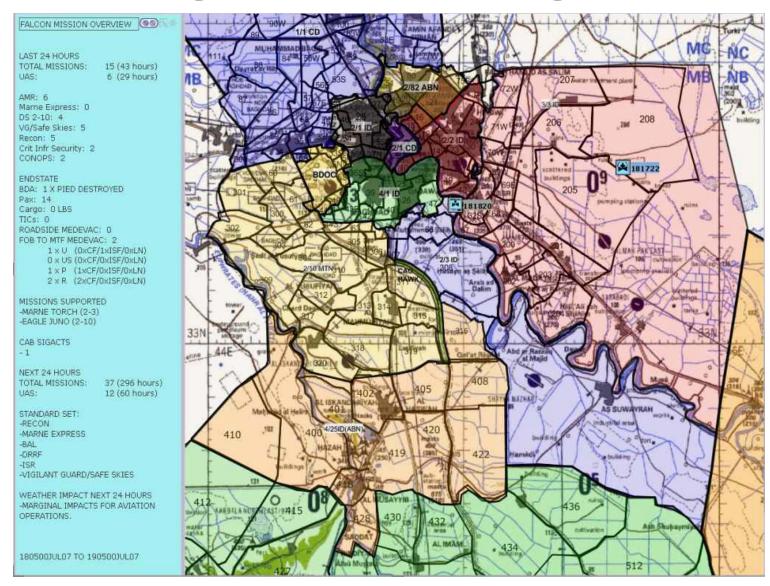


The Surge Petraeus gets lucky

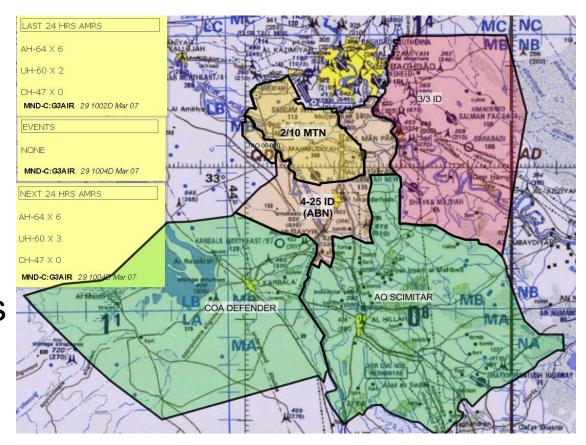
- January 07—Decision to increase troops in Iraq
- Add 5 bdes—2 to Baghdad, 3 to the "belts"—30,000 extra boots on the ground
- Petraeus is the first cmdr to have this luxury—and he uses it wisely
- April 07—Creates a new military region— MND-C—to increase permanent presence



2 Brigades—4 Brigades



- Still a huge AO-40,000 sq km (West Vir)
- Most ungarrisoned, but 14,000 sq km (Maryland) is responsibility of MND-C—but AOs Defender and Scimitar are Iraqi responsibility



The Boss:

MG Rick Lynch CG, 3d Infantry Division, TF Marne, and MND-C

Armor officer in command of a heavy unit

COIN is no mystery; "kill bad guys" or at least push them away—then stay to ensure rebuilding

No choice between populationcentric and enemy-centric COIN



The Mission

- Halt "accelerants" of violence into Baghdad
- MND-C is one of only two "mixed" AOs—Sunni and Shiite militias
- Maintain permanent presence in former insurgent sanctuaries
- A simple mission—when you more than double troop strength. By July 07 Lynch controlled his battle space

Permanent Presence—New Bases

- April 07—14 operational bases in MND-C
- August 07—29 bases
- December 07— 46 bases
- May 08—56 bases

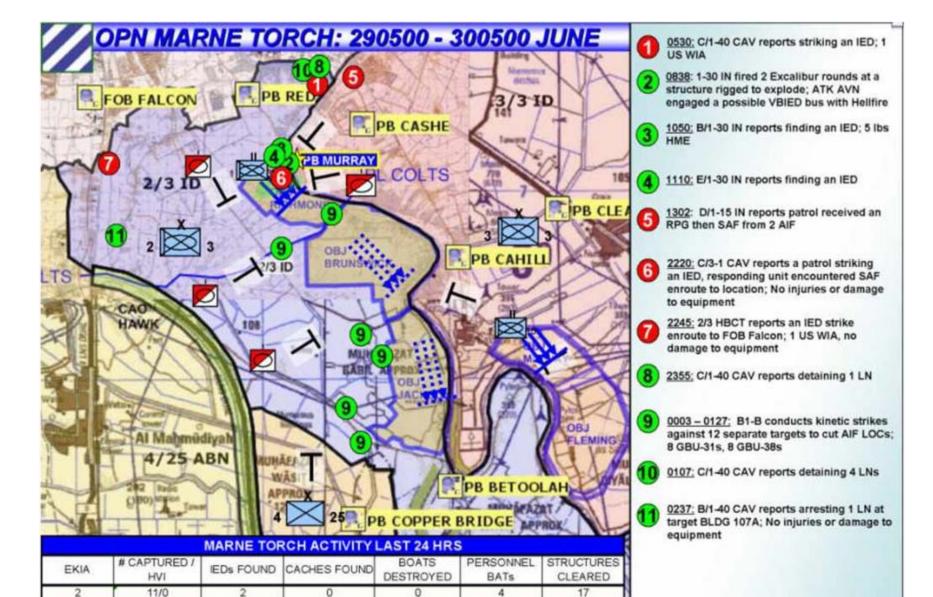


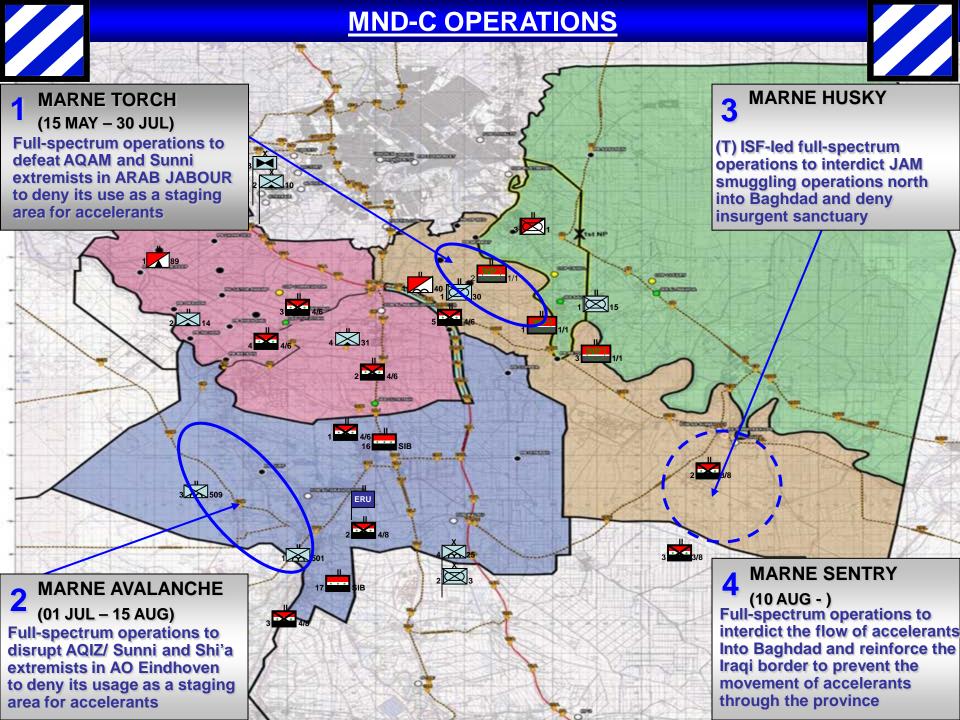
The Fight

- No "friendly"
 presence for 2
 yrs; AQ prepared
 ground with
 IEDs—very slow
 progress
- Some smalls arms engagements and indirect fire attacks



Operation Marne Torch

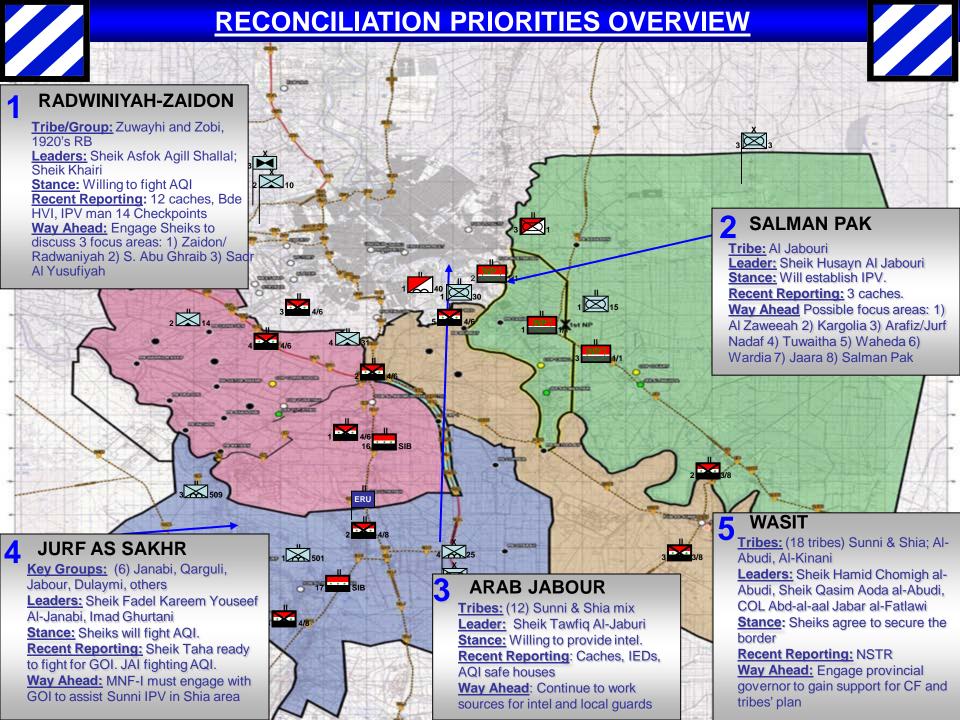




Reconciliation

- First priority security; zero reconciliation before 3d ID established permanent presence
- Then reconciliation—
 36,000 "concerned citizens" by spring 08
- Mostly Sunni, though some Shiites by late 07

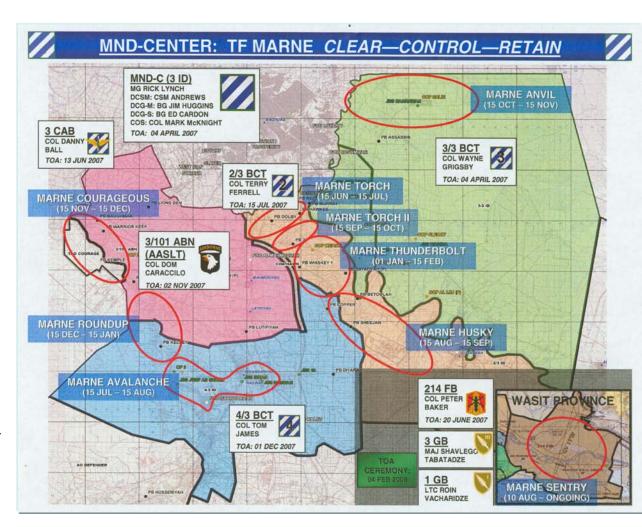




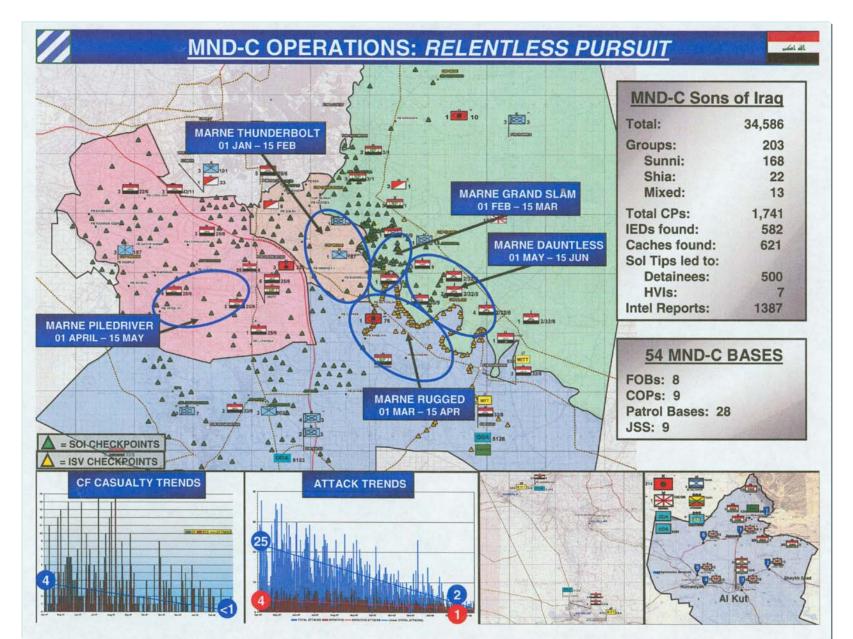
New Phase

MNC-I – Phantom Phoenix—Jan 2008

- Emphasis on rebuilding—because security largely in place
- Opns required less "kinetics"
- Sol were a factor
- Confirms the necessity of emphasizing security first

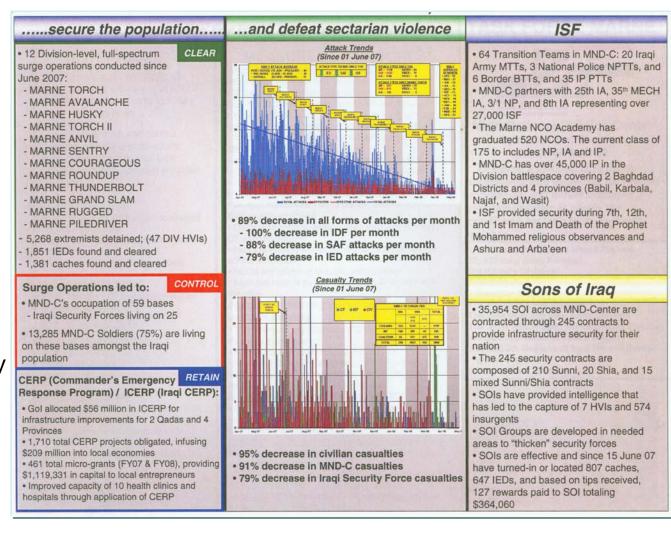


"Relentless Pursuit"—but how far?



TF Marne Bows Out

- Turned over MND-C to 10th Mtn Div in June
- Surge ends in July when 2d Bde, 3d Inf Div redeployed
- Most other bdes not replaced when they leave—MND-C goes back to being roughly a two-bde force
- Balance sheet:



Conclusions

- Numbers matter: Boots on the ground were the essential ingredient
- Turns 80 percent military, 20 percent political on its head
 - All gains came from security; political change follows
 - Few "hearts and minds" to be won—most people have their minds made up. But they all want security from violence
- No "strategic choice" between population vs. enemy centers of gravity.
- Final Verdict: Surge bought US and Iraq time. Can any more be expected in COIN?

Questions?

