

Task Force 1st Battalion 37th Armor ***“The Bandits” in OIF 05-07***

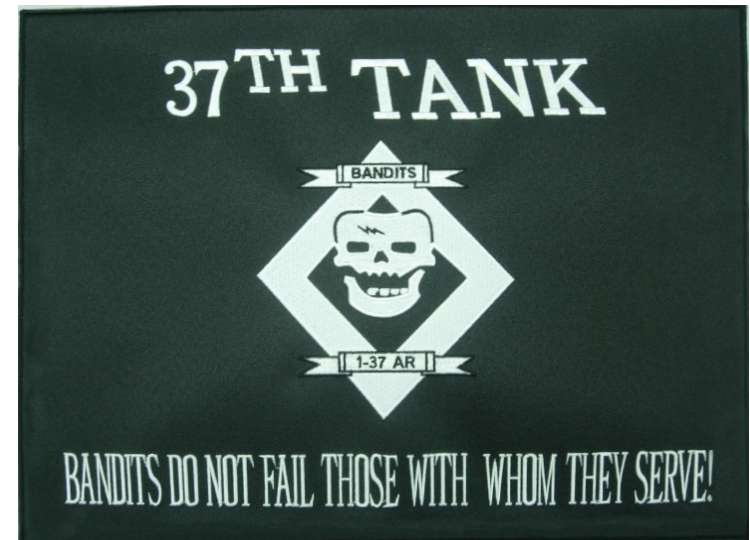
LTC V.J. Tedesco III
Commanding





Agenda

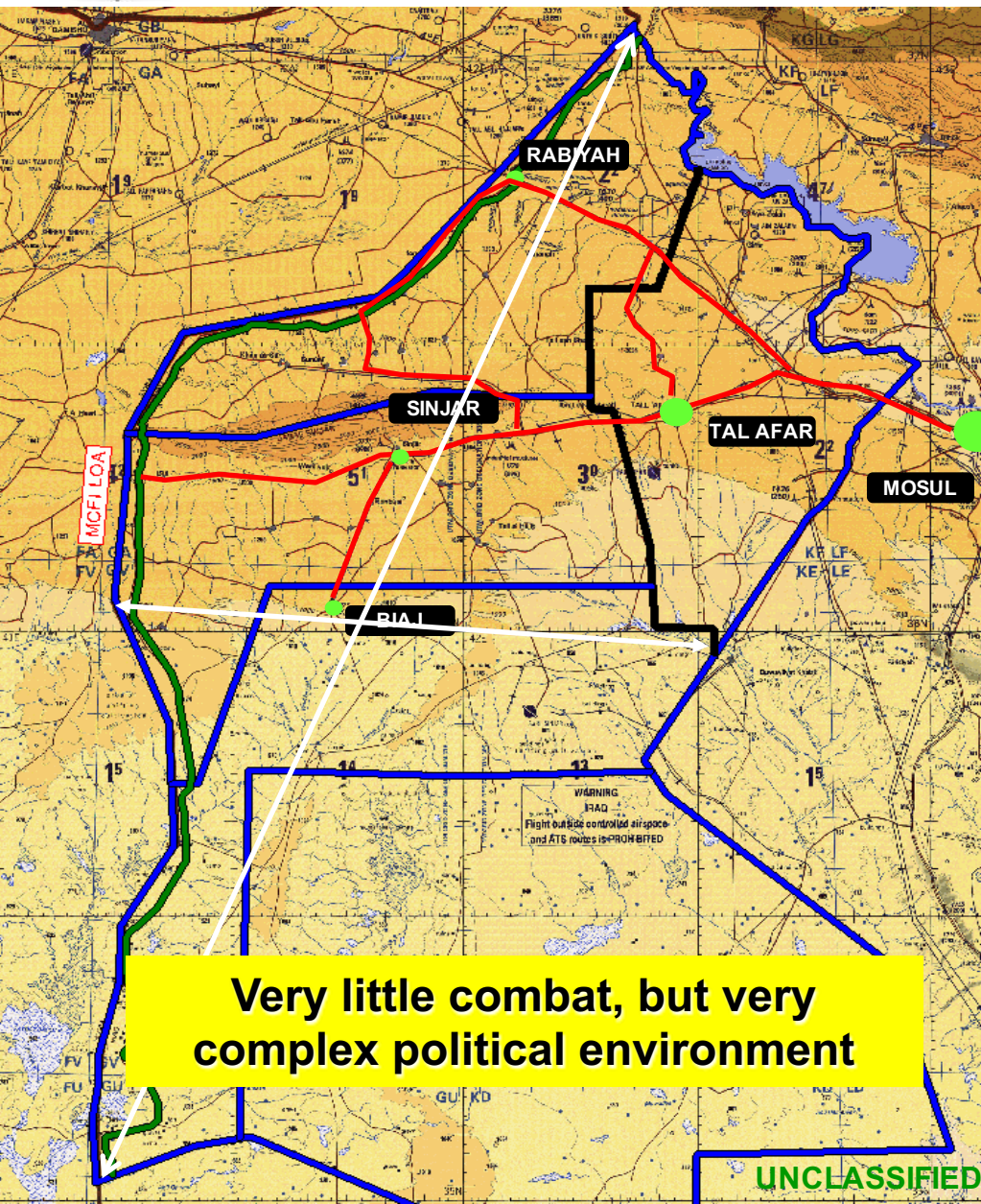
- **About me & Task Force 1-37 AR**
- **Operations in Western Nineveh**
- **Operations in Ramadi**
 - **Mission**
 - **Task Org**
 - **The Tactics**
 - **Operations Overview**
 - **The Threat**
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- **In 13 Months in Combat...**
- **LT Critical Tactical Tasks**
- **Final Thoughts**
- **Questions**





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Western Nineveh : Jan-May 06



Major Missions:

- ISF development
- Border surveillance
- Operate Rabiyah Point of Entry
- Area security
- Local governance development

246 km at longest/115 km at widest
13,770 sq km (approximately)
284 km of IZ-SY Border

55% Cultivated, 35 % Desert, 5% Mtns

3 Districts: Rabiyah (S-D), Sinjar (D), Biaj (D)

Urban Centers: 354

Total Population: ~400,000

Ethnic: Arab, Kurd, Yezidi, Turkoman

Religious: Sunni, Yezidi,

Political : PDK, PUK, YMPR

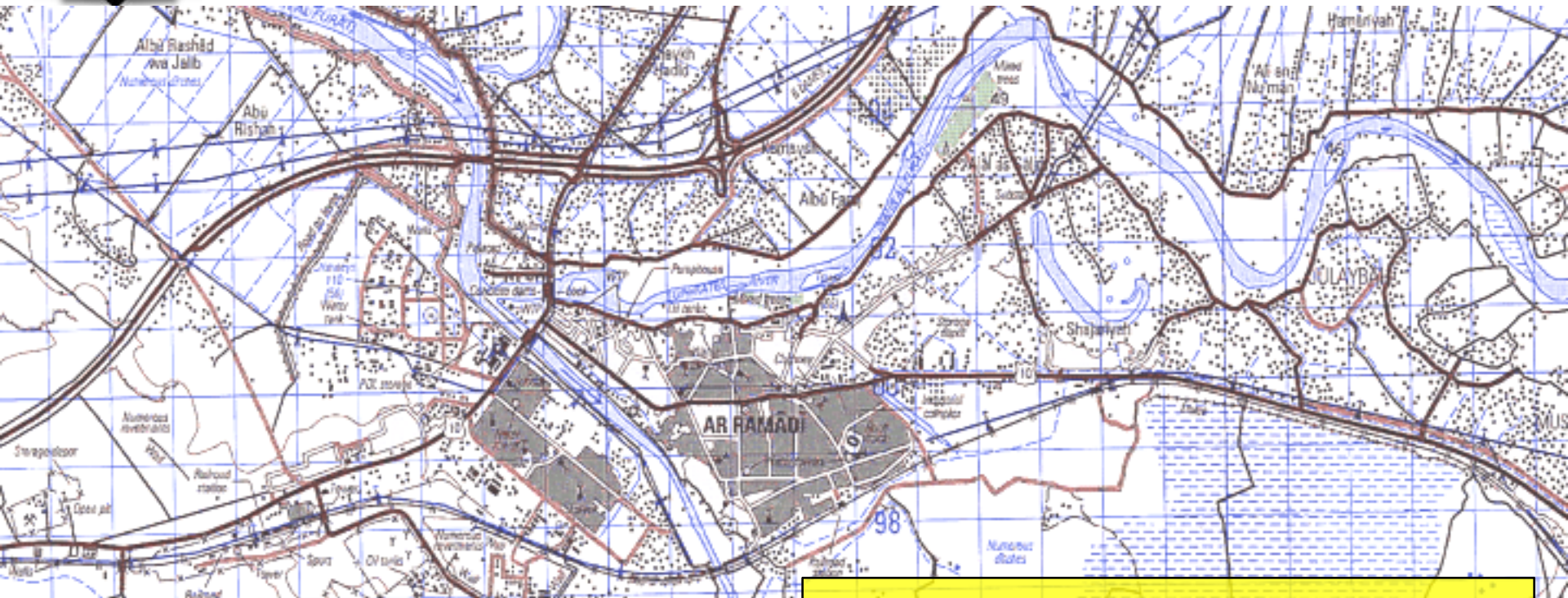
Tribal: Complex mix

Very little combat, but very complex political environment

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Ramadi: June 06 - February 07



No city government & few IPs
 Nominal GoI influence & presence
 Largely under AQIZ control
 Critical to AQIZ strategy & opns
Most violent city in Iraq

400k population
 99% Sunni Arab - no sectarian conflict
 Capital of al Anbar Province
 Transportation, economic & political hub
 Heavily damaged infrastructure



TF Bandits Mission

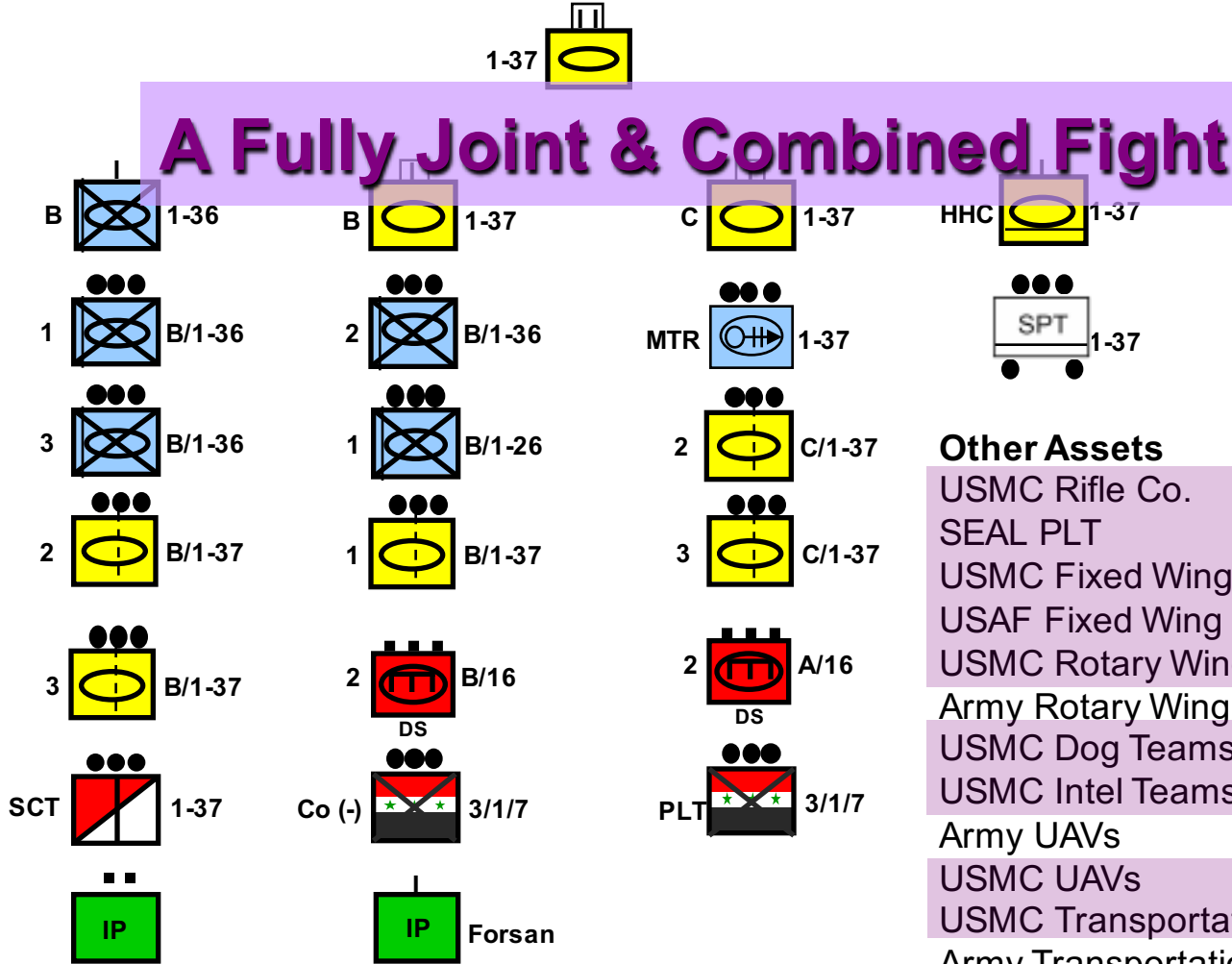
To set the conditions for transfer of security operations to ISF lead and to support transfer of governance to local control, TF 1-37 AR partners with ISF and neutralizes AIF in AO BANDITS through combined counter-insurgency operations beginning 11 June 06.



Task Organization

TF Control

- 2 x PSDs
- ANGLICO
- JTAC
- TPT
- THT
- CAT-A/CAG
- EWO



Other Assets

- USMC Rifle Co.
- SEAL PLT
- USMC Fixed Wing
- USAF Fixed Wing
- USMC Rotary Wing
- Army Rotary Wing
- USMC Dog Teams
- USMC Intel Teams
- Army UAVs
- USMC UAVs
- USMC Transportation & MHE
- Army Transportation & MHE
- USMC Fire Fighters
- Navy Seabees



The Threat in Ramadi

1. IEDs
 - Emplacement
 - Sub-surface
 - Surface laid
 - Buildings
 - Initiation
 - Victim Operated
 - Command Wire
 - Remotely detonated
 - Targeting
 - Vehicle
 - Dismounted patrols
 - Ambush teams
2. Snipers & precision marksmen
3. Indirect Fire
4. Complex attack
5. Harassing Attack
6. VBIED

What is different?

No EFPs

Bottom attack

AIF tactical skill



The Tactics

- **Seize Key Terrain**
 - Seize foothold allowing access to people
 - Build Combat Outpost (COP)
 - Secure lines of communication
- **Control Terrain & Population**
 - Movement to contact with AIF
 - Deliberate clearance of AO
 - Census to understand people & issues
 - Neutralize AIF through targeted operations
- **Build Go/ISF Capability & Credibility**
 - Introduce IA then IPs
 - Civil-Military Operations Centers & projects
 - Push ISF into lead
 - Develop local governance



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South Central Ramadi Spring 06

No persistent ISF or CF presence South of RTE Michigan
Area under AQIZ control
AIF defense in depth with belts of sub-surface IEDs
Weapons & fighters infiltrate from south
AIF preparing for "Fallujah-style" assault by CF



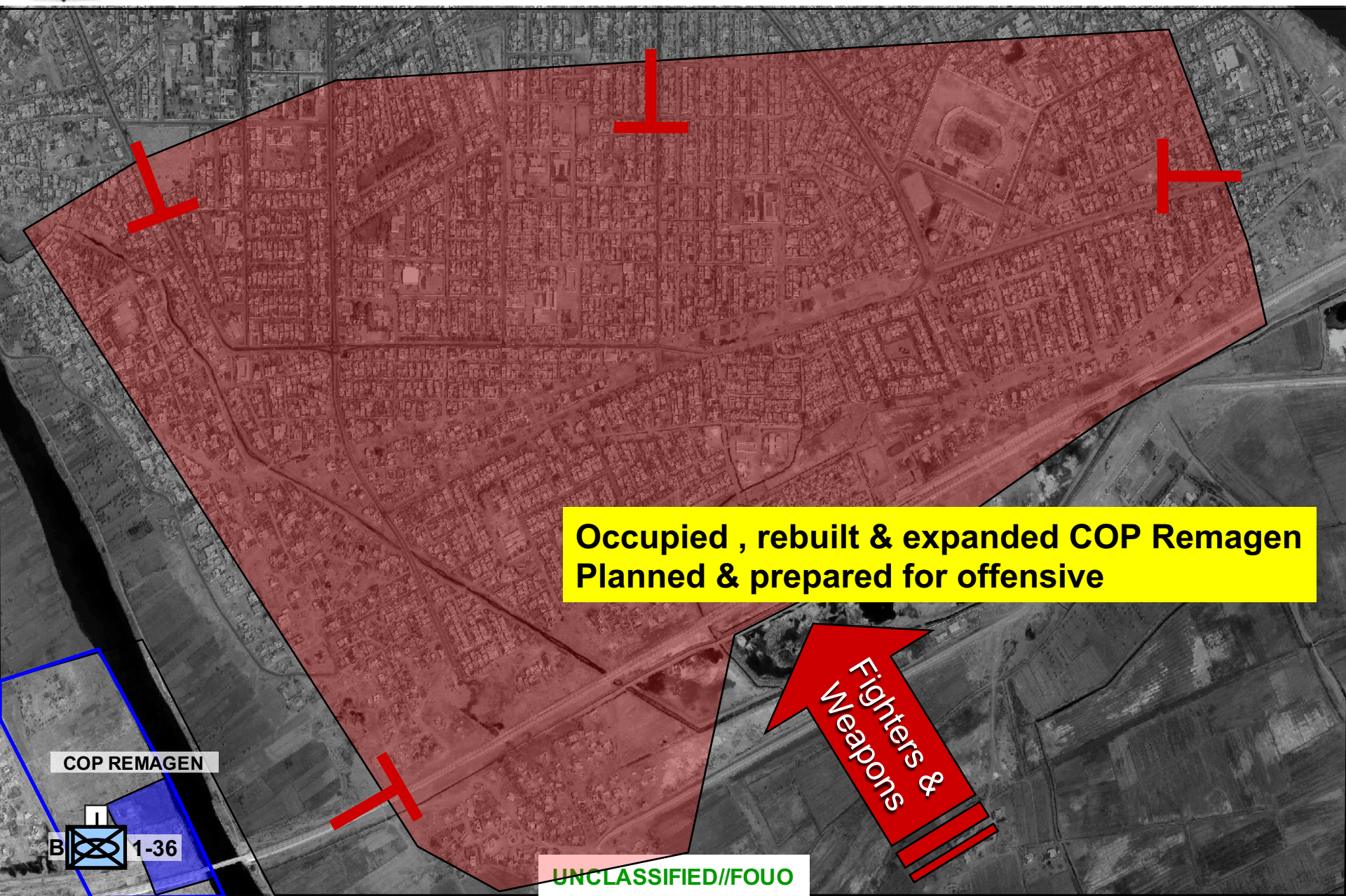
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SVBIED 1/17
ECP 3



4-17 JUNE 06

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**Occupied , rebuilt & expanded COP Remagen
Planned & prepared for offensive**

COP REMAGEN

B 1-36

**Fighters &
Weapons**

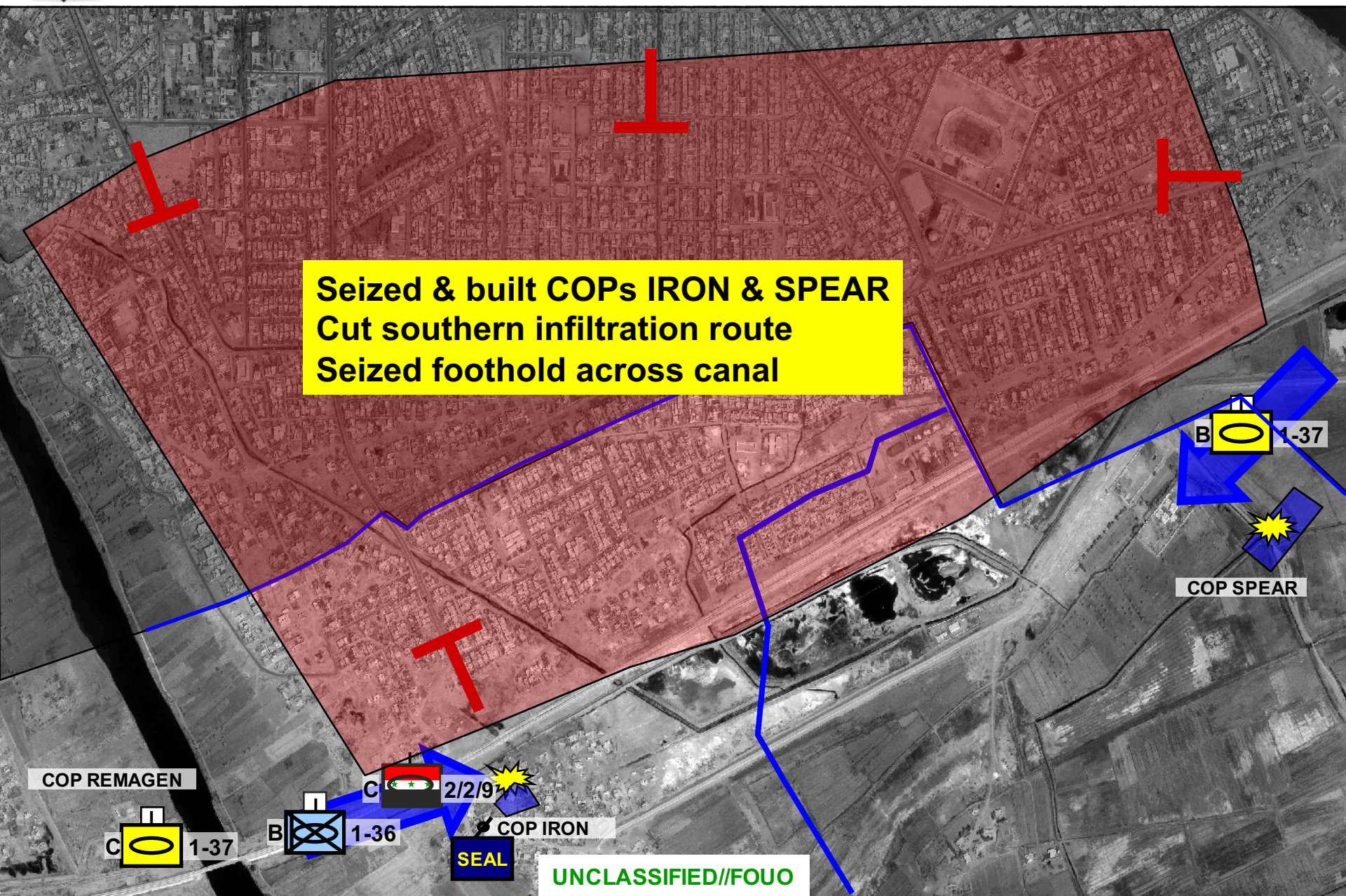
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18- 25 JUNE 06

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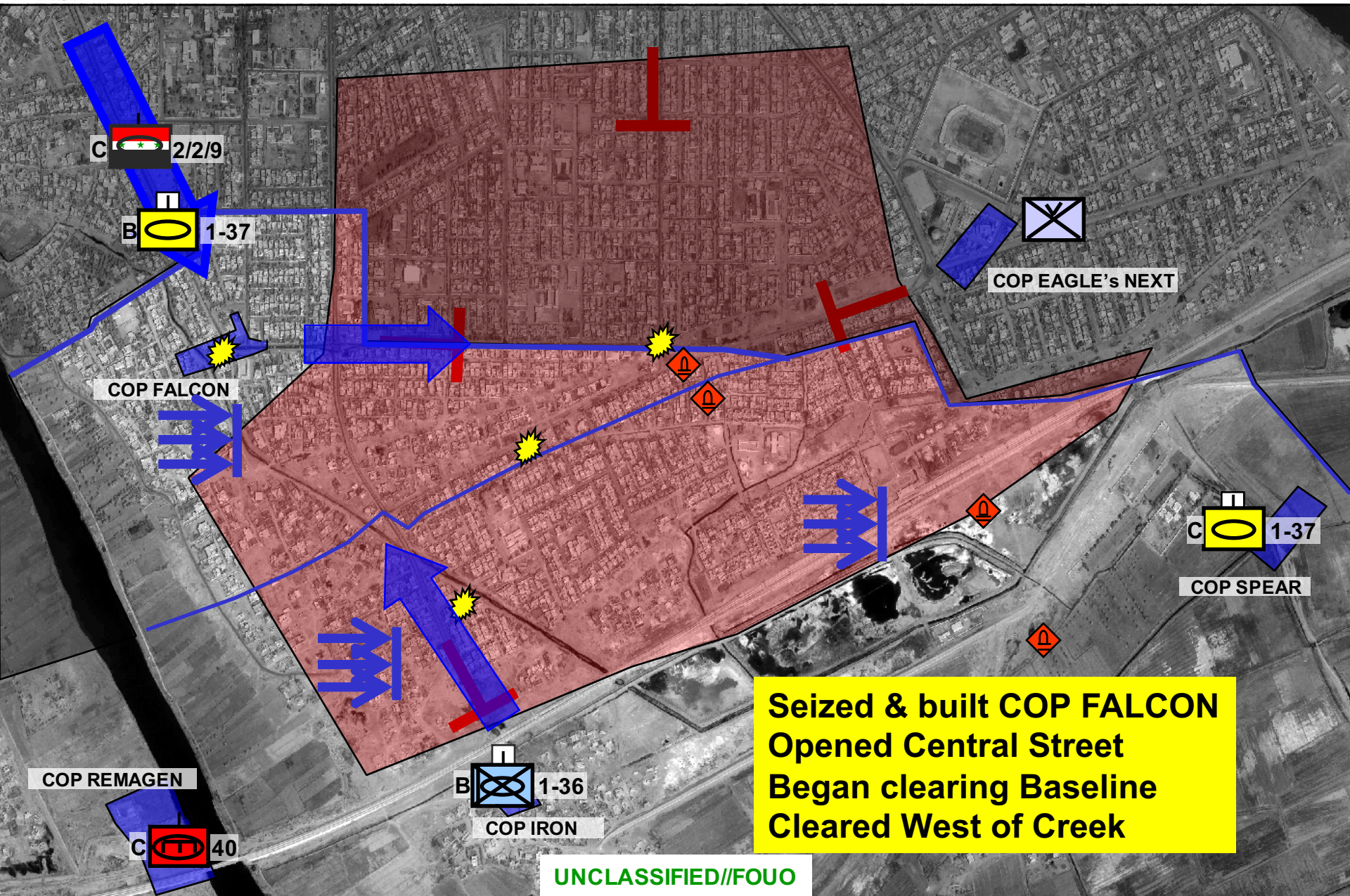
**Seized & built COPs IRON & SPEAR
Cut southern infiltration route
Seized foothold across canal**



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26 JUNE to 30 JULY 06

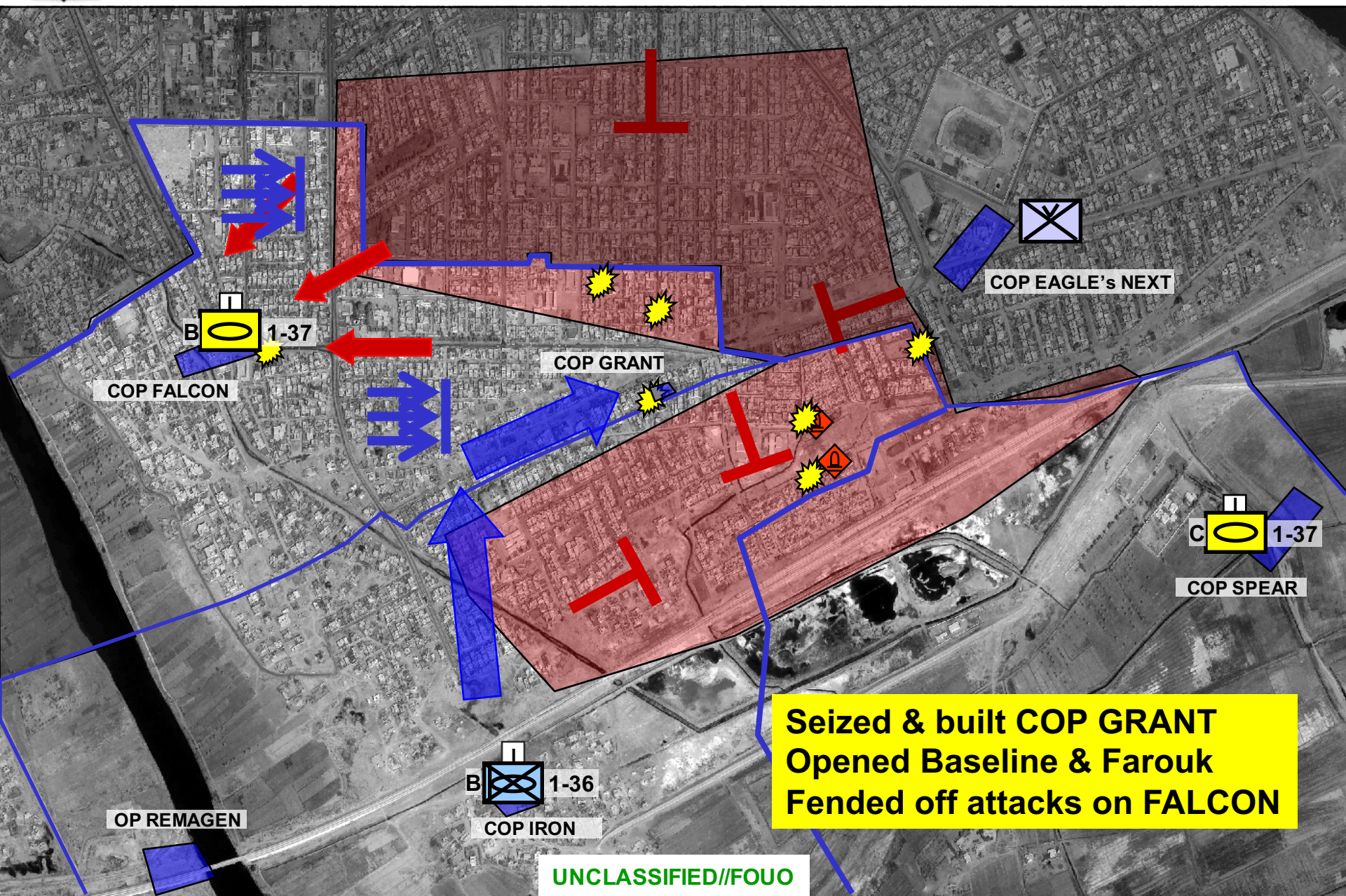


**Seized & built COP FALCON
Opened Central Street
Began clearing Baseline
Cleared West of Creek**



1 AUG 06 – 6 SEP 06

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COP FALCON

B 1-37

COP GRANT

COP EAGLE's NEXT

COP SPEAR

C 1-37

B 1-36

COP IRON

OP REMAGEN

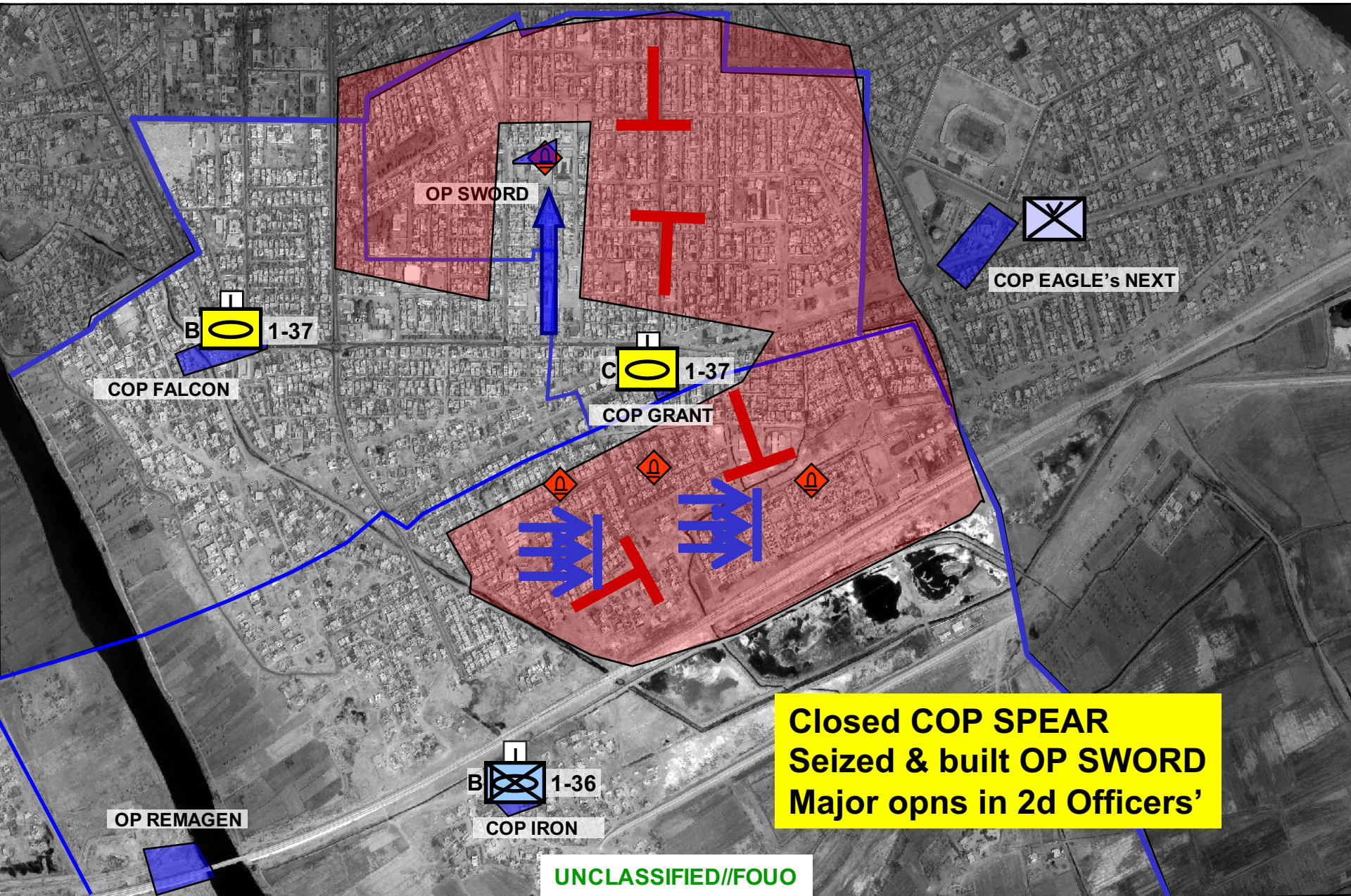
**Seized & built COP GRANT
Opened Baseline & Farouk
Fended off attacks on FALCON**

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7-16 SEP 06

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OP SWORD

COP EAGLE's NEXT

COP FALCON

COP GRANT

OP REMAGEN

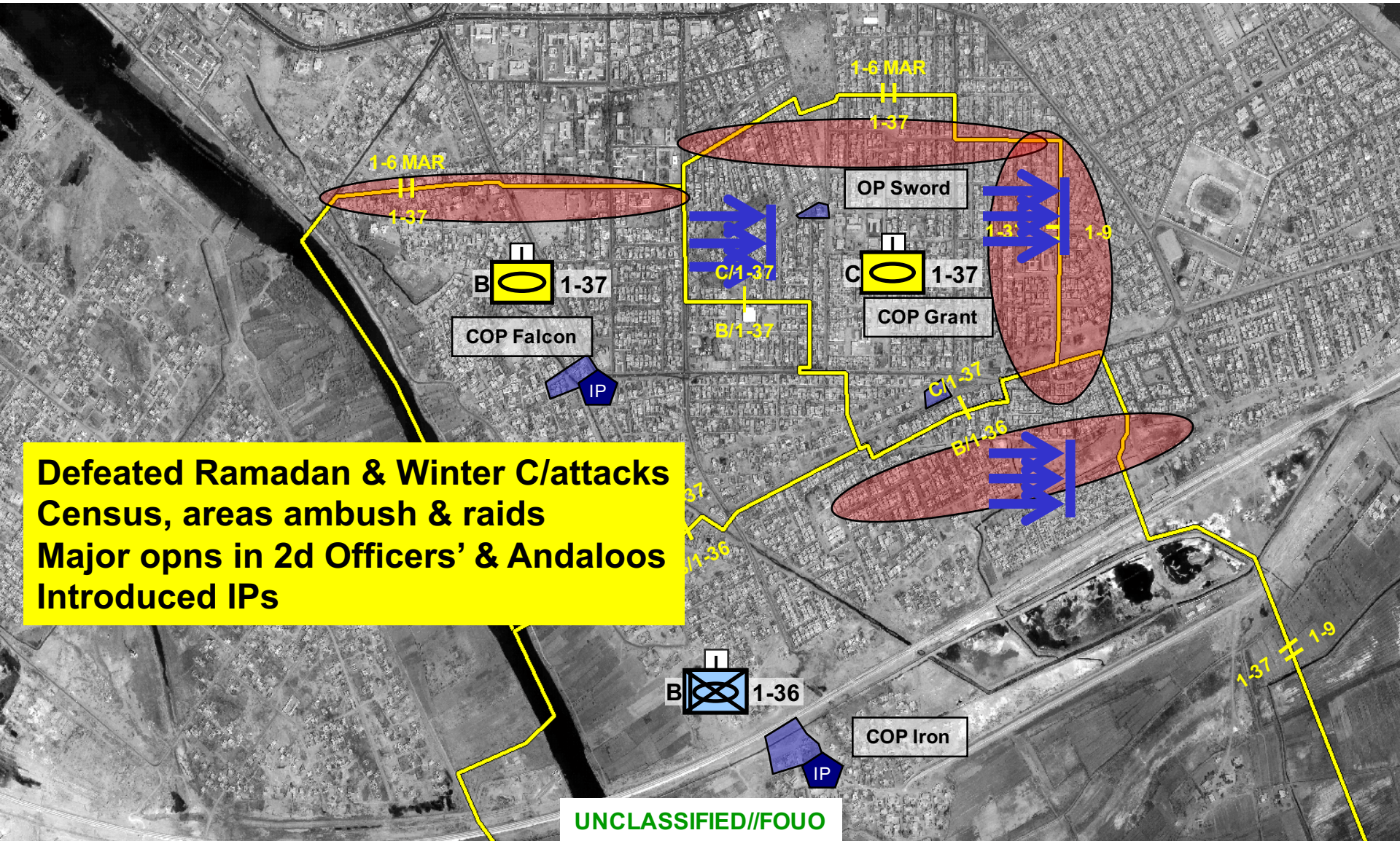
COP IRON

**Closed COP SPEAR
Seized & built OP SWORD
Major opns in 2d Officers'**

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16 SEP 06 – 10 FEB 07



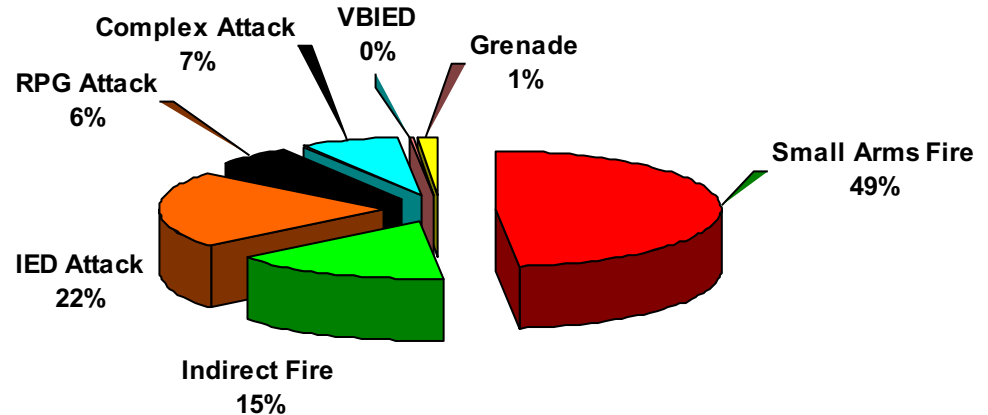
**Defeated Ramadan & Winter C/attacks
Census, areas ambush & raids
Major opns in 2d Officers' & Andaloos
Introduced IPs**



Box Score: 5 Jun 06 to 21 Jan 07

Small Arms Fire	252
Indirect Fire	80
IED Attack	113
RPG Attack	29
Complex Attack	38
VBIED	1
Grenade	7
Escalation of Force	5
Engagement	260
IED Discovered	110
Detained	57
Cache	23
Explosion	19
Other	35
Totals	1029

520 AIF Attacks
2.26/Day



509 CF Actions
2.21/Day



In 13 Months in Combat...

TF 1-37

- Seized and built 6 COPs, 10 long duration OPs, and secured the streets connecting them**
- Conducted about**
 - 3200 combat patrols**
 - 275 named company operations**
 - 27 task force operations**
- Supervised \$24 million in reconstruction projects**
- Censused 80% of structures in South Central Ramadi**
- Developed 240 AIF personality targets**
- Killed over 400 AQIZ fighters**
- Detained over 175 AIF**



In 13 Months in Combat...

The Cost:

- **Attacked by 223 IEDs**
 - 110 discovered before detonation
 - 113 detonated on TF
- **About 25 tanks, Bradleys and trucks destroyed**
- **About 100 wounded in action**
- **10 TF Soldiers, 1 Marine & 1 SEAL killed in action**





Critical LT Tactical Tasks

- 1. Troop Leading Procedures**
- 2. Conduct mounted & dismounted patrols
(Raid, Area Recon, Ambush, Logistics)**
- 3. React to contact mounted & dismounted
(IED, Sniper, Direct or Indirect Fire, Complex Attack)**
- 4. Conduct ambushes**
- 5. Move mounted & dismounted**
- 6. Enter and clear a building**
- 7. Defend a building/position**
- 8. Fire control & distribution**
- 9. Detainees procedures**
- 10. Treat & evacuate casualties**
- 11. Manage combat stress**
- 12. Conduct patrol debrief and AAR**
- 13. Apply Law of Armed Conflict, Rules of Engagement,
escalation of force**





Final Thoughts

- **Get in excellent shape now**
- **Master close quarters marksmanship**
- **Master basic “Infantry” individual, leader and small unit tasks**
- **Understand combat stress & life-saving skills**
- **Understand fire control & distribution**
- **Learn basic police skills**
- **Develop cultural awareness & language skills**





Final Thoughts

- **Have confidence in yourself**
- **Be a leader not a friend**
- **Make the most of your subordinates skills and abilities**
- **You are fighting a thinking enemy, never underestimate him**
- **Be sniper aware**
- **Drive slow & live**
- **Aim low & stay low**





Questions?

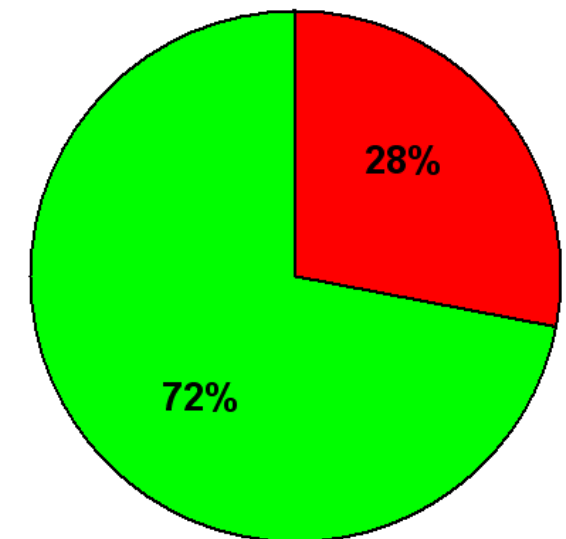
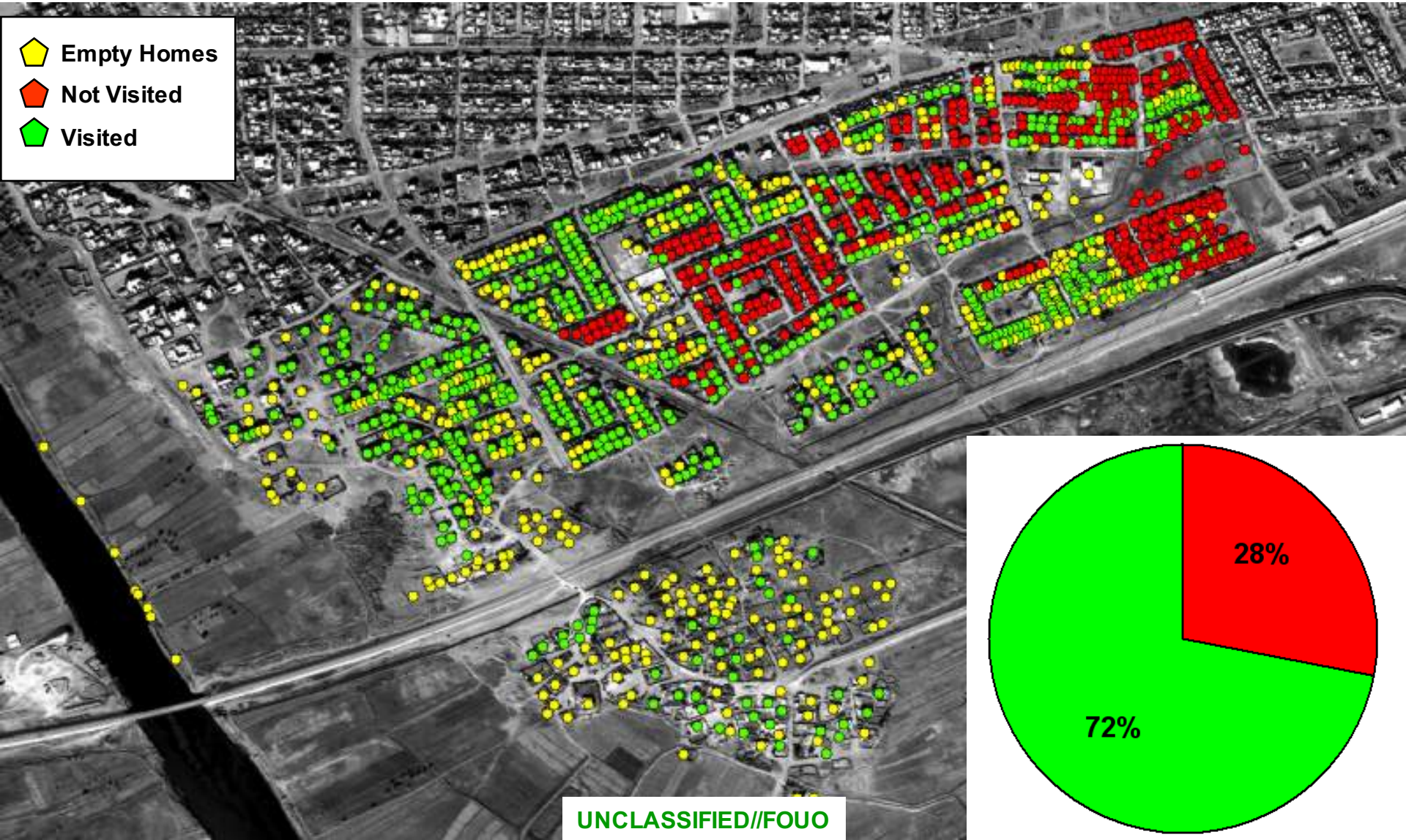
READY FIRST IN IRAQ





Control the terrain: Census Patrols

- Empty Homes
- Not Visited
- Visited





TF Commander's Intent (1 of 3)

- The **Decisive Point** is when Iraqis living in South Central Ramadi (SCR) see a persistent ISF presence in their neighborhoods and feel secure enough that they start providing us with intelligence about AIF operations. The **Decisive Terrain** is the Iraqi people of SCR.
- **Purpose:** We must make SCR secure enough that the ISF can complete the defeat of the AIF and secure enough that the Iraqi authorities can govern the area.



TF Commander's Intent (2 of 3)

Key Tasks:

- 1. Setting up the ISF for success is job one. Grow and nurture the IA and IPs to build their confidence and capacity to finish the fight.**
- 2. Execute deliberate Iraqi-led “Clear, Build & Hold” operations to establish a persistent ISF presence that inspires confidence where the AIF previously reigned through terror and intimidation**
- 3. Precisely apply just enough lethal force to accomplish the mission. Operate within the letter and spirit of the ROE. Don't be heavy handed**
- 4. Execute Civil-Military Operations and Information Operations to create and reinforce a positive vision for the future of the people of SCR and Iraq.**
- 5. Protect the Force. Maintain freedom of movement into SCR and between patrol bases. Continuously adapt and improve all aspects of TF operations. Maintain positive and procedural control of personnel in AO Bandit that no US or CF Soldier, Sailor, Marine, or Airman dead or alive, falls into enemy hands.**



TF Commander's Intent (3 of 3)

- **Endstate:** AIF in AO BANDIT are neutralized, IP are established and operating in SCR, partnered IA are established in sustainable, survivable Patrol Bases providing tactical support to IPs, and RFCT is prepared to conduct future operations.