

Bridget Kendall: But does that mean you'll check it out with them beforehand or only tell them about it afterwards?

General Kimmitt: You know those discussions are ongoing now because we want to come up with practical modalities so that all the concerns can be met on both sides. They are concerns of a sovereign nation and of course the concerns of a multinational force operating inside of a sovereign nation.

Bridget Kendall: Let's go to a caller we have, who's on the line, from France, Mike Aderlie who's in Le Gavanne . Mike what would you like to ask the General?

Mike Aderle: Well my question I think has already been answered by the previous questioner because my question was: What is the situation after June 30th? Will the Americans give the authority for the Iraqi government to govern the American forces? It's badly phrased perhaps but I think it's already covered by the previous questioner.

Bridget Kendall: But this is actually a question that a lot of people have been in touch with us about, General Kimmitt. This is Nilesh from Antwerp in Belgium who says: How can a national be handed over power - full sovereignty - when its government has no control over the majority of the armed forces?

General Kimmitt: Well first of all the Iraqi security forces will act and work for the government of Iraq. And we have a precedent for this, one which the British enjoy as well and are involved in and that's what we do in Korea. Right now we have the UN forces in Korea, that nation's forces in Korea, working inside the sovereign nation of Korea. There have been modalities and practical measures established between the American forces, predominantly American forces in the US command and the sovereign nation of Korea. That may be one of the models that we look at.

We have people far smarter than me sitting down right now working out these modalities and we have all the confidence in the world that post-July 1st that we will be able to conduct missions to ensure the security of Iraq alongside the Iraqi security forces so that there's no security gap while we're trying to figure out the solution.

Bridget Kendall: Well General Kimmit thank you very much for joining us. I think that's all we have time for today. And my apologies to everyone for the difficulty in seeing General Kimmitt in vision the whole time. But my thanks to Brigadier General Mark Kimmitt, who spent an hour with us from Baghdad and to all of you who've been in touch.

You can still take part in our debates on Iraq via our website - bbcnews.com - where you can also send in questions and comments for next week's Talking Point where I'll be back hosting a discussion on the 60th anniversary of D-Day. But for now from all of us goodbye.