

Q: General, Martha Raddatz from ABC News. If I could follow up on Jim's question. You said it's something you always have to be aware of. What kind of evidence are you seeing that this is happening? Is it getting worse, the Iraqi /Iraqi violence against one another? What do you do that? The assassinations there, are they getting worse? And also, if you wouldn't mind talking about foreign fighters, what you're seeing. Is that declining? Who they are?

Odierno: Yeah, a couple things. First, I think, again, it's not getting worse. But again, I think it's sometimes it's almost posturing because they see where Iraq is heading. So we are seeing a bit of Sunni-on-Shi'a violence. We are seeing a bit of Turkish- Kurdish discussions now, which is good -- not violence. We are also, I believe, in a phase now where the foreign fighters are trying to become organized within Iraq. So it's important that we conduct interdiction operations in order to keep that from happening.

I believe the insurgency has not maintained itself as long as they wished. And I'm not quite sure the foreign fighter-al Qaeda links that are, I believe, trying to get in the country have properly organized themselves yet. But I believe they are going to try to organize and they will try to recruit probably what's left of the former regime elements to join together. But I've not seen that as of yet. But I believe that's a potential threat in the future.

Q: You believe al Qaeda foreign fighters are trying to organize outside and get in? You have evidence of that?

Odierno: I think we have some reports that they are trying to infiltrate into Iraq and organize themselves in order to conduct operations against coalition forces. We have no specific evidence yet. We have not had any specific contact in my area of operation with al Qaeda. But we do believe that they are trying to organize and then try to conduct attacks. Our job is to try to, again, interdict that and I think we've been fairly successful so far. But we have to work that very hard. And we are looking for that very carefully every day.

Q: General Odierno, Bret Baier from Fox News Channel. There have been some raids in your AOR that appeared to be successful in the -- heading toward the hunt for Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri. Can you give us an update on that hunt and your perception of, perhaps, how close or not close we are?

Odierno: Well, we picked up another one two nights ago that are one of his close associates that are operating within this area -- very close in the Ad Dawr (ph) AOR. We are working them for information, but we have not gotten any specific information on where Mr. al-Douri is. There's contradictions about his health still, whether he's healthy, whether he's not healthy. There's -- we believe -- there's some reports that he's trying to put out false information purposely, to throw us off track. We're aware of that. But we are continuing to work it very hard.

Q: There was the belief that he was somehow doing some command and control with these attacks. What do you see his role as currently, as far as the former regime elements?

Odierno: I see it mostly as a -- again, I don't see him doing any direct coordination. I believe that he is trying in some cases, I believe, or people under him or close to him are trying to keep the fight alive by using his name, or he's doing it. I think it's more he's a rallying point. But I don't see any direction specifically on his part in directing anti-coalition activities.

But I believe, by capturing him, it's just another symbol that is taken away from the Iraqi people. But he nowhere near carries the clout that obviously HVT Number 1, or Saddam Hussein, carried. It's not equal.

But he is a figure that has been known throughout this AOR for being ruthless for many years now. So it would be helpful to get him off the streets.

Q: General, Jamie McIntyre from CNN. We continue to get these briefings from commanders in Iraq that are