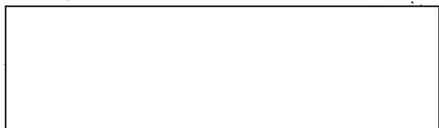


~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECORD COPY

NIS 30

3/6/06



NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SURVEY

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: OCT -2005

IRAQ

SECTION 41

(b) (1)
(b) (3)
(c)

POPULATION

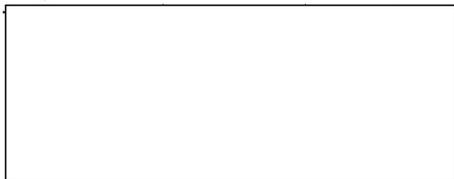


This revision of Section 41 is issued under the NIS maintenance program. It supersedes the original Section 41, dated April 1950, copies of which should be destroyed.

RECORD COPY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Washington, D. C.



CHAPTER IV

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NND 011466

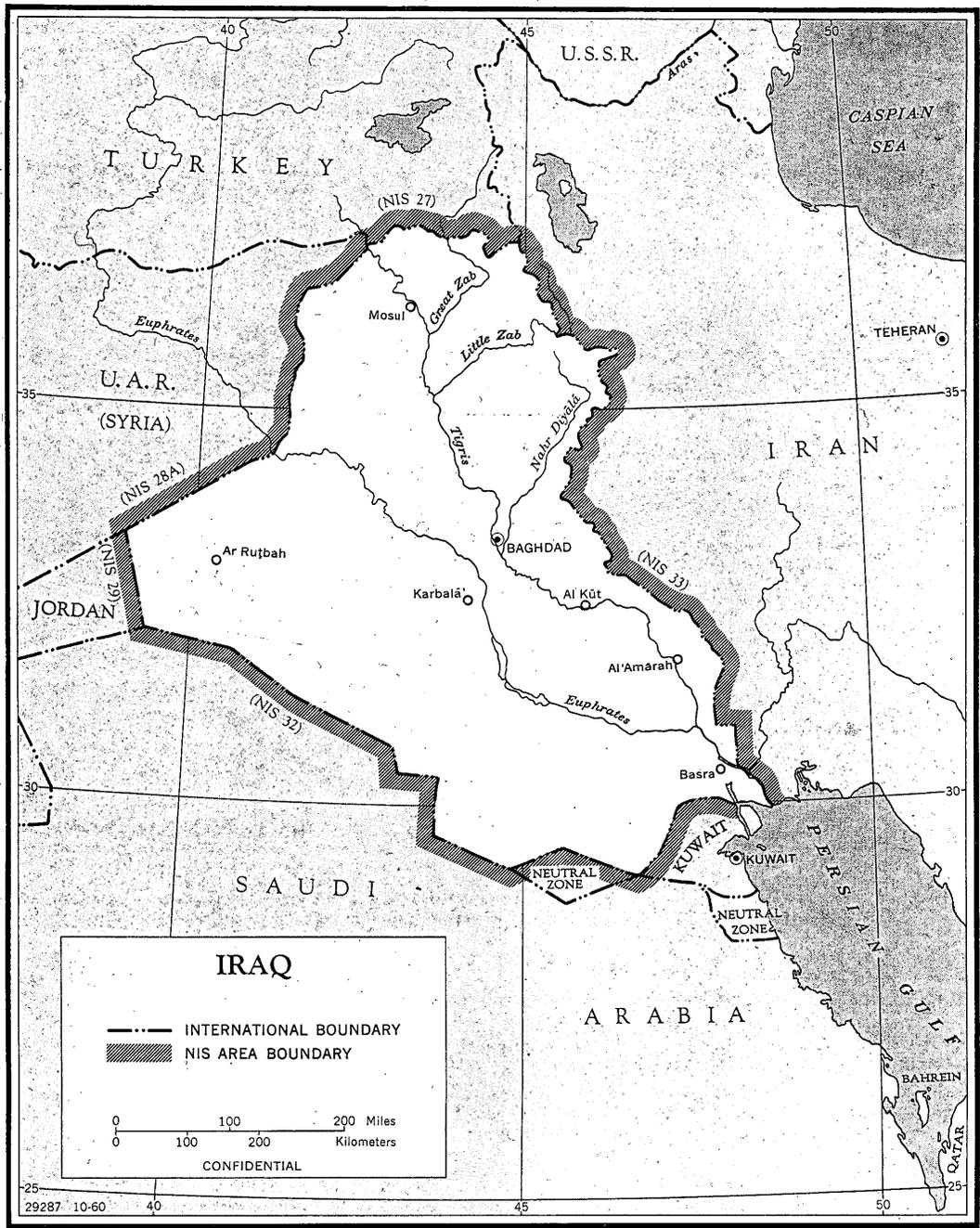
RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

Army	FEMA	NSA
<u>CIA</u>	FBI	OSD
DEA	HOUSE	STATE
DIA	NASA	SENATE
DOE	NAVY	TREAS
DOJ	NSC	USAF
DSWA	NRC	USMC

NND 011466 - 96



NND 011466
 RG 263
 Box 156
 Tab 2

- Army
- CIA
- DEA
- DIA
- DOE
- DOJ
- DSWA
- FEMA
- FBI
- HOUSE
- NASA
- NAVY
- NSC
- NRC
- NSA
- OSD
- STATE
- SENATE
- TREAS
- USAF
- USMC

NND 011466 -97

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

Army	FEMA	NSA
CIA	FBI	OSD
DEA	HOUSE	STATE
DIA	NASA	SENATE
DOE	NAVY	TREAS
DOJ	NSC	USAF
DSWA	NRC	USMC

NND 011466 -98

TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR SECTION 41

	<i>Page</i>
A. General	41- 1
B. Size, composition, and geographic distribution	41- 1
1. Size and composition	41- 1
2. Distribution and density	41- 2
3. Pattern of settlement and urban areas	41- 4
4. Migratory movements	41- 4
C. Population structure	41- 5
D. Population change	41- 6
1. Vital statistics	41- 6
2. Immigration and emigration	41- 6
3. Trends and projections	41- 7
E. Population problems and policies	41- 7
F. Reference data	41- 8



LIST OF FIGURES

		<i>Page</i>
Fig. 41-1	Table	Area, population, and population density 41- 2
Fig. 41-2	Table	Pilgrim travel for the years 1955-57 41- 2
Fig. 41-3	Map	Population density by province and desert area 41- 3
Fig. 41-4	Table	Urban and rural population distribution by area 41- 4
Fig. 41-5	Table	Age-sex distribution of the population 41- 5
Fig. 41-6	Table	Iraqi citizens abroad 41- 6
Fig. 41-7	Table	Aliens entering, leaving, and residing in Iraq 41- 8
Fig. 41-8	Table	Population of the principal cities and towns 41- 9
Fig. 41-9	Table	Sex distribution and ratios 41- 9
Fig. 41-10	Map	Cities and towns follows 41-11

This Section was prepared for the NIS by the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Department of State.

NND 011466
 RG 263
 Box 156
 Tab 2

Army	FEMA	NSA
CIA	FBI	OSD
DEA	HOUSE	STATE
DIA	NASA	SENATE
DOE	NAVY	TREAS
DOJ	NSC	USAF
DSWA	NRC	USMC

NND 011466 - 99

41. Population

The user can supplement the information in this Section by referring to Section 40, Introduction, for basic characteristics of population and the environmental factors involved. Manpower potential and actual occupational distribution are described in Section 44, Manpower.

A. General

More than any of its Arab neighbors, Iraq is conspicuous for its relative wealth in unused arable land and for the water by which this surplus may be made agriculturally productive. Iraq, however, with an estimated total population of approximately 7,000,000 persons in 1960, has shown no interest in making its excess land available to displaced Arabs from other countries. Though this disinterest is motivated primarily by political considerations, the fact that the population is rapidly increasing—nearly 3% per annum—and the prospect that through improved health facilities and a continued high rate of fertility this rate may even increase offer some justification for Iraq's desire to hold this reserve to meet its own future needs.

Rich in oil resources, Iraq is endeavoring in the space of a generation to achieve through industrialization and, more recently through revolution and abrupt social reform, to raise the economic level and level of living to that of a modern industrial country. The program thus far has fallen short of its goal and in doing so has created conditions of distinct demographic concern. The drift of farm labor from the countryside to the cities, stimulated by the first efforts at industrialization, has crowded the urban centers with unskilled labor well in excess of reasonable employment opportunities. The government, with some success, is attempting to eradicate the traditional system whereby the wealthy landowner lives in town while his sharecropping tenants cultivate the land. The confusion caused by the forcible dissolution of the big estates following the 1958 revolution greatly increased this flow, augmenting the cities to yet undetermined size, increasing the burden on already inadequate social services, and swelling the numbers of impoverished malcontents accessible for political manipulation. The political instability of the postrevolutionary period has also aggravated the chronic restlessness of the Kurds and the Bedouin, resulting in reported migrations of Kurdish units into Turkey and Iran and of Bedouin groups into Syria.

The problems presented to the central government by the various minorities of Iraq are only partially illuminated by the most recent (1957) census. Division along ethnic lines is perceptible only by inference, in accordance with the languages used in response to the census enumerators' questions. A very generalized question on religion was included so that a distinction could be made among the population on such broad categories as Islam, Christianity, and the like. But because the subject was considered too sensitive to permit particularization, no further light is shed upon whether the preponderantly Muslim population is, in reality, made up of a Shiah majority, as claimed, and a Sunni (usually considered as "orthodox") minority.

B. Size, composition, and geographic distribution

1. Size and composition

The complete report on the 1957 Census, conducted by the Directorate General of Census under the Ministry of Social Affairs (now under the Ministry of Interior), has not yet been released for publication. The population figures used in this Section come, for the most part, from government interim reports on the 1957 census. These provisional 1957 figures show a population of 6,538,109 (see FIGURE 41-1). Based on annual rate of increase of 2.9% since 1947, the 1960 population would be approximately 7,000,000.

The 1957 census data thus far published have not given the numbers and regional distribution of the major ethnic components of the population. However, the proportional distribution is estimated to be: Arabs 77%, Kurds 18%, other minority groups—Turkomans, Iranians, Assyrians, Armenians, Jews, Yezidis, Mandaeans, and others—5%.

The Arab component of the population predominates in almost all Iraq. Iraqi Kurds inhabit the mountainous areas of the provinces of Irbil, Kirkuk, Al Mawşil, and As Sulaymāniyah, and the northern part of Diyālā Province. These Kurds, who differ in race and language from the Arabs, form the largest of the non-Arab minorities; how-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 41-1

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

Army	FEMA	NSA
CIA	FBI	OSD
DEA	HOUSE	STATE
DIA	NASA	SENATE
DOE	NAVY	TREAS
DOJ	NSC	USAF
DSWA	NRC	USMC

NND 011466 -100

FIGURE 41-1. AREA, POPULATION, AND POPULATION DENSITY BY PROVINCE AND DESERT AREA, 1957

PROVINCE OR DESERT AREA	AREA IN SQUARE MILES	POPULATION	PERSONS PER SQUARE MILE
PROVINCE:			
Al 'Amārah	7,095	329,647	46
Baghdād	4,924	1,306,604	265
Al Baṣrah	4,747	502,884	106
Ad Drwāniyah	5,825	507,548	87
Diyālā	6,224	329,813	53
Al Ḥillah	2,103	353,614	168
Irbīl	6,055	272,526	45
Karbālā'	2,340	217,015	93
Kirkūk	7,859	388,912	49
Al Kūt	6,391	290,070	45
Al Mawṣil	11,416	717,500	63
An Nāṣiriyyah	5,714	455,644	80
Ar Ramādī	15,751	234,262	15
As Sulaymāniyah	4,572	299,978	66
DESERT AREA:			
Al Bādiyah al Janūbiyah	29,399	9,599	0.3
Bādiyat al Jazīrah	12,056	39,125	3
Al Bādiyah ash Shamālīyah	39,127	19,838	0.5
Total or average	171,598	*6,274,579	*36.6

* Included in the calculation of these figures should be 42,464 Iraqis abroad and 221,066 persons whose registration was not complete at the time of publication of the interim report on the 1957 census. The population would then total 6,538,109 and the density average 38 persons per square mile.

ever, like the majority of the Iraqi Arabs, the Kurds are Muslims.

The Turkish-speaking Turkomans, also Muslims, are descendants of the Seljuk Turks, who invaded Iraq in the 12th Century A.D. Located in scattered villages along the line dividing the Arabs and Kurds (with the greatest concentration being in Kirkūk Province), the Turkomans are estimated to number 100,000. Many are now being assimilated in language and custom by the Arabs.

The number of Iranians in the country is difficult to assess because those who were Iraqi citizens at the time of the census were not included with those of Iranian nationality. In the latter group were included about 50,000 transients, most of whom were Iranian Muslim pilgrims of the Shia sect visiting shrines in Iraq, and about 15,000 Iranian immigrants who had been residing in Iraq for a period of at least 3 months (see the tables, FIGURES 41-2 and 41-7). The total number of ethnic Iranians in Iraq would probably reach 80,000. The areas of their greatest concentration are the provinces of Al 'Amārah, Baghdād, Al Baṣrah, Karbalā' and Al Kūt.

The Assyrians in Iraq are a remnant of a larger community which for centuries has borne the brunt of successive wars in the Mesopotamian area. They are Christian by faith and their language is

FIGURE 41-2. PILGRIM TRAVEL FOR THE YEARS, 1955-57

YEAR	PILGRIMS TO MECCA			PILGRIMS TO HOLY SHRINES IN IRAQ:		
	Iraqis	Transients	Total	Iranians	Others	Total
1955	4,281	3,064	7,345	64,160	28,018	92,178
1956	2,859	2,404	5,353	84,767	23,384	108,151
1957	2,378	1,126	3,504	37,551	39,004	76,555

Syriac. Numbering about 34,000 persons, they are located in towns in the predominantly Kurdish area, with some concentration in Al Mawṣil, Al 'Amādiyah, and Rawāndūz, and in Kirkūk and Dawrah, where they are employed in the oil industry.

The Armenians, estimated at about 17,000, are of relatively recent arrival, many of them having fled from Turkey into Iraq during and immediately after World War I. Like the Assyrians, they have preserved their own language, customs, and Christian faith. They have settled in the cities and towns, where they comprise a small component of the professional and merchant class.

The Jews of Iraq are closely related to the Arabs, ethnically, culturally, and linguistically, for they stem aboriginally from the same race of people. Through emigration to Israel in 1950 and 1951, Iraqi Jews have been greatly reduced in strength from a number conservatively estimated at 125,000 in 1948 to approximately 5,000 to 7,000 today. They are concentrated in Baghdād Province, and in the towns of Al Baṣrah, Al Ḥillah, and Al Mawṣil.

Of the other indigenous people who might be considered as separate ethnic groups, the Yezidis, who are scattered throughout northern Iraq, number about 40,000 and the Mandaeans, an urban-dwelling group living in towns on the rivers south of Baghdād, number about 5,000.

2. Distribution and density

Iraq is divided administratively into 14 provinces (*liwā'*—singular) and 3 desert areas (*al bādiyah*—singular), as FIGURE 41-10 shows. The total area comprises approximately 171,600 square miles, about two-thirds the size of Texas. The overall population density of the country, based on the 1957 figures, is about 38 persons per square mile (see the map, FIGURE 41-3, showing population density by province and desert area). However, the desert area, which comprises 45% of the total land area, has itself a population density of not more than one person per square mile. The rest of the country varies in density, depending on the availability of water, the fertility of the soil, and land distribution and utilization. Rural Iraq may be divided roughly as follows: cultivated land representing about 20,000 square miles or 12% of the

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

Army
 CIA
 DEA
 DIA
 DOE
 DOJ
 DSWA
 FEMA
 FBI
 HOUSE
 NASA
 NAVY
 NSC
 NRC
 NSA
 OSD
 STATE
 SENATE
 TREAS
 USAF
 USMC

NND 011466 -101

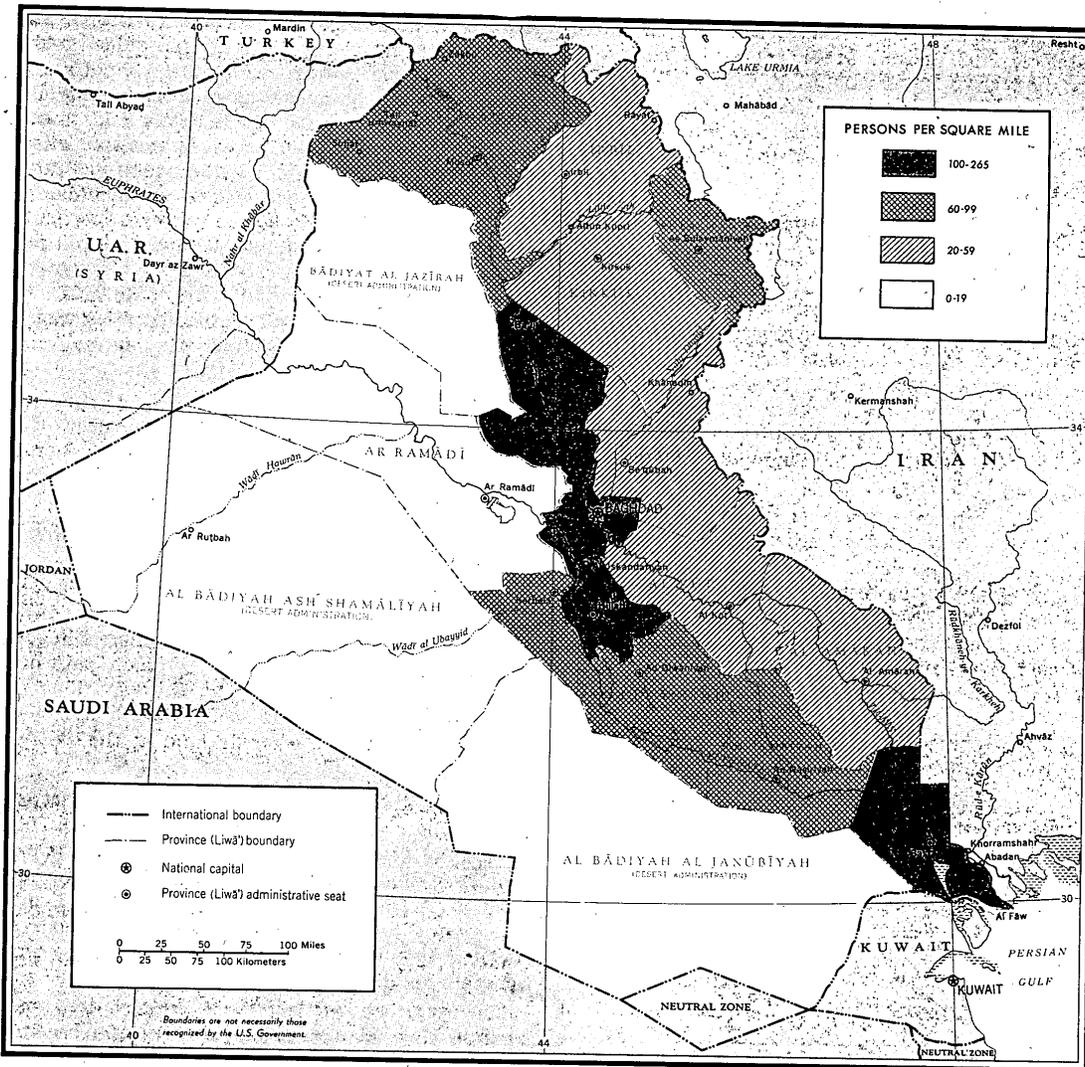


FIGURE 41-3. POPULATION DENSITY BY PROVINCE AND DESERT AREA, IRAQ, 1957

total land area; unused but potentially productive land, representing about 51,000 square miles or 29% of the land area; and the semi-arid regions, utilized for seasonal nomadic grazing of livestock, comprising the remainder. About two-thirds of the agricultural land now cultivated lies in the irrigated zone along the Tigris and Euphrates, extending in an arc concave toward the northeast through the interior of the country from the northernmost province of Al Mawasil to the southeasterly province of Al Basrah, where the Shatt al 'Arab empties into the Persian Gulf. This irrigated zone represents the area of greater population density. Baghdad and Al Basrah provinces have a density

of 265 and 106 persons per square mile, respectively. Al Hillah and Karbalā' provinces have relatively high density averages due to the pilgrim influx into these areas. The lowest provincial density is that of Ar Ramādī, with 15 persons per square mile (see FIGURE 41-1).

Iraq's population distribution and density are somewhat comparable with those of Syria and Jordan, which share with Iraq the expansive, largely uninhabited, desert and steppe region formed on the slope of the Arabian plateau. Syria and Jordan have overall densities of 58 and 41 persons per square mile, respectively, with a wide range of from 15 to 20 persons per square mile in

CONFIDENTIAL

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

- Army
- CLIA
- DEA
- DIA
- DOE
- DOJ
- DSWA
- FEMA
- FBI
- HOUSE
- NASA
- NAVY
- NSC
- NRC
- NSA
- OSD
- STATE
- SENATE
- TREAS
- USAF
- USMC

NND 011466 -102

desert areas to about 200 to 400 in settled cultivated regions. Saudi Arabia's overall density is not more than 10 persons per square mile. Iraq's concentration of people in its riverain areas resembles that of Egypt, but its riparian density is only about a third of that of the latter's densely populated regions.

3. Pattern of settlement and urban areas

The physical features of the country have been the determining factor in the distribution of the population in Iraq. Most of the people live in settlements situated along the rivers and canals of the alluvial plain or in the fertile valleys of the northwestern mountains. Scattered nomadic tribes roam the desert south and west of the Euphrates and the steppe country of Al Jazīrah—the region northwest of Baghdad between the Tigris and the Euphrates.

Census figures have been released showing a breakdown between the "urban" and "rural" elements of the population, according to province or desert area, but the terms as used are indistinctly defined. This breakdown, shown in FIGURE 41-4, indicates that approximately one-third of the population is urban and two-thirds, rural. It is believed, however, that in regard to provinces containing the larger cities the percentages are low, for they represent an enumeration based on the narrower concept of the city without outlying suburbs or subdistricts (*nāhiya*—singular).

No census breakdown by cities is yet available. A presumably official breakdown accompanying a 1957 tourist guide map yields an urban-rural population ratio that is practically the opposite of the general ratio arrived at through the

census. Available evidence points to the census ratio as the correct one: The tourist guide breakdown, however, is shown in FIGURE 41-8, not as an endorsement of the figures as such but as a guide to the comparative size of the cities and towns within Iraq. The specific urban figures thus cited represent the population of the "metropolitan" areas which, in accordance with established Middle Eastern custom, include large numbers of agriculturalists. The figure of 1,000,000 inhabitants for Baghdad (commonly cited by Iraqis) appears as an exaggeration. The populations of Karbalā', Al Kāzimiyah, An Najaf, and Sāmarrā', cities where Shiah shrines are located, fluctuates annually in response to the influx of pilgrims.

Iraq's agricultural population is found primarily in rural villages. The people here and in the smaller towns are usually closely knit, of the same racial and cultural background, and of the same family or tribal unit.

The Kurdish villages in the mountainous areas of the northeast are generally small, consisting of from 10 to 500 houses, each forming a family household. Several households of common ancestry form a *tira* which may occupy one or more villages, and a group of these *tiras* of common paternal origin constitutes a tribe. The Kurdish villagers build their houses on the rocky, untillable slopes in order to reserve the fertile land in the valleys for cultivation.

In addition to these family- and tribal-type settlements, there are towns founded on common occupational, trade, and industrial interests. For example, in the oil industrial zones of Iraq, towns, such as Al Baṣrah, Kirkūk, and Al Mawṣil, are undergoing a rapid transformation into modern Western-type urban centers with wide streets and concrete buildings.

The people who settle in these larger centers tend to drop their clan or tribal identity and become integrated into the new urban society. Small minority communities, however, such as the Armenians and Jews, are prone to segregate themselves increasingly as a means of communal self-protection.

4. Migratory movements

Quantitative information on internal migration is entirely lacking, although the Iraqi population is known to include about 300,000 nomadic tribesmen and several hundred thousand seminomadic people. Historically nomadism has varied inversely with control over the Tigris and Euphrates for irrigation purposes. The first effective irrigation systems were instituted in the third millennium B.C. Since that time, strong governments have built up such systems, while weak govern-

FIGURE 41-4. URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY AREA, 1957
(In percent)

PROVINCE OR DESERT AREA	URBAN	RURAL
PROVINCE:		
Al 'Amārah	25	75
Baghdād	65	35
Al Baṣrah	47	53
Ad Diwānīyah	24	76
Diyālā	23	77
Al Ḥillah	29	71
Irbil	27	73
Karbalā'	80	20
Kirkūk	39	61
Al Kut	24	76
Al Mawṣil	38	62
An Naṣirīyah	19	81
Ar Ramādī	27	73
As Sulaymānīyah	26	74
DESERT AREA:		
Al Bādiyah al Janūbiyah	...	100
Bādiyah al Jazīrah	...	100
Al Bādiyah ash Shamālīyah	...	100
National average	39	61

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

Army
CIA
DEA
DIA
DOE
DOJ
DSWA

FEMA
HOUSE
NASA
NAVY
NSC
NRC

NSA
OSD
STATE
SENATE
TREAS
USAF
USMC

NND 011466 -103

ments, lacking the ability to defend and maintain them, have been unable to prevent their destruction. Increased nomadism has always attended the periods of decay. In their search for grass and water, the Bedouin of Iraq follow the pastures from season to season, each tribe restricting its movement to lands assigned it by mutual agreement and government approval. In the course of their annual migrations, they often cross international boundaries, and the tribes from Syria and Saudi Arabia, likewise, often cross into Iraq. In the northern and northeastern regions of Iraq, the Kurdish tribes graze their flocks in the valleys of the Iraqi hills during winter and in the hill country on both sides of the Iraqi-Iranian border during summer.

The Government of Iraq and neighboring governments have occasionally taken action to limit seasonal tribal migration across their frontiers, but such limitations have been difficult because of geographical features. Since the Iraqi coup in 1958, the new government has been especially vigilant with respect to the transborder movements of tribal groups and persons who have demonstrated anti-regime sentiments. Many arrests have been made along the Syrian border, and the movements of Iraqi Kurds along the country's frontiers adjacent to Turkey and Iran have been under close surveillance.

Iraq took its first steps toward a program of tribal resettlement on newly irrigated lands in 1929. This program has already accommodated a considerable, but unenumerated, body of Bedouin who for a variety of reasons have abandoned the nomadic life. Economic necessity and the hope of employment in the cities and towns have also caused many to settle in and around the urban centers. This movement of illiterate peasants to the metropolitan areas is a relatively recent phenomenon brought about by extensive public works, increasing industrialization, and the expansion of the oil industry. This influx has proceeded at an accelerated rate since the revolution in 1958. The mass of recently constructed reed huts (*sarīfah*) in and around Baghdad and Al Başrah is particularly conspicuous. In Baghdad, the number of *sarīfah* dwellers is reported to have increased by at least 100,000 since the 1958 coup. These people continue to follow a pattern of tribal, rather than economic, organization.

C. Population structure

According to the census of 1957, there were 101 males per 100 females in Iraq, as shown in FIGURE 41-9. The ratio which evolved from the 1947 census, showing only 88 males per 100 females, is believed to reflect gross underenumeration brought

FIGURE 41-5. AGE-SEX DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY PERCENTAGE, 1947

AGE	MALE	FEMALE	BOTH SEXES
0-4.....	9.0	9.4	18.4
5-9.....	7.4	8.7	16.1
10-19.....	7.0	9.1	16.1
20-29.....	4.4	6.3	10.7
30-39.....	5.5	6.6	12.1
40-49.....	5.5	5.1	10.6
50-59.....	3.2	3.2	6.4
60 and over.....	4.6	5.0	9.6
Total.....	46.6	53.4	100.0

about by the evasion of the census by males fearing conscription.

Individual ages were recorded in the 1957 census, but none of this information has yet been published. A table showing the age-sex distribution of the population by percentage, based on the 1947 census, is shown in FIGURE 41-5. According to this table, approximately 50% of the population in 1947 was below 20 years of age; 40% between 20 and 60; and only 10%, 60 and over, a pattern representative of age distribution prevalent in other Arab countries of the Middle East where high fertility and mortality rates prevail.

The 1957 census data on marital status have also not yet been released to the public. During the 1947 census, 56% of the enumerated persons aged 10 and over were married with spouse present, an additional 10% had been married and were widowed, divorced, or separated. Rural-urban differences in marital status existed for the males in the form of a surplus of unmarried males in the largest cities over the percentages for the country as a whole, a fact suggesting migration of men to cities for employment or education.

Polygamy is on the decline in Iraq but still persists among the conservative well-to-do element which regards it as a mark of prestige. In 1947, 8% of the married men had polygamous unions; of these, 90% had two wives, 8% had three, and 2% had four.

No current statistics are available on the size of the family. It can be assumed, however, that the extended family of man, wife, and minor children, as well as married sons and their families, still prevails in the rural areas. The dispersion of sons into dwelling units of their own upon marriage is more prevalent under urban conditions.

Because 1957 census data on age groups and occupations are still lacking, it is difficult to estimate with any degree of accuracy the number of persons employed and the number of those dependent on the economically active working group. In Iraq, as in comparable Arab countries, almost everyone from 10 years upward contributes in some way toward the family budget. Because Iraq has a

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 41-5

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

Army FEMA NSA
 CIA FBI OSD
 DEA HOUSE STATE
 DIA NASA SENATE
 DOE NAVY TREAS
 DOJ NSC USAF
 DSWA NRC USMC

NND 011466 - 104

youthful population and many children work, the strain on the national or individual private economy for care of this large segment of the population is not severe. Persons aged 60 years and older are cared for within the family without undue strain on group resources.

Determining the number of those economically active in a country such as that of Iraq raises a problem, because so many women and children are engaged in agriculture and do not consider themselves "employed." Certain generalizations, however, can be drawn from the 1947 census. More than half of Iraq's employed were at that time engaged directly in agriculture, excluding food processing and preservation; if the women and children who were partially employed in agriculture had been included, this fraction would have been considerably higher. The nonagricultural segments of the population may be categorized somewhat as follows: government and private services and utilities, 16%; commerce, 10%; manufacturing, 7%; and miscellaneous employment, 11%.

In the absence of current age-group statistics, the ratio in effect in 1947 must be used in estimating the number of males theoretically available for military service. On this basis, the number of men, in 1960, between the ages of 20 and 40 would be about 500,000.

D. Population change

1. Vital statistics

Vital statistics as collected by the Iraqi Government are both inadequate and inaccurate. Births and deaths, for example, are still reported on a purely voluntary basis, and coverage of desert areas is omitted altogether. Certain preliminary moves have been made to increase the scope and quality of vital registration, but all official figures thus far published must still be accepted with considerable reservation.

The relatively high mortality rate in Iraq is showing some decline due to health education, sanitary improvements, and increasing availability of medical facilities. At present, the overall crude death rate is believed to be between 15 and 25 per 1,000. Infant deaths, caused by malnutrition, enteric diseases, and, in some areas, malaria, vary greatly in number throughout the country. In the cities and towns, where the level of education is higher than in rural areas and where medical care and pure water are more readily available, infant mortality is estimated at about 100 per 1,000 live births; in rural and desert regions, the rate is thought to reach as high as 400 per 1,000.

It is generally accepted that fertility in Iraq is also high, the average crude birth rate probably being between 40 and 50 per 1,000 persons. To the great majority, children are a source of prestige. Only in the cities, among the educated middle class, is there found an environment conducive to family limitation.

With inadequate information pertaining to ages at death, it is not possible to determine life expectancy in Iraq. It had previously been estimated at 28 to 30 years because of the high death rate, but it has been increased to about 40 years due to improving health facilities. This is in contrast to about 70 years in the United States.

2. Immigration and emigration

For earlier discussion on this subject, see Size and Composition, above, for the immigration and emigration of minority groups, and Migratory Movements, for the migration of tribes across Iraqi frontiers. FIGURE 41-7 lists the number of aliens who have moved in and out of Iraq during the period between 1945 and 1957, together with the residue of foreigners who have been in the country for a period of 3 months or more. FIGURE 41-2 shows the extent of the pilgrim travel for the years 1955-57, as recorded in official reports. Records, however, are probably not complete, for pilgrims travel not only by direct but by devious routes and by various means of conveyance, rendering it difficult to make an accurate count.

As shown in FIGURE 41-6, of 42,464 Iraqis abroad in 1957, in resident or travel status, the majority were in Kuwait. With the exception of about 40,000 Assyrians who entered Iraq from Turkey

FIGURE 41-6. IRAQI CITIZENS ABROAD, ACCORDING TO COUNTRY, 1957

Table with 4 columns: COUNTRY, MALES, FEMALES, TOTAL. Lists countries like Afghanistan, Belgium, India, etc., with corresponding counts.

Administrative routing stamp with fields for NND (011466), RG (263), Box (156), Tab (2), and various agency abbreviations like FEMA, NSA, FBI, OSD, etc.

NND 011466 -105

and Iran during World War I and about 12,000 Armenians who were refugees from Turkey at about the same time, there has been no large-scale immigration into Iraq in recent years. About 10,000 of the Assyrians settled in Iraq subsequently fled to Syria following an armed conflict with Iraqi authorities during the early 1930's. The departure of about 120,000 Iraqi Jews to Israel in 1950-51 and the absorption of approximately 5,000 Arab refugees from Palestine following the Arab-Israeli conflict of 1948-49 were the only other population dislocations affecting Iraq in recent years.

3. Trends and projections

It is difficult to gauge with any degree of accuracy the extent of population growth that has taken place over the years, for it has been only within recent decades that demographic information has become available. No accurate population data on the Tigris-Euphrates Valley existed in antiquity or during the time of the Caliphate, but it is believed that there were times when the population was greater than at present. Iraq's early history records participation in many regional wars but the country has suffered no great losses through war casualties during either the two World Wars or the Palestine conflict.

The earliest population estimate for modern Iraq was 2,850,000 in 1920. This estimate implies an annual rate of growth of 2% between 1920 and 1947, a rate which was appreciably more than those observed over comparable periods in Egypt (1.5%) and Turkey (1.7%). Iraq's censuses of 1947 and 1957, which showed the population numbering 4,816,000 and 6,538,000 respectively, and an annual increase of 2.9% for that period, would indicate that the estimate for the earlier period was a reasonably accurate one.

	POPULATION (thousands)	PERCENTAGE OF ANNUAL INCREASE
1947	4,816	
1957	6,538	2.9
1967 (projection)	8,634	2.9

At the 2.9% rate of natural increase, Iraq's population would reach 8,634,000 by 1967. If on the other hand, the 1947 census figures represent an underenumeration, as has been suggested by those who participated in the 1957 census, the 2.9% rate of increase may be a little too high. The high and rising rate of increase is no doubt due to the gradually falling mortality rate, combined with a steadily high fertility rate.

Iraq possesses ample arable land and water to make it fertile. Neither has been fully or efficiently used. With proper irrigation and drainage and improved agricultural practices, the crop area can be

substantially expanded and higher yields per acre can be obtained, thus enabling Iraq to support a much larger population. The Development Board of the government envisions a doubling of the area under cultivation during the coming generation, combined with more intensive use of presently cropped land.

No regional population shifts are expected to take place, other than a possible accelerated movement of rural elements to urban centers or industrial regions. Kurdish elements in northeastern Iraq have expressed hope for the establishment of an independent Kurdistan. However, such a move is not anticipated, at least in the foreseeable future, for it would involve the Kurdish regions of Turkey and Iran as well.

E. Population problems and policies

It has been the prevailing belief of Iraqi Government demographers and those who observed the enumeration process of 1957 that the findings of this census are much more accurate than those of the first census taken in 1947. UN experts assisted Iraqi demographers and census takers in the conducting of a pilot census in one of the districts of Diyālá Province, and they facilitated the travel of Iraqis to other countries to study census taking.

For the 1947 census the *de facto* system was used, namely the enumeration of the entire country in one day. The nomads were consciously omitted from this count; they were later estimated to number 250,000 and were attributed arbitrarily to various administrative units by the Ministry of Interior. This artificial distribution of the nomadic population played a significant role in subsequent parliamentary elections, since it enabled Sunni politicians to shift the nomadic population on paper from one administrative unit to another in order to maintain a Sunni majority in the Chamber of Deputies. The cleavage in Iraq between the major Muslim sects, the Sunni and the Shiah, has for years been a source of political, social, and religious friction. Theoretically, the Shiah should be able to achieve a political dominance in accord with their small numerical preponderance, but the Sunnis, who predominate among the leading officials, the wealthy merchants, and the large landholders, continue to control the political and social life of the country (see CHAPTER V, SECTION 53, under Political Parties and Groupings).

The people regarded the census of 1947 with grave suspicion, since population counts in the past were associated either with taxation or conscription. Ignorance, combined with social traditions such as reluctance to allow the women of the family to appear for enumeration, posed additional problems. For the 1957 census the Iraqi Government

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 41-7

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

Army
CIA
DEA
DIA
DOE
DOJ
DSWA

FEMA
HOUSE
NASA
NAVY
NSC
NRC

NSA
OSD
STATE
SENATE
TREAS
USAF
USMC

NND 011466 -106

applied the *de jure* system, that is, enumerating the urban population in one day and the rural population during the following 45 days. This process enabled the government to make a more thorough count of rural and tribal areas, and to use the same enumerators in both urban and rural territories.

The 1957 census was conducted with a two-fold purpose: first, for the collection of the usual demographic information, and second, for the compilation of data which would be useful to the government as background information for the institution of social and economic reforms. To supply information on the latter category, questions were included in the census pertaining to urban-rural distribution, migration, marital status, housing, education and literacy, and labor. The Directorate General of Census was confronted at the outset by the need to select only such categories of statistics for inclusion in the census schedule as would not ruffle the sensitivities of the population. Questions on race, religion, and social custom could be broached only with great caution. It was decided, for example, to limit classification by religion to the broadest categories—Muslims, Christians, Jews, Yezidis, Sābians, and the like—without reference to sectarian or denominational divisions within faiths. Thus no enumeration was attempted among the Muslims to reveal the true numerical importance of the Sunni as compared with the Shiah sectors of the Muslims community.

Political instability, such as experienced in the present regime, stimulates the separatist ambitions inherent in the Kurds of Iraq, threatening the loss of a substantial proportion of the national Iraqi population, but lack of leadership and of cohesion among the Kurds thus far has forestalled any such drastic political or demographic upheaval. Other Iraqi religious and ethnic minorities are relatively insignificant numerically and present no comparable problem demographically or politically.

The government has thus far not felt the need of adopting stringent measures with respect to population control and distribution, chiefly because Iraq has ample wealth in land and a sufficiency in natural resources. None of the above-mentioned problems, such as cross-border migrations and strife among minority groups, has become acute. Attempts are being made to settle the Bedouin on land made available to them by the government; this and other efforts are also being made to check the movement of unskilled laborers to the cities. As far as is known, the government has taken no steps either to increase the number of marriages and births or to encourage the practice of family limitation.

F. Reference data

The tables included in this Subsection present detailed statistical data in the general order of reference in the text.

FIGURE 41-7. ALIENS ENTERING, LEAVING, AND RESIDING IN IRAQ, FOR SELECTED YEARS

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	ENTERING					LEAVING					RESIDING (3 MONTHS AND MORE)
	1945	1948	1951	1954	1957	1945	1948	1951	1954	1957	1957
Afghanistan.....	98	1,153	645	769	1,374	152	347	810	1,080	9,092	398
Bahrain.....	255	164	2,428	2,085	1,905	404	514	1,268	1,866	2,595	112
France.....	60	251	674	1,005	783	97	1,589	611	1,142	760	614
Germany*.....	3	2	112	1,102	1,942	46	21	90	1,025	1,946	810
Greece.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	395
India.....	1,456	4,118	292	100	4,245	3,775	6,032	260	77	3,061	1,070
Iran.....	12,034	14,371	17,308	45,064	49,534	28,713	26,704	23,564	37,615	45,716	15,443
Italy.....	6	59	124	347	319	7	114	125	358	394	288
Jordan.....	0	0	367	214	304	0	0	387	406	131	2,685
Kuwait.....	3,022	3,415	6,635	8,025	15,988	3,364	1,921	5,888	9,032	14,270	133
Lebanon.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,453
Pakistan.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	901
Palestine (former).....	1,360	487	1,581	1,028	348
Saudi Arabia.....	1,890	1,609	6,117	2,296	13,717	2,196	1,484	5,662	8,656	8,785	173
Turkey.....	191	292	984	705	697	222	382	1,095	549	496	573
United Arab Republic:											
Egypt.....	312	457	367	726	473	363	426	387	893	399	208
Syria.....	1,040	1,756	3,956	7,893	10,239	1,134	2,179	3,782	6,622	12,393	984
United Kingdom.....	3,146	3,832	8,809	8,202	12,544	5,288	10,740	7,080	7,486	10,766	2,727
United States.....	851	1,086	2,797	2,842	4,069	573	1,619	2,245	2,578	3,899	337
U.S.S.R.....	54	100	60	0	0	58	115	54	0	0	37
Other.....	2,534	6,011	20,568	38,319	48,292	2,076	10,083	19,047	28,416	35,126	827
Total.....	28,312	39,163	72,243	119,694	166,425	50,049	65,798	72,355	107,801	149,829	30,516

* Probably the Federal Republic of Germany.

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

- Army
- CIA
- DEA
- DIA
- DOE
- DOJ
- DSWA
- FEMA
- FBI
- HOUSE
- NASA
- NAVY
- NSC
- NRC
- NSA
- OSD
- STATE
- SENATE
- TREAS
- USAF
- USMC

NND 011466 -107

FIGURE 41-8. POPULATION OF THE PRINCIPAL CITIES AND TOWNS OF IRAQ, 1957

PROVINCE	CITY OR TOWN	ESTIMATED POPULATION
Al 'Amārah	'Ali al Gharbī	35,982
	Al 'Amārah	192,985
Baghdād	Qal'at Šalīb	78,054
	Baghdād	558,820
	Al Każimīyah	151,760
	Al Mahmūdīyah	53,683
Al Başrah	Šamarrā'	69,904
	Tikrit	24,038
	Abū al Khaşīb	82,791
	Al Başrah (Basra)	219,167
Ad Diwānīyah	As Qurnah	66,841
	'Afaq	45,747
	Abū Sukhayr	77,070
	Ad Diwānīyah	61,883
Diyālā	As Samāwah	83,459
	Šamīyah	109,957
	Ba'qubah	42,515
	Al Khālīs	69,211
Al Ḥillah	Khānaqīn	56,799
	Mandali	53,518
	Al Miqdādīyah	50,370
	Al Ḥillah (Hilla)	53,162
Irbīl	Al Musayyib	51,314
	Irbīl (Erbil)	45,566
	Kūysanjaq	69,280
	Makhmūr	30,202
Karbala'	Rānīyah	44,828
	Rawāndūz	27,125
	Karbala' (Kerbela)	36,025
	An Najaf	71,163
Kirkūk	An Najaf	78,101
	Chamchamāl	29,811
	Kifrit	49,359
	Kirkūk	147,806
Al Kut	Ṭuz Khurmātī	59,029
	Al Hayy	10,199
	Al Kut	81,388
	Aş Şuwayrah	58,834
Al Mawşil	Al 'Amādīyah	43,318
	'Aqrah	32,095
	Al Mawşil (Mosul)	273,389
	Shaykhān	25,027
An Naşirīyah	Sinjār	31,709
	Tall 'Afar	44,200
	An Naşirīyah	39,092
	Ar Rifā't	81,828
Ar Ramādī	Ash Shaṭrah	68,085
	Suq ash Shuyūkh	108,950
	'Anah	33,314
	Ar Ramādī	85,873
As Sulaymānīyah	Al Fallūjah	48,796
	Ḥalabjah	71,439
	As Sulaymānīyah	48,450
Total		4,163,311

FIGURE 41-9. SEX DISTRIBUTION AND RATIOS, BY AREA, IRAQ, 1957

LIWĀ' AND BĀDIYAH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL	MALES PER 100 FEMALES
Al 'Amārah	162,188	167,459	329,647	96
Baghdād	670,161	636,443	1,306,604	105
Al Başrah	252,382	250,502	502,884	100
Ad Diwānīyah	246,467	261,081	507,548	94
Diyālā	166,506	163,307	329,813	101
Al Ḥillah	177,543	176,071	353,614	100
Irbīl	137,602	134,924	272,526	101
Karbala'	105,347	111,668	217,015	94
Kirkūk	196,548	192,364	388,912	102
Al Kut	137,432	152,638	290,070	90
Al Mawşil	363,331	354,169	717,500	102
An Naşirīyah	210,654	244,990	455,644	85
Ar Ramādī	119,306	114,956	234,262	103
As Sulaymānīyah	156,165	143,813	299,978	108
Al Bādiyah al Janūbiyah	5,079	4,520	9,599	112
Bādiyah al Jazīrah	19,791	19,334	39,125	102
Al Bādiyah ash Shamālīyah	12,189	7,649	19,838	159
Iraqis with incomplete registration	124,632	96,434	221,066	129
Iraqis abroad	30,750	11,714	42,464	262
Total or average	3,294,073	3,244,036	6,538,109	101

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 41-9

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

Army
 FEMA NSA
 FBI OSD
 DEAF HOUSE STATE
 DIA NASA SENATE
 DOE NAVY TREAS
 DOJ NSC USAF
 DSWA NRC USMC

NND 011466 - 108

(BLANK)

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

Army	FEMA	NSA
(CIA)	FBI	OSD
DEA	HOUSE	STATE
DIA	NASA	SENATE
DOE	NAVY	TREAS
DOJ	NSC	USAF
DSWA	NRC	USMC

NND 011466 -109



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



NND 011466

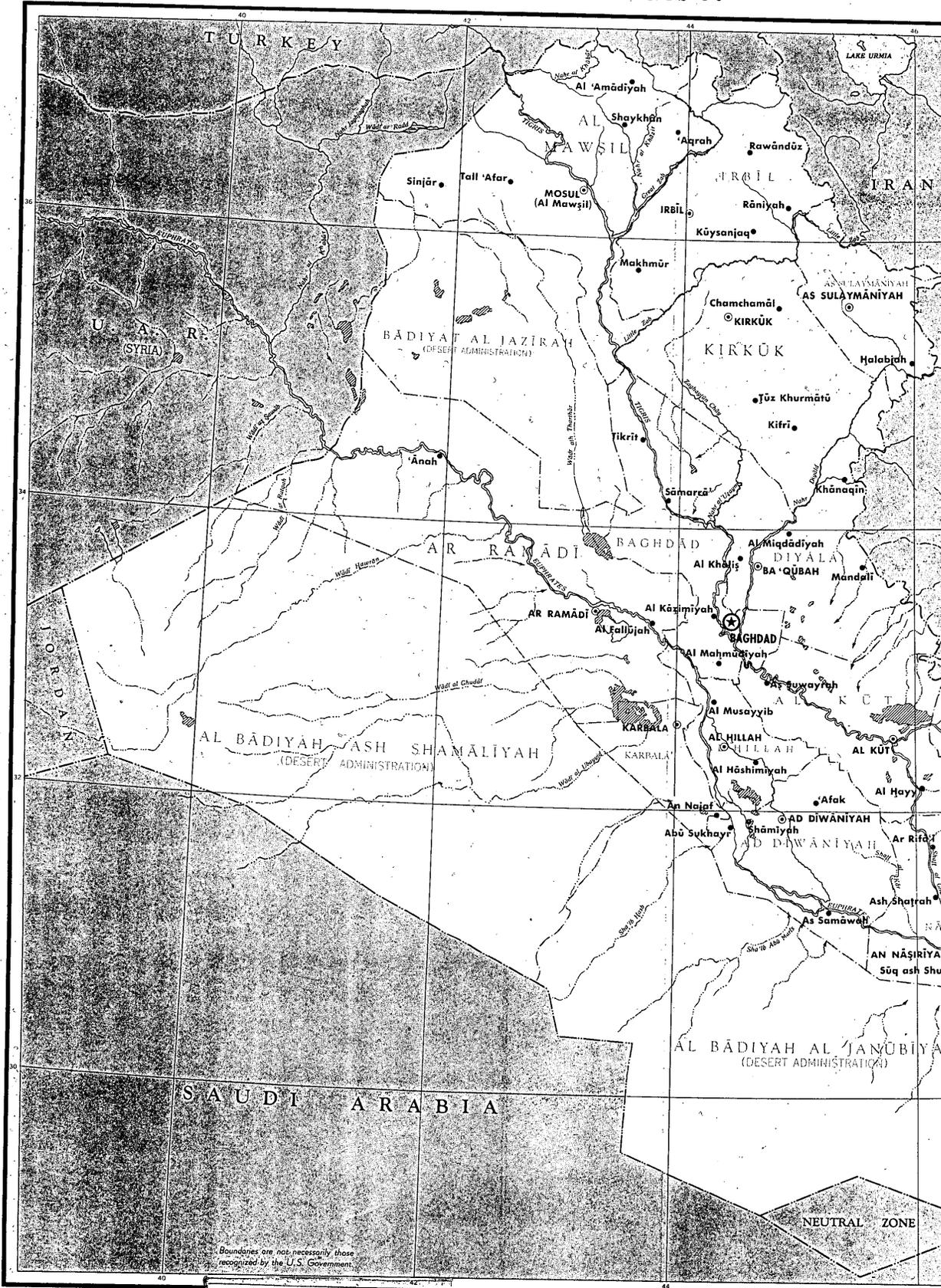
RG 263

Box 156

Tab 2

- Army
- CIA
- DEA
- DIA
- DOE
- DOJ
- DSWA
- FEMA
- FBI
- HOUSE
- NASA
- NAVY
- NSC
- NRC
- NSA
- OSD
- STATE
- SENATE
- TREAS
- USAF
- USMC

NND 011466 - 110



Boundaries are not necessarily those recognized by the U.S. Government.

CONFIDENTIAL 29500 CIA

NND 011466
 RG 263
 Box 156
 Tab 2

- Army
- CIA
- DEA
- DIA
- DOE
- DOJ
- DSWA
- FEMA
- FBI
- HOUSE
- NASA
- NAVY
- NSC
- NRC
- NSA
- OSD
- STATE
- SENATE
- TREAS
- USAF
- USMC

NND 011466 - 111



CITIES AND TOWNS FIGURE 41-10

NND 011466

RG 263

Box 156

- Tab 2
- | | | |
|------|-------|--------|
| Army | FEMA | NSA |
| CIA | FBI | OSD |
| DEA | HOUSE | STATE |
| DIA | NASA | SENATE |
| DOE | NAVY | TREAS |
| DOJ | NSC | USAF |
| DSWA | NRC | USMC |

NND 011466 -112