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IRAQI BROADCAST MEDIA SUMMARIES, 24 NOV 04
• Programme summary of Voice of the Mujahidin 24 Nov 04
• Programme summary of Dar al-Salam radio 24 Nov 04
• Programme summary of Al-Iraqiyah TV 24 Nov 04:

KURDISH PRESS, 23-24 NOV 04
• Yekgirtu (Al-Ufuq supplement), weekly by the Iraqi Kurdistan Islamic Union 23 Nov 04)
• Khabat daily, issued in Erbil by the KDP, 24 November 2004

IRAQI NEWS

Bomb discovered in premier's building in Baghdad- Al-Sharqiyah
Al-Sharqiyah Satellite Channel, Baghdad, in Arabic, 24 Nov 04: A bomb has been discovered in the Iraqi Prime Ministry headquarters, in the centre of Baghdad's Green Zone, Al-Sharqiyah TV reported. The station said security forces were carrying out extensive investigations to determine how the bomb was planted inside the headquarters

Iraqi ministry allocates 45m dinars for food aid to Al-Fallujah- Al-Sabah
Al-Sabah Al-JAdid, Baghdad, and Independent, 22 Nov, 04: Iraq’s Ministry of Human Rights has allocated 45m Iraqi dinars towards the purchase of food aid, including rice, tea, sugar, tomato paste and cheese, which is to be distributed among Al-Fallujah’s citizens, Al-Sabah al-Jadid newspaper reported on 22 November. The paper said the ministry had also distributed food and cash aid to Al-Fallujah’s citizens, who had taken refuge at the Umm al-Qura Mosque in Al-Ghazaliyah district and at the Wadhah al-Shawi Mosque in Baghdad’s Al-A'tifiyah district

Foreign intelligence services started to reorganize themselves to start sabotage acts in Iraq- Al-Zaman
Al-Zaman [daily, independent, Baghdad edition of London-based Al-Zaman] 24 Nov 04: Al-Zaman runs a 400-word front-page report on a statement by the Tikrit chief of police noting that foreign intelligence services started to reorganize themselves to start sabotage acts in Iraq. The chief of police says that there is evidence that proves that the Iranian and the Israeli intelligence agencies are forming terrorist cells to create chaos in Iraq. The
chief of police notes that the flyers distributed in Samarra indicate the intentions of some of the terrorists groups that are affiliated with foreign intelligence agencies.

**Fighting in Al-Latifiyah - Al-Mada**

*Al-Mada [Baghdad, daily, independent newspaper published by Al-Mada Media, Culture and Arts Corporation] 24 Nov 04* Al-Mada runs a 300-word front-page report on a statement by a military source at the quick reaction force noting that his forces have been battling with the terrorists in Al-Latifiyah city where they killed many of them and arrested 20 terrorists.

**At least one US soldier wounded by Mosul roadside bomb - Al-Sharqiyyah**

*Al-Sharqiyyah Satellite Channel, Baghdad, in Arabic 24 Nov 04:* A US convoy going along one of Mosul's main roads was hit by a roadside bomb on 24 November, resulting in at least one soldier being wounded, Al-Sharqiyyah TV reported. The station said the convoy suffered no other damage, however.

**Campaign in Kirkuk to find Al-Zarqawi - Al-Nahdah**

*Al-Nahdah [Baghdad, daily political newspaper, by Adnan al-Pachachi] 24 Nov 04:* Al-Nahdah runs a 250-word front-page report on a statement by sources at the multinational forces noting that these forces started a major search campaign in Kirkuk Governorate looking for Abu Mus'ab al-Zarqawi. The sources say that the multinational forces have received information indicating that Al-Zarqawi is hiding in this governorate.

**35 terrorists arrested in Kirkuk - Al-Mu'tamar**

*Al-Mu'tamar [Baghdad, daily newspaper in Arabic published by the Iraqi National Congress] 24 Nov 04:* Al-Mu'tamar publishes on the front page a 140-word report citing a senior US military officer in a news conference as saying that the Iraqi security forces and multinational forces have arrested 35 terrorists in Kirkuk, including two terrorist leaders: Sufyan Umar Ali al-Nu'aymi, an aide to former Vice President Izzat al-Duri, and Hasan Ali Hasan al-Saqlawi.

**Al-Sabah Al-JAdid Criticizes Kindling Sectarian Stife - Al-Sabah Al-JAdid**

*Al-Sabah Al-JAdid, Baghdad, Independent, 22 Nov, 04:* Al-Sabah al-Jadid runs on page 1 a 400-word editorial by Chief Editor Isma'il Zayir criticizing those who are "trying to kindle sectarian strife by murdering both Shi'i and Sunni clerics." The writer calls on all Iraqis to be "alert to this vicious scheme."
Pipeline in Karbala set ablaze - Al-Zaman

Al-Zaman [daily, independent, Baghdad edition of London-based Al-Zaman] 24 Nov 04: Al-Zaman runs a 200-word front-page report on a statement by a source at Karbala police noting that a fire started in a pipeline in Karbala when unknown individuals planted an explosive device. The source adds that the fire-fighting groups are trying to extinguish the burning pipelines.

Minister of Justice: Raiding Abu Hanifa Mosque rejected- Al-Zaman


Syria Returns Kuwaitis en route to Iraq for Jihad- Al-Mu'tamar

Al-Mu'tamar [Baghdad, daily newspaper in Arabic published by the Iraqi National Congress] 24 Nov 04: Al-Mu'tamar publishes on the front page a 100-word report citing Sulayman Ibrahim al-Mirjan, the Kuwaiti Ambassador in Syria, as saying that the Syrian authorities have recently returned five Kuwaiti nationals who came to Syria in order to travel to Iraq for jihad. Al-Mirjan added that five others have given themselves up to his embassy. ()

262 Foreigners arrested in Diyala- Al-Zaman

Al-Zaman [daily, independent, Baghdad edition of London-based Al-Zaman] 24 Nov 04: Al-Zaman runs a 300-word front-page report on a statement by an official at Diyalah local council noting that the police and the national guards arrested 262 foreign nationals in this governorate. The official notes that the detainees are from Pakistan and Afghanistan. On the other hand, the report says that unknown gunmen have assassinated Shaykh Ghalib al-Zuhayri, member of the Association of Muslim Scholars in Diyalah Governorate. (24 Nov 04)

Israeli, Iranian Intelligence form Terroist Cells in Tikrit- Al-Furat

Al-Furat, comprehensive & political daily, by Al-Furat Establishment for Press24 Nov 04: Al-Furat publishes on the front page a 300-word report citing Tikrit Police Chief General Mizhir al-Ghannam as saying that the Israeli and Iranian intelligence agencies have formed terrorist cells to carry out terrorist acts in his governorate. Colonel Jasim Husayn Jibarah said that terrorist organizations plan to assassinate former officials in the governorate. (24 Nov 04)
HOSTAGES

Appeal on Information on Margaret Hassan's Body

Al-Dustur, independent daily published by former journalist Basim al-Sheikh: Al-Dustur publishes on the front page a 70-word appeal by Margaret Hassan's husband and the Iraqi Institute of Peace calling on the kidnappers and people to report any information on the fate and whereabouts of her body to be buried in peace. (24 Nov 04)

French Hostages Seen Moving Freely in Al-Anbar

Al-Sabah Al-JAdid, Baghdad, Independent, 22 Nov, 04: Al-Sabah al-Jadid runs on page 1 a 200-word report citing "trusted sources" as saying that the two French hostages have been seen in disguise moving freely with their kidnappers west of Al-Anbar Governorate. (24 Nov 04)

Commemoratin Late Margaret Hassan

Al-Mu'tamar [Baghdad, daily newspaper in Arabic published by the Iraqi National Congress] 15 Sept: Al-Mu'tamar publishes on page 6 a 500-word commentary by Ali Kazim al-Qutbi commemorating the late Margaret Hassan, director of Care Organization, who was kidnapped and killed in Iraq recently. (24 Nov 04)

PRISONERS

221 Prisoners to be Realesed fro Abu Ghrayb

Al-Nahdah [Baghdad, daily political newspaper, by Adnan al-Pachachi: Al-Nahdah runs on page 4 a 90-word report on a statement by the justice minister noting it will issue the number of prisoners to be released soon. The ministry says that the first list includes 221 prisoners to be released from Abu Ghurayb Prison. (24 Nov 04)

ELECTIONS

Electoral Commission says 156 of 219 applications approved

SCIRI's Voice of the Mujahidin in Arabic, Iran, The Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq has approved 156 of the 219 applications submitted so far to participate in the upcoming elections, SCIRI's Voice of the Mujahidin radio reported on 24 November, citing the head of the commission, Abd-al-Husayn al-Hindawi. The station added that among the political groups or parties approved so far are the Iraqi National
Accord Movement, the Iraqi Islamic Party, the Independent Democratic Movement, the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan and the Kurdistan Democratic Party. (SCIRI's Voice of the Mujahidin 0600 gmt 24 Nov 04)

212 Political Entities have Applied to Participate in Elections

**Al-Manar al-Yawm** [Baghdad, daily independent news paper in Arabic](18 Sep 04): Al-Manar al-Yawm publishes on the front page and page 2 a 1,600-word report citing Farid Ayar, spokesman for the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, who explained that up to last Saturday, 20 November, the number of political entities that had applied for endorsement in preparation for the upcoming elections had reached 212. The report includes the names of the 212 political entities. (24 Nov 04)

**Al-Zaman** [daily, independent, Baghdad edition of London-based Al-Zaman]: Al-Zaman runs on page 4 a 400-word front-page report on a statement by Farid Ayar, official spokesman of the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, noting that the commission has ratified new political entities. Ayar says that the commission has received 212 requests from different areas in Iraq. Ayar gives the names of the ratified political entities. (24 Nov 04)

156 Application certified for Elections

**Al-Mu'tamar** [Baghdad, daily newspaper in Arabic published by the Iraqi National Congress] 15 Sept: Al-Mu'tamar publishes on the front page a 70-word report citing Farid Ayar, spokesman for the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, who explained that up to 22 November, the number of political entities endorsed by his commission were 156 entities. (24 Nov 04)

Election Tickets can include up to 275 candidates

**Al-Manarah**, Basrah, Independent and Political bt Sawt Al-JanubHouse for Press: Al-Manarah carries on page 6 a report on statements by the spokesman of the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq denying rumours that claim the commission will only take the first ten candidates on any ticket but will ignore the rest. He emphasized that a ticket could carry 12 to 275 candidates and that the commission had nothing to do with the number or the names of the candidates on any ticket. (24 Nov 04)
US insistence on Holding Elections on Time

_Al-Manarah, Basrah, Independent and Political bt Sawt Al-Janub House for Press:_ Al-Manarah carries a 300-word front-page report by the political editor on the insistence of the US Administration and the Iraqi Government on holding the elections as scheduled. The report says that in light of the extensive boycott, holding the elections on time will lay the foundation of a national division and that the US insistence stems from criticisms surrounding the legitimacy of the Iraqi Government. The report also refers to the opposition’s demand for a conciliatory conference preceding the elections. (24 Nov 04)

Turkoman Parties Refuse to Delay Kirkuk Elections

_Al-Sabah Al-JAdid, Baghdad, Independent, 22 Nov, 04:_ Al-Sabah al-Jadid publishes on page 7 a 400-word report on the statement issued by a number of Turkoman Parties refusing the delay of the Kirkuk Governorate elections. The statement comes in response to the call to postpone this governorate election, which was issued by the parties that met in Dukan earlier this month. (24 Nov 04)

Parties Urged to Explain Their Programmes

_Al-Bayan [Baghdad, daily newspaper in Arabic published by the Islamic Al-Da’wah Party]_ Al-Bayan publishes on page 3 a 500-word article by Amir al-Fatlawi urging political forces and parties running in the upcoming elections to explicitly explain their political programmes and agendas to the people in order for the voters to vote for those who best represent their aspirations in building the new Iraq. The article says that in the wake of the electoral system adopted in Iraq, which compels political parties to form joint electoral lists, the intensified media campaigns explaining the political agenda of each list have become so important. (24 Nov 04)

Those Boycotting Elections Give Rivals Better Chance to Determine Iraq’s Future

_Al - Dustur, independent daily published by former journalist Basim al-Sheik:_ Al-Dustur publishes on the front page a 200-word editorial by Chief Editor Basim al-Shaykh saying that those who are boycotting the upcoming elections will, in fact, give their rivals a better chance to draft the constitution and to determine the future of the country as they wish. (24 Nov 04)
UK Official: Majority of Iraqis Sincerely Willing to Hold Elections

*Al - Dustur*, independent daily published by former journalist Basim al-Sheikh: Al-Dustur publishes on the front page a 300-word report citing a high-ranking British official as saying that the political progress in Iraq is progressing steadily and that the majority of Iraqis are sincerely willing to hold the upcoming elections. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Zawra Weekly Urges Iraqis to Participate in Elections to get Rid of Foreign Forces

*Al-Zawra* [Baghdad, weekly newspaper, issued by the Iraqi Journalists Union, CI: Shihab Al-Tamimi]: Al-Zawra publishes on the front page a 150-word editorial urging all Iraqis, especially those who want the departure of foreign forces from Iraq, to participate in the upcoming elections. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat publishes on the front page a 200-word report citing Husayn al-Hindawi, chairman of the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, as saying that the calls for postponing the upcoming elections launched by the Sharm al-Shaykh Conference mean nothing. Al-Hindawi affirmed that the elections will be held as scheduled. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat runs on page 4 a 700-word report citing some comments made by officials on the upcoming Iraqi elections. The report cites the Egyptian foreign minister as expressing his "reservations" to fixing a date for the Iraqi elections. The report also cites a high ranking official in the League of Arab States as saying that "if the elections were conducted without the participation of some people, there would be an imbalance in representation." The report cites the Independent Electoral Commission spokesman as denying that the commission put "conditions on the endorsement of candidates other than those conditions issued by the former Governing Council." (24 Nov 04)

Al-Sabah al-Jadid publishes on page 3 a 300-word report citing the Sunni Endowments chairman in Basra as saying that a number of forged electoral cards have been discovered. The source adds that these cards have been distributed by unidentified people, and that the Endowments Directorate has drawn people's attention to this. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Sabah al-Jadid runs on page 7 a 600-word report surveying a number of people's opinions in the upcoming elections. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Sabah al-Jadid runs on page 7 an 800-word article by Mu'ayad Abd-al-Sattar, entitled "The First Elections, the Roses and Bread." The writer comments on the "real democracy" he witnessed in Sweden, when people there distributed "roses and bread" to attract the attention of voters to the Democratic Socialist Party. He also mentions his
experience of the "true democracy" he saw in India. The writer then contradicts these instances with what is happening in Iraq nowadays, where people are killed daily "so that democracy will be murdered." The writer calls on all those who try to "abort the new democratic process" to heed the example of other "democratic countries." (24 Nov 04)

Al-Sabah al-Jadid publishes on page 7 a 300-word article by Ahmad Jalil al-Wis criticizing the educated Iraqis for being unable to isolate themselves from the "party ideology," and for running in the upcoming elections under the "umbrella of established political parties." (24 Nov 04)

Al-Adalah carries on page 5 a 700-word article by Tariq Harb, entitled "Electoral Campaign," which discusses the regulations put by the Independent Electoral Commission to arrange the electoral campaigns, comparing these regulations with those issued when Iraq was a kingdom, and others issued by "more democratic countries." (24 Nov 04)

Ishraqat al-Sadr runs on page 2 a 60-word text of Muqtada al-Sadr's "answers" to a number of questions sent to him by "some believers." (24 Nov 04)

Ishraqat al-Sadr carries on page 2 a 400-word text of the Independent National Cadres and Elites movement's bylaw. The movement is preparing to run in the upcoming elections. (24 Nov 04)

Ishraqat al-Sadr runs on page 2 a 150-word report citing Ayatollah Ahmad al-Baghdadi's statement, which demands that the upcoming elections should meet a number of conditions to be "true and honest." Some of these conditions are: establishing a schedule for the "occupation forces withdrawal," cancelling the State Administration Law, providing security all over Iraq, and securing "honest" international observation of the elections. (24 Nov 04)

Ishraqat al-Sadr carries on page 5 a 600-word article by the editing manager, in which he comments on the upcoming elections, saying that voters must realize their "historical and religious responsibility" in choosing the most appropriate personalities. (24 Nov 04)

Ishraqat al-Sadr runs on page 5 a 300-word article, entitled "Reasons of Democratic Process Failure," saying that the new democracy in Iraq "has failed" because it is not the Iraqi people who are leading, but the "occupation forces". (24 Nov 04)

Ishraqat al-Sadr runs on page 7 a 1,500-word article criticizing the US Administration for trying to conduct the upcoming elections "under the threats of arms." The article says that the United States is planning to hold "nominal" elections, which will be completely "designed and directed by the US prompting" to secure the victory of people "named in advance". (24 Nov 04)

Al-Zaman runs a 100-word front-page report on a statement by a group called Battalions of "Thawrat al-Ishrin" threatening to kill ration card agents and to burn their agencies if
they distribute voter lists. The statement calls on the ration card agents to give back all
the voter lists and to stop receiving them. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Nahdah runs on page 4 a 500-word report on a statement by Adnan Pachachi, leader
of the Independent Democrats Grouping, during his meeting with a delegation from the
National Democratic Institution for International Issues. Pachachi first asserts on the need
for Iraqi sovereignty and holding the elections as scheduled. (24 Nov 04)

POLITICS

Shi'i leader Al-Sistani to back "independent candidates": Shi'i religious leader Ayatollah
Ali al-Sistani has confirmed there is no list representing him in the forthcoming elections
and stressed his support for independent candidates with their various national and
sectarian affiliations, Elaph web site reported on 24 November. The London-based
newspaper web site said that, in a meeting held with a delegation of professors and
independent technocrats from Baghdad in Al-Najaf on 23 November, Al-Sistani had
stressed the need for all Iraqis to take part in the elections. He said he would support
candidates who could serve Iraqis regardless of their national or sectarian affiliations.
(Elaph web site 24 Nov 04)

Iraqi president's party striving for unity - Al-Yawar: Iraqi President Ghazi al-Yawar has
said that the "Iraqis Grouping" party he set up under his chairmanship will strive to unite
various elements and factions in Iraq, Al-Sharq al-Awsat newspaper reported on 24
November. The paper quoted him saying that the party was also trying to strengthen
security and stability in the country by raising general standards of living, and spurring
development. He said the party did not represent an extension of any ideology or
movement of the past or one that currently existed in the Iraqi political arena. "By virtue
of its wide representation of the various sectors of the Iraqi people, it constitutes an
expression of the unity of the Iraqis' aspirations for democracy and progress," he said.
(Al-Sharq al-Awsat 24 Nov 04)

SCIRI's Voice of the Mujahidin radio also cited Al-Yawar saying the Iraqiyun grouping
would work towards "entrenching the pillars of the Iraqi national unity and establishing
the principles of democracy and the state of law and institutions based on unity, political
multiplicity, federalism, and equality among the people of Iraq". (SCIRI's Voice of the
Mujahidin 0600 gmt 24 Nov 04)

Al-Sabah al-Jadid carries on page 1 a 400-word report citing President Ghazi al-Yawar as
saying that he has formed a new political grouping named "Iraqiyun [Iraqis]". Al-Yawar
is quoted as saying that this grouping "is based not on racial or sectarian affiliation, but
on a pure Iraqi citizenship, believing in equality and calling for the sovereignty of law."
A source in the grouping is cited as saying that the industry and defence ministers are
members of this grouping. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Adalah runs on page 3 a 200-word report on Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's meeting a
"large number" of tribal leaders from the central Iraq governorates. The report says that
Allawi stressed the need for national solidarity, fighting terrorism, and reconstruction. The report also says that the tribal leaders "expressed their willingness to support the Iraqi Government." (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat runs on page 1 a 500-word editorial criticizing the "leading politicians" who encourage "sectarian strife." The editorial does not mention any particular personalities, but hints at "those who deceive people and steal their money by talking about heaven and hell." (24 Nov 04)

Al-Zaman runs on page 2 a 500-word report on a statement by Ridha Jawad Taqi, official at the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, SCIRI, noting that SCIRI prefers to run in the elections on one national unified list that includes Iraqis of all sects and ethnicities. Taqis says that such a list needs time and time is running out. On the other hand, the report cites a statement by the Turkmen parties and movements in Iraq threatening to boycott the elections of the local council if the elections are postponed in Kirkuk Governorate. The statement rejects the recommendations of the Dukan meeting that called for postponing the elections in Kirkuk, asserting that there is nothing that prevents holding the local council elections there. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mu'tamar publishes on page 6 a 500-word commentary by Adnan Faris condemning those clerics calling themselves "the Union of Muslim Clerics in the World" led by Al-Qardawi, who held a meeting in Beirut and issued a fatwa permitting the resistance of occupation in Iraq. The article criticizes French President Chirac for his statement that the world has not become safer after the absence of Saddam Husayn, reminding him that the French people welcomed the occupation of their country by the allied forces in World War II. The article condemns the Iraqi clerics who lead terrorism in the country. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mu'tamar publishes on page 6 a 200-word commentary by Ahmad al-Rub'i urging the silent majority of Iraqis to break the wall of fear and say their word that they are determined to build a stable and secure Iraq. (24 Nov 04)

SHARM AL-SHAYKH CONFERENCE

Al-Mu'tamar publishes on the front page a 500-word report citing Foreign Minister Zebari praising the conclusion statement of the Sharm al-Shaykh conference on Iraq. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat runs on page 4 a 1,500-word report citing various officials' comments on the Sharm al-Shaykh meeting in Egypt. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat publishes on page 2 a 300-word commentary by Muhammad al-Shahmani saying that the Sharm al-Shaykh Conference has only succeeded to involve irrelevant parties in the Iraqi cause. The commentary wonders how the neighbouring countries, which have played a major role in escalating terrorism in Iraq, can be invited to a conference to impose stability in Iraq. If they are really concerned about stability in Iraq,
they must prevent their terrorists from entering Iraq and write off Iraqi debts, adds the commentary. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mada runs a 300-word front-page editorial on the Sharm al-Shaykh meeting in Egypt. The editorial hopes that the government held a national reconciliation conference in Iraq before this conference. The editorial says that Iraq needs its neighbouring countries, especially the Arab countries, to build its new state and democracy, but before that, Iraq needs to rely on itself and its unity. The editorial adds that this conference can guarantee the role of the opposition and can exclude the terrorists in Iraq. (24 Nov 04)

ADMINISTRATION

Al-Furat publishes on the front page a 100-word report wondering why a large number of other employees are still detained despite the fact that the investigation showed that the deputy finance minister was responsible for the embezzlement of the large amount of money from the ministry. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat publishes on page 2 a 500-word interview with Traffic Police Chief General Jasim al-Bahadili, who holds "the US occupation forces" responsible for the chaotic traffic in Baghdad. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat publishes on the front page a 400-word report praising the Interior Ministry's reaction to an earlier report published by the newspaper regarding the misconduct of police in Al-Nasiriyah Governorate.

Al-Furat publishes on page 3 a 1,000-word report citing a number of Iraqi citizens wondering who will compensate for the damage that the Iraqi people have incurred due to the war and following chaos in the country. They criticized and held both the Iraqi Government and occupation forces responsible for their misery. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Nahdah publishes a 300-word front-page report on a statement by an official at the cabinet noting that the government decided to increase the financial support for this year's pilgrimage. The official says that the pilgrimage fees will be 900,000 Iraq-dinars by airplane and 750,000 Iraq dinars by land travel. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Adalah publishes on page 1 a 500-word editorial criticizing the Electricity Ministry for "not showing us the real reasons" behind the "worsening condition" of power all over Iraq. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mashriq carries on page 1 a 100-word report on the "success" of the National Assembly delegation in "releasing the Assembly's deputy chairman," who was detained by the multinational forces. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat publishes on the front page a 300-word report stating that the newspaper learned that Adil al-Kuwaiti, a Kuwaiti translator who used to work for the former Civil Coalition Administration, has stolen 36m dollars and has left the country. (24 Nov 04)
Al-Manar al-Yawm publishes on page 4 a 500-word article by Khalid Issa Taha, a legal adviser, saying that despite the tribal nature and diversity of the Iraqi community, the monarchy rule succeeded in imposing stability and security and in building a modern state in Iraq last century. It was the best governing system in the country’s modern history. The article criticizes the US Administration for restricting the role of the Constitutional Monarchy Movement and its leader Al-Sharif Ali Bin-al-Husayn after the downfall of the former regime in 2003. The article says that if the decision was up to the British Army, the situation would be different because the Britons are familiar with the situation in Iraq. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mu'tamar publishes on page 6 a 500-word commentary by Salman al-Shammari saying that there are three forms of governments: the autocrat, the minority, and the majority or democratic government. The article discusses the characteristics and advantages of the democratic governments. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Adalah carries on page 5 a 1,000-word article by Kazim Habib, entitled "The After-the-Fall Saddam Scheme," in which the writer comments on the plan that Saddam's regime set to "destroy the country" after the war. This plan included looting and destroying all state buildings, preparing "terrorist" groups for kidnapping and killing, releasing "professional" criminals from prisons, and spreading "rumours and lies" to disturb the public opinion. The writer attributes this scheme's "success" to the failure of the CPA and the Iraqi Government in dealing with the Iraqi situation properly. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mashriq carries on page 1 a 400-word article by Hamid Abdallah, criticizing the Iraqi Government for resuming the "debathification" process, which was started by Paul Bremer. The writer calls for punishing the criminals and "uprooting Bremer's crime in devising the debathification plan." (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mashriq runs on page 4 a 400-word article by Jalil Ni'ma al-Ibadi criticizing the "favouritism phenomenon" that is spreading in Iraq. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Zaman runs on page 4 a 70-word report on a statement by an official at the National Assembly noting that Nasir al-Ayif, deputy speaker of the National Assembly and command member at the Iraqi Islamic parties, who was detained by the US forces, has been released. The official says that the National Assembly has issued a statement calling on the government to start investigations on this issue. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Bayan carries on page 3 a 300-word article by Zaynab al-Khafaji criticizing the policies of regional countries that allow international interference in the affairs of the region. The article says that most of Iraq's neighbouring countries attempted to take short-term advantages of the situation in Iraq after the downfall of the former regime; however they changed their policies after the reelection of President Bush. (24 Nov 04)

INTERNATIONAL
Al-Mashriq carries on page 6 a 700-word article by Abd-al-Jabbar Mahmud al-Samarra'i discussing the "attack" on Islam in the west. The writer mentions six points that he sees as the "main features of regarding Islam as dangerous to the west," and calls on Muslims and Western intellectuals to work hard to "establish mutual trust and respect." (24 Nov 04)

ECONOMY

Al-Bayan publishes on the front page and page 2 a 300-word report citing Prime Minister Iyad Allawi, who appreciated the decision of writing off 80 per cent of Iraqi debts, calling on Arab countries to do the same. In a statement issued by his office, Allawi said that the writing off of the Iraqi debts will not only boost the security and development in Iraq but in the region as well. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat publishes on the front page a 500-word editorial by Chief Editor Shakir al-Juburi urging Arab countries to follow the decision of the Paris Club and write off their shares of Iraqi debts. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mu'tamar publishes on page 4 a 400-word unattributed report stating that the prices of major food commodities in Iraq have witnessed a sharp increase recently due to the deteriorating security situation. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Bayan publishes on the front page a 230-word report citing an official source at the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry, as saying that his ministry is preparing a new labour law to replace the Labour Law No 71 for the year 1987 and new social security law to substitute the Law No 39 for year 1971. The source added that the aim of the new laws is to improve the situation and services presented for workers. (24 Nov 04)

GAS/OIL

Al-Mashriq carries on page 5 a 200-word report citing Electricity Minister Ayham al-Samarra'i as saying that "huge amounts of natural gas" have been discovered in Al-Anbar Governorate. The minister is quoted as saying that the discovered amount is "larger than the Algerian reserve of natural gas." (24 Nov 04)

RECONSTRUCTION/AID

Al-Furat runs on page 3 a 100-word report citing a Defence Ministry official as saying that the ministry prepared a plan in coordination with the other ministries to "boost Al-Fallujah reconstruction projects." (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mu'tamar publishes on the front page a 100-word report citing an official source at the Ministry of Public Works and Municipalities as saying that Japan has donated 5m dollars for the development of drinking water plants in the Al-Samawah Governorate. (24 Nov 04)
Al-Manarah carries on page 2 a 100-word report on statements by the undersecretary of the Transport Ministry announcing the plan for building an underground railway in Baghdad. According to the undersecretary, the construction work is due to start early next year, the report stated. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Manarah carries on page 2 a 200-word report on a plan by the Transport Ministry to build a railway link to Iran, Kuwait, and Jordan by the end of 2006. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mu'tamar publishes on the front page a 100-word report citing an official source at the Trade Ministry as saying that his ministry has allocated 7bn Iraqi dinars for the construction of 118 wheat flour mills throughout Iraq. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat carries on page 6 a 500-word interview with Wasit Governor Muhammad Riza al-Jash'ami discussing the reconstruction projects implemented in Wasit Governorate. The governor is cited as criticizing these projects, saying that they are "bad and superficial." (24 Nov 04)

Al-Sabah al-Jadid runs on page 4 a 500-word report on the conditions set by the Supreme Reconstruction Council to "regulate and boost the reconstruction projects." (24 Nov 04)

Al-Nahdah publishes a 400-word front-page report on a statement by the Supreme Council of Reconstruction noting that that the reconstruction projects that will be focused on are schools, hospitals, universities, dorms, and roads. The council says it is focusing now on improving the drinking water network in several areas in Iraq. (24 Nov 04)

HEALTH

Health ministry plans to import 700 ambulances: The Ministry of Health has said it is studying the possibility of allocating 50m dollars towards buying 700 ambulances for the ministry's emergency directorate and other health institutions, Al-Sabah al-Jadid newspaper reported on 22 November. The paper said the ministry had announced earlier that the need for the ambulances was growing sharply due to the ongoing military operations and terrorist acts in the country. (Al-Sabah al-Jadid 22 Nov 04)

Al-Manar al-Yawm publishes on page 2 a 100-word report citing an official source at the Health Ministry as saying that studies conducted by the UN Relief Agency and the Iraqi Government showed that since the onset of war on Iraq, the rate of malnutrition among Iraqi children has increased as a result of the deteriorating essential and health services and nutrition situation in the country during this period. The source added that this year, the rate of malnutrition among children under five years has increased by seven per cent. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mu'tamar publishes on the front page a 240-word report citing Health Minister Ala al-Din al-Alwan, who explained, in a speech before the National Health Conference held in Baghdad for the period between 23 and 25 November, that the reform of the health
situation in Iraq is not an easy task because of the neglect that this sector has witnessed over more than two decades. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Furat carries on page 3 a 100-word report citing a Health Ministry source as saying that the ministry's supervision bodies discovered decayed foodstuff, which was being distributed by some humanitarian organizations to a number of hospitals. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Sabah al-Jadid runs on page 4 a 700-word interview with Babil Health Director Mahmud Abd-al-Riza, discussing the health situation in Babil Governorate and the directorate's plans to improve the health sector and services. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Adalah carries on page 3 a 300-word report citing Health Minister Ala-al-Din al-Alwan as saying that the health sector is "suffering from big problems due to the absence of scientific planning." The report also cites Al-Alwan as stressing the need for a strategy to improve the nursing sector "by improving colleges and institutions in Iraq." (24 Nov 04)

MEDIA

Al-Furat publishes on the front page a 200-word report citing Defence Minister Hazim al-Sha'lan as saying that Al-Jazeera TV supports terrorism, adding that Umar Hadid was responsible for delivering the tapes made by the terrorists to the channel. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Mada runs a 200-word front-page report on a statement by the defence minister accusing Al-Jazeera of being the "terrorist channel." The minister threatens to adopt measures against the channel. The minister says that Omar Hadid, a wanted terrorist, is the brother of the bureau chief of Al-Jazeera channel in Baghdad, and he is the contact point between the terrorists and the channel. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Adalah carries on page 5 a 500-word article by Talib al-Wahili, entitled "The Media War and the New Reality," discussing the important role that the media plays in "destroying people." The writer says that Saddam's regime "exploited the media for its own evil purposes," and now this is continuous with the "suspect media channels and papers." (24 Nov 04)

EDUCATION

Al-Bayan publishes on page 4 a 450-word report citing a number of school teachers who complained that so far their schools in Karbala, Al-Diwaniyah, and other governorates have not received the new text books. They said that they are forced to use the old text books carrying former President Saddam Husayn's pictures. (24 Nov 04)

Al-Bayan publishes on the front page a 200-word report citing an official source at the Education Ministry as saying that his ministry plans to employ a large number of the newly graduated teachers. (24 Nov 04)
IRAQI BROADCAST MEDIA SUMMARIES, 24 Nov 04

Programme summary of Voice of the Mujahidin 24 Nov 04

- The Sharm al-Shaykh conference on Iraq urges the interim Iraqi Government to secure as much participation as possible in the elections
- Participants in the Sharm al-Shaykh conference on Iraq stress the need for a full participation in the Iraqi elections as a way for reconciliation and stability
- The head of the higher elections commission says that 219 political entities have applied to take part in the elections
- In a statement to the press yesterday, the Iraqi president said the grouping set up under his chairmanship to participate in the elections is seeking to be a political force comprising the different sectors of the Iraqi people
- US-British military forces launch a large-scale offensive against the southern part of Baghdad
- US forces impose a curfew on the Iraqi city of Al-Fallujah, and clashes erupt between US forces and resistance men in the city
- US forces besiege the west part of the Iraqi city of Al-Ramadi and launch a search campaign, and a US military base comes under a rocket attack
- Two children are wounded in a mortar attack in the Iraqi city of Samarra and two armed men are also killed in an explosion in the city
- The US "occupation" forces in the Iraqi city of Kirkuk say that around 35 people are arrested, and an office of the Patriot Union of Kurdistan comes under a mortar attack
- Armed men assassinate a member of the Association of Muslim Scholars in the city of Al-Miqdadiyah.

Programme summary of Dar al-Salam radio 24 Nov 04

- Relatives of the Iraqi National Assembly deputy speaker deny that he has been released
- US "occupation" sources say that 5,000 US and British troops launch a large-scale offensive against the southern part of Baghdad and arrest 32 persons
- US and Iraqi forces carry out a search campaign in the Iraqi city of Kirkuk and seize personal weapons
- The US secretary of state says he expects an increase in violence in Iraq ahead of the elections
- The Sharm al-Shaykh international conference on Iraq concludes its meetings and issues a final statement supporting the political process in Iraq
- The Arab League chief calls for a cease-fire in the Iraqi city of Al-Fallujah and elsewhere in Iraq and for an Iraqi national reconciliation conference; the Saudi
foreign minister also stresses the need to enable all Iraqis to participate in the elections
- Twenty-three British members of parliament call for a parliamentary trial of Tony Blair for taking part in the Iraq war.

Programme summary of Al-Iraqiyah TV 24 Nov 04:
- Prime Minister Iyad Allawi says offensive in southern Baghdad target "terrorists"; Allawi says more recruits of rapid intervention force being trained
- Two killed and others injured in suicide bombing on road to Baghdad airport ...
- Explosives, weapons cache found in Fallujah
- National Guard commander says troops have focused offensive against Abu-Musa'b al-Zarqawi in areas north of Baghdad; audio-tape posted on the Internet and purported to be by Al-Zarqawi slams religious scholars; Jordanian court sets deadline for Al-Zarqawi to surrender himself
- Chief of independent electoral commission says 219 political groups have applied to run election
- Students and academics hopeful election will be success
- Political parties meet to draw joint action plan for successful election
- Muslim women association discusses ways to raise awareness of Iraqi women
- Iraq policy on right track – observers
- Campaign to penalize traffic offenders in Biqar
- Baghdad university central library revamped
- Shortage of medical equipment major problem at hospitals
- US Secretary of Defence Donald Rumsfeld says terror attacks in Iraq expected to continue in coming months
- US Secretary of State Colin Powell calls on international community to help with Iraq election
- Iraq protests against UN decision to allocate part of Iraq oil revenues for use in sleaze probe; Iraq calls on Arab states to write off its debts; Japan to give more aid to Baghdad; Iraqis' purchasing power increases.

Kurdish Press, 23-24 Nov 04

Yekgirtu (Al-Ufuq supplement), weekly by the Iraqi Kurdistan Islamic Union 23 Nov 04)

Kurdish paper says US attack on Al-Fallujah escalated violence in Iraq: Al-Ufuq, a weekly newspaper published by Iraqi Kurdistan Islamic Union, on 23 November published an article criticizing the US-led incursion into Al-Fallujah. The paper said the campaign caused an upsurge in violence in other Iraqi cities and had taken longer than predicted. It criticized the fact that "tens of thousands" of Al-Fallujah's inhabitants were made homeless and had still not been allowed to return home, as well as the destruction of property in the city. The paper said America's "impractical policies and inappropriate practices" had helped to ignite "hate and revulsion" against it. It also said that events in Al-Fallujah and other cities showed the situation in Iraq was
"still disastrous" and added that the biggest testimony to this was the killing of the hostage Margaret Hasan. The article warned against allowing the current situation to continue.

Khabat daily, issued in Erbil by the KDP, 24 November 2004

KDP paper urges Bush to return Kurds' favour: The Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) newspaper Khabat on 24 November carried an article calling on US President George W. Bush to "reciprocate" the support the Kurds had accorded the US in Iraq. The paper said the Kurds hoped Bush would offer them "a wider niche in White House policy" and would give greater consideration to their problems and "destiny", "as well as the experiment in Kurdistan".

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NB: This is not an official document. The information contained therein was compiled by the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, Information Office. If you have any questions/suggestions, please contact us at (+ 962 550 -4631/4703 or Cell. + 962 77 619 731 jarrar@un.org or alsokhni@un.org