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YOUR RELIABLE PARTNER FOR SHIPMENTS TO IRAQ

Sep 09th, 2015 NEWSLETTER

Dear Clients, Partners and Friends,
we are pleased to update you on the current situation in Iraq as follows:

1. Border Situation Turkey/Iraq

► Ongoing clashes between Turkish army and PKK

The clashes between Turkey and PKK have become more intensive and are now affecting cargo movements more and more. The latest developments have led to the following situation:

Route Mersin/Iskenderun-Silopi

The area east of Mersin up to province Hakkari is affected by the current crisis between Turkey and PKK. On the road to Silopi several trucks have been set on fire so that the security measures along the road have been clearly tightened. The number of drivers who are willing to drive to Iraq has clearly decreased. Temporarily built checkpoints shall ensure safer trips up to Silopi. On the road trucks are checked intensively and very detailed. Only a few trucks are allowed to move on towards Habur gate daily. The waiting queue has reached a length of approx. 20-25 km.

Habur exit customs gate

The border staff is checking each truck and shipment in detail which now takes much more time than in the past.

Depending on the local security situation the gates might be closed temporarily from time to time.

Ibrahim Khalil entry customs gate

Due to the current situation and in order not to get involved into the cross fire between Turkey and PKK the border is closed from time to time since 05 September. The border staff works for a few hours per day only. During that period less trucks are allowed to enter and get cleared every day.

Route Zakho-Erbil-Kirkuk-Sulaymaniyah

The area from Zakho to Erbil, Kirkuk and Sulaymaniyah is safe currently. No obstacles are registered.

Route Kirkuk-Baghdad-Basrah

Due to military operations in Diyala region all routes between Kirkuk towards central- and southern Iraq are closed temporarily. Trucks are allowed to pass and move towards central and southern Iraq only for a few hours per day. The remaining hours of the day the routes are blocked.

2. Conclusion:

The mentioned developments are currently causing the following obstacles:

- trips within and via Turkey up to Iraq became less safe than before
- long waiting queues at both sides of the borders
- shortage of trucks at Mersin and Iskenderun Port
- increasing trucking rates due to lack of drivers or trucks
- longer transit times than usual
- unexpected delays at any stage of any shipment

In order to minimize risks at any stage we strongly recommend to stay in close contact with our team which is specialized in handling such situations and monitors the circumstances continuously. We will be glad to assist and advise at any time.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,
M.G. International Transports GmbH

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