

M.G. INTERNATIONAL

SINCE 1891







YOUR RELIABLE PARTNER FOR SHIPMENTS TO IRAQ

May 10th, 2016 NEWSLETTER

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

1. Latest News

Dobligation for imports via KRG to pass Middle customs in Abo Ghraib Since the beginning of May, all shipments entering Iraq via KRG borders and with final destination Central or Southern Iraq have to be customs cleared as per current Iraqi customs tariff. Trucks need to pass Abo Ghraib customs in Baghdad in order to be checked if import duties and taxes have been paid as per current tariff. If not, the importer must pay the difference at Abo Ghraib customs. Afterwards, the trucks will be released to move on towards final destination.

► Road blockades due to Shaabaniyah Event

This year, Shaabaniyah event is expected to be on 22nd/23rd of May. Because the main event is in Baghdad area, road blockades around Baghdad will start around 19th/20th of May and are expected to be lifted around 25th/26th of May.

► Ramadhan

Ramadhan period is expected to start on 07^{th of} June and to end on 05th of July. During Ramadhan working times and operations at governmental offices and ports will change and be slowed down.

► <u>Upcoming Holidays</u> 06th–08th July – Eid al Fitr 14th July – Republic Day

2. Security Situation

Clashes in Tuz Khurmatu have caused temporary road blockades on the road between Kirkuk and Baghdad last week and still cause delays. Since ceasefire has started last week, the situation is improving. Major bombing attacks have been registered in Baghdad and Samawah. As per now and after intensive security checks – sending shipments to Airports and Seaports is still possible.

3. Border situation

Turkish / Iraqi border

Local military operations are still going on in some areas. The security situation is stable. The border gates are permanently open. The current waiting time ex Turkey towards Iraq and ex Iraq towards Turkey is 3-4 days.

Jordanian/Iraqi border

No improvement or development on the security situation registered locally. Therefore, we still do not offer transports crossing this route until further notice.

4. Airfreight

Erbil & Sulaymaniyah Airport
Currently, operations are running
smoothly. Regular passenger and cargo
flights are available. Please check the
possibilities as per your requirements
with us case by case.

<u>Baghdad International Airport (BIAP)</u> and Basrah Airport

BIAP and Basrah Airport are working normally. Regular passenger and cargo flights are available. Please check the possibilities as per your requirements with us case by case.

5. Umm Qassr / Khor Al Zubair ports

The security measures at both ports are tight. The ports are considered as safe. Generally the operation is running smoothly.

6. Mersin / Iskenderun seaport

Port operations are running smoothly as usual.

7. Overland Transport

Cargo movements towards Iraq via southeast Europe as well as via Trieste-Mersin Ferry are running well. No obstacles are registered.

Thank you for your attention. Yours sincerely, M.G. International Transports GmbH

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