

# EYE ON IRAQ

October 05, 2005

The Iraqi people, with help from coalition nations, continue to succeed in reconstruction, economic development and fighting terrorism



***Sheikh Ali Khalid condemns terrorism as an act against faith at the "Making your voice heard" forum in Kirkuk. Over twenty religious leaders, both Muslim and Christian, discussed issues such as terrorism and the upcoming referendum and elections in Iraq at the multi-religious forum Sept. 19, 2005.***

TIKRIT, Iraq - Religious leaders of different faiths came together for a forum held in Kirkuk, Monday, Sept. 19, with one thing in common, to learn about and discuss the upcoming constitutional referendum and parliamentary elections. The diverse group ended the show by condemning terrorist acts of violence committed by terrorists. More than twenty clerics from the Muslim and Christian communities in Kirkuk attended the "Making Your Voice Heard" forum at the Kirkuk Government Building. The discussion forum is an outgrowth of an interfaith session held earlier in the summer.

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***Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) continue their unrelenting search for terrorists in Iraq. Hundreds of terrorists have been captured or killed thanks to the courage and unflinching bravery of these men standing up in the face of terrorism. In a series of raids, Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) confiscated explosives and bomb making materials before they could be used to create more deadly suicide vests and vehicle bombs.***

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**FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq** –A ceremony celebrating the transfer of Forward Operating Base Lima to Iraqi Security Forces was held Sept. 28 at the Karbala Sports Stadium in Karbala, Iraq. Iraqi Police and Army commanders and Iraqi government representatives along with Lt. Col. James Oliver, commander of the 1st Battalion, 198th Armored Brigade, attended the ceremony transferring local security responsibilities to the Iraqi Police and the 4th Brigade, 8th Division, Greater Iraqi Army. The 2nd Battalion, 114th Field Artillery, represented by Oliver and formerly stationed at FOB Lima, has assisted the people of Karbala since mid-January, providing security and infrastructure support. Sixty-eight projects, totaling approximately \$21.5 million, have and continue to improve the city of Karbala. The projects include water, sanitation, education, electrical, medical and humanitarian aid. FOB Lima now belongs to the city of Karbala and city officials will decide how to best utilize the property. The battalion has relocated to other bases throughout the 155th Brigade Combat Team's area of operations. Sufficient forces remain available to offer any assistance requested by the Iraqi Security Forces in control of Karbala and the surrounding area. The 2nd Bn., 114th Field Artillery is a U.S. Army unit assigned to the 155th BCT serving with the II Marine Expeditionary Force (FWD), in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



***Iraqi Army Soldiers pass in review during a ceremony transferring local security responsibilities to the Iraqi Police and the 4th Brigade, 8th Division, Greater Iraqi Army***



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