



## Master sergeant restructures Iraqi Police motorpool

Story, photos by  
**Pfc. Matthew Clifton**  
MNC-I PAO

When building anything from the ground up, time and patience are virtues needed to bring construction to fruition. The same can be said about the creation and success of the Iraqi Police.

One military policeman has made it his mission to provide a helping hand to the growing security forces in Baghdad.

For Master Sgt. Michael Gaboriault, brigade motor sergeant, 42nd MP Brigade, Fort Lewis, Wash., overseeing the maintenance and repair operations for the 42nd was all he expected to do when he deployed to Iraq.

However, he took on the duty of overseeing the maintenance for all of Baghdad's Iraqi Police vehicles, and discovered it was something that would require a great deal of his time and effort.

"I was tasked to assist the Iraqi Police with anything they needed to maintain their vehicles and keep them in a proficient state of readiness," Gaboriault



**Master Sgt. Abdul Mohamed, left, brigade motor sergeant, 49th Military Police Brigade, V Corps, Hanau, Germany, collects spare tires Oct. 23 that will be used on Iraqi Police vehicles at an Iraqi Police station in Baghdad**

said. "When I started making rounds, I found that the facilities had been looted."

Basically, they only had primitive tools to work with along with some other basics that were donated by the Japanese government, Gaboriault said.

After making his rounds, Gaboriault knew he would have a lot of work to do getting the IP vehicles to an acceptable level of readiness. His first task was to determine what the facilities required to be fully operational.

There are five main facilities Gaboriault looks after; Al-Karkh, Rusafa, Traffic, Patrol and Central Maintenance. Going through the proper channels, Gaboriault attained several contracts that would be used to fix specific problems facing the facilities.

"I was able to get a contract worth \$1.2 million to rebuild and outfit the facilities and a contract for \$500,000 to buy parts -- which they used within a matter of a few months," Gaboriault said. "We got another \$450,000 for more parts that we are currently working on along with a \$358,000 contract for each of the five facilities to buy tools.

After getting the contracts approved, another problem pre-

sented itself. The Iraqi Police had no dedicated vendor to supply them with the parts they needed.

Since the IPs knew exactly what they needed to fix and equip their facilities, they were allowed to purchase their supplies from local vendors. They would bring the receipt for their purchases to him, and he would then reimburse them, Gaboriault said.

Once the parts and tools started being delivered, he noticed the facilities were not working with each other. They wouldn't share parts, tools or the workload.

To fix this problem, Gaboriault structured the five main facilities in a new way. He made four of the stations responsible for light maintenance like exhaust, brakes, windows, tune-ups and oil changes. The biggest facility was put in control of all the big things like engines, transmissions, body work and frames.

"I act as sort of a go-between for the facilities and the Ministry of the Interior in Iraq. When the facilities request parts or services, they have to submit a written letter through their chain of command," Gaboriault said. "If they get denied, I will go to the MoI with that denial and the request to ask for better assistance.

"Basically, if they need my help, I am there. I usually have great success working with the MoI," he said.

Gaboriault said he can really see how far along the Iraqi Police have come when he looks at the turn-around time for vehicles getting repaired, the appearance and organization of the facilities and the system they have for tracking repair parts.

When he first started, the facilities had no computerized tracking system for vehicles coming and going. It was all done by paper.

Now they use computers that were supplied to them.

"The same thing goes for their warehouses. They used to inventory their supplies on paper, and now it is all done electronically," Gaboriault said. "They use an Excel program and know exactly where every part is, so when they issue them out the process is simplified."

When Gaboriault first assumed this mission, he planned on running it like a military organization. He had to step back and realize that these people were not military and made decisions and structured the facilities in a way that would be compatible, Gaboriault said.

With the help they received, they have made outstanding progress. When he first started his mission, the facilities were at about 25-percent operational. Now they are closer to 65- to 70-percent operational, Gaboriault said.

"Everyone we work with is very grateful for everything that (Gaboriault) has done for them," said Master Sgt. Abdul Mohamed, brigade motor sergeant, 49th MP Bde. Mohamed will be taking over Gaboriault's operations when he redeployes.

"I think that affects their job performance, because they will ... take more pride in what they do knowing that someone cares about them and is going out of their way to help them."



**Master Sgt. Michael Gaboriault, left, brigade motor sergeant, 42nd Military Police Brigade, I Corps, Fort Lewis Wash., gives guidance to an Iraqi civilian working with an Iraqi Police Department in Baghdad Oct. 23.**

## Military Police bid farewell to Iraqi counterparts, look back on mission success

Story, photo by  
Pfc. Laura M. Bigenho  
42nd MP Brigade, PAO

Traditional Iraqi food, gifts, photos and pleasantries were aplenty at Baghdad Police Headquarters as the 42nd Military Police Brigade bid farewell to their Iraqi counterparts. After nearly a year of working together side by side, day after day, the 42nd MP Bde. is ready to pass the torch onto the 49th MP Bde., their replacement unit from the California Army National Guard.

Col. Rick Swengros, commander, 42nd MP Bde., spoke before the dozens of IPs and MPs, expressing how proud he is to have served with them this past year.

"You have a lot to be proud of, and I am very proud to have served with you," Swengros said. "You've worked hard to defeat the enemy, and you are succeeding."

The success of Iraqi Police in the past year is largely credited to the Police Partnership Program, also known as P3. Prior to P3, Iraqi Police Services had primarily focused on providing IPs with logistical assistance. Swengros and Maj. Curtis Schroeder, IPS operations officer, had a larger vision, setting out to develop police stations in Baghdad by concentrating with the police headquarters.

Originally planned in December 2004, and implemented in January 2005, P3 was formally recognized by Multi-National Corps - Iraq months later after its mission and success became more widely known.

Its mission, "to teach, coach and assist Iraqi Police at the headquarters level in order to enhance police operations throughout Baghdad," has brought stability to more than 120 Iraqi Police and Highway Patrol stations, Schroeder said.

Using a team of Soldiers specialized in operations, training, logistics, budget planning, intelligence gathering and managing personnel, progress was anything but fast in the beginning. However, as the MPs were able to break down some of the obstacles getting in their way, IPs began working harder, transforming into a stronger, capable force.

"First, we had to understand Iraq's own current system, which takes a great deal of time and patience because you're dealing with a completely different way of life from your own," Schroeder said. "Then came automation ... that was also a huge obstacle."

When the 42nd MP Bde. arrived in Iraq, the IPs didn't have any sort of automation; everything was handwritten in Arabic and stored in boxes. The MPs taught them how to use computers and the Internet for everything from keeping track of personnel and supplies to using them as a leadership teaching tool, Schroeder



Col. Richard Swengros, right, commander, 42nd Military Police Brigade, presents Maj. Gen. Abd-al-Razzaq, Baghdad police chief, with a photo of Mount Rainier at a farewell dinner held at Baghdad Police Headquarters.

said. It took the IPs several months to get used to computers, but after the MPs remained adamant about switching, they concurred and now rely heavily on the equipment.

"It took an entire year to get standardized reports that are actually important and meaningful to (the IPs)," Schroeder said. "They've seen how beneficial these programs are, especially during an event such as the elections or referendum."

Once the IPs became proficient in automation, P3 shifted its focus to developing a primary staff, much like the military police, capable of managing their own resources, people, equipment and budget. The key was being able to establish what tools were needed for them to work as a team to ensure accuracy in their management reports, Schroeder said.

"As each section of their staff learned what the other does, they began to realize that they must work together in order to succeed," said Staff Sgt. Ruben Covarrubias, IPS logistics noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

"Now they can actually see where they are short personnel, weapons, ammo and where the (dangerous neighborhoods) are. They're able to manage their own people to carry out missions," Schroeder said.

For a security force that was barely in existence when the 42nd MP Bde. arrived last November, the progress they've seen has been tremendous and only continues to grow. Along with managing their own personnel, IPs are also learning to train their own people. Until recently, the MPs conducted all aspects of training. Whether they're at a weapons range or inside an office typing reports, IPs are gradually replacing the MPs' roles. Together, their goal is to get a

training program started that is tailored to their culture and needs, enabling them to sustain and train their own, Schroeder said.

P3 has made a significant impact in the security and development of Iraqi Police forces. The program's list of accomplishments is extensive, yet there are more goals to be met.

"We stabilized all the police stations in Baghdad and every place we had military police," Swengros said. "We developed the provincial and director police headquarters, where they are probably able to stand on their own two feet with very little support from Coalition forces."

Swengros reassured the IPs that the 49th MP Bde. will continue to assist them in developing their police stations.

"There is still plenty of work to do. There will be more challenges in developing the districts and stations as we've developed (Baghdad Police Headquarters) this year," he said.

"As long as P3 continues, the city of Baghdad will develop a police force that can police as well as the Los Angeles Police Department," Covarrubias said.

As P3 expands beyond Baghdad, Schroeder sees a promising future for the program and its police. He believes the Iraqi forces will continue to progress as long as Coalition forces maintain keeping the Iraqi Police a priority.

"P3 will eventually become more civilianized, where civilian law enforcement agencies throughout the world will help (Iraqi forces) become more technically competent," Schroeder said.

Iraq will see policing at a whole new level, which will enable them to solve crimes using forensics and by gathering information from crime scenes using DNA, Schroeder added.

"This group of professionals has really stepped up in providing safety and security for the people of Iraq," Swengros said. "They can do anything once they put their minds to it."

***"This group of professionals has really stepped up in providing safety and security for the people of Iraq."***

-- Col. Rick Swengros,  
commander,  
42nd Military Police Brigade,  
speaking of Iraqi Police  
forces in Baghdad



**IRAQ REFERENDUM AND ELECTION INFORMATION SPOTLIGHT**

**Referendum and Election Media guidance**

**Do:**

1. Follow your Unit Public Affairs Office media advice
2. Be helpful and courteous to the media
3. Refer any media enquiries up the chain of command

**DEMOCRATIC TIMELINE**



**Don't:**

1. Speak "off the record" to the media
2. Express any opinions on any particular candidate or party
3. Hinder authorized media access to polling sites

If you have any questions regarding the Referendum or Election then speak to your unit Public Affairs Officer:

**Up-armored bus keeps troops secure on Iraqi highways**

Story, photo by **Cpl. Bernadette Ainsworth**  
MNC-I PAO

also transport troops to nearby bases."

Safe transportation is essential to a successful mission outside the wire; that's why the Army has employed the heavily armored Rhino Runner to safely transport troops and Iraqi prisoners to their destinations.

*"It's great for transporting large numbers of people with a minimum number of vehicles on the road. It's proven itself worthy during the past year, and it's a great vehicle to have out on the roads"*

-- Sgt. 1st Class **George P. Wehrly**, operations sergeant, 313th Military Police Detachment

The Rhino is built from the chassis up using the appropriate parts for a heavy vehicle instead of adapting armor to an existing bus that would provide less protection for its passengers, according to [www.gizmag.com](http://www.gizmag.com).

The vehicle is designed to protect against armor-piercing bullets and significant bomb blasts and is fully protected on the sides, front, back, roof and floor, even the windows are designed for better protection, according to [www.gizmag.com](http://www.gizmag.com). The driver and passenger cabins are built using special composite bulletproof armor, which is so light it floats in water.

The Rhino also features one-way bulletproof glass that prevents bullets from getting to the passengers but enables passengers to shoot through the glass at attackers, according to [gizmag.com](http://gizmag.com).

Rhino missions are run by the 392nd Chemical Reconnaissance Company from Fort Bragg, N.C. Usual missions include transporting prisoners to the International Zone courthouse or Forward Operating Base Abu Ghraib and transporting troops.

"It's great for transporting large numbers of people with a minimum number of vehicles on the road," said Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Long, platoon sergeant, 1st Platoon, 392nd Chem. Co.

"We do a lot of prison missions," said Sgt. Laquita Paylor, driver, 392nd Chem. Co. "We

"It's proven itself worthy during the past year, and it's a great vehicle to have out on the roads."



The Rhino Runner is a custom-made armored bus specifically for transporting numerous people through hostile areas.

**PIGSKIN PICK'EM WEEK 10 Schedule**

**This Week's Picks**

- Patriots at Dolphins
- Vikings at Giants
- Ravens at Jaguars
- Texans at Colts
- Cardinals at Lions
- 49ers at Bears
- Chiefs at Bills
- Broncos at Raiders
- Jets at Panthers
- Redskins at Buccaneers
- Rams at Seahawks
- Packers at Falcons
- Browns at Steelers
- Cowboys at Eagles

|            |            |           |
|------------|------------|-----------|
| Patriots   | Patriots   | Patriots  |
| Giants     | Giants     | Vikings   |
| Jaguars    | Jaguars    | Jaguars   |
| Colts      | Colts      | Colts     |
| Cardinals  | Lions      | Cardinals |
| Bears      | Bears      | Bears     |
| Chiefs     | Chiefs     | Chiefs    |
| Broncos    | Broncos    | Broncos   |
| Panthers   | Panthers   | Panthers  |
| Buccaneers | Buccaneers | Redskins  |
| Seahawks   | Seahawks   | Seahawks  |
| Falcons    | Falcons    | Falcons   |
| Steelers   | Steelers   | Steelers  |
| Cowboys    | Cowboys    | Eagles    |

Week Ten Bye Teams:  
Bengals, Chargers, Saints, Titans

Last Week's Results:  
Overall:

|         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 11 - 3  | 8 - 6   | 8 - 6   |
| 77 - 53 | 72 - 58 | 76 - 54 |

**Notes**

Things went just swimmingly in Pick'em land this week, with Staff Sgt. St.Clair sweeping and swabbing the competition by three games (and retaking the lead in the process), Seattle roosting atop their division like a big bird that likes to roost on stuff and Indianapolis putting the hurt on the Super Bowl XXXIX's Patriots. And T.O.'s out for the rest of the season! Pfc. Clifton's 7 - 2 Bengals have a much-earned bye this week and are considered a dark horse for taking the AFC slot in February, which we all know won't happen, but why not say something nice for a change? We're half done, and last place is still 14 over .500. Not too bad, eh? This week's guest picker is Capt. Darwin Maull, Multi-National Corps - Iraq operations section effects battle captain. If you like picking football games by calling Dionne Warwick's Psychic Friends Hotline, call 822-1414 or e-mail [mark.st.clair@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:mark.st.clair@iraq.centcom.mil).

**Voices of Victory:** *Why is it important for us to observe Veterans Day?*



**"It's always important to respect those who have served before."**

Lance Cpl. Naomi Bennett, administrative clerk, Marine Central Coordination Element - Iraq



**"It is important to remember the troops who have fallen, the ones who are serving, and the reason we are over here."**

Lance Cpl. Neil Stevens, administrative clerk, Marine Central Coordination Element - Iraq



**"It's important because it's part of our history and a part of what makes us who we are."**

Keith Collins, Systems Engineer, CCCI

**Operating Hours**

**Coalition Cafe**

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Dinner 5:30 - 8 p.m.  
Midnight Dining 11 p.m. - 1 a.m.

**Sports Oasis**

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Dinner 5:30 - 9 p.m.

**Shopette**

Open 24 Hours

**Camp Liberty Post Exchange**

Everyday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

**Fitness Center**

Open 24 Hours

**Chapel (Bldg. 31)**

**Sunday:**

Protestant Service 7 and 8:45 a.m.  
Catholic Mass 10:30 a.m.  
Gospel Service Noon  
Mormon (LDS) 2 p.m.  
Episcopal 4 p.m.  
Full Life Service 6 p.m.

**Saturday:**

7th Day Adventist 11 a.m.  
Catholic Mass 8 p.m.

**Mini-Chapel (Bldg. 2)**

**Friday:**

Jewish Service 6:30 p.m.  
Eastern Orthodox services:

**Saturday:**

Vespers 5 p.m.  
Confession 5:30 p.m.  
Bible Study 7 p.m.

**Sunday:**

Divine Liturgy 9 a.m.

**Post Office**

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.

**Golby Troop Medical Clinic**

**Sick Call Hours:**

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon  
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

**Dental Sick call:**

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
Saturday 9 - 10:30 a.m.

**Mental Health Clinic:**

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. - noon

**Post Deployment Health Briefings:**

Monday - Friday 1 p.m.

**Pharmacy:**

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon  
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

**You're not invulnerable.**

**All vehicles are at risk.**

0049 IEDs KILL

**The Camp Victory Post Office is offering extended hours to facilitate redeploying troops.**

**To take advantage of the extended hours, units will need to contact Sgt. 1st Class Bowie or Lt. Usher at 822-2934 or 822-2925. The goal is for units to come as a group to mail belongings home instead of crowding the post office during normal operating hours.**

*Victory Weekly welcomes columns, commentaries, articles and letters from our readers. Send submissions or comments to [david.foley@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:david.foley@iraq.centcom.mil). We reserve the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity and space.*

**Victory MWR Events November 8 - 14**

**Today:** Spades Tournament at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; At the Gym: Tae-Kwon-Do from 6 - 7 p.m.; Fencing from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

**Wednesday:** Dominoes tournament at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; At the Gym: Aerobics from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.; Boxing from 8 - 9 p.m.; Basketball coaches meeting at 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 51.

**Thursday:** Country Night at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; RISK tournament at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; At the Gym: Tae-Kwon-Do from 6 - 7 p.m.

**Friday:** Salsa Lessons at 8 p.m., Latin Night at 9 p.m. at Bldg. 51; At the Gym: Aerobics from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.; Fencing from 7:30 - 9 p.m.; basketball tournament.

**Saturday:** Talent show at 8 p.m. in Bldg. 124; College football at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; At the Gym: Tae-Kwon-Do from 6 - 7 p.m.; Boxing from 8 - 9 p.m.; basketball tournament.

**Sunday:** NFL football at 9 p.m. at Bldg. 124; NFL football at 9 p.m. at Bldg. 51; At the Gym: Fencing from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

**Monday:** MVP baseball at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; At the Gym: Aerobics from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Boxing from 8 - 9 p.m.

**MNC-I Commanding General:** Lt. Gen. John R. Vines  
**MNC-I Public Affairs Officer:** Col. Billy J. Buckner  
**MNC-I PA Sergeant Major:** Sgt. Maj. John E. Brenici

**MNC-I Production Chief:** Staff Sgt. Mark St.Clair  
**Victory Weekly Editor:** Sgt. David Foley

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