

EYE ON IRAQ

December 11, 2005

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

Combined effort successful in two separate searches

Iraqi Soldiers and Police along with U.S. troops, successfully conducted two separate operations that resulted in the capture 14 suspected terrorists early Dec. 8.

Operation Bulldawg Chariot, a joint mission with Soldiers from Iraq's 3rd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 5th Army Division and 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, netted four suspected terrorists near Baqubah, located northwest of Baghdad.

A tip received from an Iraqi civilian led to the operation to nab the suspected terrorists who were responsible for harassing, threatening and intimidating local Iraqi civilian construction workers who are building a new prison facility.

In Khadasia, about eight kilometers northwest of Tikrit, Operation Able Rising Force unfolded with 10 suspected terrorists captured, including three who are wanted for IED attacks against local civilians and military. The operation consisted of Soldiers from 4th Iraqi Army Division, Iraqi Police from the area and Soldiers from 3rd Infantry Division.



Lesson in discipline

Staff Sgt. Jason Lyday, 101st Airborne, instructs Iraqi Army Soldiers on muzzle discipline prior to entering a room during close quarters battle drills at FOB McHenry, Iraq, Nov. 23, 2005.



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101st Airborne Division Soldiers form a chain to move mortar rounds found in a massive weapons cache Dec. 4 near Kirkuk. More than 2,700 rounds were discovered near an abandoned Iraqi military base.

bunkers crammed with weapons near Forward Operating Base Bernstein, west of the city.

More than 400 rockets of various types and 80 mortar rounds were discovered. Mortars and rockets, along with IEDs, are the preferred terrorist weapons against civilian populations and military forces because they allow them to conduct attacks and then run away from the launch sites without having to face Iraqi or Coalition Forces.

Seventy cases of small arms ammunition, 100 artillery fuses, and a dozen rocket-propelled grenade warheads were also stashed in the bunkers.

An explosive ordnance disposal team was called to inspect the weapons and conduct a controlled detonation to destroy the cache.

Another weapons cache was seized in Kirkuk Dec. 6, after police received a tip from a local resident. Rockets, mortars, tank rounds, anti-aircraft rounds and artillery fuses were discovered.

Major cache uncovered near Tuz

Just a week after a huge cache of mortars was uncovered near the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk, another large terrorist cache was discovered Dec. 6 near the neighboring city of Tuz.

Soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division found two storage



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Iraqi Army and U.S. Army Soldiers conduct a joint patrol in Hechel Village Hechel Village, Iraq, Nov. 26, 2005, keeping a watchful eye, but also handing out school supplies to children.



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