

# Coalition

## Chronicle

November, 2006  
Volume 1, Issue 8

### ALL AMERICANS EVALUATE BAYJI NEIGHBORHOOD

Where the 'Buffalo' roam...  
5th Eng. Bn. Soldiers clear  
roads of IEDs

Warrior Brigade,  
ISOF clear mulhalla

Chain email  
delivers  
Iraqi aid

Freedom Focal Point

DISPLAYING PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE COALITION



# Coalition Chronicle

Official magazine of Multi-National Corps-Iraq

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Cover shot: 1st Lt. Roman S. Olesnyckyj, 3rd Platoon leader, Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division (left), and Pfc. Adam Elliott, radio/telephone operator, patrol the streets of Bayji, Iraq Sept. 16, 2006. (photo by Spc. Joshua R. Ford)

# Commander's Voice

## November: give thanks, reflect on sacrifice

November is a time of remembrance and thanksgiving. Several significant dates fall during this month – the United States Marine Corps birthday, Veteran's Day, and Thanksgiving.

On November 10, the United States Marine Corps celebrates its 231st birthday in service to the nation. We congratulate our brothers and sisters in arms and thank them for their tremendous contributions to this coalition.

November 11 is a solemn day for the militaries of several Coalition Force members. Best known as Veteran's Day or Remembrance Day, this day is set aside to recognize the sacrifices veterans have made in service to their nation. Although initially created in the wake of World War I, the day has come to symbolize the contributions made in all wars. Not all Coalition member countries recognize November 11 as their day to honor veterans, but almost every country has a day of similar significance at some point during the year.

As we continue our fight for a stable and secure Iraq, it is important to reflect on the sacrifices that all Coalition members have made in the three and a half years of Operation Iraqi Freedom. More than 3,000 Coalition service members have given their lives, more than 20,000 have been wounded and several hundred thousand have served in Iraq, earning them the lifetime distinction of being a war veteran. In addition to these Coalition numbers, thousands of Iraqi soldiers have died fighting for their nation. These sacrifices serve to remind us of the commitment required to accomplish the mission and of the enduring respect each of you have earned. Years from now, you will look back at

your work here and know that you made a difference in the lives of millions of people. Veteran's day is for the millions of military members that have come before us, and it is for all of you as well. You are now, each and every one of you from more than 25 nations, veterans in the global war on terror. Your sacrifice of time from your

***Your sacrifice of time from your families, sweat from your work, and sometimes blood shed from your bodies, combine to make you some of the finest examples our militaries have to offer.***

country but for your contributions to making the world safer. I am both honored and proud to serve with you - the veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



**MNC-I COMMANDER  
LT. GEN. PETER W.  
CHIARELLI**

families, sweat from your work, and sometimes blood shed from your bodies, combine to make you some of the finest examples our militaries have to offer. As many of our families will pause to give thanks on Thanksgiving Day, I thank you for not only your service to your

*Spearhead!*

# Where the 'Buffalo' roam...

## 5th Eng. Bn. Soldiers clear roads of IEDs

Story and photos by:  
Spc. Rodney Foliente  
4th Infantry Division PAO

*Soldiers from 2nd Platoon, Company B, 5th Engineer Battalion, attached to Multi-National Division – Baghdad's 16th Engineer Brigade, prepare for a route clearance mission at Camp Liberty Sept. 27, 2006.*

Riding in the massive beast-of-a-vehicle, the Buffalo crew uses the benefit of its higher vantage and scans the roads and surrounding areas. Each crew member is responsible for his own sector, each contributing to the safety and well-being of their fellows. Brotherly chatter flies through the headsets – deep and personal conversation peppered with cheap shots and banter – as they incessantly watch for threats.

These Soldiers share a warm sense of camaraderie, which Spc. Patrick Cerceau, Buffalo driver from 2nd Platoon, Company B, 5th Engineer Battalion, and native of Lake Tahoe, Calif., describes as developing from shared experiences “of getting blown up together as many times as we have.”

Attacks with improvised-explosive devices are perhaps the greatest risk for any Soldier traveling by convoy in Iraq. For these guys, the threat is magnified.

The Buffalo crews' job is to hunt IEDs – to actively seek out and eliminate the threats so both Coalition Forces and the citizens of Iraq can be assured safe

movement around the country – and as the record shows, they are extremely proficient at what they do.

At the tail end of their yearlong deployment, the Soldiers of 5th Eng. Bn., based out of Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and assigned to Multi-National Division – Baghdad's 16th Engineer Brigade, have found 310 IEDs while patrolling the streets of Baghdad.

On Wednesday, the teams thwarted a complex attack effort by terrorists when they discovered three IEDs and an unexploded ordnance along a single street in western Baghdad.

The three IEDs were found by the Soldiers from 2nd Plt., Co. B, who were attacked by terrorists using small-arms fire after the Soldiers discovered the second roadside bomb.

“We go out every day looking for bombs,” said Staff Sgt. Ramon Martinez, squad leader, 2nd Plt., Co. B. The battalion is only one of the units that provide daily route clearance within MND–B's area of operations.

Route clearance is undeniably one of the most dangerous jobs in Iraq. The Soldiers perform their missions every day, day in and day out. Some days





*Sgt. Andrew Milczakowskyj, team leader, 2nd Platoon, Company B, 5th Engineer Battalion, points at a suspicious pile of rubble as the platoon hunts for roadside bombs.*



*An IED harmlessly detonates behind a cordon after an EOD team arrived on site.*

they locate IEDs, but some are just a long, hot ride around the streets of Baghdad, though their very presence acts as a deterrent to terrorist emplacement of IEDs. For those “easy” days, the crews say they are just thankful everyone came home in one piece.

The Soldiers of 2nd Plt., Co. B have found 40 IEDs during their deployment, which adds to their company’s total of 118 finds – the highest in 5th Eng. Bn.

“I’ve been through 18 blasts myself,” he said proudly, not long before another blast rocked the Buffalo and the Soldiers felt the concussion “like a thud in your chest.” That brought his tally up to 19 blasts.

The blast came from one of the IEDs after it was discovered and unearthed. The platoon immediately began clearing the market street of civilians and set out to prevent traffic from coming close to the area. The Buffalo crew was attacked by small arms-fire moments before the blast, but due to their professionalism and safety procedures, no one was hurt and the damage was contained.

The remaining two IEDs were also cordoned off and an MND-B Explosive Ordnance Disposal team was dispatched. The bombs could have done serious damage along the crowded market street of shops, schools and homes, said Martinez soberly, as he looked out the window at a group of school kids watching from a distance and shook his head.

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**1st Sgt. Micheal Green, Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, is followed by children while patrolling the streets of Bayji, Iraq, Sept. 16, 2006.**

# 82nd Paratroopers evaluate Bayji

**Story and photos by Spc. Joshua R. Ford  
3rd BCT, 82nd ABN DIV PAO**

Mounds of garbage and pools of sewage lined the streets of a Bayji neighborhood as Paratroopers from Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, arrived to evaluate a situation that hadn't been addressed by dismounted patrols in six months.

At first the citizens seemed weary of the American presence but soon accepted their arrival as an opportunity to inform the Paratroopers of problems they've experienced since the absence of Coalition Forces in the area.

"We are patrolling the streets because we need to assess the condition Bayji is in and what needs to be done," said Capt. Tim Peterman, Company C commander.



During meetings between the Paratroopers and key figures in the neighborhood, children flooded the street surrounding the Paratroopers and greeting them with laughter and smiles.

The fact that the children were approaching the troops showed that the citizens of Bayji did not see the Soldiers as a threat to their safety or security, which were some of the issues discussed.

“The resounding answer from the civilians is that they like Americans because we treat them with dignity and respect,” said Peterman.

Many problems need to be attended to in the neighborhoods of Bayji. Faulty sewer systems, garbage disposal and security are just a few. These are all troubles that 1st Bn. Paratroopers are trying to solve by mentoring the city’s citizens and government on how to self-sustain.

Earlier in the month, 1st Bn., 505th PIR, presented the public works department of Bayji with maintenance equipment worth \$670,000 to help manage the amount of garbage and sewage strewn across the city’s streets. Before that, 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), provided the city with over \$210,000 in garbage dumpsters.

“The whole point of us getting out there is to coach and mentor these guys on how to take care of themselves,” said Staff Sgt. Daniel Myers, platoon sergeant, 3rd Platoon, Company C. Company C also evaluated the condition of the Iraqi Police and what they are capable of in the Bayji area, said Peterman.

Six months ago, the Soldiers of the 187th Infantry Regiment handed the security of the city of Bayji over to the Iraqi security forces with confidence that the Iraqi police and army was capable of keeping the peace. But when Company C began running independent operations in the city, they were engaged multiple times by improvised-explosive devices, rocket-propelled grenades and small arms fire.

“Instead of just driving right through the IED, like so many units before us did, we got out of our vehicles and engaged. We are aggressively

**“After the first couple of engagements, the insurgency hasn’t attacked since. We got into their decision cycle,” - Capt. Tim Peterman**



**1st Lt. Roman S. Olesnykyj, 3rd Platoon leader, Company C, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, patrols the streets of Bayji, Iraq, Sept. 16, 2006.**

pursuing the insurgents,” said Peterman. “After the first couple of engagements the insurgency hasn’t attacked since. We got into their decision cycle.”

By dismounting their vehicles and engaging, Company C Paratroopers have set an example for the local police, added Peterman.

The battalion will

base their overall success of their time in Bayji by whether or not the local authorities are confidently and consistently patrolling without concealing their

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 24**

# Freedom

**Soldiers assigned to 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, prepare for a patrol through Adhamiyah, Oct. 2, 2006. (photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Keith DeVinney)**



# Focal Point

***Pfc. Jimmy Jensen, Company B, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, pulls security from a rooftop while his platoon searches homes for High Value Individuals, weapons and other unauthorized materials in Mosul, Iraq, Oct. 12, 2006. (photo by Spc. Christa Martin)***



***Students and staff members of the Sayeed Ibraheem School, assist Sgt. Michael Goodrich of the 412th Civil Affairs Unit with the unloading of supplies that were given to the school at Seddah, Iraq Oct. 3, 2006.(photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Sandra M. Palumbo)***

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MNC-I 0032  
MNC-I 0031  
MNC-I 0032  
MNC-I 0033  
MNC-I 0034

# Freedom Focal Point





***Army aviators and crew members of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry land two OH-58Ds “Kiowas” for refueling, reloading and a quick maintenance check between combat missions at Forward Operating Base Warrior, Kirkuk, Iraq, Sept. 29, 2006. (photo by Spc. Michael Alberts)***

# Freedom



**Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lucas, 549th Military Police Company, 3rd Military Police Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, uses a picket pounder as a dynamic entry tool to breach a steel door in support of Operation Medusa in southern Mosul, Iraq, on Oct. 4, 2006. (photo by Spc. Christa Martin)**

**Sgt. Chris Walsh, 1st Platoon 2nd Bn., 300th Field Artillery Regiment, checks his weapon's scope while taking up an over watch position in the small town of Sekeik, Iraq, Sept. 16, 2006. (photo by Spc. Billy Brothers)**

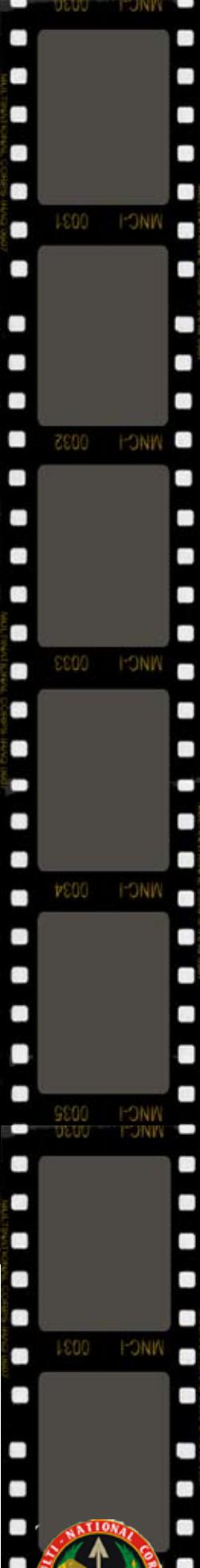


# Focal Point

**Sgt. Ted A. Stohler, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 5, 4th Marine Division, gives Masizo, military search dog, a drink from his Camelbak, in Fallujah, Iraq, during Operation SOUK, a cordon and search mission, Oct. 2, 2006. (photo by Sgt. Chad Simon)**



**Iraqi Police march in a parade celebrating the handover of Dhi Qar province to Iraqi Security Forces at Camp Ur, Iraq, Sept. 22, 2006. The handover was the second of the country's 18 provinces to be fully returned to Iraqi control. (photo by Cdr. Jane Allen)**





*Capt. Eric Livengood, 4th Battalion, 11th Infantry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, attached to 1st BCT, 4th Infantry Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, takes inventory of a cache of weapons found in Mushada, Iraq, Oct. 5, 2006. (photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Eli Medellin)*

# Freedom



***Chief Warrant Officer Phillip Gleaves, OH-58D Kiowa Warrior pilot, 1st Battalion, 17th Air Cavalry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, conducts pre-flight checks before an aerial security mission near Tall Afar, Iraq, Sept. 9, 2006. (photo by Staff Sgt. Jacob N. Bailey)***



# Focal Point



***U.S. Soldiers from Company A, 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment patrol through the city of Hit, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Oct. 8, 2006. (photo by Cpl. Brian M. Henner)***



***Spc. Robert D. Casturao (near) and Staff Sgt. Matthew Carothers (far) 1st Squadron, 61st Cavalry, 506th Regimental Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, provide overwatch during an engagement with insurgents while on patrol in the Sha'ab neighborhood of northeast Baghdad, Iraq, Oct. 2, 2006. (photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Keith W. DeVinney)***

# Freedom Focal Point



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*Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, load a helicopter as they end their tour of duty at Forward Operating Base Brassfield-Mora, Sept. 25, 2006. (photo by Staff Sgt. Russell Lee Klika)*



**An Iraqi man, angry about crime in his neighborhood, explains to an interpreter and Soldiers from 1st Squadron, 61st Cavalry, 506th Regimental Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, the details of the most recent criminal activity in the ShaŌab neighborhood of northeast Baghdad, Iraq, Oct. 2, 2006. (photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Keith W. DeVinney)**



**Soldiers from Company A, 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment, patrol through the city of Hit, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Oct. 8, 2006. (photo by Cpl. Brian M. Henner)**



# Focal Point



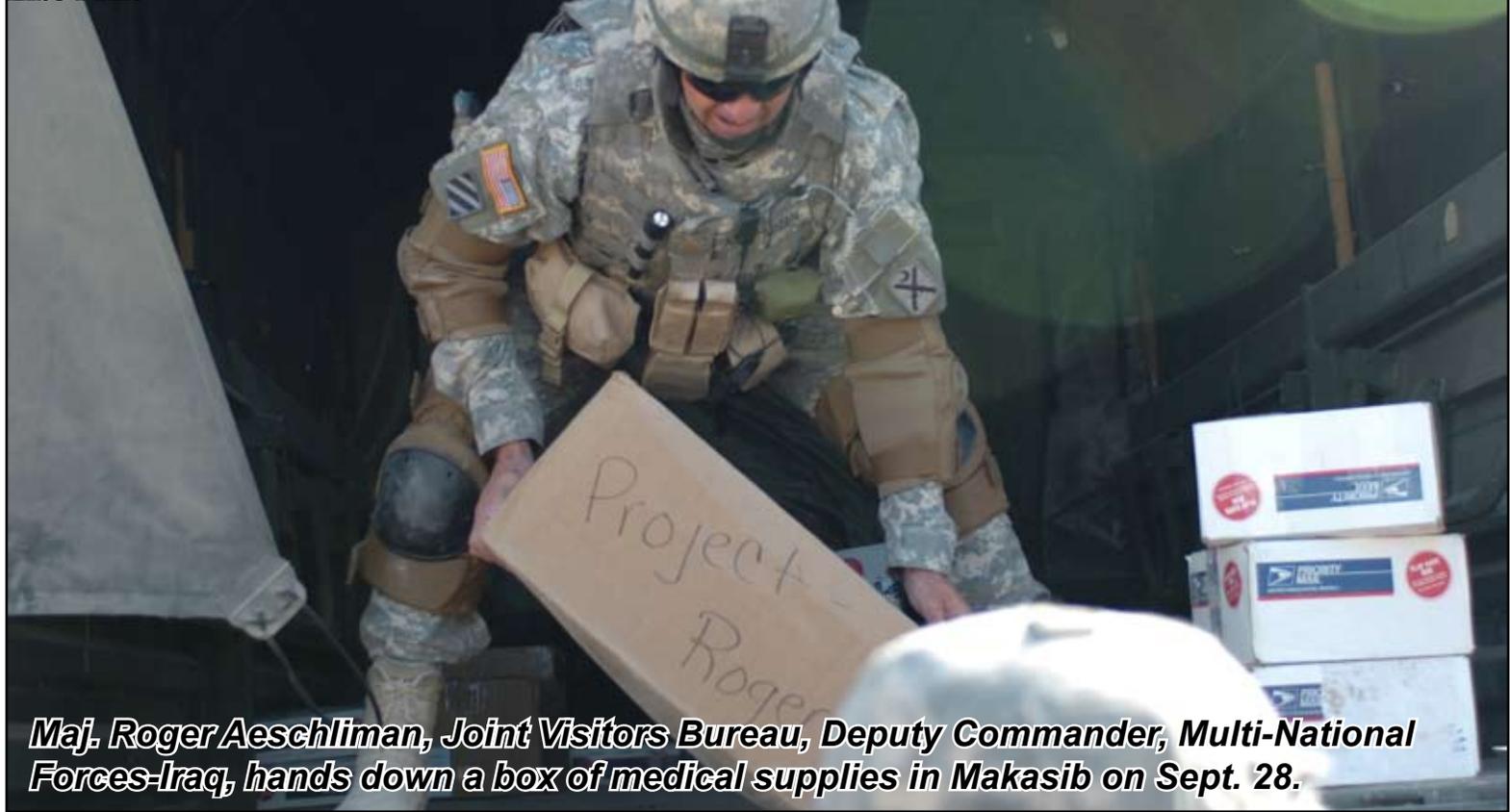
**Chief Petty Officer Ted Pickett, Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Two inspects a mortar round in what remains of the ammunition holding area at Forward Operating Base Falcon after a mortar attack, Oct. 10, 2006. (photo by Sgt. Jacob H. Smith)**



**Spc. Robert Johnson, Company B, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, teaches an Iraqi Soldier a new combat-ives technique during a week long advanced training course in Mosul, Iraq, Sept. 2, 2006. (photo by Spc. Christa Martin)**

# Chain email delivers Iraqi aid

Story and photos by Sgt. Brian James Anderson  
49th Public Affairs Detachment (Airborne)  
MNC-I PAO



***Maj. Roger Aeschliman, Joint Visitors Bureau, Deputy Commander, Multi-National Forces-Iraq, hands down a box of medical supplies in Makasib on Sept. 28.***

A chain letter is a letter that is sent successively to several people. The circulation of a chain letter can increase in geometrical progression as long as it is continued by the recipients. Some chain letters start as simple emails and progress into chain letters.

Maj. Roger Aeschliman, 2nd Battalion, 137th Infantry, National Guard, Kansas, and chief, Joint Visitor's Bureau, Multi-National Forces-Iraq, found out the effects of an email turned chain letter first hand.

As a result of his weekly emails, over \$300,000 of medical, hygiene, and school supplies and toys were donated to the town of Makasib, south of Baghdad.

"I started writing a weekly email back home on the first day of deployment...I sent it home to my wife and she in turn sent it to fifty or sixty relatives and friends," said Aeschliman. "Over the course of the last ten months, the original fifty or sixty receiving my email has increased to a hundred and those hundred send it on to five to twenty a piece. I have had third and fourth generation email response, so I know it has (spread pretty far)."

Aeschliman said he believes he has about three to

five thousand people reading his email now.

The Topeka resident said he would receive boxes of goodies from his readers, and when, in one of his weekly emails, he asked them to stop sending him packages, some of the readers became upset. He said they wanted to help out, they wanted to feel like they were a part of it all.

Aeschliman, after consulting his public works officer, sent out a weekly update with a list of supplies his readers could send to help Makasib. The list contained basic essentials for hygiene and medical and it also include toys and school supplies for the children.

The response was immediate.

"A lot of people started sending over postal boxes full of first aid products, over the counter medications, health care and hygiene products, and also toys stuffed animals and soccer balls," Aeschliman said. "So far it is about a hundred and twelve total boxes, ranging from the small eight dollar postage box up to some very large boxes that cost sixty to seventy dollars to ship over."

The boxes received so far do not represent the extent of the donations. Four Rotary Clubs in Topeka wanted





***Spc. Eric Patchett, C Company, 2nd Platoon, 2nd Battalion, 137th Infantry, Kansas National Guard looks down at his new-found friend.***

to help out in a bigger way and they asked what could be done.

Rotary Club members are known as Rotarians and are business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world, according to Wikipedia.

Maria Wilson, Topeka South Rotary Club, wrote Aeschliman and stated, those small packages are nice, but if the Rotary club wanted to do something helpful and meaningful, what would it be?

Aeschliman went back to his public works officer and asked what could be done on a larger scale.

“The medical clinic in Makasib had been looted...they still had doctors and nurses coming in but no medical equipment,” Aeschliman said. “(Public works officer) provided a list of durable and expendable

medical goods that would be extremely useful. I sent the list back and over a course of a week they agreed to make it happen.”

Wilson said they gathered equipment from all over including from the 190th Air Refueling Wing, Kansas Air National Guard.

Some of the equipment gathered included incinerators, sample incubators, suture kits, latex gloves, gowns, stethoscopes, tongue depressors and other items found in medical clinics.

As of now, the equipment gathered by the Rotary Clubs has not been shipped. Aeschliman said it was too expensive to ship because of the size of the items. They are currently looking for alternate means of shipping the equipment so the town of Makasib will have a hospital that can operate as a hospital.

Capt. Rob Stone, commander, Company C, 2nd platoon, 2nd Battalion, 137th Infantry, said the equipment is not only good for the citizens of Makasib, but it helps his Soldiers, and it will benefit the Soldiers who replace them in the near future.

“You can tell the citizens are thankful and that goes a long way,” said Stone. “This helps build stronger relations with the people of the town, which puts our Soldiers at a lower risk.”

Approximately 100 boxes of miscellaneous items have been dropped off to the town of Makasib, and, as soon as a method of shipment becomes available, the Topeka Rotary Clubs will ship the remaining medical supplies.

If it wasn't for the good nature of the people back home and the



***1st Lt. Chris Marshall, Platoon Leader, 2nd Platoon, 2nd Battalion, 137th Infantry, Kansas National Guard, hands out toys to the children of Makasib.***

blessing of our commander, Col. James Trafton, none of this could happen, Aeschliman said. The support in Topeka and in Kansas is a good representation of how other towns and states could operate to help their Guardsmen.



***Soldiers from 2nd Platoon, Company B, 5th Engineer Battalion, attached to Multi-National Division – Baghdad's 16th Engineer Brigade, prepare for a route clearance mission at Camp Liberty Sept 27.***

“But thankfully, we found them,” he said.

The crew members have seen the effects and devastation IED attacks can inflict, which is why they are so committed to minimizing their threat.

“I want to go out there and find bombs,” said Martinez, a native of Yuma, Ariz. “It’s our job to look for and contain bombs. We get hit hard sometimes but we still continue to sweep. We take it upon ourselves to look at every little thing.

“You get an attitude that comes from (terrorists) trying to blow you up. When (terrorists) put an IED out there, I’m gonna find it! That’s my contribution to this war.”

The whole crew echoed the sentiment and said they are all committed to finding IEDs before they can cause damage to their fellow Soldiers and Iraqi citizens.

“We help the Iraqis by making it safer for them to walk the streets,” said Sgt. Antwon Holmes, team leader, 2nd Plt., Co. B, who hails from Waco, Texas.

After the blast, another Soldier looked out the window at the school children held back by the cordon. “I think about my little boys and I think about the children that are out here,” said Spc. Chris Kochenash, truck commander and Buffalo arm

operator, 2nd Plt., Co. B, also from Yuma, Ariz. “I’m out here not only for the American Soldiers but for the Iraqi people as well.”

Their job helps save other people’s lives, added Sgt. Andrew Milczakowskyj, squad leader, 2nd Plt., Co. B. “The pressure of a blast could hurt a lot of people. Even something small could decimate five or six people.”

He said that responsibility keeps the team dedicated to the job and drives them on to work hard at hunting IEDs.

One reason the platoon has been so successful at finding IEDs comes from Army training, said Cerceau. On top of all the combat and survival training, he said the Soldiers have studied IEDs and the conditions typical of where and how IEDs are placed. The education is constantly updated to remain current.

Another reason they continue to find IEDs rests upon their extensive experience, said Kochenash. They have learned to be constantly vigilant for any signs of anything out of the ordinary or any suspicious behavior in potential bomb-triggermen and gunmen.

The crew members said they use their perception and experience, but instinct is also important.

“It’s like Spidey-sense,” Kochenash said.



“Sometimes you just know that something is going to happen.” He added they have learned to trust their instincts.

This leads to another reason for their success – the crew’s unwavering trust in one other.

“We don’t second-guess each other,” said Cerceau. “We trust each other.”

If one crewmember feels suspicious about something, even if another crewmember might not agree, they don’t argue about it, said Cerceau. Rather, they err on the side of caution and check it out.

“This group is so much tighter than any I’ve ever been with,” Cerceau added.

He said they have shared experiences being attacked with rocket-propelled grenades, small-arms fire, exploding IEDs and vehicle-borne IEDs. They have also shared the satisfaction of finding IEDs and thwarting terrorist plots.

“When we find an IED, it pisses (the terrorists) off,” concluded Kochenash. “We disrupt their attacks and save lives. That’s our job.” And though these brothers-in-arms have dedicated close to a year to hunting IEDs, they are happy to be redeploying home in October and handing over the reigns to other Soldiers just as dedicated.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6



**Iraqi men sit on the sidewalk while 1st Lt. Roman S. Olesnykyj, 3rd Platoon leader, Company C, 1st Bn., 505th PIR, 82nd Airborne Division, patrols a neighborhood in Bayji, Iraq.**

identity, said Peterman.

“They (Iraqi Police) must stop the low-level criminal activity that has been plaguing the night as well as the high-level kinetic activity we’ve seen from the insurgency,” added 1st Lt. Roman S. Olesnykyj, platoon leader, Company C.

“Being the sixth unit deployed to the Bayji area, you have to prove yourself to these people because a lot of promises haven’t been followed through,” said Peterman. “You have to demonstrate that you will go the extra mile for these guys.”

# Warrior Brigade, ISOF clear muhalla, mosque



Story and photos by  
Spc. Curt Squires  
49th Public Affairs  
Detachment (Abn.)  
MNC-I PAO

With only a crescent moon, the stars and night-vision goggles to light the path, Iraqi Security Forces and elements of 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division moved on several objectives during the early morning hours of Sept. 20.

The stakes in this operation were high because the mission was to search a mosque and its surrounding muhalla in Doura neighborhood's southern region of Abu T'schir in the Rasheed district.

Iraqi Special Operations Forces had been given the mission to move on the first objective, the Kathamayan Mosque, while elements of 1st Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment secured the outer cordon and provided several roof-top observation teams for

*(Above) Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Shover, command sergeant major, 1st Sqdn., 14th Cav., propels a Soldier over a wall. (Right) An Iraqi loosens the handcuffs of a suspected insurgent.*



the mission.

Known as the "Warhorse" Battalion, 1st Sqdn., 14th Cav., part of the 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, is attached to the 4th BCT, 4th Inf. Div.

As a place designated for worship, a mosque is a sensitive area to operate and the decision to search the place of Muslim worship was a weighted one, said Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Shover, command sergeant major, 1st Sqdn., 14th Cav.

The squadron received several tips from local citizens that illegal armed militia have been using the mosque to conduct insurgent operations in the area.

A suspected armed militia group leader on the squadron's high-value individual list was also believed to be inside the mosque.

The decision was made, continued Shover; the mosque had to be searched.

ISOF was chosen to conduct the search inside the mosque while U.S. forces provided external security for the operation, he said.





***Sgt. Mauro Rutigliano, squad leader, Company C, 5th Bn., 20th Inf. Reg., 2nd ID, sprays the test paper for explosive residue, while the suspect stands and waits in the background, Sept. 20.***

Following the search, three men were detained for questioning. They were released later that day.

As the sun started to break, the ISOF element was pulling out of the mosque, but on the other side of the muhalla, Company C, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, had already started searching house to house.

“Our part of the mission was to secure the area around the mosque,” said Sgt. Mauro Rutigliano, squad leader, Company C, 5th Bn., 20th Inf. Reg., 2nd ID. “Every house was searched, which took about four hours. We worked to standard, not to time.”

Teamed with the 6th Brigade, 2nd Iraqi National Police Division, the company moved house to house searching for illegal weapons, or evidence the residents may have been involved in terrorist activity against the government of Iraq or Coalition Forces, said Shover.

During the search of the muhalla, five residents were detained for questioning. All were later released.

As the search was winding down, a local citizen stepped forward with information about a weapons cache belonging to the mosque, said Rutigliano. The

cache was in a red shipping container positioned next to the Kathamayan Mosque.

When the lock on the container was cut, the Soldiers knew they had found something big, said Shover.

Although further investigation of the cache would have to wait until an explosive ordnance disposal team could determine the container was not booby trapped, it was later discovered that 15 120mm artillery rounds, 15 81mm artillery rounds, two rocket-propelled grenade launchers, four RPG rounds, 12 RPG boosters, nine 60mm artillery rounds, five Iraqi uniforms, an 81mm artillery tube, 1,900 7.62mm rounds, a mortar tripod, an automatic machine gun, three 81mm rounds, four AK-47 magazines, two fuses, and two hand grenades were inside the shipping container.

The cache was a great find, said Shover. It takes away the terrorists’ resources, limiting the enemy’s ability to launch attacks on Iraqi and Coalition Forces.

“Insurgents are running out of places to hide,” Shover said. “We will find him; maybe not today, maybe not tomorrow, but we will catch you!”

# Coalition News Briefs

**Sept. 20, 2006**

## **Iraqi citizen's tip leads MND-B Soldiers to large weapons cache**

**BAGHDAD** – An Iraqi citizen's tip led Soldiers from Multi-National Division – Baghdad's Troop B, 1st Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, to the discovery of a large weapons cache and the apprehension of six suspected terrorists in southeast Baghdad.

A concerned Iraqi citizen told the Soldiers that terrorists attempted to kidnap civilians in front of his residence. Acting on the tip, MND-B Soldiers conducted a recon of the area and observed a suspicious vehicle fleeing the vicinity at a high rate of speed.

The vehicle was stopped at a nearby Iraqi police check-point and searched, revealing an AK-47 assault rifle. Soldiers then conducted a detailed search of the area and seized three weapons caches. The six suspected terrorists involved in the incident were detained for questioning.

**Sept. 24, 2006**

## **Iraqi Army Captures Members of AQIZ in Samarra**

**BAGHDAD** – A specially trained Iraqi Army unit captured two Al Qaeda in Iraq members wanted for attacks against Iraqi and Coalition forces during an afternoon raid in Samarra on Sept. 22.

The Iraqi unit, with Coalition force advisers, conducted an air-assault in the vicinity of a building used to hold weekly religious meetings for members of AQIZ. Iraqi Army forces quickly cordoned off the area and entered the structure looking for several individuals connected to AQIZ.

Iraqi forces entered and quickly captured two wanted individuals, one of whom has an outstanding Ministry of Interior arrest warrant. An additional 13 individuals were detained. A cache containing a large amount of mortar ammunition and weapons was found in an adjacent structure.

**Oct. 6, 2006**

## **Iraqi and MND-B Soldiers capture 28 terrorist suspects**

**BAGHDAD** – A company of Iraqi Army soldiers and Soldiers from Multi-National Division-Baghdad and 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, captured 28 suspected terrorists in a pre-dawn raid that hit nine targets simultaneously in the Jisr Diyala section of east Baghdad.

Among the detainees were three high value individuals, including the number nine person on the division's high-value target list and two others on the squadron's high-value target list.

The number nine HVI has allegedly been directly responsible for murders, extra judicial killings, criminal activities

and attacks on Iraqi Security Forces and Coalition Forces, said Lt. Col. Brian Winski, commander, 1st Sqdn., 61st Cav. Regt.

During the operations, several weapons and ammunition were confiscated, to include a PKM machine gun, a PKC machine gun drum, a RPK machine gun, a hunting rifle, two handguns, seven AK-47 rifles, five hand grenades and several rocket-propelled grenades.

This operation was an intelligence driven and included gathering information over several months.

During the operation, no Iraqi or Coalition Forces were injured.

**Oct. 11, 2006**

## **Fire at Ammunition Holding Area**

**BAGHDAD** – An ammunition holding area caught on fire at a Multi-National Division – Baghdad forward operating base in the central Rasheed district of Baghdad Oct. 10 at approximately 10:40 p.m.

The fire ignited tank and artillery ordnance as well as small arms ammunition.

The fire was contained on the base by emergency first responders.

All coalition forces and workers at the base were safely evacuated. No injuries have been reported. The Baghdad Joint Coordination Center alerted Iraqi authorities who notified Iraqi citizens in the area of the fire and subsequent detonations.

The damage to the area did not degrade the operational capability of MND-B.

**Oct. 13, 2006**

## **Soldiers discover more than 50 weapons caches**

**BAGHDAD** – Multi-National Division – Baghdad Soldiers continued to find weapons caches for a fifth day as part of Operation Commando Hunter.

The Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, seized 12 caches, bringing the total to 53 caches seized in the area near Yusufiyah, 20 miles to the southwest of Baghdad.

The 12 additional weapons caches consisted of two anti-aircraft guns, 35 60mm mortar rounds, two 500-pound aircraft bombs in shipping crates, 57 82mm mortar rounds, two Dragonov sniper rifle scopes, 200 Dragonov sniper rounds, two rocket-propelled grenade launchers, eight RPG rounds, two 60mm mortar tubes, a 120mm mortar tube, three 120mm mortar rounds, 42 home-made hand grenades and various bomb-making materials.

Commando Hunter is a 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Division operation intended to deny the terrorists sanctuary near Yusufiyah, south of Baghdad.



# Requiem for the Fallen

List of Names from the Iraqi Ground Forces Command and Subordinate Divisions who were martyred during the month of October 2006.

## 1st Division Command

Walid Yousif Ali  
Taha Hussein Kerim  
Ali Jumaa Hamad  
Ali Muttlak Fayadh  
Ali Lafta Dakhil  
Juwad Kadhim Ghalta

## 3rd Division Command

Nuaman Thanon  
Noori Sabah Naji  
Alaa Mahmoud  
Riyadh Mahjoub  
Wadhban Salih  
Qaes Ibrahim  
Raed Hussein  
Alaa Ahmad Nawaf  
Salim Lafta  
-Awad Mohammad  
Faraj Husam  
Nihad Mehdi  
Bahaa Shakir  
Osman Mohammad  
Ayman Fadhil  
Marwan Nadhim  
Mahmoud Zeidan  
Qusay Ramadan  
Jabir Ahmad  
Taha Hussein  
Siyamand Mohammad  
Jabar Mehdi  
Radhi Khalil  
Hauthem Tariq  
Jasim Ahraiett  
Hazim Aziz  
Noori Sabah  
Alaa Mahmoud  
Mahmoud Zaidan  
Jabar Mehdi  
Jeza Mirza  
Farouq Awad

Qahtan Mohamad  
Wirya Ahmad Ali  
Alan Manaf Talib  
Ali Bahjat  
Maisan Mohammad  
Lazim Hindi  
Nusaef Jasim  
Zuhair Mizal  
Salih Hasan

## 4th Division Command

Mustafa Ibrahim  
Mohanad Saloum  
Amer Abdulrahman  
Ghasan Salih  
Hamid Baderaldin  
Kerim Rashed  
Mohanad Abdulhadi  
Kadhim Nadir  
Mubarak Badi  
Ali Khudair  
Ali Jaber  
Ali Meri Kazar  
Omar Mohsin

## 8th Division Command

Abas Sabri Ali  
Haider Matroud Jaber  
Abbas Sabri Ali  
Ahmad Lahmoud Aday دم  
Abbas Hussein Jawad

## 10th Division Command

Thamir Farhab  
Arfan Sultan  
Tariq Kadhim  
Ghanim Mijbas Damigh  
Sa'd Rashid  
Tariq Kadhim

# Requiem for

## Names of Coalition Servicemembers who died while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom September 15 - October 15, 2006

### October 15, 2006

Sgt. Jr., Lester Domenico Baroncini, 33, 2nd Bn., 505th Parachute In. Regt., 3rd BCT, 82nd Airborne Div.  
Pfc. Stephen Bicknell, 19, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute In. Regt., 3rd BCT, 82nd Airborne Div.  
1st Lt. Joshua Deese, 25, 2nd Bn., 35th In. Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th Infantry Div.  
Sgt. Jonathan E. Lootens, 25, 2nd Bn., 35th In. Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th Infantry Div.  
Capt. Mark C. Paine, 32, 1st Bn., 66th Armor Regt., 1st BCT, 4th Infantry Div.  
Sgt. Brock A. Babb, 40, 3rd Bn., 24th Marines, 4th Marine Div.  
Lance Cpl. Joshua M. Hines, 26, 3rd Bn., 24th Marines, 4th Marine Div.

### October 14, 2006

Pfc. Keith J. Moore, 28, 2nd Bn., 14th In. Regt., 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Div.  
1st Sgt. Charles M. King, 48, 1st Bn., 67th Armor Regt., 2nd BCT, 4th In. Div.  
Staff Sgt. Joseph M. Kane, 35, 1st Bn., 67th Armor Regt., 2nd BCT, 4th In. Div.  
Spc. Timothy J. Lauer, 25, 1st Bn., 67th Armor Regt., 2nd BCT, 4th In. Div.  
Sgt. Jonathan J. Simpson, 25, 1st Reconnaissance Bn., 1st Marine Div.  
Airman 1st Class Leebenard E. Chavis, 21, 824th Security Forces Squadron

### October 13, 2006

Lt. Johnny K. Craver, 37, 1st Bn., 22nd In. Regt., 1st BCT, 4th In. Div.  
Pfc. Kenny F. Stanton Jr., 20, 57th Military Police Company  
Pfc. Thomas J. Hewett, 22, 1st Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regt., 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Div.

### October 12, 2006

Sgt. Gene A. Hawkins, 24, 14th Engineer Bn., 555th Combat Support Brigade (Maneuver Enhancement)

### October 11, 2006

Sgt. Justin T. Walsh, 24, 8th Engineer Support Bn., 2nd Marine Logistics Group, II MEF  
Capt. Shane T. Adcock, 27, 3rd Bn., 7th Field Artillery Regt., 3rd Bde., 25th Infantry Div.  
Sgt. Nicholas R. Sowinski, 25, 4th Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regt., 172nd Stryker BCT

### October 9, 2006

Pfc. Shelby J. Feniello, 25, 1st Bn., 6th Marine Regt., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF  
Lance Cpl. Jon Eric Bowman, 21, 1st Bn., 6th Marine Regt., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF  
Pfc. Phillip B. Williams, 21, 4th Brigade Troop Bn., 4th BCT, 101st Airborne Div. (Air Assault)

Sgt. Julian M. Arechaga, 23, 1st Bn., 6th Marine Regt., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF

### October 8, 2006

Lance Cpl. Derek W. Jones, 21, 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regt., 3rd Marine Div., III MEF  
Capt. Robert M. Secher, 33, 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regt., 3rd Marine Div., III MEF  
Pfc. Shane R. Austin, 19, 1st Bn., 35th Armor Regt., 2nd BCT, 1st Armor Div.  
Lance Cpl. Stephen F. Johnson, 20, 2nd Bn., 8th Marine Regt., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF  
Lance Cpl. Jeremy Scott Sandvick Monroe, 20, 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regt., 3rd Marine Div., III MEF  
Spc. Timothy Fulkerson, 20, 1st Bn., 82nd Aviation Reconnaissance Bn., 82nd Combat Aviation Bde., 82nd Airborne Div.

### October 7, 2006

Spc. John E. Wood, 37, 891st Engineer Bn.  
Sgt. Lawrence Parrish, 36, 110th Engineer Bn.  
Cpl. Carl W. Johnson II, 21, 2nd Bn., 3rd Bde., 2nd Infantry Div.  
Sgt. Brandon S. Asbury, 21, 4th Support Bn., 1st BCT, 4th Infantry Div.

### October 6, 2006

Lance Cpl. John Edward Hale, 20, 2nd Bn., 8th Marine Regt., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF  
Cpl. Bradford H. Payne, 24, 2nd Bn., 8th Marine Regt., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF  
Cpl. Nicholas A. Arvanitis, 22, 1st Bn., 505th Parachute Infantry Regt., 82nd Airborne Div.  
Pvt. Martin Hjort, 20, Jutland Dragoon Regt., Royal Danish Army

### October 4, 2006

Cpl. Benjamin S. Rosales, 20, 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Bn., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF  
Lance Cpl. Edward M. Garvin, 19, 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Bn., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF  
Staff Sgt. Christopher O. Moudry, 31, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division  
Spc. George R. Obourn Jr., 20, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regt., 1st Bde., 4th Infantry Div.  
Spc. Timothy Burke, 24, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regt., 1st Bde., 4th Infantry Div.  
Pfc. Dean Bright, 32, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regt., 1st Bde., 4th Infantry Div.

### October 3, 2006

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Rojas, 27, 1st Bn., 17th Infantry Regt., 172nd Stryker BCT  
Staff Sgt. Daniel Isshak, 25, 2nd Bn., 27th Infantry Regt., 3rd Bde., 25th Infantry Div.

### October 2, 2006

Sgt. Joseph W. Perry, 23, 21st Military Police Co., 16th Military Police Bde., XVIIIth Airborne Corps

# *the Fallen*

Pfc. Michael K. Oremus, 21, 57th Military Police Co., 8th Military Police Bde.

Spc. Justin R. Jarrett, 21, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regt., 1st Bde., 4th Infantry Div.

Staff Sgt. James D. Ellis, 25, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regt., 1st Bde., 4th Infantry Div.

Spc. Raymond S. Armijo, 22, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regt., 1st Bde., 4th Infantry Div.

Spc. Kristofer C. Walker, 20, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regt., 1st Bde., 4th Infantry Div.

Pfc. Satieon V. Greenlee, 24, 4th Bn., 31st Infantry Regt., 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Div.

Staff Sgt. Joe A. Narvaez, 25, 1st Bn., 26th Infantry Regt., 2nd BCT, 1st Infantry Div.

Lance Cpl. Dennis Brady, 37, Royal Army Medical Corps  
**October 1, 2006**

Sgt. Denise A. Lannaman, 46, 1569th Transportation Co.

Sgt. Mario Nelson, 26, 1st Bn., 36th Infantry Regt., 1st BCT, 1st Armored Div.

Cpl. Chase A. Haag, 22, 1st Bn., 22nd Infantry Regt., 1st Bde., 4th Infantry Div.

Capt. Justin D. Peterson, 32, 1st Tank Bn., 1st Marine Div., I MEF

Lance Cpl. Christopher B. Cosgrove III, 23, 2nd Bn., 25th Marine Regt., 4th Marine Div.

Cpl. Aaron L. Seal, 23, 6th Engineer Support Bn., 4th Marine Logistics Group

**September 30, 2006**

Cpl. Luis E. Tejada, 20, 2nd Bn., 6th Infantry Regt., 2nd BCT, 1st Armored Div.

Spc. Kampha B. Sourivong, 20, 1st Bn., 133rd Infantry Regt.

Staff Sgt. Scott E. Nisely, 48, 1st Bn., 133rd Infantry Regt.

Spc. Robert Weber, 22, 1st Bn., 37th Field Artillery Regt., 3rd Stryker BCT, 2nd Infantry Div.

**September 29, 2006**

Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael A. Monsoor, 25, U.S. Navy Special Warfare Command

Pfc. Christopher T. Blaney, 19, 1st Bn., 66th Armor Regt., 1st Bde., 4th Infantry Div.

**September 28, 2006**

Lance Cpl. James Chamroeun, 20, 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Regt., 3rd Marine Div., III MEF

**September 27, 2006**

1st Lt. James N. Lyons, 28, 1st Bn., 12th Infantry Regt., 4th BCT, 4th Infantry Div.

**September 26, 2006**

Staff Sgt. Jose A. Lanzarin, 28, 2nd Bn., 6th Infantry Regt., 1st Armored Div.

Pfc. Christopher T. Riviere, 21, 2nd Bn., 3rd Regt., 3rd Marine Div., III MEF

Staff Sgt. Edward C. Reynolds Jr., 27, 1st Bn., 67th Armor Regt., 2nd Bde., 4th Infantry Div.

Pfc. Henry Paul, 24, 1st Bn., 67th Armor Regt., 2nd Bde., 4th

Infantry Div.

**September 25, 2006**

Cpl. Casey L. Mellen, 21, 5th Bn., 20th Infantry Regt., 3rd Bde., 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker BCT)

**September 24, 2006**

Lance Cpl. Howard S. March Jr., 20, 2nd Bn., 8th Marine Regt., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF

Lance Cpl. Rene Martinez, 20, 3rd Bn., 2nd Marine Regt., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF

**September 23, 2006**

Pfc. IV, Kenneth E. Kincaid, 25, 2nd Bn., 27th Infantry Regt., 3rd Bde., 25th Infantry Div.

Sgt. III, Velton Locklear, 29, 2nd Bn., 27th Infantry Regt., 3rd Bde., 25th Infantry Div.

Staff Sgt. Carlos Dominguez, 57, 414th Civil Affairs Bn.

Lance Cpl. Kim Wadim, 36, Combat Support Wing, Danish Air Force

Spc. Windell J. Simmons, 20, 3rd Bn., 67th Armor Regt., 4th BCT, 4th Infantry Div.

**September 21, 2006**

Sgt. Allan R. Bevington, 22, 40th Engineer Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division

Cpl. Maggiore Massimo Vitaliano, 25, Cavalry Regt., Italian Army

**September 20, 2006**

Cpl. Yull Estrada Rodriguez, 21, 3rd Bn., 3rd Marine Regt., 3rd Marine Div., III MEF

Sgt. Christopher M. Zimmerman, 28, 2nd Reconnaissance Bn., 2nd Marine Div., II MEF

Pvt. Eric Kavanagh, 20, 1st Bn., 26th Infantry Regt., 2nd BCT, 1st Infantry Div.

Master Sgt. Robb Gordon Needham, 51, 1st Bn., 356th Regt. (Logistical Support), 4th Bde., 91st Div.

Sgt. 1st Class Charles J. Jones, 29, 149th Brigade Combat Team

**September 19, 2006**

Spc. Bobby T. Callahan, 22, 4th Bn., 31st Infantry Regt., 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Div. (Light Infantry)

Spc. Jared J. Raymond, 20, 1st Bn., 66th Armor Regt., 1st Bde., 4th Infantry Div.

1st Lt. Ashley L. (Henderson) Huff, 23, 549th Military Police Co., 385th Military Police Bn.

**September 18, 2006**

Sgt. James R. Worster, 24, 10th Combat Support Hospital, 43rd Area Support Group

**September 17, 2006**

Sgt. Adam L. Knox, 21, 346th Psychological Operations Co.

Sgt. David J. Davis, 32, 4th Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regt., 172nd Stryker BCT

**September 16, 2006**

Petty Officer 2nd Class David Sean Roddy, 32, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit-Two

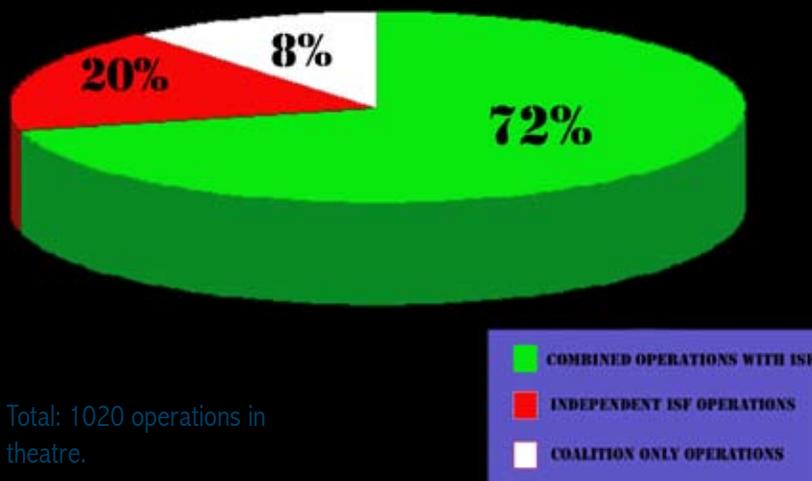
**September 15, 2006**

Cpl. Cesar A. Granados, 21, 2nd Bn., 8th Infantry Regt., 2nd Bde., 4th Infantry Div.

# OPERATIONAL ROLL-UP



Operations conducted in Iraq between Sept. 16, 2006 through Oct. 13, 2006. This graph represents which command took the lead in the total number of missions.



226



Caches Found

945



I.E.D.s Found and  
Cleared

*Note: These figures represent Multi-National Corps-Iraq IED and Cache statistics from Sept. 16 until Oct. 13, 2006.*