

# The Daily Roar

VOL. 1, NO. 10

MULTI-NATIONAL DIVISION -- BAGHDAD

DECEMBER 28, 2007

## Iraqis rebuilding Iraq by vehicle demilitarization

**By Maj. Charles Rote**

*2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, PAO*

BAGHDAD – The Regimental Support Squadron ‘Muleskinners,’ 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment made a small difference today to the economic well being of Iraq. Dec. 21, 14 Iraqi workers reported for work as part of an equipment demilitarization crew. They will work in the Defense Reutilization Material Office yard reducing damaged and unusable vehicles into scrap metal which will be sold to an outside business and eventually find its way into an Iraqi foundry. Since arriving in theater the ‘Mule Skinners’ took an idea to put Iraqis to work, and in collaboration with the Iraqi Business and Industrial Zone as well as Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service, it began to come together.

A signing ceremony at the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office on Oct. 31 marked the start of a Multinational Force Iraq initiative to improve the living standards of area citizens through increased employment opportunities. The DRMO received tools were received, hired employees, and established facilities in preparation for the opening.

On the first day of operations, recently trained Iraqis met with personnel from the Regimental Support Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment. The military unit will provide technical oversight, escort and transportation support for the Iraqis during their workdays on the base.

“This is getting the Iraqis one step closer

to standing on their own” said Spc. Robert Edsel from Snellville, Ga., who is the Inspector of the demilitarized vehicles and the escort for the Iraqis; when questioned



by Capt. Derek Hoffman, Reg. Spt. Sqd., 2nd SCR

An Iraqi worker demilitarizes an old Iraqi Army Vehicle as part of a combined effort to put Iraqis to work demilitarizing old armed vehicles.

about the project. As part of the growing effort to encourage partnership with the Iraqi people in rebuilding their country, the troopers will work as facilitators with the workforce.

The Soldiers went through a lot to make this happen as well attending a week long

training course at the beginning of the program taught by Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service representatives. Team members have also undergone security and escort training. Through the course of the program they received cultural awareness training and learned about their Iraqi counterparts in weekly group meetings.

“The Iraqi people want to succeed, and they are looking to us for help”, said Capt. Derek Hoffman, from Yelm, Washington, Maintenance Troop Commander, Regimental Support Squadron, “by understanding this and their needs we can provide the most effective assistance”.

The goal is to build solid and stable Iraqi businesses capable of working with the American or Iraqi Army on a regular basis to provide logistics support. Lt. Col. Danny Tilzey, Regimental Support Squadron Commander stated at the contract signing “Jobs contribute to building a dynamic citizen, which ultimately helps society become more productive.”

In addition to the initial reception, orientation, safety courses, and demonstrations, the Iraqi team managed to demilitarize 16 High

Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle turrets in just hours. When they reach full capacity they should be able to process several quarter-ton truck-sized vehicles or their equivalent daily. With the prices offered for scrap metal this idea should quickly become a profitable enterprise.



by Sgt. 1st Class Chris Seaton, Task Force XII PAO

## Talking to leaders

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Multi-National Division-Baghdad commander, Maj. Gen. Jeffery Hammond (center) addresses several key leaders of MND-B's aviation brigade, Task Force XII Dec. 20. During the briefing, Hammond told the aviators that flying a helicopter is a sacred responsibility, and said that the most important thing to for Soldiers in MND-B is a strong sense of character and the moral courage to do the right thing.

## Baghdad Three Day Weather Forecast

**Friday**  
Partly cloudy  
HI: 59F/15C  
LO: 37F/3C



**Saturday**  
Partly Cloudy  
HI: 59F/15C  
LO: 35F/2C



**Sunday**  
Partly Cloudy  
HI: 59F/15C  
LO: 41F/5C




## The Daily Roar

**Multi-National Division - Baghdad**  
Public Affairs Office

**Commanding General:**  
Maj. Gen. Jeffery Hammond

**Div. Command Sergeant Major:**  
Command Sgt. Maj. John Gioia

**Public Affairs Officer:**  
Lt. Col. Steve Stover

**Public Affairs NCOIC**  
Sgt. 1st Class Guadalupe Stratman

**Editor:**  
Spc. Philip Klein

**Staff Writers:**  
Sgt. Michael Molinaro  
Sgt. Jason Thompson  
Sgt. Mark Matthews  
Sgt. Jerome Bishop  
Spc. Angel Martinez  
Spc. Elvyn Nieves  
Pfc. April Campbell  
Pfc. Samantha Schutz

The *Daily Roar* is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of The *Daily Roar* are not official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of the Army, or the 4th Infantry Division. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army, the 4th Infantry Division, or The *Daily Roar* of the products and services advertised.

All editorial content of The *Daily Roar* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office.

### Do you have a story to share?

The *Daily Roar* welcomes columns, commentaries, articles, letters and photos from readers.

Submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs NCOIC [guadalupe.stratman@mnd-b.army.mil](mailto:guadalupe.stratman@mnd-b.army.mil) and include author's name, rank, unit and contact information. The *Daily Roar* reserves the right to edit submissions selected for the paper.

For further information on deadlines, questions, comments or a request to be on our distribution list, email the Editor [walter.klein@mnd-b.army.mil](mailto:walter.klein@mnd-b.army.mil)

# Task Force Storm becomes prototype for Army's new plan for aviation units

By Sgt. Brandon Little

Task Force XII PAO

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – In theory, any UH-60 Black Hawk crew can get into any Black Hawk, cleared for duty, and fly it because both the crew and the aircraft are built and held to the same standard throughout the Army.

This type of 'plug and play' strategy is being applied to aviation units as the Army continues to transform into a more mobile fighting force.

Task Force Storm is one of the first aviation battalions to plug a borrowed flight company into their operations to replace a company that's been given another mission.

"We're almost like a prototype," said Task Force Storm Command Sgt. Maj. Chad Cuomo. "The Army has been doing (plug and play) for a long time in combat arms units, but this is fairly new to aviation."

Although the plug and play strategy might be fresh to many aviation units, this isn't the first time this Task Force XII battalion has incorporated another company into its operations.

"In Germany, we had an AH-64 Apache company and a CH-47 Chinook company attached to us during our mission readiness exercise," said Cuomo, a career crew chief and native of Troy, N.Y. "And at Logistics Support Area Anaconda we had Company B, 5th Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, a Chinook company, attached to us for operational support."

The decision was made to leave Company B, 5th Bn., 158th Avn. Reg., and Company B, 3rd Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment at LSA Anaconda, to help support operations, and make 'Stetson' Troop, 4th Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment the newest addition to the task force.

'Stetson' Troop is the only Black Hawk flight company from Fort Hood, Texas' 4th Sqd. 3rd ACR in Task Force Storm, said 1st Lt. Delvin Goode, the executive officer for 'Stetson' Troop.

"Making adjustments is just part of the Army," said Goode, a Black Hawk pilot from Fort Walton, Fla. "We're still going through continuity, but we are eager to help any way we can to do the mission."

This flight company, along with 3rd Bn. 158th's Company A and Company C, will rotate through the battalion's three mission sets.

"One will do air assaults; one will take care of the air mission requests; and one will do special transport support," said Cuomo. "It's a positive aspect, to me, because that will give all the aviation people experience in doing the different missions."

Staff Sgt. Eric Holmes, the battalion standardization instructor, was sent down to help train some of their inexperienced crew chiefs and door-gunners, he said.

"Pilots have always been taught the same across the board," said Holmes, a native of California.

"Now, with the Army getting more involved with crew chief and door-gunner training, their standards are the same as ours," he continued.

"'Setson' Troop is fully capable of doing whatever is asked of them," said Holmes. "I'm positive they'll blend right in (with our operations), and the only difference between us will be that they have on another unit patch."



by Sgt. Brandon Little, Task Force XII PAO

Pfc. Patrick McDaniel, a crew chief in Stetson Troop and native of Ozark, Ala., works on the rotor of a UH-60 Black hawk. Stetson Troop, a flight company from 4th Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment from Fort Hood, Texas, is the newest addition to Task Force Storm.