

The Daily Roar

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Soldiers help Khadra School

By 1st Lt. Raymond Ashworth

1st Bn., 64th Armor Regiment

BAGHDAD- The students at Ibn Kaldun Primary School, in the Khadra District of Baghdad, never thought there would be a day they'd want to stay at school any longer than they had to.

Up until 11:30 a.m. it was just like any other day for them. That was before Soldiers from Company C, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor, along with Iraqi Army troops from 1st Battalion, 6th Brigade, 2nd Iraqi National Police Division arrived at the primary school with much needed school supplies.

They brought more than 600 backpacks filled with school supplies. Each bag contained a notebook, folders, paper, a ruler, scissors, pens, pencils, colored pencils, pencil sharpeners, and erasers. When the Soldiers finished passing out the bags, they had given out 470 backpacks.

"The size of this school can be deceiving," said Camden, S.C. native, Staff Sgt. Donta Brown, with Co. C, 1st Bn., 64th Armor Regiment. "The kids seem to come out of the woodwork for such a small school."

Ibn Kaldun Primary School is different from most Iraqi schools. Most primary schools in Iraq start their day at 8 a.m. and end at 12:30 p.m. However, Ibn Kaldun is two schools in one. The morning school has traditional hours while an afternoon school is from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Ibn Kaldun also gives remedial classes for older students trying to return to school.

The small size of the school compared to its large roster has not gone unnoticed by the Soldiers of Company C. Enough supplies were

brought for both school periods. Due to the school's large amount of students and funding shortages, the students would normally have to share school supplies.

"Anything we can do to bring some normality to these kids' lives is a good thing," said Auburn, Ark. native, 1st Lt. James Gallagher, platoon leader for Co. C. "We normally do that by making sure they're safe from Al-Qaeda. But today we're making sure they don't have to share school supplies by giving them their own."

Gallagher went on to say that they plan on doing more for the school than just hand out school supplies. His company is currently working with the school's headmistress, Amara Abdullah Muhammad, and the Khadra Neighborhood Area Council to get funding to help expand the school by building four to six more classrooms.



By 1st Lt. Raymond Ashworth\ 1st Bn., 64th Armor Regiment

Soldiers pass out school supplies to Iraqi school children at the Ibn Kaldun Primary School in Khadra, Iraq.



By Sgt. Zach Mott 3rd BCT, 4th Inf. Div. PAO

Guard

ADHAMIYA, Iraq – Sgt. 1st Class Brian Walker, right, a platoon sergeant with Bone Troop, 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, and Staff Sgt. Jason Raab, the squadron master gunner, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, talk about securing a building in Adhamiya, Iraq, prior to a meeting there. Walker, a Waynesville, N.C., native and Raab, from Red Oak, Ill., as well as the other Soldiers within the squadron operate in this northern Baghdad neighborhood to help establish security in the region.



The Player of the Day Award is presented to Mike Myers for outstanding performance as a Fire finder Field Support Engineer. Mr. Myers has been instrumental in making sure that all Firefinder radars are operational. His dedication to duty helped save lives from indirect fire, and for that he is today's 4th ID Player of the Day.

Baghdad Three Day Weather Forecast

Monday
Partly cloudy
HI: 57F/14C
LO: 44F/7C



Tuesday
Partly cloudy
HI: 62F/17C
LO: 48F/9C



Wednesday
Partly cloudy
HI: 57F/14C
LO: 44F/7C



The Daily Roar

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Villagers receive 'Striker' treatment

by **Sgt. Zach Mott**
3rd BCT, 4th Inf. Div. PAO

AL BAYRK, Iraq -- Villagers in this remote region on the outskirts of Baghdad flocked to a medical screening hosted by the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division Jan. 24.

"(We want) to show the Iraqi people that we care about them," said Sgt. 1st Class Francis Rose, the medical platoon leader with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment, 3rd BCT. "We're trying to establish some type of medical facilities being brought up to these areas and to help the Iraqis develop their own medical facilities."

More than 150 residents of Al Bayrk with maladies ranging from upper respiratory infections to skin rashes were treated at the Medical Civil Action Project or MEDCAP. This also served as a welcome break for some of the medics within the Striker

Brigade who regularly treat Soldiers with combat-related injuries.

"It was pretty neat," said Pfc. Julie West, a medic with HHC, 1st CAB, 68th AR. "I didn't know that we actually even did things like this. It was a good experience being able to go out there and help out."

West is a Houston native who is on her first deployment to Iraq in her brief military career.

Rose, however, is on his third deployment to Iraq and has seen a steady increase in the medical proficiency in this budding nation.

"From OIF IV to this one I can see that it has helped," the Chrisney, Ind., native said. "We can see that the Ministry of Health has been involved and they have established clinics in the areas. You see that the supply systems come in and are working."

Iraqi Army Soldiers were on site to serve as a security element for this mission. Their presence also helped

the Iraqi people realize their military is there to support and defend them.

"They know that they have IA, (Iraqi Police) presence and that they'll be taken care of," Rose said.

Plans are already in place for these missions to continue in the future.

"We're looking at one (MEDCAP) a month," Rose said. "This is just one company. Once the other companies get involved we might be doing two or three per month."

While treating as many citizens as possible, Rose said he hopes this will begin to foster a better relationship throughout the region.

"It makes me feel good," he said about helping the villagers. "The way I look at it, the more people we can help in Iraq. Hopefully, that's less people we've got to take care of on our own side. You create an atmosphere where everybody can get along and then we'll cut out on some of the patients that we see as far as casualties."



by Staff Sgt. William Morehead, Company B, 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion

An Iraqi woman smiles as she holds her child prior to being screened at a Medical Civil Action Project in Al Bayrk. This family was one of more than 150 people screened during the daylong mission. The 3rd BCT, 4th Inf. Div. regularly conducts medical assistance missions to help the people of Iraq.