

# The Advisor



Mar. 15, 2008



## Rolling Forward

Iraqi Security Forces receive first Humvees through transfer program

>> Page 7

# The Advisor

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The faces of Iraqi soldiers and police have been altered to protect their identities.

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## >> FROM THE COVER

An Iraqi Army humvee driver training course instructor directs one of the graduates of the course to proceed out of the parking lot at Camp Taji



Photo by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Anthony J. Koch

Mar. 13.

## >> IRAQI POLICE: CRUISIN' ON THE STREETS



Photo by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Anthony J. Koch

Iraqi Police from Baghdad demonstrate their ability to ride motorcycles donated by Japan to Iraq during a hand over ceremony of 600 motorcycles to the Iraqi Police here Feb. 28. The contribution of these motorcycles allows them to move more freely and quickly through congested streets of Baghdad and other out-lined cities.

<< Page 9

## Other features

- Iraqi training must mature** **3** Enabling capabilities such as training, logistics, maintenance support and aviation need to mature before Iraq can be ready to defend itself alone.
- Iraq assessment factors** **4** U.S. Army Gen. David H. Petraeus is encouraged by the progress of the Iraqi security forces due to the growth of the army and police forces.
- New training for future infantry** **6** Iraqi Army soldiers can train more effectively with the addition of the Combat Arms Training School to assist in using western-style tactics, weapons and technology.
- Community medical operation** **11** Iraqi National Police brigades host first community medical operation to assist local men, women and children in obtaining basic health care in their clinic for free.
- Intelligence facility opens in Baghdad** **14** Iraq's new intelligence headquarters building provides strategic and operational level support for imagery, mapping, signals intelligence, counter-intelligence and human intelligence.

# Capabilities must mature for Iraq self-sufficiency

By Kristen Noel

Special to American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** – Various enabling capabilities for Iraq’s security forces must mature before the country is capable of handling internal and external threats without help, a senior military official said yesterday.

The Iraqi government does not expect to be prepared to counter internal threats without Coalition assistance before 2012, U.S. Air Force Col. Dean Clemons, military advisor to Iraqi Defense Minister Adul Kader, said in a teleconference with online journalists and “bloggers” Mar. 6.

Clemons noted that in Capitol Hill testimony in January, Kader also said he believes Iraq won’t be ready to independently defend against external threats until sometime between 2018 and 2020.

Enabling capabilities – such as training, logistics, maintenance support and aviation – need to mature before Iraq can be ready to defend itself alone, Clemons explained. Though development of these capabilities has been ongoing, the Coalition and Iraqis have had to focus primarily on fulfilling the immediate need to stand up forces to fight insurgency, he said.

According to analysis of three studies – conducted separately by the Defense Ministry, the Coalition, and an outside group – the Iraqi Army will need to grow to between 600,000 and 650,000 members by the end of 2008 to be effective in the counterinsurgency fight, Clemons said.

“So, all the divisions and brigades ... are standing up immediately,” he explained. “Then, you’re seeing the move to the training element, to the logistics side, (and to) the base support units.”

The development of advanced aviation capabilities for the Iraqi military is still far off, he said, due to the considerable number of years needed to acquire the proper intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platforms and support systems for such a program.

However, he said, the improved security and stability throughout the country in recent months has created favorable conditions for the Iraqi government to move forward with setting up long-term enabler processes.

A consensus now exists among all of the Iraqi government’s ministries that “now is the time to strike on services, a process improvement, (and) establishment of everything from electricity to oil distribution,” Clemons said. “I can tell you from personal experience ... that the pendulum has swung for a grander, more clear understanding of the needs and the requirement to (build capabilities),” he added.

Whether the help Iraq needs through 2012 and beyond will come from the United States, Clemons said, is something Americans will have to decide as a nation. ■

## what key leaders are saying

>> **U.S. ARMY LT. GEN. JAMES M. DUBIK,**  
*Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq commander*

“The Iraqi Security Forces have made significant progress in size, quantity and in quality. ... They are on a growth path where they can sustain this size of force, both with money and with equipment.”



>> **U.S. NAVY ADM. MICHAEL MULLEN,**  
*Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff*

“I am against a timetable. I think a precipitous withdrawal, any withdrawal which puts us into a situation where we sacrifice the gains in Iraq ... is something that would concern me greatly.”



>> **DR. MOWAFFAL AL-RUBAIE,**  
*Iraqi National Security Advisor*

“The relationship will be based on neighboring countries that are independent and sovereign. No country will interfere into the other’s internal affairs.”



# Petraeus describes factors affecting Iraq assessment

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service



### BAGHDAD

– The top military commander in Iraq gave some insight on Mar. 3 into what he will consider as he prepares to report to the president and

Congress in April on the way ahead.

U.S. Army Gen. David H. Petraeus, commander of Multi-National Force – Iraq, spoke with reporters accompanying U.S. Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who is visiting the country.

The security trend lines all are favorable, the general said. “Attacks have continued to go down. We’ve had a five-month period consistently of a level of attacks we’ve not seen since spring of

2005,” he said. “This past week was the fourth-lowest since October 2004.”

Petraeus and U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Ryan C. Crocker will explain why they believe attacks have come down when they report to President Bush and Congress.

The general said he is encouraged by the statistics and what he sees around the country. “In fact, the level of attacks has come down in recent weeks below a level we thought might be the ‘irreducible minimum,’” he said.

Petraeus said he also will consider the progress Iraqi security forces have made. “The Iraqi surge of 2007 was well over 100,000,” he said citing the growth of the nation’s army and police force. “Added to that is the 90,000 Sons of Iraq – the concerned local citizens – who have added considerably. (These forces are) substantially ‘thickening’ our forces.”

The general said he also will consider Iraqi civilian deaths in formulating his recommendations. “If your focus is on securing the people, then it is a metric you have to pay attention to, and we do,” he said.

Crocker will lay out the developments in the political arena and describe the laws that have passed over the past couple of months. The ambassador will talk about the potential for provincial elections in the fall and describe the economic situation, Petraeus said.

The general said he will lay out his recommendations “for the process by which we’ll go about assessing conditions in the wake of the drawdown of the surge brigade combat teams.” The drawdown of the original surge forces is set to end in July. He said he will explain the factors he will consider in making recommendations on subsequent withdrawals.

The way ahead in Iraq will not be easy, the general said. “Each day something bad happens,” he said. “(But) the relative degree of the bad news tends to be less.”

The number of car bomb attacks has dropped, but there is a slight increase in suicide-vest attacks. Al-Qaida is having a tough time building car bombs and then getting them through checkpoints, Petraeus explained, but suicide vests are transportable and are now being handed



Photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Frost

Newly commissioned officers for the Iraqi Army and Iraqi Air Force graduate from the Iraqi Military Academy in Rustamiyah.

**“We will maintain a sufficient footprint with an adequate, generally substantial, Iraqi force of police and soldiers.”**

U.S. Army Gen. David H. Petraeus  
Multi-National Force – Iraq commander



Photo by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Erica R. Gardner

An Iraqi Army private displays an M-4 carbine and five magazines to show the standard issued equipment for Iraqi Army soldiers. The purchase was possible because of the use of Foreign Military Sales.

to women.

The command has already drawn down a brigade combat team and a Marine expeditionary unit. Another brigade combat team will leave the country this month. Petraeus said the command will “thin out” Coalition forces as this occurs, and “not just hand off an area completely to Iraqi forces.”

“We will maintain a sufficient footprint with an adequate, generally substantial, Iraqi force of police and soldiers,” the

See ASSESSMENT, Page 5

**From ASSESSMENT, Page 4**

general explained. "It provides situational awareness and a link to the enablers that we can provide – indirect fire, close-air (support), medevac, quick-reaction forces and so on." The idea also maintains a fusion cell for intelligence.

"Obviously, as we draw down, (the Iraqis) have to pick up more of the responsibility, and that is the case," Petraeus said.

Al-Qaida remains the biggest threat, and over time Coalition and Iraqi forces have killed, captured or run off substantial numbers of the terror group. But there is still a lot of work to do in the Diyala and Tigris river valleys, and in Iraq's second-largest city of Mosul and surrounding Ninevah province.

"We are going after al-Qaida relentlessly wherever they are, and wherever we can find them, we put our teeth into their jugular," Petraeus said.

Mosul is an important place to al-Qaida. "Analysts have said that while Baghdad is critical for al-Qaida to win in Iraq, Mosul and its area is critical for their survival," the general said. Recent successes notwithstanding, Petraeus warned, a "final battle" with the terrorist group is not imminent.

"Al-Qaida is incredibly resilient," he said, "and they are receiving people and supplies through Syria – although numbers through Syria are down as much as 50 percent."

Coalition and Iraqi forces will take on al-Qaida in the north, but will do so on their timetable and according to their plans, the general said. He will not start shifting U.S. and Iraqi forces willy-nilly around the country.

"The key is to hang on to what you've got," he said. "You cannot, in your eagerness to go after something new, start to play 'Whack-a-mole' again. You have to hang on to the areas you've cleared; you have to have that plan to do before you go."

Coalition forces are moving to Mosul and Ninevah, but Petraeus said he will not risk losing gains made in Baghdad, the belts around Baghdad or in Anbar province to do so.

"Al-Qaida is trying to come back in," he said. "We can feel it and see it, and what we're trying to do is rip out any roots before they can get deeply into the ground."

The bottom line militarily in Iraq is a "feel" for the country and the determination of what constitutes an acceptable risk, the general told reporters. "At the end of the day, it's about feel," he said. "We have commanders in most cases on their second tours in Iraq, some on their third. Over time, you can start to feel where you can take a bit more risk and also where you cannot."

"You have to walk the streets, talk to the leaders, talk to your own commanders and then you bat it around every day," he said.

Petraeus said he doesn't feel any anxiety over his decisions.

"If you want to talk about anxiety, talk about coming back to Iraq in February 2007 and being greeted by 42 car bombs," he said. "The level of attacks was more than 150 a day, and our losses were exceedingly tough."

With so much chaos in the country, it was hard just trying to get a handle on where forces needed to go, the general recalled. "We've worked our way through that," Petraeus said. "These additional concerns are very serious, but we're working on those with the Iraqi government." ■



Photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Frost

**An Iraqi Army Bomb Disposal School student threads a rope through a pulley during an exercise at Besmaya Range Complex. The Bomb Disposal school instructs students from the Iraqi Army and Police.**



**An Iraqi National Police graduate demonstrates a proper cordon setup at a graduation ceremony held at Numaniyah Training Center.**

Photo by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Anthony J. Koch



Photos by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Frost

An Iraqi Army lieutenant performs a vehicle search during an exercise at the Combat Arms School at the Besmaya Range Complex here Feb. 11. The lieutenant is attending the Basic Infantry Course.

## Combat Arms School trains future leaders

By U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Frost

*MNSTC-I Public Affairs*

**BESMAYA, Iraq** – In a distant corner of the windy and dusty terrain of the Iraqi training base in Besmaya, rests a compound tasked with training Iraqi Army officers and enlisted soldiers the advanced skills that they will need when they hit the streets of Iraq.

The Combat Arms School at the Besmaya Range Complex teaches the Basic Infantry Officer Course, the Company Leaders

**An Iraqi Army lieutenant watches a vehicle checkpoint during an exercise at the Basic Infantry Course at Besmaya Range Complex. The course is taught by senior Iraqi officers and advised by Coalition forces.**



Course, the Mortar Course and the Advanced Marksmanship Course.

"I think this is a unique course," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. George Dixon, a senior American advisor who works with the Iraqi commandant of the school. "This is the only place this training takes place."

While the officers taught at the Basic Infantry Officer Course learn infantry unit tactics and weaponry, their training focuses on operations orders. These skills are necessary to become successful, said Dixon.

The training is based on western-style tactics, replacing the Soviet-era techniques used by the Iraqi Army in the late 80s and early 90s. Despite this, the school strives for improvement, said Iraqi Army 1st Lt. Muhammed, an instructor for the course.

"We look for new weapons, new styles of tactics and new technology to use in the class," said Muhammed.

The lieutenant is part of an all-Iraqi cadre that has taught the six-week course since 2007, while the American soldiers stationed with them only give guidance when needed.

During the course, the students are also taught how to use various weapons, which include AK-47s, rocket propelled grenades, machine guns and pistols. Specific tactics taught include close marksmanship, urban combat and setting up checkpoints.

The students in the infantry course are graduates from one of three Iraqi military academies throughout Iraq.

Once graduated from both the academy and the infantry officer course, the students are sent forward as the leaders who are prepared to battle the enemies of Iraq. ■



The Iraqi Army's 5th Division received the first 45 up armored Humvees through the HMMWV transfer program following a graduation ceremony of the first HMMWV driver training course held in Taji, Mar. 13. The 45 Humvees were the first of 8,500 Humvees that are being refurbished, repainted and transferred to the Iraqi Security Forces. The Iraqi Army's 5th Division had sent drivers through the HMMWV driver training course before driving away the new refurbished vehicles. The soldiers attended the three day course which consists of basic driving skills, understanding the instruments in the vehicle, and basic day and night operations.



Photos by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Anthony J. Koch

# Iraqi Flight Training School takes off

By U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Frost

MNSTC-I Public Affairs



**KIRKUK, Iraq** – Pull back and the trees get smaller; push forward and the trees get bigger. It's a simple explanation for flying that pilots give when talking about the similarities between flying different airplanes. It's also a foundation that former regime pilots worked from when they returned to the Iraqi Air Force as flight instructors in the country's first flight school since Operation Iraqi Freedom began.

The Iraqi Flight Training School located in Kirkuk, Iraq, is training officers to fly fixed and rotary wing aircraft and producing the future pilots of the Iraqi Air Force.

"After the war, I felt sad for my air force," said Iraqi Air Force Col. Karim, the commander of the Iraqi Flight Training School. "I thought it would take 25 years to rebuild the air force. The air force seemed so far away."

The actual time it took to get Iraqis into the air was much less. The school opened in October and within six months, the school had a commander, airplanes, instructors and students to fly them.

"We've had a phenomenal amount of progress since we've been here," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Mark Bennett, commander of the 52nd Expeditionary Flying Training Squadron. The squadron advises the Iraqi flight school and helps to train pilots.

See **FLIGHT**, Page 9



An Iraqi pilot student performs a pre-operation check prior to beginning a training session in one of the squadron's many Cessna 172s.



A Cessna 172, operated by the Iraqi Flight Training School here, sits on the flightline in Kirjuk, Iraq. The Cessna contains advanced avionics, which includes "glass cockpit" technology and a Garmin GPS system.



Photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Christopher Frost

**An Iraqi pilot student reviews a checklist with U.S. Air Force Capt. Terry Bloom, an advisor with the 52nd Expeditionary Flight Training Squadron, prior to beginning a training session in one of the squadron's many Cessna 172 simulators. The simulators come complete with the same advanced avionics suite that is included in the real airplanes.**

### **From FLIGHT, Page 8**

Fighter pilots from Saddam Hussein's regime were the first pilots to go through the training and become instructor pilots for the school. This allows the Iraqis to slowly take over the training and push the Coalition advisors out of the training process.

"They're really good pilots and really good instructors," said Bennett.

To date, the Iraqi instructor pilots are flying about a quarter of all training sorties and all of the flight scheduling. The Iraqis even handle the scheduling of their Coalition counterparts. By December 2008, Iraqis are expected to take control over 90 percent of the entire training program.

Even though these are sorties to train pilots, the area that they fly in is still considered a combat zone, and the pilots log combat hours every time they hit the sky.

The pilots train and are trained in Cessna 172s, aircraft that were purchased via Foreign Military Sales, a program

that allows the government of Iraq to purchase military equipment with their own money from foreign countries.

Even though the aircraft model is typical of flight training all over the world, the technology on board each plane gives the new Iraqi Air Force an increased capability never before seen in the air force, said Karim, a pilot with nearly 3,000 hours of flight time in the Iraqi Air Force.

Each aircraft carries a glass cockpit avionics suite, which allows information normally displayed on several instruments to be contained in one large LED screen in front of the pilot. The avionics of the plane also includes a GPS system, allowing the pilot to easily navigate from point to point. Lastly, the engine consumes diesel fuel rather than typical aviation gas.

Aside from the fixed-wing training, the school is also expected to begin basic helicopter training when helicopters arrive.

"When I see the school in front of me, it was very near," said Karim about the Iraqi Air Force. "I was so happy. Six months, not 25 years – it was different." ■



Photos by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Anthony J. Koch

Kenjori Monji, Ambassador of Japan to Iraq, along with Iraqi Minister of Interior Jawad al Bolani, attended a hand over ceremony of 600 motorcycles to the Iraqi Police in Baghdad Feb. 28. The motorcycles were donated to Iraq from the government of Japan as a part of its effort to help in the reconstruction of Iraq. Japan has been conducting humanitarian, reconstruction and rebuilding assistance to Iraq through their self defense force and by the aid of more than 5 billion U.S. dollars. The contribution of these motorcycles allows the Iraqi Police to move more freely and quickly through the congested streets of Baghdad and other outlined cities.





Photo by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Erica R. Gardner

An Iraqi dentist from the East Raschid neighborhood of Doura, Iraq extracts a tooth from a patient during the 2nd Brigade, 10th Division Iraqi National Police community medical operation at Site 9 here, Mar. 6. Iraqi National Police hosted the first community medical operation program to help improve the image of the national police with the citizens of Iraq.

# IRAQI NATIONAL POLICE HOST COMMUNITY MEDICAL OPERATION FOR DOURA CITIZENS

**By U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Erica R. Gardner**

*MNSTC-I Public Affairs*



**BAGHDAD** – Men, women and children from the Doura neighborhood in Baghdad, recently visited the Site 9 Clinic at the invitation of the 2nd Brigade, 10th Division Iraqi National Police and 7th Brigade, 2nd Iraqi National Police, divisions assigned to Joint Staff Security Doura, Mar. 2 - 6.

Iraqi National Police planned a community medical operation over a month ago to help the citizens of Doura receive general medical treatment within a reasonable distance from their home. The idea was to have Iraqi doctors and dentists visit the

citizens of the East Raschid neighborhood.

“We have had several children visit with the facility this week,” said U.S. Army Master Sgt. Mario Miranda, Multi-National Force – Iraq combat support hospital pharmacy advisor. “The turnout has been great.”

Iraqi doctors from the area donated their time and expertise to the citizens of the East Rashid neighborhood. A doctor listened to a patient with knee pains and provided her with a prescription that she could take home immediately.

“I am happy for this service,” said the patient with knee problems. “I do not know when I would have been able to go to the doctor.”

The clinic is a level one clinic; no laboratories and is very basic. It is more of an aid station for the citizens to use in the case of ear, nose, or throat ailments. An in-house pharmacy allows patients to receive medications at the time of the

**See HOST, Page 12**

**From HOST, Page 11**

doctor's visit.

A man complaining of a toothache came to the clinic to see the dentist. After a short medical screening, the patient was able to see the dentist. A shot to numb the gum was administered to the patient and the tooth was extracted.

"I want my people to be able to have the care they need," said the Iraqi dentist. Oral care necessities such as toothpaste, toothbrushes and dental floss were given to each person attending the community medical operation.

National Police organized and published the events occurring for the day and provided the necessary security measures to ensure the citizens participating in their medical support operation would be safe.

"The guys made flyers and sent them out to the people letting them know the clinic staff will see certain ailments based on the expertise of the doctor or dentist," said Miranda.

National police assigned to the Joint Site Security Doura attend the Combat Life Saver Course, which is taught by Iraqi trainers and medic training is conducted each week during a dedicated block of training time known as "sergeant's time".

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**"I am proud to be a doctor for my people. I am an optometrist and see lots of patients, especially children."**

**Iraqi National Police Lt. Walleed**  
*Site 9 clinic officer-in-charge*

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"During sergeant's time, each person is afforded the opportunity to get hands on experience with the medical training before we treat live people," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles Allen, national police team chief. The training is uninterrupted to allow the policemen to gain the necessary skills needed to perform in the clinic.

During the month, the policemen will practice the skills learned during sergeant's time by opening the clinic for sick call. Procedures of the facility require each patient to be screened by a medical professional, ensuring the facility can treat their ailment. The patient has the vital signs such as weight, blood pressure, and temperature taken before being seen by the appropriate doctor.

"Each of the sick will have an opportunity to visit a medic to make a headache go away or help with a persistent cough," said Allen.

An elderly man was brought into the clinic on a stretcher asking for assistance from the doctor in the clinic. Although the clinic was not able to assist him with his medical needs, he was comforted and stabilized before being sent to another medical facility to be treated.

"I am proud to be a doctor for my people, said Iraqi National Police Lt. Walleed. "I am an optometrist and see lots of patients, especially children."

Although this is the first attempt to reach out to the public,



Photos by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Erica R. Gardner

**An Iraqi dentist from the East Raschid neighborhood of Doura, Iraq examines the teeth of a patient during the 2nd Brigade, 10th Division Iraqi National Police community medical operation at Site 9 here, Mar. 6. Iraqi National Police hosted the first community medical operation program to help improve the image of the national police with the citizens of Iraq.**



**An Iraqi doctor from the East Raschid neighborhood of Doura, Iraq listens to a patient explain her ailments during a routine examination at the Site 9 medical clinic during the 2nd Brigade, 10th Division Iraqi National Police community medical operation here, Mar. 6. Iraqi National Police hosted the first community medical operation program to help improve the image of the national police with the citizens of Iraq.**

the national police are excited about their role in helping to stabilize the neighborhood located in the East Raschid section of Baghdad.

"Our goal is to let the people know we are not bad like others before us," said Walleed. ■



Photo by U.S. Navy Cmdr. Raymond Gaw

Members from Multi-National Security Transition Command - Iraq and Iraqi Ministry of Defence break ground for the new Director General Intelligence Security Headquarters Campus Facility in Baghdad Feb. 28.

## IRAQI INTELLIGENCE CENTER OPENS IN BAGHDAD

By **U.S. Navy Cmdr. Raymond Gaw**

*MNSTC-I Public Affairs*



**BAGHDAD** - A historic landmark for the Ministry of Defense Director General of Intelligence and Security was the official groundbreaking for the new Director General

Intelligence Security Headquarters Campus Facility that took place in Baghdad Feb. 28.

Official Guests of Honor for the ceremony were Iraqi MG Jamal, deputy general of intelligence; Daniel Maguire, Multi-National Security Transition Command-Intelligence Transition Team advisor, and Gary Bergman Environmental Chemical Corporation representative.

The two-phase project will cost \$70M, with the first phase scheduled for completion in September 2008. Phase I, which is U.S. funded, will include eight buildings housing Baghdad area Intelligence Directorates. Phase II is Iraqi funded, and will include a headquarters building for the Joint HQ M2 intelligence organization, sleeping quarters, a dining

facility and other life support structures. Phase II construction is currently being negotiated between the Government of Iraq and potential contractors.

The Director General of Intelligence is responsible for providing strategic and operational level intelligence in support of the Iraqi Ministry of Defence and Iraqi forces objectives. In addition to Baghdad, there is representation in the 17 other provinces of Iraq. Maguire continues to play a significant role in advising and mentoring Iraqi counterparts, including building a capability to perform imagery and mapping, signals intelligence, counter-intelligence and human intelligence. Maguire, along with the Ministry of Defense, several intelligence tradecraft schools at the Military Intelligence Academy at Taji have been implemented, bringing the intelligence security one step closer to a professional, independent and fully operational intelligence organization.

Several Coalition members and Iraqi members gathered outside for the event while the new Iraqi flag was proudly flown. This is another great example of the partnership that is being cemented between Iraq and the United States. The completion of the new DGIS compound will be a large step forward in providing for a free and democratic Iraq. ■

### MAN ON THE STREET

## What have you done for the Iraqi Security Forces that you're most proud of?

**U.S. AIR FORCE CAPT. STEPHANIE DYE,**  
*JCCI / Contracting Officer*

"I manage contracts through local Iraqi vendors that allow the Iraqi police services to sustain life support and training requirements to train and graduate new Iraqi Police and National Police."



**U.S. ARMY LT. COL. KEITH MUSCHALEK,**  
*Security Assistance Office / Army Programs*



"I help manage over \$2.2 billion worth of Foreign Military Sales for the Iraqi Army. FMS here in Iraq is growing to become the largest FMS program in the world."

**U.S. AIR FORCE CAPT. CHANEY FERGUSON**  
*Coalition Air Force Transition Team*

"I am in charge of getting the CAFTT commanding general to all Iraqi Air Force training sites to ensure that all the assistance, training, and advising of the IqAF is being properly completed to keep them in the air."



## ISF, Sol detain four AQI members

**BAGHDAD** – Iraqi Security Forces and Abna al-Iraq, or Sons of Iraq, detained four suspected al-Qaida in Iraq terrorists Mar. 5.

At approximately 4 a.m., Iraqi soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 5th Brigade, 6th IA Division, along with Sol members from Qadisayah, detained three AQI members in the Mansour security district.

At approximately 6 p.m., IA soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 5th Brigade, 6th IA Division working together with Sol members from Ameriya detained an AQI member suspected of illegal activity in Mansour.

– Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs

## Iraqi Security Forces recover large weapons cache in Jabella

**BALAD** – Jabellah Iraqi Police recovered a large weapons and munitions cache in Jabella, south of Iskandariyah, Mar. 4.

An Iraqi Police discovered the cache in a house in Jabella. Jabella IP secured the cache and contacted provincial officials to determine its disposition.

Provincial Iraqi Security Forces responded to provide inventory and take charge of the cache, pending its final disposition. Provincial officials ultimately decided to transfer the cache into Coalition forces control.

The operation was deemed a success in that local and provincial Iraqi Security Forces worked quickly and decisively to remove a significant cache from potential use by criminal and Special Groups in the area.

The cache consisted of 165 one-pound blocks of C-4 explosive, 19 rocket propelled grenades, five RPG launchers, one 60mm mortar tube, three rolls of detonation cord and two blasting caps for making IEDs, 25 107 mm high explosive rockets and 23 rocket fuses, 10 120 mm high explosive mortar rounds, 84 60 mm and 60 81 mm high explosive mortar rounds, along with six 60 mm mortar fuses.

– Multi-National Corps – Iraq Public Affairs

## Sol, MND-C Soldiers find and raid torture house

**Zambraniyah** – Sons of Iraq led Coalition forces to an al-Qaida in Iraq torture house and prison in northern Zambraniyah March 5.

The operation was based on intelligence provided by an Sol leader in the area.

The Abna al-Iraq leader, who heads a group of 300 Sol, worked with his men in support of soldiers on the patrol.

The patrol began early in the morning as soldiers cleared houses in an area suspected of harboring insurgents. During the initial phase of the mission, the group came under small arms fire by the enemy, observed wearing black.

As the patrol continued, the group discovered a man dressed in black in a suspected AQI safe house. The man was detained on suspicion of involvement in insurgent activities and the likelihood that he was involved in the earlier attack.

– Multi-National Division – Center Public Affairs

## Sons of Iraq discover two caches

**Arab Jabour** – Members of the Sons of Iraq turned two weapons caches over to U.S. Soldiers in Arab Jabour in two separate incidents Mar. 5.

In the first incident, an SOI member turned over six 120 mm projectiles to Coalition Soldiers.

Another SOI group turned over a second cache to Coalition Soldiers consisting of 20 22 mm anti-aircraft rounds, 300 DSHKA heavy machine gun rounds and one DSHKA barrel.

EOD teams destroyed the ordnance in controlled detonations.

– Multi-National Division – Center Public Affairs

## Traffic police find IED; IP, IA detain possible suspect

**BAGHDAD** – Iraqi Traffic Police found an IED on a foot bridge in the Karada district of eastern Baghdad, and alerted Iraqi Security Forces in the area Mar. 2.

Iraq Police and Iraqi Army confirmed the presence of the IED and secured the area.

The NP and IA detained a suspect who they believe placed the IED. The suspect appeared to be fleeing the scene. The suspect's vehicle was also confiscated.

EOD personnel safely detonated the IED on site without incident.

This incident is under investigation.

– Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs

## Iraqi Army, Coalition forces prevent car bomb construction

**MOSUL** – Iraqi soldiers, acting on a citizen's tip, interrupted four suspected al-Qaida in Iraq terrorists constructing a car bomb near the al-Rissala neighborhood market in Mosul Mar. 9.

As a precautionary measure, the Iraqi Army evacuated civilians from the market area. The Iraqi Army and Coalition forces conducted a search of the market area which revealed four anti-armor IEDs constructed of crude homemade explosively formed penetrators hidden in a popcorn cart.

Coalition forces EOD took the anti-armor IEDs to Forward Operating Base Marez for destruction.

– Multi-National Division – North Public Affairs

## Iraqi Police discover large cache

**BALAD** – Iraqi Police discovered a large weapons cache Mar. 11 while conducting a combat patrol in the Salah ad Din Province.

The cache was discovered northeast of Samarra in the "Salt Flats" area. This area is known for multiple caches and safe haven locations for insurgents.

The cache held a variety of items including 60mm mortar rounds, 82mm mortar rounds, 60mm mortar tubes, boosters and several pounds of smokeless TNT powder. The cache was destroyed by an explosives ordnance disposal team.

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IN MEMORY OF

*S Sgt Christopher S. Frost*  
*Staff Editor*  
*Public Affairs Office*  
*4 May 1983 - 3 March 2008*



**I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN  
I AM A WARRIOR  
I HAVE ANSWERED MY NATION'S CALL**

# IN MEMORY OF...



# ....WE WILL NEVER FORGET