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# IP train to provide Babil province better security



Photo by Sgt. Brandon LeFlore  
An Iraqi policeman searches a vehicle during a traffic control point and personnel search training exercise led by 3rd Bn., 16th FA Regt. recently. Tactics learned better enable ISF to decrease smuggling in Babil province.

**SGT. BRANDON LEFLORE**  
2ND BCT, 4TH INF. DIV.



CAMP ECHO – Iraqi policemen trained to improve their traffic control point operations with Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division at the Convoy

Support Center Scania recently.

Policemen from the Shumoly district of Babil province performed vehicle and personnel searches during exercises to increase their ability to mitigate the threat of smugglers moving dangerous weapons into the area.

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# TRAIN

From page 1

“The biggest threat is smuggling in the area,” said Staff Sgt. Jacob Strickland, Battery A, 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment. “If they can decrease the smuggling, everyone in Babil province will be safer.”

“They’ve established an acceptable level of security here,” said Capt. Jonathan Holm, Winston-Salem, N.C. native and Battery A commander. “However, Coalition forces are going to be leaving in the future and (ISF) need the capacity to maintain this current level of security and even improve it in some areas.”

Train the trainer is the approach 3rd Bn., 16th FA Regt. is using to enable the policemen to take skills learned to their areas of operation and train their own personnel.

“We’re training their officer and noncommissioned officer corps so when CF leave, they’ll still have that capability and their leaders will be able to train new leaders when they join the ranks,” said Holm. “This training won’t just stay with these individuals. It’ll carry on throughout the next few years.”

In addition to training ISF on running a traffic control point, Soldiers from 3rd Bn., 16th FA Regt. also instructed them in room-clearing procedures and providing security for building searches.

“As the policemen receive this training, they gain more confidence in their own capabilities. (Their) morale goes up and they take more ownership of their area,” said Holm. “That’s essential to establishing and maintaining security here.”



Photo by Sgt. Brandon LeFlore

An Iraqi policeman searches a civilian contractor during a traffic control point and personnel search training exercise facilitated by 3rd Bn., 16th FA Regt. recently. Tactics learned better enable ISF to decrease smuggling in Babil province.

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## THE Mountain View

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Task Force 449



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# Rough Riders challenge IA on the soccer field

CAPT. CHARLES MONTGOMERY  
4TH BCT, 1ST CAV DIV



COB ADDER – For the second time during this deployment, Iraqi and American transportation units competed for bragging rights on the soccer field.

U.S. Soldiers assigned to 27th Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division 'Rough Riders,' challenged the Iraqi Army's 10th Motorized Transport Regiment to a re-match at Camp White Horse near the operating base here recently.

"Today is a very happy day for me because of our friends and brothers from the United States," said Lt. Col. Hamid, a senior officer in the 10th MTR. "This memory will last forever, and we will remember it every day."

The game predictions favored the 10th MTR by a wide margin, considering the 5-1 loss the Rough Riders endured last October.

However, the Americans prepared for weeks to give the Iraqis a worthy challenge.

"They were faster and more agile defenders with accurate foot mobility," said Staff Sgt. Freddy Valdez, the Rough Rider Team Captain, from Brownsville, Texas. "This time, we planned to use our strengths to our advantage."

The 27th BSB Soldiers used team work to keep their opponents off balance.

During the first three minutes of the game, the Iraqis scored two goals, and it seemed to be a repeat of the previous game. However, Valdez scored a goal for the American Soldiers during the first 10 minutes of play. The MTR

scored before the half ended, and took a 3-1 lead.

The Rough Riders engineered a comeback during the first three minutes of the second half and tied the game at three. But the MTR team came right back to score another goal to take a one-point lead.

As the time was beginning to expire, Sgt. Rogelio Brown broke away from the pack and evened the score for the second time in the game. Time elapsed

and the teams were forced into a shoot-out. The Americans lost the shoot-out by one goal and the Iraqis secured another victory. The soccer players seemed truly amazed at how a sport can connect people from very different parts of the world.

"It was a great day to strengthen our relationship and make it stronger," said 2nd Lt. Ahmed from Al Hilla. "It will also strengthen our cooperation between the United States and Iraq."



Photo by Sgt. Shannon Black

A U. S. Soldier, from 27th BSB, 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div., attempts to score a goal against Soldiers from the IA's 10th MTR during a soccer match on Camp White Horse near COB Adder recently.

***Right now the Army is experiencing an unacceptable level of sexual assaults against female Soldiers. For me, one sexual assault is unacceptable - but what is going on here? How do we reduce this trend?***

To let the CG and others know, go to the Mountain Sound Off Blog at  
[www.taskforcemountain.com](http://www.taskforcemountain.com)

# Headline Round-up

## U.S. News:

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama's top health care adviser said April 15 a compromise is within reach on a government health plan for the middle class that wouldn't drive private insurers out of business. Offering the option of government coverage to workers and their families has become one of the most contentious issues in the debate about overhauling health care to cover the uninsured and curb costs. Obama has proposed a public plan, and liberals insist it be part of any final deal. Conservatives and businesses fear that could open the door for a government takeover of the system. Nancy-Ann DeParle, director of the White House health reform office, said a public plan could be designed to address concerns about the federal government overreaching in its role.

## Health News:

The number of ailing people turning to medical marijuana to ease their symptoms has spiked this year, say dispensary owners in some of the 13 states where it's legal. Requests have jumped anywhere from 50 to 300 percent, they say, since President Barack Obama took office and signaled that he won't use federal marijuana laws to override state laws as the Bush administration did. Others say the economic downturn may also be responsible as more people without insurance are seeking alternatives to costly medications. In the past few months, marijuana co-ops, clubs, businesses and even lawyers who have advocated for looser dope regulations say they've been inundated with requests for information and certifications that permit people to use marijuana for medical purposes. Under the George W. Bush administration, federal authorities maintained that federal marijuana laws took precedence over state law, even in states that had approved therapeutic cannabis. But Obama indicated support of the controlled use of marijuana for medical purposes, saying he saw no difference between medical marijuana and other pain-control drugs.

## Sports News:

NEW YORK - A baseball fan who says he was ejected from Yankee Stadium by police after he left his seat to use the bathroom during the playing of "God Bless America" sued the New York Yankees and the city on April 15. Bradford Campeau-Laurion says in his federal lawsuit his rights were violated at an Aug. 26 game between the Yankees and the Boston Red Sox when he tried to pass a police officer. The lawsuit said the officer did not let him take a step before grabbing his right arm and twisting it behind him. It said two officers marched him down several ramps to the stadium's exit, where he was pushed out as one officer told him to leave the country if he didn't like it.

### *Quote of the Day*

*"I not only use all the brains that I have, but all that I can borrow." - Woodrow Wilson*

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## AROUND THE COMMUNITY

### DFAC 1

Closed for conversion to gym

### DFAC 2

Breakfast: 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Dinner: 5 - 9 p.m.

### DFAC 3

Breakfast: 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Dinner: 5 - 9 p.m.

### DFAC 4

Breakfast: 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Dinner: 5 - 9 p.m.