



The Mountain View

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April 18, 2009

IA, IP, U.S. EOD conduct massive controlled detonation

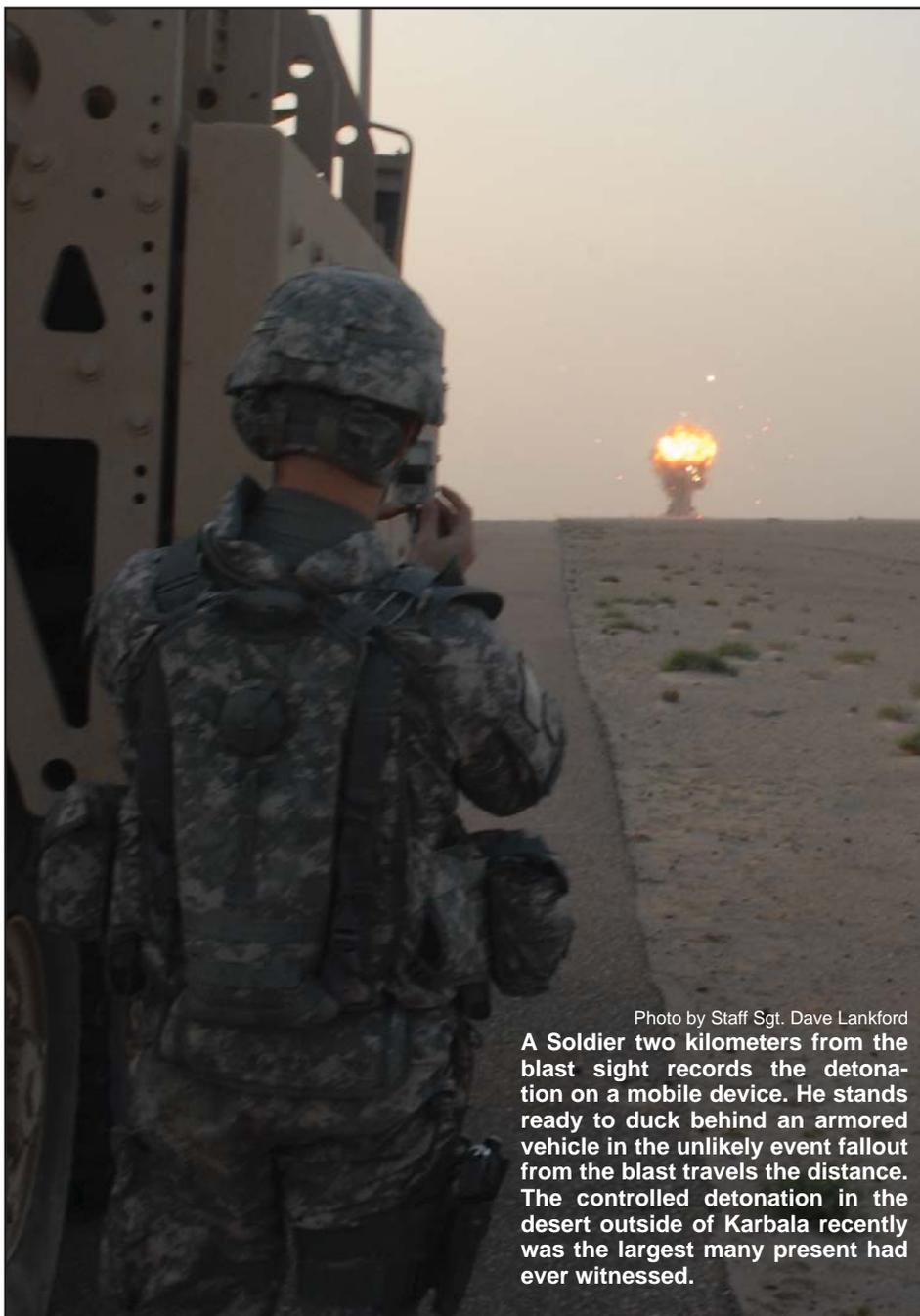


Photo by Staff Sgt. Dave Lankford
A Soldier two kilometers from the blast sight records the detonation on a mobile device. He stands ready to duck behind an armored vehicle in the unlikely event fallout from the blast travels the distance. The controlled detonation in the desert outside of Karbala recently was the largest many present had ever witnessed.

STAFF SGT. DAVE LANKFORD
MND-S



KARBALA - Members of the Iraqi Army, Iraqi Police and U.S. Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal teamed up to destroy several tons of confiscated munitions in the desert outside of Karbala recently.

The rockets, mortar rounds and missiles confiscated from throughout Babil province have been accumulating for some time. Nearly 8,000 lbs. of live and inert explosive devices were delivered to the blast site in four large trucks.

"A lot of times this stuff will pile up at IP checkpoints or headquarters," said 1st Lt. Thomas Kinsey, 760th EOD Company.

"They turn it all in at once; then load it into four or five-ton trucks full of mortars and rockets,"

"The Iraqi Army has their own EOD forces and the Iraqi police have counter explosives teams," the San Antonio, Texas native continued. "The problem is that they don't have access to the resources we do."

Advanced schooling is another shortcoming the 33rd Iraqi Army, in conjunction with Coalition Forces, is working to correct.

Kinsey said the Iraqi forces are well trained and equipped to handle day-to-day operations, but still need assistance with larger missions.

"They're doing the best they can with what they've got," said Kinsey. "It's a problem of them getting the funding and the schools to get to the skill level they need."

Kinsey said his Soldiers enjoy helping out. They see it as a way to advance

See EOD, page 2

EOD

From page 1

the technical skills of their Iraqi counterparts, and as a means of eventually turning over full mission control. Besides, he said, “blowing stuff up is always more fun.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Dave Lankford

(Left) Soldiers from 760th EOD Company stand on nearly 8,000 lbs. of inert and live munitions to inspect the work of the Iraqi Army and police in the desert outside of Karbala recently. They explain the method of overlaying the explosives to there Iraqi counterparts to insure all of the potential weapons are destroyed in the blast. (Above) Iraqi Soldiers and policemen unload one of four trucks carrying nearly 8,000 lbs. of munitions to be destroyed in the desert outside of Karbala recently. The mortar rounds, missiles and rockets confiscated from throughout Babel province have been accumulating at IP checkpoints and headquarters buildings.

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THE Mountain View

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Task Force 449



Media queries please contact TF Mountain Public Affairs at MND-Center_PAO@iraq.centcom.mil

New sustainable training approach for IPs

SGT. 1ST CLASS JOE THOMPSON
41ST FB



FOB DELTA – The 772nd Military Police Company and the Iraqi Police Advisor team are starting a new approach to Iraqi Police training that will provide a sustainable training system for when Coalition forces leave Iraq.

“Our overall goal is to start a program in Wasit that can be a model for the rest of the country,” said Staff Sgt. Elton Dean, headquarters squad leader, 772nd MP Co. “What we want to do is give the Minister of Interior a reason to institute a program like this in order to make the entire country of Iraq better, not just the province of Wasit.”

The new training approach will institute a mobile training team that will travel to the outlying and local Iraqi police stations and focus on the train-the-trainer program for each station.

“With the timeframe that we’re looking at, it’s real important right now that we start looking at a way that we can start making them more self-reliant and continue their training and be able to have the fundamentals down,” said Dean, of Douglas, Mass. “When we are gone, they can continue to train and be able to police themselves and not have to look around for answers.”

The training will focus on everything from community policing, ethics, basic law enforcement procedures, crime scene protection, crime scene processing and leadership courses to any identified training that the local police stations may need. The current training structure was built around the assessments from Maj. Gen. Ra’ad, Wasit Provincial Director of Police.

It will also establish different training for the officers, noncommissioned officers and regular IPs.

“Currently, they don’t have a training breakdown between the IPs, NCOs and officers,” said Dean. “One of the things we have been looking at is how can you as a leader keep accountability of your Iraqi Police officers and keep the standards enforced if you don’t actually understand what they are. This new training approach will address that problem.”

The training approach is sustainable because not only will the Iraqi Police be trained under the train-the-trainer pro-

gram, but each police station and the police headquarters will have training officers to track the progress of the training across the province.

“What’s good about the 772 being here is that it is a National Guard Company where we do have a lot of civilian police officers and we bring a lot of civilian policing experience to the table,” said Dean. “This helps the Iraqi Police get away from the military mindset because the military and the police are two different functions. Between the IPAs and the 772 working together, we’re able to bring enough of that civilian experience so that we can mentor them on a level that they should be mentored at.”

The new training approach has already been approved by the PDoP and the 772nd MP Co. from Taunton, Mass. The IPAs are scheduled to begin the new training program in the next few weeks, as soon as the PDoP identifies the initial set of instructors to be trained.



Courtesy photo
Mr. Lee Garnand, Iraqi Police Advisor, briefs Maj. Gen. Ra’ad, Wasit Provincial Director of Police, April 9 on the new training strategy for Iraqi police, focused on a sustainable train-the-trainer approach that the IPs can continue to use after coalition forces leave Iraq.

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

Headline Round-up

World News:

WASHINGTON - Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said April 15 the Obama administration will take the unusual step of trying to seize pirate financial assets and property, as it works with shippers to thwart hijackers off the coast of Somalia. The measures outlined by Clinton, part of a new U.S. diplomatic initiative to thwart sea piracy, are largely stopgap and symbolic moves while officials weigh more comprehensive diplomatic and military action. The exploratory effort to track and freeze pirate assets will be difficult because of the highly localized and informal nature of their economy, which does not often use regulated portions of the international financial system, current and former officials said. As part of the package, Clinton said the administration will also call for immediate meetings of an international counter-piracy task force to expand naval coordination against pirates.

U.S. News:

Whipped up by conservative commentators and bloggers, tens of thousands of protesters staged "tea parties" across the nation April 15 to tap into the collective angst fueled by a bad economy, while President Barack Obama vowed "a simpler tax code that rewards work and the pursuit of the American dream." The rallies came on a symbolic day: the deadline to file income taxes. Protesters even threw what appeared to be a box of tea bags over the fence onto the White House grounds, causing a brief lockdown at the compound before the package was declared not dangerous. Obama acknowledged the protests. "For too long, we've seen taxes used as a wedge to scare people into supporting policies that increased the burden on working people instead of helping them live their dreams," he said. "That has to change, and that's the work that we've begun." His words were hardly met with universal applause. From California to New York, protesters met at statehouses and town squares to oppose Obama's federal spending since he took office.

Quote of the Day

*"I had nothing to offer anybody except my own confusion."
- Jack Kerouac*

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9			8			
2						3
	6		9	1	7	8
3			2		1	
8	4		1	6	2	
6		8		9	5	4
9			6			5
	3		7		6	
	7	2			8	

For the answer to today's puzzle, go to:



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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.

PX

Open: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Alteration Shop

Open: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Barber Shop

Open: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Finance

Monday - Saturday

Open: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday

Open: 9 a.m. - noon

Camp Alpha Gym

Open: 24 hours

Camp Charlie Gym

Open: 24 hours

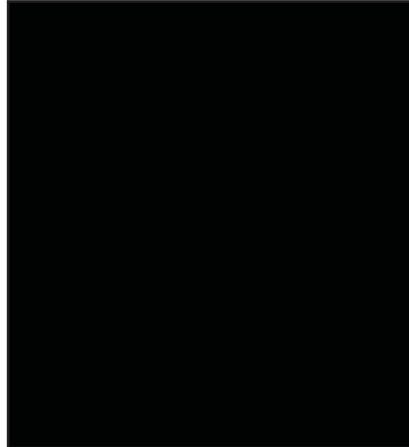
Solution Saturday

Saturday, April 11

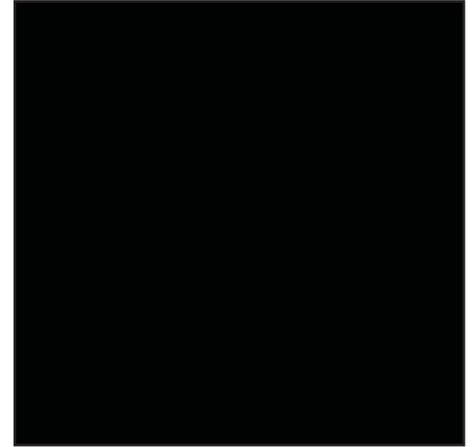
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3	8	6	9	1	4	7	2	5
7	9	1	2	6	5	8	4	3
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8	3	9	1	2	6	4	5	7
2	6	4	5	7	3	1	8	9
1	4	5	6	3	9	2	7	8
6	2	8	7	5	1	3	9	4
9	7	3	8	4	2	5	1	6

from LiveWire Puzzles

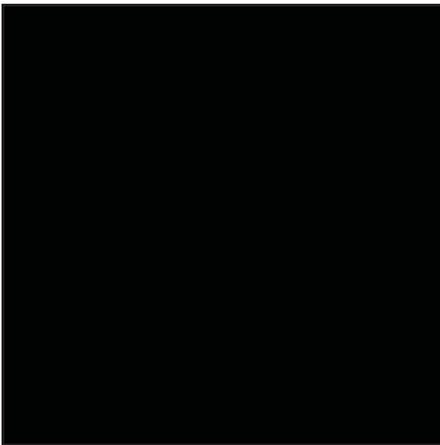
Monday, April 13



Tuesday, April 14



Wednesday, April 15



Thursday, April 16

3	9	5	4	8	6	1	2	7
6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5
2	1	4	3	5	7	6	8	9
7	2	1	6	3	5	8	9	4
5	6	9	7	4	8	2	1	3
8	4	3	1	2	9	5	7	6
4	8	6	2	9	3	7	5	1
9	3	2	5	7	1	4	6	8
1	5	7	8	6	4	9	3	2

from LiveWire Puzzles

Friday, April 17

9	3	5	6	8	7	1	4	2
2	4	6	1	9	5	8	3	7
8	1	7	2	3	4	6	5	9
1	8	2	3	4	6	9	7	5
3	5	9	7	1	8	2	6	4
6	7	4	9	5	2	3	1	8
4	6	1	5	2	9	7	8	3
5	9	3	8	7	1	4	2	6
7	2	8	4	6	3	5	9	1

from LiveWire Puzzles

To find out the answer to each day's puzzle right away, go to:

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