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April 22, 2009

# Iraqis, Long Knives unleash 'Lion's Roar'



Photo by Spc. Creighton Holub

Iraqi Soldiers exit an Iraqi Air Force helicopter during the combined arms live-fire exercise in the Maysan province April 19. The training event displayed the Iraqi military's and Long Knife Brigade's cooperation in missions and sharing of resources.

SPC. CREIGHTON HOLUB  
2ND BCT, 4TH INF. DIV.



COB ADDER – The Iraqi Army's 10th Division sent out their ground troops and air support assets to conduct the first large-scale combined-arms live-fire exercise, nicknamed Operation "Lion's Roar" in southern Iraq April 19.

"They did outstanding," said Maj. Gen. Michael Oates, the 10th Mountain Division's commander, about the Iraqis' efforts during the training event. "The Iraqi Army is here to defend its citizens and protect their borders."

A platoon of Iraqi Soldiers landed near the target area on a mock battlefield in Iraqi Air Force helicopters to capture fictitious criminals. They moved forward in wedge formations while relying on cover from the terrain.

Acting on a call for fire from Iraqi fire control experts, the American 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division 'Long Knives,' launched Excalibur artillery rounds from approximately 13 kilometers away, while an Iraqi and Long Knife mortar crew fired 120mm high-explosive mortars from adjacent to the air insertion point.

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# ISF lead the way for Dujaylah Pride Day

SGT. 1ST CLASS JOE THOMPSON  
41ST FB



FOB DELTA – Iraqi Security Forces, government officials and Coalition Forces banded together to clean up the town of Dujaylah April 18.

Dujaylah Pride Day brought together town officials, local police, 3rd Battalion, 32nd Iraqi Army Brigade Soldiers and 2nd Battalion, 20th Field Artillery Regiment Soldiers as they conducted a trash pick-up in a show of unity between the ISF, GoI and CF to strengthen community ties.

“It was very good for the city and the people because they see the Army and the Police and the Americans as they worked together to clean the area and that’s a really excellent job to inform the people of the cooperation,” said Salah Nasser Al Intabr, deputy mayor of Dujaylah.

Iraqi Army humvees led the way with two garbage trucks following as the group picked up trash along a one mile loop in the inner city.

“The Iraqi Army, IP and the Coalition Forces helped to clean this area and the people saw that we just don’t protect them, but we also help the community,” said Maj. Jabber Jom’ah Owaid, 3rd Bn., 32nd IA Bde.

Kids in the town gathered around the Soldiers and also joined the clean-up, working hand-in-hand with Coalition and Iraqi forces.

“It’s supposed to be for everybody, every member of society, even the officials, kids, students and college students,” said Salah. “They have to share in this kind of job of cleaning their city. That is their duty.”

The hope for this event is that the citizens of Dujaylah will see the example of partnership and care of community, according to Salah.

“It’s an excellent example,” said Salah. “Plus, a lot of people see the Americans doing this job, so they know the Americans came from all over and came here to help people, even to clean their streets and try to help them to improve their city.”

“I think that this shows the people that it’s important to clean up their streets and that a lot of people here feel that they have to start to do that themselves,” said Jabber. “People promised me that they will work hard to clean their city in the future.”



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Joe Thompson



(Above) A Soldier from 3rd Bn., 32 IA Bde. carries a trash bag with a local boy during Dujaylah Pride Day April 18. The event showed the local community the unity between the ISF, GoI and CF to strengthen community ties. (Left) Dujaylah police, 3rd Bn., 32nd IA Bde., and 2nd Bn., 20 FA Regt. Soldiers, pick up trash during Dujaylah Pride Day. “The Iraqi Army, IP and the Coalition Forces helped to clean this area and the people saw that we just don’t protect them, but we also help the community,” said Maj. Jabber Jom’ah Owaid, 3rd Bn., 32nd IA Bde.

## 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

# CALFX

From page 1

The 41st Fires Brigade fired their Multiple Launch Rocket System from Forward Operating Base Garry Owen, while U.S. Air Force fighter jets dropped a 500-pound Joint Direct Attack Munition for the explosive finale.

"It was a good exercise

for us," said Staff Brig. Gen. Jabar, the 10th Division's deputy commander. "The Long Knife Brigade gave us every kind of support we needed. We have good social and professional relations with the (4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div.). Our Soldiers have been trained perfectly by the Long Knives."

The senior noncommissioned officer operating with

the mortar teams said his crew has been training their Iraqi counterparts for the majority of this current deployment.

"They're going in steps to where we will be observing them doing everything," said Master Sgt. Daniel Pilewski, the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment's mortar platoon leader.

Although the Long Knives

administered the mortars, it was the Iraqis who put the steel on target.

"We are capable and able to defend our citizens and our country," Jabar added. "We can use cannons and aircraft – it's just a matter of buying and training on them."

The training event reinforced the IA's capability, and instilled confidence in the individual soldiers.

"I feel the security situation it better in our region," said Iraqi Army Pvt. Ali Helal Mayah, a Soldier from the 10th IA Div.

"We have been able to mitigate accidents while becoming a stronger army. This training is making us stronger and the Long Knife Brigade is giving us new skills."

The Iraqi troops have been mentored by the Long Knife Brigade's Soldiers since just after the American's took over for the previous Coalition forces in the tri-province area of Dhi Qar, Muthanna and Maysan provinces last June.

"It's probably a once-in-a-lifetime or generation chance to help another army develop their standards," said Staff Sgt. Randy Rice, the 2nd Bn., 7th Cav. Regt.'s mortar platoon sergeant.



Photo by Spc. Creighton Holub

An Iraqi forward observer watches the impact zone with binoculars during the 10th Iraqi Army Div. and Long Knife Bde's combined arms live-fire exercise in the Maysan province April 19. The two countries' armies worked together in an explosive display of their combined might.

## The CG wants to talk to you!

When? Sunday, April 26 at 7 p.m.

Baghdad time

(Noon, Fort Drum time)



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# Headline Round-up

## World News:

CAIRO - Archaeologists will begin excavating sites in Egypt this week in an attempt to solve a mystery that has stymied historians for hundreds of years: Where is the final resting place of doomed lovers Cleopatra and Mark Antony? Archaeologists looking for the tombs of the celebrated queen of Egypt and the Roman general will begin excavating three sites at a temple where tombs may be located, Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities said in a statement April 15. Archaeologists last year unearthed the alabaster head of a Cleopatra statue, 22 coins bearing Cleopatra's image and a mask believed to belong to Mark Antony at the temple. The three sites were identified last month during a radar survey of the temple of Taposiris Magna, the council's statement said.

## Sports News:

AVONDALE, Ariz. - The 50-year-old Mark Martin became the third-oldest winner in NASCAR history April 18, snapping a 97-race winless streak with a dominating run at Phoenix International Raceway. Martin, who has waffled on retirement several times in the last four years, started from the pole and led 157 of 312 laps. But a late caution erased his 4-second lead over Tony Stewart with 11 laps to go, sending the leaders into the pits and putting his victory on the line. Ryan Newman stayed on track to assume the lead, and Martin won a frantic race off pit road to emerge in second. But he had Tony Stewart — Newman's car owner and teammate — right behind him, and only six laps to race to the front. Martin only needed about 6 seconds. Martin shot past Newman on the restart, then drove away to his first win since Kansas in 2005.

## Odd News:

LOUDOUN - Why is a local transportation agency painting crooked lines on the road? The Virginia Department of Transportation says it's part of a safety campaign to get drivers to slow down in a high pedestrian and bicycle area. The 500 feet of zig-zagging lines are painted on the ground on Belmont Ridge Road, where it intersects with the Washington and Old Dominion trail in Loudoun County. "It is a low cost strategy to get motorists to slow down as they approach the bike trail and pedestrian path," says VDOT's Mike Salmon. VDOT says similar programs have been successful in the United Kingdom and Australia. The transportation agency will study the zig-zagging lines for a year and see if they actually reduce speeds.

## Quote of the Day

"Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great." – Mark Twain

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o	2			5	3		
k	6			4		7	
		4	1			6	5
u			3				1

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