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May 19, 2009

Iraqi border police hone skills



Photo by Spc. Darryl L. Montgomery

An Iraqi border policeman scans his sector during building-clearing training with BTT 10613 at an Iraqi outpost near the border. The Iraqis are being trained in QRF tactics due to their small size and mobility.

SPC. DARRYL L. MONTGOMERY
MND-S



COB BASRA – Soldiers of Border Transition Team 10613 have spent six days a week since March training Iraqi Border Police on basic combat drills and maneuvers to help them better protect their country from smugglers.

The team spent all day recently with

a small group of Iraqis teaching them skills American Soldiers learn while going through Basic Combat Training, such as weapon clearing, the low ready, building clearing and vehicle searches.

“We are here to train, assist and advise the border police,” said Maj. James Tully, BTT 10613, 4th Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division.

The Soldiers of BTT 10613 taught

the Iraqis drills they had never seen before.

Working through the language barrier made it difficult at times, said Tully, a St. James, N.Y. native. “The training is similar to quick reaction force training. This helps because they are small in number.”

See POLICE, page 2

POLICE

From page 1

Knowledge in QRF tactics helps them get out quickly and stop smugglers in the act, Tully added.

The team shows the Iraqis different ways of executing battle drills so they have a better feel of what different scenarios may call for, said Sgt. 1st Class August Nacino, BTT 10613 operations non-commissioned officer in charge, 4th Brigade, 1st Cav. Div.

"Today's training started with close-quarters combat," said Capt. Ken Nguyen, BTT 10613 operations office in charge, 4th Brigade, 1st Cav. Div.

"It's a new concept to them."

"We came to an agreement with their commander that the training will be six longer work days," explained Nguyen, a San Francisco native. "The hands-on training they get is good for them because it shows them how to do it."

The team isn't going to make them perfect, said Nacino, but they are making them better prepared to protect their country.

"I love my job, training Iraqis," said Nacino, a Vallejo, Calif., native.

"I am really thankful for what I am able to do here and I am proud of what I am doing."

"If we can make these guys better and they can protect their country," he continued, "then we have done our job."



Photo by Spc. Darryl L. Montgomery

Iraqi border police advance on a building during training near an Iraqi border outpost. The Iraqis that participated in the training were selected by their commander as the best in their brigade.

THE Mountain View

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 Task Force 28



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34th ID commander visits 41st FB

SGT. 1ST CLASS JOE THOMPSON
41ST FB



FOB DELTA – Major General Richard Nash, 34th Infantry Division commander, visited FOB Delta recently.

“I was very impressed with Colonel Francey, his leadership team and the mission that the 41st Fires have, a very important mission here in Wasit, and what they’ve been able to do to build relations with all phases of the Iraqi Security Forces, as well as working on and building civil capacity,” said Nash. “They’ve made some real gains down here that certainly are easy for someone to see, go out and touch and see the results of it.”

Nash was able to see the stable security situation in Wasit province himself during a vehicle tour downtown and then a walkabout hosted by Maj. Gen. Rasheed Filayih, Department of Border Enforcement 7th Region commander; Brig. Gen. Abed Gabr Mazloum, 32nd Iraqi Army Bde. Commander and Col. Dick Francey, 41st Fires Bde. commander.



By Sgt. 1st Class Joe Thompson
Maj. Gen. Richard Nash, 34th ID Commander (right) shares a laugh with DBE 7th Region commander Maj. Gen. Rasheed during a walking tour of downtown Kut

The one thing that made this tour different was the American Soldiers were dressed like their Iraqi partners, wearing no body armor.

“I think it sends a very strong signal to all the Iraqi people that see us. We

See VISIT, page 4

COMING SOON



THE RED BULL REPORT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE RED BULLS
PUBLISHED WEEKDAYS BEGINNING MAY 21, 2009
AVAILABLE AT WWW.THEREDBULLS.ORG

VISIT

From page 3

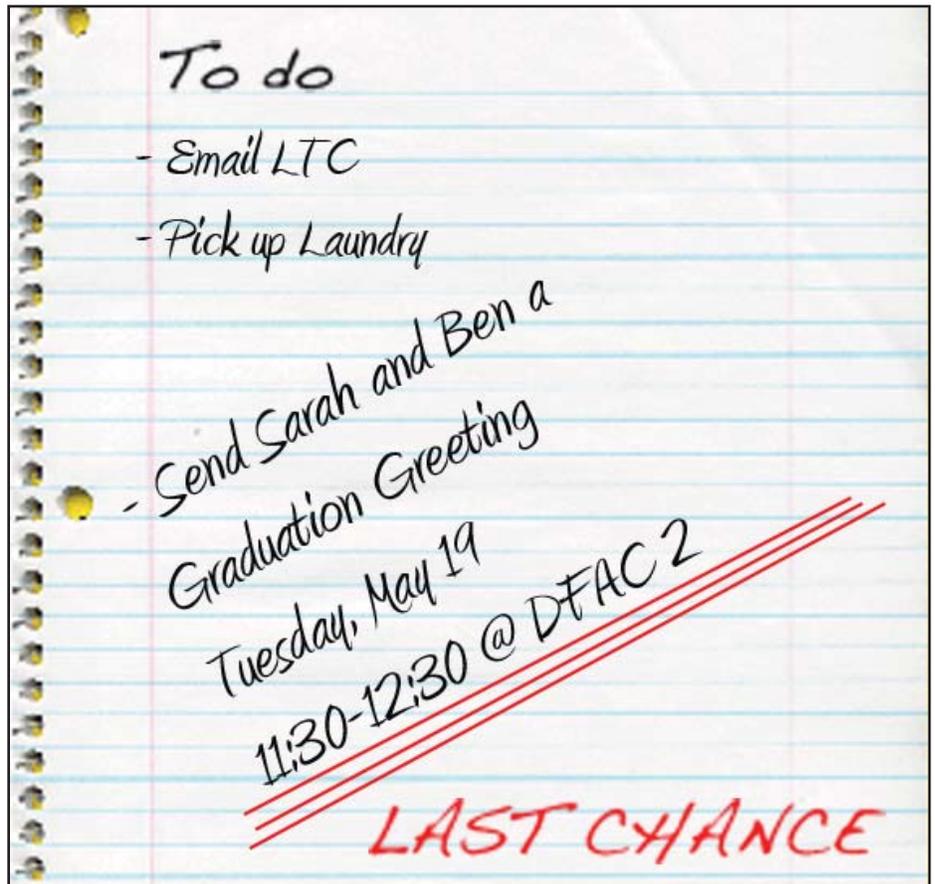
say that security has improved dramatically. Life is going on," said Nash. "You see a very vibrant, in my estimation, economy. I saw a very clean city that people appear to care about. I did not feel intimidated at all."

"It certainly was great to walk down the street, talk to the shop owners, seeing business going on and food being prepared and commerce really taking place," said Nash.

After the tour, Nash and the group returned to FOB Delta for an Iraqi luncheon followed by a meeting with the Wasit governor Latif Turfah.

Nash said the Soldiers of the 41st Fires Bde. should be proud of what they've accomplished so far.

"I think they ought to be very proud of the hard work they put in during this long arduous tour," said Nash. "It's going to get up to about 14 or 15 months for some of these Soldiers, and certainly what I've seen, it's paid off. Their hard work has paid off and made a difference and I thank all of the Iraqis. They see the same thing."



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Headline Round-up

World News:

GUATEMALA CITY – Thousands of Guatemalans protested Sunday to demand the president resign over accusations that he ordered a lawyer killed, a scandal threatening the rule of the country’s first leftist leader in more than 50 years. Supporters of President Alvaro Colom staged a counter-demonstration. Many were farmers and workers who have benefited from his social programs. Colom denies Rodrigo Rosenberg’s allegations, which were broadcast posthumously after the attorney was shot to death a week ago. He has dismissed calls for his resignation and asked the FBI and a U.N. panel to investigate the killing.

US News:

NEW YORK – A school assistant principal became the city’s first death linked to swine flu, and the number of cases in Japan surged to more than 120 on a wave of new confirmations, prompting government-ordered school closures and cancellations of public events. Mitchell Wiener, 55, died May 17, Flushing Hospital Medical Center spokesman Andrew Rubin said. He had been sick with the virus for nearly a week before the Queens intermediate school where he worked was closed on May 18. In Japan, at least 121 people — most of them teenagers — have tested positive for the virus, health officials in the hardest hit areas said Monday. All were recovering in local hospitals or their homes.

Odd News:

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. – Authorities in North Carolina say a store owner and a patron thwarted a teen accused of trying to carry out a robbery by concealing a banana beneath his shirt to resemble a gun. Winston-Salem authorities say 17-year-old John Szwalla entered the Internet cafe May 14 and demanded money, saying he had a gun. The owner, Bobby Ray Mabe, said he and a customer jumped Szwalla, holding him until deputies arrived. While they waited, Mabe says the teen ate the banana. Mabe says deputies took pictures of the peel. Forsyth County Sheriff’s office spokesman Maj. Brad Stanley says deputies joked about charging Szwalla with destroying evidence. Szwalla faces a charge of attempted armed robbery.

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AROUND THE COMMUNITY

DFAC 1 Worship

Sunday

Roman Catholic Mass, UK led @ 9:30 a.m.

General Protestant @ 11 a.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of

Latter Day Saint @ 2 p.m.

General Protestant @ 6:30 p.m.

DFAC 3 Worship

Sunday

Gospel Worship @ 2 p.m.

DFAC 4 Worship

Monday - Saturday

Daily Mass @ 8 p.m.

Sunday

Protestant Contemporary

Worship @ 10 a.m.

Holy communion, Protestant

(UK) @ 11:30 a.m.

Roman Catholic Mass, UK

led @ 8:30 p.m.

Barber Shop

Open: 9 a.m. - 8 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