

The Adviser



Multi-National Security Transition Command - Iraq

July 2009



The Advisor

>> Volume 6 >> Issue 7

A monthly publication of the Multi-National
Security Transition Command – Iraq

Commanding General

Lt. Gen. Frank Helmick, USA

Sergeant Major

Sgt. Maj. Daniel Terwilliger, USMC

Public Affairs Officer

Col. Joe Rice, USA

Deputy Public Affairs Officer

Lt. Col. Gary Kolb, USA

DoIA Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Glenn Burks, USA

Maj. Bob Owen, USA

ITAM Media Relations Officer

Capt. Tommy Avilucea, USAF

Mr. Van Williams

Public Affairs NCOIC

Master Sgt. Michael Colucci, USA

Editor

MC1 Jim Bane, USN

Graphic Design

MCC Michael D. Kennedy USN

Photojournalist

Sr. Airman Clayton Murray, USAF

Public Affairs Operations NCO

Sgt 1st Class Patricia Ruth, USA

The Advisor is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Defense Department and multinational partners.

Contents of this paper are not necessarily the official views of the U.S. government or multinational partners of the U.S. Department of Defense. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Multi-National Security Transition Command — Iraq Public Affairs Office.

Direct questions and comments to:

pao@iraq.centcom.mil

MNSTC-I PAO

APO AE 09348

DSN: 318-852-1332

www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil

>> ON THE COVER

U.S.A.F. photos by Capt. Tommy Avilucea
Iraqi Army, Air Force, and National Police
prepare for larger roles in support of the
Security Agreement between the Government
of Iraq and the United States.



Photo by Joyce Costello, Livorno Public Affairs

Iraq Ministry of Defense Chief of Staff, General Babakir Bader Khan Zibari (center) talks with Iraqi sailors who completed naval training in Italy. The training encompassed all aspects of shipboard operations to ensure the crew would be ready to sail the ship from Italy to Umm Qasr, Iraq. Story on page 8.

Features

NATO Training Mission-Iraq Builds Future Iraqi Army Leaders

- 5 The campus of the Iraq Military Academy at Rustimiyah is not unlike many other military academies found around the world.

Building the Iraqi Air Force: Learning from Tragedy

- 6 Five years ago, the Iraqi Air Force consisted of 35 officers and warrant officers and no planes. The process of growing an air force has been filled with accomplishments and setbacks.

Iraqi Ministry of Interior Human Resource Generals see American system first hand

- 12 Two of the Ministry of Interior's top level Human Resources leaders visited the United States and returned to Iraq with more tools and ideas.

Baghdad Police Col- lege Holds International Media Day

- 13 Iraqi Maj. Gen. Dr. Jassim Hassan Attiya, vice deputy minister for training, Ministry of Interior, hosted an international media day at the Baghdad Police College

Warrior Training Sharp- ens Iraqi Army Combat Skills

- 14 The Iraqi Army implemented the Warrior Training Program July 2008. The program consisted of a battalion level exercise and trained one Iraqi Army unit.



SECURITY AGREEMENT



June 30 and the Next Chapter of the Iraq-American Friendship

by Lt. Gen. Frank G. Helmick
Commanding General, Multi
National Security Transition
Command - Iraq and NATO
Training Mission - Iraq

Brave members of the Iraqi Security Forces have been working in partnership with Coalition Forces for the last many years. We have struggled together to build a new Iraq. It has been our honor to work together to build the capacity of Iraq's Army and Police to defend the great and historic country of Iraq and its wonderful people. Now, according to the terms of the Security Agreement signed between Iraq and the United States, we enter a new phase of cooperation.

U.S. combat troops

were out of Iraq's cities by June 30, and there are more requirements of the Security Agreement ahead. As we continue to comply with the agreement, the number of U.S. forces in Iraq will shrink from approximately 132,000 now to no more than 50,000 by August 2010. During this drawdown, the primary role of U.S. forces will transition from fighting terrorism directly to advising Iraqi forces to better defend their own security instead.

From 2003 through 2008, the presence of U.S. forces in Iraq was authorized by the United Nations. Since then, U.S. forces have remained at the invitation of the Iraqi government

under the terms of a Security Agreement negotiated between our two countries. Among the provisions of this agreement was the requirement for U.S. combat forces to be out of Iraq's cities by June 30. Also in the agreement is a request by the government of Iraq for the continued presence of non-combat U.S. forces to advise and assist Iraq's still developing security forces.

The term "combat forces" in the security agreement is important. According to the request of the Iraqi government, the requirement for combat forces to be out of Iraq's cities by June 30 does not apply to those U.S. forces serving as advisors. There will still be some U.S. forces located in Iraq's cities who are serving in an advisory or liaison capacity. As in the past, most of these advisors will be from Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq.

In addition to MNSTC-I, a key part of the continued development of Iraq's security forces includes a range of professional development activities

Also in the agreement is a request by the government of Iraq for the continued presence of non-combat U.S. forces to advise and assist Iraq's still developing security forces.

conducted by the NATO Training Mission – Iraq. Thirteen NATO countries are presently helping Iraq to set up and further improve the training and operations center capabilities of Iraqi Security Forces.

Together, the efforts of MNSTC-I and NATO are helping the Iraqi people and the Iraqi government toward a free and prosperous future. The personnel of MNSTC-I are honored to have worked with the Iraqi Security Forces these last several years. We look forward to continuing to work with the good and brave people of Iraq as together we implement the terms of the Security Agreement and work to further improve the capabilities of Iraqi Security Forces.

There will still be some U.S. forces located in Iraq's cities who are serving in an advisory or liaison capacity. As in the past, most of these advisors will be from Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq.

Security Transition Command Makes Progress in Iraq

by John J. Kruzal
American Forces Press
Service

BAGHDAD – Multinational Security Transition Command Iraq is working toward its mission to assist the Iraqi Interior Ministry in generating a professional and credible police force, one of the command's deputy commanders said.

The command also is helping the ministry develop institutional capacity to acquire, train, develop, manage, sustain and resource those forces, said Army Maj. Gen. James Milano, deputy commander of the MNSTC-I's interior affairs directorate, in a Pentagon news conference via satellite from the International Zone here.

"What we and the Iraqis are striving for is a condition known as police primacy," he said. "Under police primacy, the Iraqi police forces will have primary responsibility for internal security, under civilian control, in accordance with the constitution and consistent with the rule of law."

Milano said he has seen firsthand the progress the Iraqis have made toward their goals, from the highest leadership levels at the ministry to the officers on the beat at more than 1,200 local police stations across Iraq.

Adding to their capabilities are a host of specialized forces, such as national police, border enforcement, oil police, the Coastal Border Guard and the Facility Protection Service, as well as important institutional bodies such as the Criminal Investigations Directorate, internal affairs, inspector general and professional training academies, he added.

"All are seeing continued improvement and development," Milano said. "As a consequence, public trust and support for the police are growing." He cited an ABC/BBC poll in which 74 percent of Iraqis said they have confidence in the police, up from 64 percent in 2007 and 46 percent in 2003. Eighty-five percent now view their local security situation as good or very good -- nearly double the

rate from two years ago.

But, Milano said, much remains to do. While the ministry has made significant improvements in fighting corruption and has implemented several initiatives, it's not finished with this effort.

These efforts include auditing personnel through a vetting system, conducting background checks on employees qualified for security clearances and increasing the number of inspectors general with advanced training. Milan also remarked on the increased throughput in the Interior Ministry's court system.

"We've seen almost 3,000 cases reviewed since the court system began reviewing cases last August," he said. "So I'm confident we're making good progress in addressing the corruption issue."

Milano underscored his command's commitment to building on that progress.

"You can see there's a lot of work left to be completed," he said. "My advisors and I are

fully committed to continuing to build police capacity and a capable Ministry of Interior."

"Candidly," he noted, "the low-hanging fruit's been picked, and we're now reaching for the shiny apples near the top of the tree."

"Producing a policeman or woman is easy when you compare that to the more challenging efforts, for example, of developing an evidentiary based criminal-justice system, of helping the ministry develop merit-based promotion systems and professional development programs and of developing an understanding of the benefits of a preventive maintenance program," he said.

The U.S. and Iraqi governments have advanced to a new stage of enduring cooperation and partnership, and the United States remains committed to providing continued support, Milano said. "The security agreement and the strategic framework agreement are the centerpieces of our enduring partnership."

US and Iraqi Partnership in Training Strengthens Shift to Police Primacy

by U.S. Army Maj. Glenn Burks MNSTC-I PAO

BAGHDAD- The Baghdad Police College showcased its training and commitment to the professionalization of the Iraqi Police Forces. Iraqi college officials and trainees demonstrated the specialized training already mastered with the military working dogs, individual combative skills, and crime scene investigations.

The college teaches recruits the elements in law enforcement, police standards, ethics and leadership. The intent is to lay the foundation for the way ahead in a delicate democracy in the midst of transforming

its internal security to the police and whose base tenet is the rule of law.

Trainees in the course realize that they are the future of security in Iraq, as U.S. forces will vacate the cities throughout the country by June 30. Police recruits train with a renewed sense of urgency and excitement for the future of Iraq and their roles in maintaining internal security, especially in the cities.

"We have several dogs here that are capable of detecting explosive materials; this gives the police an edge in protecting the people of Iraq" said a police trainer at the school who spoke through an interpreter. Many of



U.S. Army photo by US Army Maj. Glenn Burks

Police recruits demonstrate their mastery of drill techniques.

the recruits undertake this specialized training at the completion of their basic recruit training into the police.

Training and equipping the Iraqi Police Forces is essential

for internal security as the US Combat Forces were out of all cities, villages, and towns on June 30.

NATO Training Mission-Iraq Builds Future Iraqi Army Leaders

by Maj. Ulo Isberg, NATO NTMI

FOB RUSTIMIYAH, Iraq – The campus of the Iraq Military Academy at Rustimiyah is not unlike many other military academies found around the world. Young cadets march proudly down the dusty roads as marching music can be heard in the distance. It is here that NATO Training Mission-Iraq administers one of its most important missions in Iraq – training the future leaders of Iraq’s army.

NATO has been in Iraq since 2004 at the request of the Government of Iraq. NTM-I is the unique and separate command from the Coalition Forces that is responsible for executing NATO’s mission in Iraq. NTM-I is comprised of 13 nations that advise and assist in the training and professionalization of the Iraq Security Forces. NTM-I’s presence at Rustimiyah is just one of several

key organizations that they assist in partnering with their Iraqi counterparts. In addition to IMAR, NTM-I also has a key advisory role at the National Operations Center, National Police Training at Camp Dublin and instituted courses for senior commissioned and non-commissioned officers at the National Defense University and Sergeant-Majors Academy.

Maj.Gen. Paolo Bosotti, NTM-I Deputy Commanding General, had the opportunity to show a group of reporters the facilities at Rustimiyah and said, “It is important to show how NATO is working side by side with our Iraqi partners and how we are working to reach a common objective.”

Rustimiyah houses not only the cadets attending the IMAR but

also mid-level officers attending the Joint Staff College. These Iraqi Army officers attend courses that are taught almost entirely by other senior Iraqi officers. Iraqi Brig. Gen. Jawhar, JSC Commander, said, “NATO’s role in the JSC is to give advice, ultimately the final outcome is an Iraqi way of doing what is best.”

The open house at the IMAR provided an opportunity for reporters to see firsthand the impact NTM-I has had on the training of Iraq’s future leaders. Iraqi Staff Maj. Gen. Majeed, IMAR Commander, commented that, “the curriculum for the cadets prepares them for a high level of capability, both physically and mentally. All officers that instruct here are highly efficient and NATO adds to that efficiency.” Majeed also made a point to thank all NATO members for the experience they bring to the academy.

Iraqi National Defence University gets Electronic Library

by Major Ulo Isberg, NATO NTM-I

BAGHDAD – The Iraqi Defence Studies Strategic Institute has a new electronic library that will allow Iraqi National Defence University staff officers and students quick access to information.

The library was initiated with donations from the Danish contingent at the NATO Training Mission – Iraq and its implementation was assisted by the NATO NDU advisory team.

The official opening was held May 21 and was attended by Iraqi Army Staff Maj. Gen. Abbas and Italian Brig. Gen. Pasquale Martinello, commander, NTM-I Training, Education and Doctrine Advisory Division.

Martinello said that he was pleased with the new library. “This library gives us access to knowledge and with this electronic version that knowledge will be quickly attainable,” he said. “I am very proud that members of our NTM-I team were able to facilitate this for the Iraqi military.”

NTM-I mentors and supports the INDU, INDC and the Defence Strategic

Studies Institute.

Other cooperation projects for NATO in Iraq are out of country training courses for Iraqi nationals at NATO schools as well as National Police training led by Italian Carabinieri and at Ar Rustamiyah the Iraqi Military Academy along with the Joint Staff College and Command College.

NTM-I officers also provide mentoring and advice to the Prime Minister’s National Operations Centre, the Iraqi Ministry of Interior Command Centre and the Iraqi Ministry of Defence Joint Operations Centre.

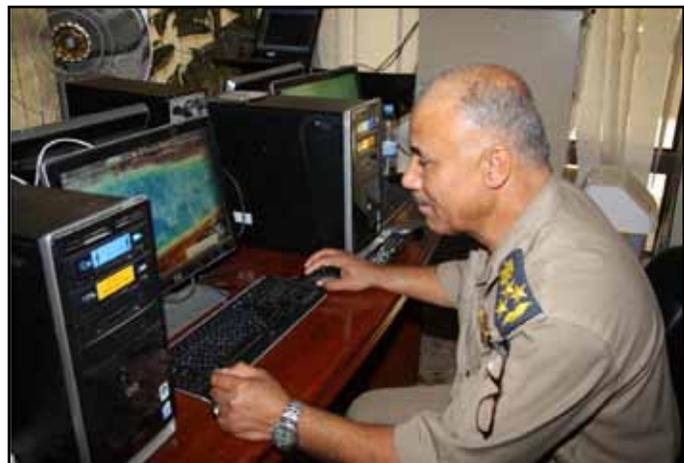


Photo by Major Ulo Isberg, NTM-I

An Iraqi Air Force officer uses a new electronic library system at the Iraqi Defence Studies Strategic Institute. The new system will allow National Defence University staff officers and students quick access to information. The new library was initiated with donations from the Danish contingent with the NATO Training Mission – Iraq.

Building the Iraqi Air Force: Learning from Tragedy

by Van Williams, MNSTC-I PAO

BAGHDAD – Five years ago, the Iraqi Air Force consisted of 35 officers and warrant officers and no planes.

The process of growing an Air Force has been filled with accomplishments and setbacks.

One setback occurred on May 30, 2005, when an Iraqi Air Force Comp Air 7SL aircraft crashed in eastern Diyala province during an operational mission, killing all five airmen (four U.S. Air Force and one Iraqi Air Force) onboard.

This tragedy served as a catalyst for the Coalition and U.S. Air Force to commit its full resources to the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq ITAM-Air Force mission. It was the beginning of the serious rebuilding of the Iraqi Air Force.

Members of the Iraq Training and Advisory Mission – Air Force, gathered for a remembrance ceremony on forward operating base Phoenix May 30.

U.S. Air Force Maj. William “Brian” Downs, 40, of Winchester, Va., assigned to the 6th Special Operations Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Iraqi Air Force Capt. Pilot Ali Hussam Ali Abbas Rubaie, assigned to Squadron 3, Kirkuk Air Base.

U.S. Air Force Capt. Derek Argel, 28, of Lompoc, Calif., assigned to the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

U.S. Air Force Capt. Jeremy Fresques, 26, of Clarkdale, Ariz., assigned to the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Casey Crate, 26, of Spanaway, Wash., assigned to the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Robert Kane, commander, ITAM-Air Force reminded those gathered, “We can take some

comfort in the fact that good things often come from tragedies. In this case significant changes were made to our efforts here in Iraq—changes that strengthened our commitment to the mission of rebuilding the Iraqi Air Force and to ensure that we do this as safely as possible.”

Kane also reminded the group that, “With a renewed focus on rebuilding of the Iraqi Air Force, our service chief of staff was personally involved with improving how this important mission would be done,” Kane said. “And, although this is a somber moment, we need to celebrate the building legacy of how far ITAM-Air Force and the Iraqi Air Force have come since this accident. In part, based on their commitment and ultimate sacrifice, the Iraqi Air Force is on a path to once again provide air sovereignty for the people of Iraq.”

U.S. Air Force Maj. Tim Childress, chief of strategy, ITAM-Air Force was

a friend of Major Downs and told the group of the special honor the fallen airmen received.

“While each airman had an individual funeral ceremony, unidentified remains from all five were also buried together with full military honors, including the presentation of Iraqi flags to Abass’ parents and widow by Iraqi Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Kamal Abdul-Sattar Barzanji,” Childress said. It is thought that Abass is the first Iraqi service member to be buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

The crew received another honor at FOB Phoenix with a memorial wall near the ITAM-Air Force command office.

“It is in honor of these brave men that we gather here today, to celebrate their lives, remember their accomplishments and continue their legacy,” Childress said.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Clayton Murray, MNSTC-I PAO

U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Robert Kane, deputy commanding general, ITAM-Air Force, addresses a group of airmen during a remembrance ceremony in honor of five airmen, including an Iraqi pilot who died in a plane crash, May 30, 2005.

MNSTC-I Holds Ceremony for Australian End of Mission

by U.S. Army Maj. Bob Owen, MNSTC-I PAO

BAGHDAD– Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq, MNSTC-I, held a ceremony commemorating the end of Australian military participation as it pertains to MNSTC-I.

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Frank Helmick, commander, Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq presented Australian Brig. David McGahey, commanding general, Task Force Iraqi Security Forces- Logistics with the Australian flag that had been flown over the MNSTC-I headquarters on May 9.

Adrian Morrisson, Australian deputy head of mission, spoke to the nearly 150 guests.

Awards were presented to individuals of the Australian contingent for service with MNSTC-I and presented

by Helmick. Awards included the Legion of Merit for Brig. McGahey, Bronze Star for Maj. John Snell, Meritorious Service Medal for Maj. Richard Baxter and the Outstanding Civilian Service Award for Michele Pitman.

“Australian troops have provided important support to security and stabilization operations, and have been responsible for the training of approximately 33,000 Iraqi Army soldiers, including specialist training in logistics support and counterinsurgency operations,” Australian Air Chief Marshal Houston said.

The event was the ceremonial end to the great service that the Australians have given to MNSTC-I.

Iraq School of the Advisor hosts first Joint Alumni Reception,

by U.S. Army Maj. Renee H. Coleman
MNSTC-I/ITAM MOD-AT

Multi-National Security Transition Command - Iraq School of the Advisor hosted the first Joint Alumni Reception, 3 June 2009 at Blackhawk Conference Center. Recent graduates and presenters from the School of the Advisor and Partnership School were the honored guests. The Alumni Reception was a forum set to energize networking, share best practices and lessons learned among both groups. With the infusion of School of the Advisor and Partnership School Alumni, the evening's agenda included food, fellowship and door prize fun. In addition, inspirational remarks by LTG Frank G. Helmick, MNSTC-I, Commanding General and SMG Jasim Salim Hussain Ali, Director, Military Training Directorate captivated the audience. Each shared their insight and perspectives on the mission and success of each school.

The Advisor School was established to provide a unique training opportunity for newly-arrived and existing MNSTC-I Advisors. It offers an opportunity to hone their knowledge about Iraq's customs, culture, history, and language prior to beginning the advisory mission with their counter-parts from the government of Iraq. The Partnership School mirrors this philosophy aiming to encourage long-lasting relationships with western counterparts.

The Partnership School resulted in an initiative established to assist senior Iraqi officials from within the Ministry of Defense. The Partnership School is aimed at senior Iraqi officials and is designed to assist in the development of their understanding of how the coalition cultivates its values and culture. Future courses will be expanded to include officials from across the Ministries.

Chronological survey results from each school since launching this collaborative effort proves exceeded expectations and represents the endless possibilities of progress and stability in Baghdad, Iraq.



U.S. Navy Photo by Petty Officer Jim Bane, MNSTC-I PAO

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Frank Helmick, commander of Multi-National Security Transition Command- Iraq presents Australian Brig. David McGahey with the Australian flag that was flown over the MNSTC-I Headquarters.

International collaboration leads to increase of Iraqi Navy maritime fleet

By Joyce Costello,USAG Livorno Public Affairs

LA SPEZIA, Italy –The Iraqi Navy now has an increased ability to ensure freedom of the seas upon their receipt of the first of four Italian patrol ships at a reflagging ceremony in La Spezia, Italy, May 15.

Chief of Staff, Iraqi Joint Forces, Gen. Babakir Badir Khan Zibari said that he considered it a great success and achievement for the Iraqi Navy to attain vessels like the FATAH.

“We have had great coordination with the United States and United Kingdom in protecting our ports and oil rigs,” said Zibari. “The Italian Navy has provided excellent training on this vessel which can help us be independent and modernize our naval security.”

Italian Director General of Naval Armament Construction, Admiral Dino Nascetti added that these ships were designed to help ensure the Iraqi navy can succeed in improving maritime security.

“This is a piece of Iraqi land moving at sea protecting their land and democracy,” said Nascetti. “Over percent of Iraq’s economy passes through two off shore oil terminals and I think in a very few months these ships will be able to do their job of protecting Iraq.”

The chief of the Iraqi inspection team, Commodore Milik Kadhim said this class of ships main job will be search and rescue, patrolling around the oil platforms and helping if there is a fire on a

platform.

The Italian Navy has provided an escort ship to continue training opportunities and coordinate interactions with coalition warships with the U.S. Naval Forces Europe and U.S Naval Forces Central Command, according to Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq Public Affairs Officer, Van Williams.

“The Iraqi Ministry of Defense purchased the patrol ship (the first of four) by utilizing the Foreign Military Sales program, which is run by the MNSTC-I Security Assistance Office” said Williams. “This effort is part of the continuous rebuilding of the Iraqi Navy and is a vital step towards ensuring Iraq’s self-sufficiency during the critical transition from Coalition to Iraqi-led operations in support of the Security Agreement between Iraq and the United States.”

Italian shipbuilding group Fincantieri will deliver the other three ships in the fleet to the Iraqi Navy as they are completed later this summer.



Photo by Joyce Costello,USAG Livorno Public Affairs

An Iraqi sailor prepares for the reflagging of an Italian patrol ship to the Iraqi Navy during a hand over ceremony May 15 in La Spezia, Italy.



Photo by Joyce Costello, UASG Livorno Public Affairs

Iraqi Minister of Defense Chief of Staff General Babakir Bader Khan Al Zibari poses with the FATAH crew. It is the first of four patrol vessels built for the Iraqi Navy by Italian shipbuilder Fincantieri.

Right, Italian Director General of Naval Armament Construction, Admiral Dino Nascetti and Iraq Ministry of Defense Chief of Staff, General Babaker Baderkhan Al Zibari board the FATAH.



Photo by Joyce Costello,USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Superintendent showcases progress of Iraqi police

by U.S. Army Maj. Glenn Burks, MNSTC-I PAO

BAGHDAD -The president and superintendent of the Baghdad Police College described the training of Iraqi Police Forces as an integral facet within the U.S. and Iraqi Security Agreement, during

International Media Day.

With U.S. combat forces on track to move out of cities, villages and locales by June 30, as called for in the agreement, Dr. Jassim Hassan Attiya praised the progress and

professionalism of Iraq's police, which are assuming security duties for the nation.

"To date more than 400,000 Iraqi Police have been trained throughout the country," said Jassim. "The college will send 4,000 to train in Europe and establish close ties with NATO -TM, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Training Mission, for other training."

"The Ministry of Interior and the government are paying much attention to training," he continued. "Commissions have been set up to develop a new curriculum for the college of police, and some of the training is in English."

Hassan and his

faculty highlighted the technological advancements within the Iraqi Police Force in its pioneering course. The college boasts a new unit for crime scene investigations; a state-of-the-art forensics lab, complete with DNA testing, ballistics and explosive analysis; and a language center. He advised reporters that they would see with their own eyes the great development and progress made, before inviting them to tour the campus.



U.S. Army photo by Maj. Glenn Burks, MNSTC-I PAO

Dr. Jassim Hassan Attiya, president of Baghdad Police College, addresses news reporters.

Logistics Operations Center Runs Practice Exercise

by U.S. Air Force Capt. Tommy Avilucea, MNSTC-I PAO

BAGHDAD – The new Iraqi Logistics Operations Center ran its first practice exercise, "Morning Torch 2009".

One of the primary goals of the program was to improve the ILOC standard operating procedures, with an emphasis on logistical reporting processes.

"We are training for the unexpected," Iraqi Staff Brig. Gen. Nabeel said. "This facility is a great improvement over the way that we used to operate," Nabeel added.

The ILOC facility will provide the Iraqi

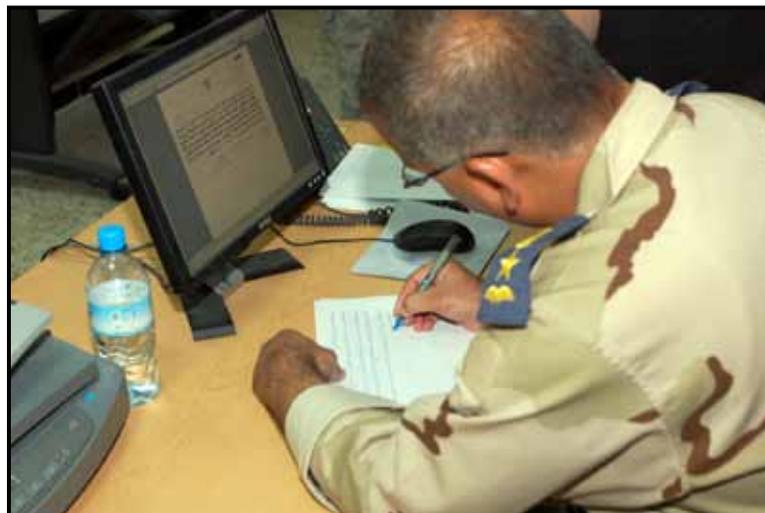
military with a new level of sophistication in planning and tracking logistical support functions. "Everyone will be on the same page," said Nabeel. "From the chief of staff to the units on the ground, we will be able to communicate effectively."

The ILOC is more than 500 square meters in size and has the latest computer technology with multiple individual users connecting to an adjoining data center.

Coalition personnel, particularly the staff of the Multi-National

Security Transition Command Joint Headquarters Army Advisory Training Team, are

responsible for training and equipping the Iraqi Security Forces.



U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Tommy Avilucea, MNSTC-I PAO

Iraqi military officers take part in training exercise "Morning Torch 2009," at the Iraqi Logistics Operation Center.

Iraqi Special Operations Forces



“Weapons are the most important thing to anyone in the military, especially to those in special operations,” said the Iraqi Special Operations Forces brigade’s deputy commander. “It is the most important thing in our fight.”



“Our role is to fight terrorism, protect Iraq against terrorists and to be effective anywhere we go, working with the American Special Forces soldiers has helped them tremendously.”

Iraqi Army Maj. Gen Fadhil, senior Iraqi commander of the ISOF

“We have a strong response to terrorists in Iraq,” said a senior Iraqi Special Operations Officer. “We have coordinated strategic planning with the coalition forces to get us ready.”





U.S. Air Force photos by Capt. Tommy Avilucea, MNSTC-I PAO



U.S. Air Force photos by Capt. Tommy Avilucea, MNSTC-I PAO



U.S. Air Force photos by Capt. Tommy Avilucea, MNSTC-I PAO

Iraqi Special Operations Forces soldiers have one mission; to keep the people of Iraq safe. To stay prepared for this mission, soldiers spend their days training and working with U.S. Special Operations Forces advisors with the goal of increasing their ability to protect the Iraqi people. Though many dangerous missions may come their way, the Iraqi Special Operations Forces soldiers are aware of the risks and are willing to protect their country. This ability to face danger may be what the country needs to battle those who would try to stand in the way of peace in Iraq.



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Brendan Stephens

Iraqi Ministry of Interior Human Resource Generals see American system first hand

by Joyce Elliott
Senior Public Affairs Advisor
ITAM MoI

BAGHDAD – Two of the Ministry of Interior’s top level Human Resources leaders visited the United States and returned to Iraq with more tools and ideas to improve practices and streamline processes. Maj. Gen. Fadhil Hayder Hadi, the MoI Human Resources director, and Maj. Gen. Sattar Jabar Zamil, in charge of MoI Enlisted Hires, had the opportunity to see American human resource business practices firsthand.

Fadhil and Sattar visited the Army Human Resources Command in Alexandria, Virginia and interacted with the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police Department Human Resource management. They concentrated on promotions, records and archive management, retirements, and personnel management at Human Resources Command, and they learned about the police department’s tactics to professionalize the force.

Lt. Col. Maggie Dunn, Human Resource Director for ITAM-MoI, and Jerry Walker, Senior HR advisor for ITAM-MoI, escorted the generals on their trip. Dunn commented that the MoI evaluation system has been in existence for some time, and the ministry is working to make the system even more effective, as it plays a very important role in the promotion system.

Fadhil had wanted to visit America for a long time; it was a dream of his. After 2003, he watched closely how the Americans worked and wanted to learn more about their culture. He had the opportunity to go to Mosul with the American forces and was very impressed with the briefings and arrangements for the trip. He wanted to know more about what he saw. Once he became the general manager of Human Resources, which he calls “the heart of the whole body”, he made trips to France and England. But he was excited to see the way Americans work closely together. He noted their sense of humor, and he thought the Americans he met were friendly and humble – very much like his own people.

Sattar was very happy to get the final approval for this visit to America. The American military made quite an impression on him, but once he got to America he was amazed at the kindness and high ethics of Americans, and the respect they had for other people. He was also impressed by how organized they were and how scientific their management processes were.

Dunn observed that the generals were surprised that the American military education system goes all the way to the general officer ranks. CAPSTONE, the professional military education for general officers, was of particular interest. Dunn hopes her Iraqi colleagues will not “just stop the education at the middle level, but take the system all the way to the top.”

Sattar would like to see that high level of human resource leadership applied to Iraq. He would like to see schools for management. He wants to educate all HR personnel about his trip to the United States and pass on what he learned.

Both generals see the need to improve technology for classroom instruction as well as for working day to day. Maj. Gen. Fadhil says there is a gap between people and technology in MoI. He would like to bring an “e”-ministry system on line and reduce manpower through technology. Both generals were impressed with the

Washington Metro Police automated data base management system.

Fadhil dreams that all Iraqis can go to other countries and learn from them, then come back to Iraq to fix the nation’s problems – everything from agriculture to traffic. To facilitate that, Sattar hopes the visa process can be simplified. The process is still very difficult, and opportunities for foreign education exchange are lost daily. Dunn says “the visa process is complex and takes significant effort to navigate.” She says if more people want to go to the United States for educational opportunities; their sponsors will need to become more acquainted with exactly what it takes to get through the visa process. That will enable all the ministries to better educate their leadership.

As Senior HR Advisor Jerry Walker noted, “It’s all about planting the seeds.” For MoI human resources, the seeds will continue to be planted. Another trip is planned in the fall, and this time those who are charged with implementing the new programs will go.

The generals were impressed with the trip and their escorts. Sattar put his hand on his heart and said, “The team will always be in my heart.”

Maj. Gen. Sean J. Byrne meets with Maj. Gen. Fadhil and Maj. Gen. Sattar at the Army Human Resources Command in Washington D.C.



US Army Photo by Spc. Adam Sanders

Baghdad Police College Holds International Media Day

by U.S. Army Maj. Bob Owen,
MNSTC-I PAO

BAGHDAD, – Iraqi Maj. Gen. Dr. Jassim Hassan Attiya, vice deputy minister for training, Ministry of Interior, hosted an international media day at the Baghdad Police College to highlight the progress made here and to show off the BPC facilities and curriculum to a host of news organizations on June 2.

Welcoming the media's arrival, was the MoI band, dressed in their bright red formal attire. With patriotic Iraqi tunes wafting through the hot Baghdad air, the media offloaded the bus and prepared for the day's events with anticipation. This was an opportunity to see first-hand how the Baghdad Police College succeeds in professionalizing the Iraqi police forces.

The event started with Dr. Jassim welcoming the attendees in a formal press conference. He talked about the progress that the Baghdad Police College has made and the importance of the institution in training the officers and police recruits that will be responsible for providing security to Iraq and to the Iraqi people.

"Police primacy begins at the Baghdad Police College - where we are training the future leaders of the Iraqi Police Service," said U.S. Army Col. Larry Saunders, senior advisor to the Vice Deputy Minister for Training, Ministry of Interior and director, Baghdad Police College Training Team. "In the last year we have had a break through with institutional training. Today, BPC is producing police training at internationally acceptable standards. It is Iraqi developed, delivered by Iraqi's who

are certified through Iraqi instructor deployment programs. And tomorrow - BPC has all the potential to emerge as the most advanced criminal justice training center in the Middle East."

After the opening remarks, the media and all attendees were treated to a personal tour of the BPC campus and facilities. Many instructors and trainers at the Baghdad Police College were available for interviews after showing off their individual departments and what it is that they do specifically.

The demonstrations and exhibitions included a tour of the DNA analysis lab, which is vital in training Iraqi forensic scientists in the collection, processing and handling of DNA evidence. This is very important in the development of a judicial system that is based on rule of law.

The K9 training center was a part of the tour that garnered much interest. A demonstration on how these dogs work with their handlers to sniff out materials used to make bombs was especially effective. The large crowd gathered and watched as trainers lined up while the dogs sniffed each one for contraband. Each time, without fail, the dog would identify the individual that carried the bomb making material and make the designated signal to his handler. This drew much applause from those observing the demonstration.

Another focus of the day was highlighting the Fire Arms Training System or FATS. While the media gathered in the small, darkened room, the image of a small town was projected onto the wall at the front of the room. With lights out, the police demonstrated shooting techniques as targets appeared in the windows of

the buildings. The shooting display was impressive as each target was meticulously engaged throughout the scenario. This training is important to ensure that police officers are trained to engage the right targets and to minimize risk to innocent civilians in the case of a shoot-out or stand-off situation.

Another part of the tour took everyone through the computer classroom where female Iraqi policewomen were undergoing computer training.

A large parade field was the final destination to showcase the training that is being conducted daily at the BPC. Weapons assembly and disassembly, proper hand gun firing techniques, combatives, drill and ceremony and vehicle and personnel search procedures were all showcased.

With seven different media outlets present, many interviews were conducted and much information about what the Baghdad Police College does and how it helps to develop the Iraqi police men and women were presented.

The U.S. works closely with the Iraqi Ministry of Interior to professionalize, man, train and equip the Iraqi police. The Security Agreement that was signed between the U.S. and Iraq and went into effect on Jan. 1 of this year, spells out this relationship and every day at the Baghdad Police College, this relationship grows stronger. Iraq can be proud of the police forces who train here and also of all the trainers, instructors and staff that help to make it all possible.

Warrior Training Sharpens Iraqi Army Combat Skills

by U.S. Army Master Sgt. Mary Ortiz,
MNSTC-I ITAM-Army

BESMIYAH, Iraq – The Iraqi Army implemented the Warrior Training Program July 2008. The program consisted of a battalion level exercise and trained one Iraqi Army unit.

Since then six other battalions have conducted warrior training exercises and currently five battalions are engaged in exercises throughout Iraq. The sharp increase demonstrates a dedication to unit training, increasing both individual and collective skills.

The 28 day course is being conducted at Besmaya, Habbaniyah, Numaniya, Kirkuk and Tallil, with nearly 2,800 soldiers in training.

The goal of the program is to improve war fighting skills of every battalion in the Iraqi Army. The training plan progresses from individual skills through squad, platoon, company and culminates with battalion level exercises. Advisors from the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq Joint Headquarters Army Advisory Training Team have noticed a change in the soldiers at the end of the training. They say that individual soldiers are more proficient and confident in their abilities. While the soldiers are conducting individual training, the staff is improving their planning skills. Leaders are also better able to plan missions and provide adequate command and control of their units.

The planning and execution of the Warrior Training Program is led by the Iraqi Ministry of Defense and Army leadership, with support from ITAM Army.

The Iraqi Ground Forces Command nominates which units will come out of the fight and the Basic Tactical Training Directorate provides the training centers and cadre to assist.

The areas of focus for the trainers are planning and resourcing, training execution and After Action Reviews. All Warrior Training exercises conclude with graduation ceremonies and include demonstrations of the skills the units have learned.

So far this year, 4,115 soldiers from seven units have taken part in the program.



Photo by Van N. Williams, MNSTC-I PAO

Above, Iraqi soldiers participate in Warrior Training Exercises. The program is held at several facilities throughout Iraq, including Besmiyah.



Photo by Van N. Williams, MNSTC-I PAO

Left, Iraqi tanks participate in Warrior Training Exercises. The goal of the program is to improve war fighting skills of every battalion in the Iraqi Army.

Iraqi Soldiers Practice Field Medical Skills at Kirkuk

by MNSTC-I PAO

KIRKUK, Iraq – Eleven Iraqi Army soldiers earned the coveted Iraqi Army Expert Field Medical Badge at the Kirkuk K-1 military base on May 25. The completion of this training fulfills a key article in the US-Iraq Security Agreement that calls for cooperative training to advance professionalism and skills of the Iraqi army.

The specialized training is designed to give soldiers additional hands-on and classroom training on injuries and medical situations they may encounter on the battlefield.

The training was provided through a partnership with the K-1 Locations Command Clinic, Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq ITAM-Army Logistics Military Advisory Team and visiting medics

from forward operating base Warrior's 15th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team 1st Cavalry Division.

Students were drawn from units in the Kirkuk area, with representatives from K-1's Locations Command Clinic, the Kirkuk Regional Training Center and the Iraqi Army 12th Division and 12th Motor Transport Regiment taking part.

The Iraqi soldiers were challenged both physically and mentally during the training, which covered a broad range of subjects including traditional field-oriented topics of CPR, one-man and two-man patient carries, medical evacuation, splinting fractures and movement under fire.

Iraqi Army Warrant Officer Ari,

EFMB lead instructor, explained that "by training the students to handle a wider variety of illnesses and injuries, they are better prepared to treat patients in remote areas, where reaching a clinic or hospital is difficult."

During the final days of class, students' skill and newfound knowledge were tested. They were given a written exam and practical exercises at the Trauma Lane and Litter Obstacle Course.

The practical exercise included the students moving under simulated fire. They were required to reach the casualties, carry them to cover, treat injuries and bandage wounds before navigating the obstacle course.

The students maneuvered through tight corridors, under concertina wire, over an eight-foot wall, up a steep grade and down the other side to a waiting evacuation vehicle. They were graded individually and as teams on their treatment and movement skills.

Graduation morning, a 10-kilometer road march was the final task standing between the students and the prestigious badge.

Later, Iraqi Army Brig. Gen Younis, commander of K-1 Locations Command, presented the badges, accompanied by LMAT senior advisor, U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Jorge Villarreal and 15th BSB commander, U.S. Army Lt. Col. Christopher Whittaker.

The graduates will return to their home units and apply the techniques and skills to improve their units. The training is an example of the Coalition and Iraqis building lasting capabilities for the Iraqi army.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class John K. Greene, MNSTC-I ITAM-Army

Eleven Iraqi Army soldiers participated in the Iraqi Army Expert Field Medical Badge training at Kirkuk K-1 military base May 25. Students learned one-man and two-man carries, medical evacuation and other field medical techniques during the 21-day course.

Iraqi Army Commander Receives Coveted Award

by Van N. Williams, MNSTC-I PAO

BESMIYAH, Iraq – Iraqi Army Col. Abbas Fadhil Abdul Sahib, commander, Besmiyah Combat Training Center, was inducted into the Order of Saint Maurice.

The Order of St. Maurice is awarded by the National Infantry Association and the Chief of Infantry of the United States Army. The award is named after Saint Maurice, the leader of the Roman Theban Legion in the 3rd Century.

U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Steven L. Salazar, former commanding general, Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq Joint Headquarters Army Advisory Training Team, presented Abbas with the Peregrinus level award. Peregrinus is for foreign military personnel who have served in or supported the U.S. Army Infantry.

“This is for all of the people and those who have helped,” Abbas said as he accepted the medal and plaque. He is thought to be the first Iraqi officer to

receive this honor.

“Someday, you will see us in our dress uniform with the Order of Saint Maurice medal,” Salazar told the assembled group.

Abbas joined the Iraqi Army on 21 July 2003, and has served as commander of the training center since 2005.

During his command, Abbas has been instrumental in training hundreds of Iraqi Infantry soldiers and officers, most notably M1A1 Abrams Tank and 60mm, 81mm and 120mm mortars training.

Currently, Abbas is providing direct support and development of the Infantry Officer Basic Course, at Kirkush.

Notable members of the order include former general and Secretary of State Colin Powell, John Abizaid, U.S. Central Command commander, and H. Ross Perot.

Multi-National Security Transition Command celebrates its Fifth Anniversary and 234th Army Birthday

PHOENIX BASE, BAGHDAD – Coalition forces and NATO training mission military personnel gathered to celebrate the 234th birthday of the U. S. Army, established in June 1775; and the fifth anniversary of Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq, established this month in 2004.

The Command also pinned a streamer to its flag representing award by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Mike Mullen, of the Joint Meritorious Unit Award. The JMU was presented to MNSTC-I for “exceptionally meritorious achievement” from May 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008.

MNSTC-I is the direct outgrowth of the need to create a new Iraqi army. Subordinate to

Multi-National Force – Iraq, the Command is responsible for assisting the Government of Iraq in providing for Iraq’s internal security and external defense through the development of competent security ministries and professional, self-sufficient security forces that adhere to the rule of law.

Earlier this month, MNSTC-I declared initial operational capability of its current subordinate organizations: Iraqi Training and Advisory Mission, or ITAM, and Iraqi Security Assistance Mission, or ISAM, formed to fulfill a provision of the US-Iraq Security Agreement that went into effect Jan. 1. ITAM Director, Army Maj. Gen. Michael Milano, represented the command for the combined celebraton.

“Nothing illustrates America’s commitment more than putting our boots on the ground where they are needed,” Milano said. “And there is no force on earth that compares to the U.S. Army. It has the best trained personnel, the best equipment and it has the best leaders, noncommissioned officers and enlisted soldiers ever.”



Photo by Van N. Williams, MNSTC-I PAO

U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Steven L. Salazar, former commanding general, MNSTC-I Joint Headquarters Army Advisory Training Team inducts Iraqi Army Col. Abbas Fadhil into the Order of Saint Maurice. It is thought that Abbas is the first Iraqi officer to receive this honor.

521ST Air Expeditionary Squadron Part of New Iraqi Air Force

by Capt. Tommy Avilucea, MNSTC-I PAO

KIRKUK, Iraq – The 521st Air Expeditionary Advisor Squadron is part of the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq Coalition Air Force Training Team, and is based at Kirkuk Air Base.

The 521st is an integral part of building and maintaining the Iraqi Air Force, and to bolster the effectiveness of the Iraqi Ministry of Defense. The squadron is made up of maintenance, air traffic control, and weapons loading.

They also advise the Iraqi Air Force in day-to-day operations. The squadron operates C-208B Caravan aircraft conducting flight training for members of the Iraqi Air Force. Their mission is to train, educate and advise professional Iraqi Airmen in order to build the institutional capacity to conduct credible fixed flight training for the Iraqi Air Force.

The AEAS consists of 30 operations and maintenance advisors that work

together with Iraqi Squadron 3 that consist of 30 pilots and 60 maintainers.

The Iraqi Air Force performs Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance missions in the RC-208B Caravan. “The ISR system is very powerful and it can provide images in full color and the infrared spectrum which gives it the capability for day and night missions,” said U.S Air Force Tech. Sgt. James Bloom, Electrical Operations and Inferred Systems. “The Iraqi crews are picking up the ISR missions really quick, and they are doing really well.”

“A year ago the advisors were teaching the Iraqis how to fly the planes, and now they giving advice on how to improve the small things so they can do better,” said U.S. Air Force Maj. Bob Schreffler, director of operations, 521st Air Expeditionary Advisor Squadron. “They are doing well and the customer is getting what

they need to perform their missions.”

Providing equipment for emergency situations is a key element for a successful air force, and CAFTT is training Iraqi maintainers in the operation of air crew systems from the ground up to help them develop their skills. “We provide training on the survival aspects of the aircraft,” U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. John Larose, Air Crew Flight Equipment, 321 AEAS said.

“The Iraqis are taking on the mask and goggles for the air craft. Training on the other survival equipment is beginning as new test equipment arrives,” he added. “When we move to more complex systems, this will be a foundation for the Iraqi maintainers to build on. Knowing how to operate and maintain the survivability systems is a critical element for an air force” Larose said.



U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Tommy Avilucea, MNSTC-I PAO

An Iraqi Air Force C-208 Caravan displayed during a graduation in Kirkuk.



U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Tommy Avilucea, MNSTC-I PAO

Iraqi weapons load crew inspect Hellfire missile before loading it on a C-208 Caravan

Ministry of Interior Inspector General calls for a Combined Government Effort to Fight Corruption and Terrorism

BAGHDAD - Ministry of Interior Inspector General Aqeel Al- Turaihi called for cooperation among Governmental offices to coordinate anti-terrorism and anti-corruption efforts to prevent funding for terrorist activities.

Al Turaihi said in his opening remarks at the conference on "Legal Aspects of Corruption and Terrorism", that the Prime Minister recently announced an increase in Government efforts to fight corrupt activities to ensure that security and stability are achieved and to end terrorism.

He also advised that terrorism and corruption are the same disease; the Holy Quran mentions that individuals who terrorize citizens are corrupt on this earth, so terrorism and corruption comprise a serious threat to society and we should deal with them with one vision.

A large number from senior officers of Iraqi Security Forces ministries participated in the conference. Included in the audience was the IG from the MoD and Counter-Terrorism Bureau, as well as senior representatives from the Iraq Commission on Integrity participated in the conference.

Ambassador Joseph Stafford, Anti-Corruption Coordination Office, US Embassy, Iraq, mentioned the Iraqi Government recently embarked on a "the National Campaign for counter-bribery that will emphasize integrity and Governmental values and spread a positive atmosphere in Iraq; resulting in improvement in security and stability".

Iraqi Army works to keep waterways clear

SHATT AL ARAB, Iraq – The Iraqi Directorate of Border Enforcement, Coastal Border Guard recently made a large drug interdiction March 30.

"This was a significant event," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Steven Oluic, Ministry of Interior Transitional Team. "An individual was caught smuggling 71kg of hashish via the waterway."

Upon capture the individual was turned over to Iraqi police.

This multi-leveled operation began via intelligence channels, he said. Often-times DBE border units along the Shatt Al Arab observe ships offloading cargo to smaller boats which then cross into Iraqi waters to offload, he added.

"There are also situations when we see larger ships departing home ports with one flag then replacing their flags with Iraqi flags in order to cross into the port of Al Falus."

Over the past month, the CBG has conducted two to four joint operations with the Iraqi Army on Umm Rasas Island, just south of Abu Al Falus. The coordination was at the command level with information filtering down to tactical units hours before the start of the operation.

"There is a strong working relationship with the Iraqi Army along the borders," he said. "The CBG provides boats to transport the IA to the island while the IA completes search operations, then upon completion the DBE transports the IA back to the mainland."

The use of improved technology is making a major difference in this region, and the Iraqi DBE and CBG will move toward real-time interdiction to achieve the next step in this new frontier.

"These intrusions could be more easily tackled when the CBG gets equipped with more powerful armored patrol boats to ensure they are able to compete with larger, better armed and equipped vessels," said Oluic. "And we are working together to bring the last pieces of that puzzle together."

Students Graduate from First Project Management Course

BAGHDAD – Ten students from the Iraqi Ministry of Defense graduated from the first Management, Projects and Project Management Course to be taught at the Ministerial Training and Development Center.

The two-week course focused on areas such as the basics of management, identifying what constitutes a project, and the basic concepts used in project management. The course

provided students with a foundation of knowledge needed to manage increasingly difficult projects.

"As projects become larger and more costly, it is necessary to have dedicated individuals whose sole function is to manage these large complex projects," said Robert Dorsey, MTDC infrastructure professor.

A typical large project for the Iraqi Army in the future might be building a camp for 3,000 to 5,000 soldiers. Such a camp would comprise barracks, offices, maintenance buildings, dining facility, a mosque, and recreational facilities, along with the entire support infrastructure.

The course "provided good information and it helped to develop the job for engineers," said Brig. Gen. Engineer Ali Hamid from the MoD's infrastructure directorate. He added that he can develop his work in a better way after completing the course. Hamid also gained a better understanding of how the MoD headquarters and offices outside can improve cooperation.

Dorsey added that the course "will help Iraq develop the capability to build large infrastructure projects such as schools, hospitals, water & electric facilities which will benefit the new Iraq."

Airmen Dedicate 3 New Buildings to Iraqi Air Force

TAJI, Iraq – Members of the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq Coalition Air Force Training Team handed over three new buildings to the Iraqi Air Force in traditional dedication ceremonies.

Among the new facilities were an avionics testing facility, a communications building and a munitions storage area. According to U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Angel Olivares, CAFTT base support unit director, the new facilities will greatly enhance the capabilities of the Iraqi Air Force.

"The projects were designed to provide the Iraqi Air Force here at Taji with the basic infrastructure to allow it to complete its flying and training missions," Olivares said.

The avionics testing facility is unique
www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil

because the equipment inside is from Russia and utilizes more than six different electrical power supply variations. The facility was designed to allow the phase testing of all Mi-17 and Huey electronic components.

“There are only two facilities of this type in the world – one in Russia and now one here in Taji, Iraq,” said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Bonnie Trajanowski, CAFTT air advisor. “It will give the Iraqi Air Force the capability to test and make adjustments to all the avionics equipment, to include: all the instruments, the auto pilot and radios on the Mi-17.”

Trajanowski, a native of New Britain, Connecticut, who is deployed from Barksdale AFB, La., said the biggest challenge for her team has been receiving all the Russian equipment, translating the operating procedures into English so Coalition advisors can understand, and then re-translating into Arabic for the Iraqi Air Force. She said it was a necessary step to ensure the success of the Iraqi aerial mission.

“With the shortage of parts and aircraft, we have to ensure that these helicopters are performing at the optimal level and with this new facility we can now make sure that happens,” she said.

The second facility dedicated to the Iraqis was the communications building, which is also a one-of-a-kind for the Iraqi air force.

“It is designed to house all the communication needs for the entire base, to include phone, internet and radio and will be utilized to service all repairs on those capabilities,” said Olivares, who is deployed from HQ NATO SHAPE, Belgium, and is a native of El Paso, Texas.

The third and final facility the Iraqis took over was a new munitions maintenance and storage area, modeled after the munitions storage facilities used by the U.S. Air Force. The maintenance facility consists of three bays designed to conduct maintenance on rockets, chaff and/or flares and ammunition, and also has office space for the technicians.

“The significance of this munitions area is that we have increased the capabilities of the Iraqi Air Force by 400 percent,” said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Otis T. Reed, munitions advisor to the Iraqi Air Force. “This building will now be used for weapons checkout and munitions inspections as well as munitions building.” Reed is

deployed from Luke AFB, Ariz., and is a native of Arkansas.

Iraqi, Coalition Leaders Meet to Discuss Anti-Corruption Strategies

BAGHDAD – Leaders from the Iraqi Security Ministries along with their Coalition counterparts, met recently to discuss strategies and share insights on how best to battle corruption in Iraq. The five-day conference held on Phoenix Base, brought together 35 participants from the Ministry of Interior, Defense, Counter-Terrorism Bureau and the Committee for Public Integrity to discuss and share insights on the issues they face. Iraqi Col. Ali Adnan, Manager of Special Investigations Committee, Ministry of Interior said, “this is a good conference that allows all of us to come together to find a solution.” Having representatives from many of the other ministries was important because, “there are similar problems among all the ministries and now we are able to share experiences,” said Col. Ali. Though this conference had been planned for many months, the timing of the conference coincided with Prime Minister Maliki’s recent comments that corruption is a serious problem facing Iraq and he equated corruption on the same level as terrorism and said that corruption is “the second insurgency.” British Army Brigadier Mark Lacey, during the conferences closing remarks emphasized the connection between corruption and terrorism. “Bribes enable terrorists to conduct operations to travel across borders, hide inside borders, and smuggle people, munitions and drugs,” said Lacey. “Corruption steals from the people and undermines legitimate ministry goals, budgets, programs and rob security forces of readiness,” added Lacey.

The conference was facilitated by members of the Defense Institute for International Legal Studies and hosted by Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq’s Office of the Inspector General.

Iraqi Police graduate more than 11,000 policemen in May

BAGHDAD – Iraqi Police marching sharply at a graduation ceremony in their crisp new blue uniforms is just one symbol of Iraq’s growing police force as it continues to advance the professionalism

and skills of its policemen.

More than 11,000 Iraqi policemen completed basic recruit training in May, a dramatic increase from recent months. Another 4,591 policemen completed specialized and management courses, bringing the total number of police graduates in May to 15,920.

Many of these policemen were hired under emergency circumstances in years past and put into service with limited formalized instructions. Since the beginning of this year, the Iraq Ministry of Interior has made it a goal to provide these policeman with additional formal training as one part of the Ministry’s efforts to professionalize its force.

The Interior Ministry has also concurrently increased specialized and advanced training opportunities, such as investigations, management, budgeting, planning, computer courses and specialized skills course like the advance skills training provided by the Italian Police (Carabinieri) for the National Police.

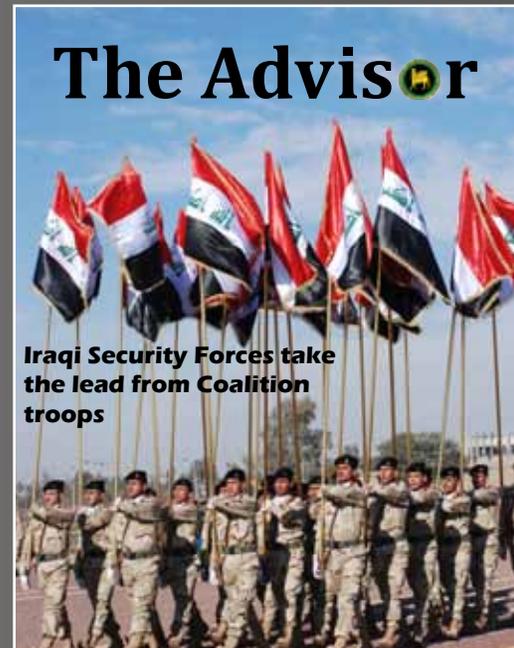
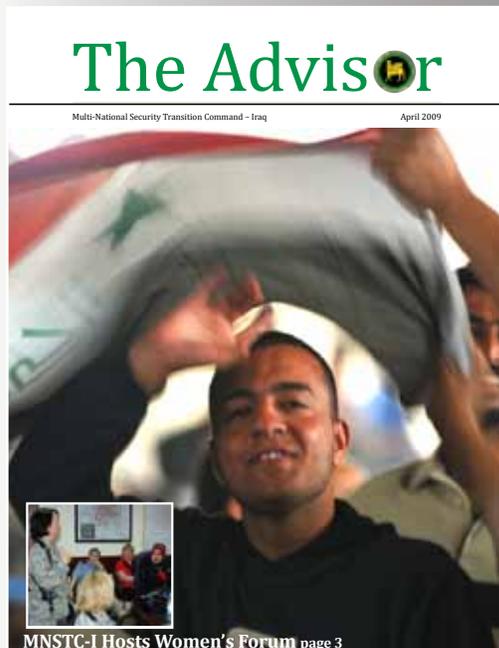
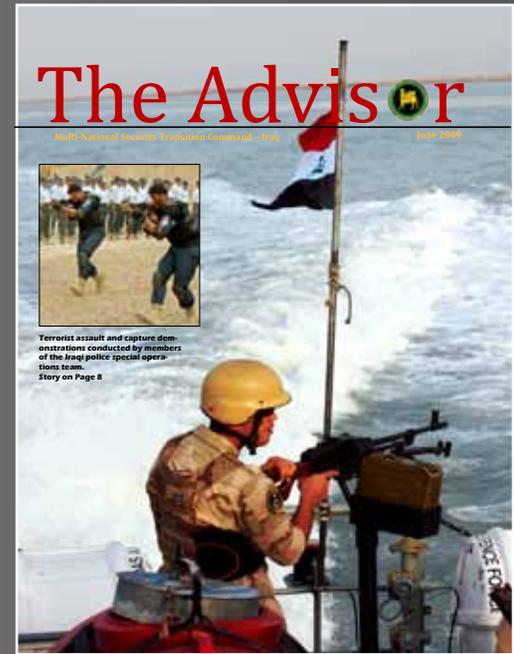
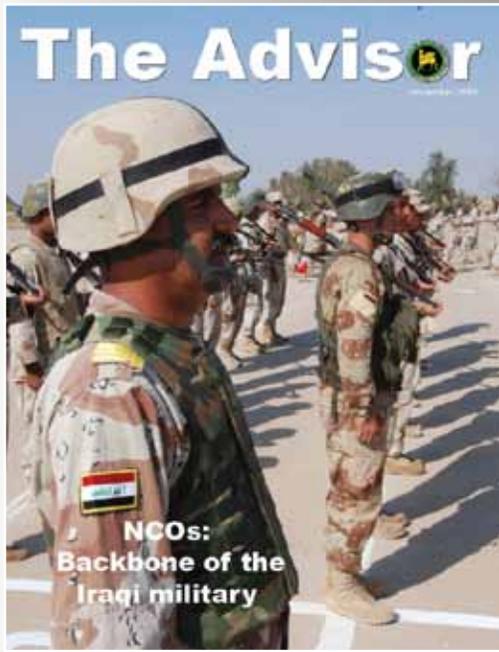
The largest graduation class in May was 1,986 Iraqi Police who graduated at the Basra training center; another 1,348 policemen graduated from the Dahuk training center. The Sulamaniyah training center graduated 866 border policemen in May.

“This commitment by the Ministry of Interior moves Iraq toward the goal of police primacy where the police will have the primary responsibility for internal security in the cities, under civilian authority,” said Col. Bryan Bequette, director of Training, for the Civilian Police Assistance and Training Team which provides training support to the Interior Ministry.

“We are proud of the accomplishments the Ministry has achieved with its training program,” Bequette said.

He added that CPATT supports these and other Ministry of Interior programs with international police advisors at 26 training centers throughout Iraq. The training centers provide training for the Iraqi Police Service, National Police, Oil Police, Director of Border Enforcement and the Facilities Protection Service.

Did you miss an issue of The Advisor?



find back issues online now at
www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil