



IRONHORSEMAN

July 2009 Volume 2, Issue 5



Moving out



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ON THE COVER



Contracted Iraqi crane operators remove the excess barriers at Joint Security Station Sadr City in preparation for the installation to be transferred from 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment to 1st Battalion, 44th Brigade, 11th Iraqi Army Division in compliance with the Security Agreement.



History of the 1st Cavalry Division Song

"Garryowen" is an old Irish quick step that can be traced back to the early 1860's. "Garryowen" was adopted by the 7th Cavalry Regiment as the official Air of the Regiment, and the historical nickname given to the 7th Cavalry Regiment and Troopers. It became the official tune of the 1st Cavalry Division in 1981. "Garryowen" has become undoubtedly the most famous of all the regimental marches in the Army. The geographical area that provided the inspiration and the name of one of the most popular, rollicking folk songs of Ireland, is situated near the City of Limerick and located a half mile southeast of King John's Castle, on the upward slope of a hill at the end of Garryowen Road in Limerick County. Local traditions and folk lore have preserved the historical significance of the area and the origin of its name "Garryowen", a compound English word composed of two Irish words, Garrai (the Irish word for Garden) and Eoin (the Irish word for the name John, referencing King John's Castle - a local landmark at the bottom of the hill). The name Eoin, pronounced a "O-in" or "Oh-en" was later phonically transformed to "Owen" in the English language, thus allowing the two separate Irish words "Garrai" and "Eoin" to be translated into the single compound English word, written without the capital "O", as Garryowen.

"Garryowen" is known to have been used by Irish regiments as a drinking song. As the story goes, one of the Irish "melting pot" Troopers of the 7th Cavalry, under the influence of "spirits", was singing the song. By chance Custer heard the melody, liked the cadence, and soon began to hum the tune to himself. The tune has a lively beat, that accentuated the cadence of marching horses, and for that reason was adopted as the regimental song soon after Custer arrived at Fort Riley, Kansas to take over command of the 7th Cavalry Regiment. It was the last song played for Custer's men as they left General Terry's column at the Powder River and rode into history. During First Team ceremonies the song is not sung; however, it is customary for the song to be played at the conclusion of the activities and the guests stand and clap.

1st Brigade Combat Team 1st Cavalry Division Multi National Division- Baghdad

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Do you have a story to share? The *Ironhorseman* welcomes columns, commentaries, articles, letters and photos from readers. Submissions should be sent to the BCT Public Affairs office at shejal.pulivarti@us.army.mil or brian.f.carlin@us.army.mil. Include the author's name, rank, unit and contact information. The *Ironhorseman* reserves the right to edit submissions selected for the paper.

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An Ironhorse Mid-Tour Assessment

From the desk of Col. Tobin Green



So much has happened in this brigade combat team over the past couple months. The accomplishments of our units and Troopers have really been extraordinary. And yet, there is so much that still lies ahead of us. So I will use this column to both recognize how far we have come during this deployment, and to outline where we are headed in the weeks and months ahead.

The Ironhorse BCT accepted transfer of authority for its current area of responsibility on 21 March 2009. In less than 30 days after the event, the path for the first half of this deployment began to materialize with greater clarity. A principle task for the brigade during the spring and early summer would be to set conditions for a major transition point in the bilateral security agreement between the Government of Iraq and Coalition Forces on 30 June 2009. On that day, primary responsibility for security inside the populated urban areas throughout Iraq would formally transfer to the Iraqi Security Forces, while the Coalition would withdraw the majority of its troops from the cities and redirect the focus of combat operations to the rural enemy support zones. In preparation for a new phase of the security agreement, the Division and this brigade spent much of April planning all of the necessary steps that would be required for a successful transition, and subsequently shared out plans and intentions with our Iraqi counterparts. By May, that coordination took the form of negotiation with the Iraqis, primarily about the places and bases where Coalition Forces would remain inside the city of Baghdad, in order to accomplish the required support for Iraqi Security Forces that the security agreement also mandates.

As Coalition Forces departed the city, units had to close or transfer bases. Nowhere in MND-B was the task of transferring bases so challenging as in the Ironhorse area of operations. But our team was more than up to the task. In a period of 45 days, from the middle of May until the end of June, the brigade transferred or closed a total of 9 different bases. It was a herculean logistics challenge. In the course of six weeks, the BCT managed the:

1. Transfer and emplacement of over 2,500 barriers (T-Walls)
2. Transfer and emplacement of over 150 x Containerized Housing Units
3. Transfer and relocation of over 150 x 20' MILVANS
4. Reposition of over 3,000 Coalition Force members to new locations
5. Execution of nearly 300 supporting Combat Logistical Patrols performed by various Coalition units across MND-B

And throughout this period, Ironhorse Troopers never took their eye off the ball. Patrols continued. Our partnership with Iraqi friends grew even stronger. The outcome could never have been realized without the extraordinary teamwork displayed by everyone in the organization, and the incredible leadership exhibited by our Non-Commissioned Officer Corps—who translated very difficult orders and instructions into amazing performance by 1BCT units and Soldiers on the ground. I have never been more impressed by the capabilities of our 1SGs and junior NCOs throughout the formation.

Continued on Pg 5

As a result of all the tremendous work described above, the Ironhorse Brigade was ready for June 30, but not entirely sure what things would look like in the days thereafter. Would the ISF be up to the challenge? Could the Coalition sustain partnership with the Iraqis in order to continue the progress in areas such as security, reconstruction, and ISF development? How would the enemy react to these changes? No one really knew the answers to these questions on 1 July. But now two weeks into the new phase of the security agreement, the net results are fragile but encouraging. Attacks are down. The ISF are clearly in the lead and the public is receptive to the ISF's more prominent role. Coalition Forces have been far less visible inside the city. We still conduct required movements and meetings, but have deliberately scaled back our combat operations, and established deliberate procedures for close coordination of our movements in the urban environment with our Iraqi friends. And the Iraqis have not asked for, nor needed, much assistance from Coalition Forces to this point. Just as we had predicted, the Iraqis have requested help from Coalition enabling capabilities such as unmanned aerial vehicles, helicopters, evidence exploitation, or route clearance; we have been happy to provide that assistance. But the Iraqi Security Forces also take great pride in their new responsibilities, and have not asked for additional US combat forces to respond to threats in the city of Baghdad. The same story is being played out all across Iraq.

Of course, there has been some friction associated with implementation of the post 30 June security agreement, but most of the misunderstandings have been the consequence of confusion rather than hostility. That confusion extends to the population as well, because the Iraqi government did a very poor job of explaining to its citizens what the bilateral security agreement "requires" of the Coalition. Those areas of disagreement are being resolved little by little, day by day, as the Iraqi and American militaries establish mechanisms for conflict resolution and improved communication.

There are some critics who want to focus on the points of friction between our forces as a sign of failure. Frankly, those voices are completely missing the big picture. It is absolutely true that the ISF are not fully ready to stand on their own just yet, and will require some degree of advisory, assistance, training and even combined security operations with the Coalition for the foreseeable future. But one must also remember that Coalition Forces are not here to create an enduring ISF dependence on US capabilities. The fact is that the Iraqis want to stand on their own against their enemies, and demonstrate their readiness to their countrymen; that attitude is a good news story. In fact, growing ISF confidence and a greater comfort with independent operations is precisely what we had hoped would happen as the Coalition scaled back its presence. At the same time, the security environment in Iraq will not be settled for some time. So, in order to safeguard the path to sustainable security, Ironhorse will retain the ability to assist our Iraqi partners in any way they desire- with training, or enablers, or combat troops of any size to address the uncertain threats in the months ahead.

Ironhorse!
Team First!
COL Tobin L. Green
Ironhorse 6

IRONHORSE move

Left: A crane moved Containerized Housing Units to move them out of JSS Comanche and outside the city, in compliance with the security agreement.



US Army Photo



Above: Colorado Springs, Colo. native Maj. Geoffrey Norman, the 1st Cavalry Division and Poolesville, Md. native Maj. Sean Davis, looking at a document that will be signed over to the Government of Iraq during the base

Below: Containerized Housing Units move to JSS WarEagle from JSS Sadr City as the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division moves their combat troops out of the cities and into the outskirts in compliance with the security agreement.



Photo by: Maj. Brian Carlin

es out of the cities

Right: Sameer al Haddad, representative from the Office of the Prime Minister, signs the ownership paperwork transferring the responsibility of Joint Security Station Sadr City from the "Lancers" to the Government of Iraq.



Photo by: Sgt. Shejal Pulivarti



Photo by: Pfc. Bailey Jester

executive officer for the 1st "Ironhorse" Brigade Combat Team, logistical officer for the "Ironhorse" Brigade discuss the property closures in compliance with the security agreement.

Below: Sameer al Haddad, representative from the Office of the Prime Minister, and Colorado Springs, Colo. native Capt. Einar Wulfsberg, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd "Lancers" Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division sign the ownership paperwork transferring the responsibility of Joint Security Station Sadr City from the "Lancers" to the Government of Iraq. "It serves as a visible reminder to the local population that there is a strong security force presence," stated Boulder, Colo. native Maj. Geoffrey Norman, executive officer for the "Ironhorse" Bde.



Photo by: Sgt. Shejal Pulivarti

Ironhorse returns sacred ground back to Iraqi Army

Story by Sgt. Shejal Pulivarti

JSS WAREAGLE, Iraq – A common sense of triumph and accomplishment drifted in the air during the transfer ceremony of the sacred installation in Sadr City June 20.

The 1st “Ironhorse” Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division successfully returned Joint Security Station Sadr City to the 1st Battalion, 44th Brigade, 11th Iraqi Army Division to better facilitate the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) taking over security, in accordance with the security agreement between the U.S. and Iraq.

“This is the most important, most iconic of all our JSSs. Sadr City is

“This is the most important, most iconic of all our JSSs...”

viewed as sacred ground for both us and the Iraqis,” stated Boulder, Colo. native Maj. Geoffrey Norman, the executive officer for the “Ironhorse” Brigade.

JSS Sadr City was established in 2007 and has housed four U.S. Army units through the years. In this period, the U.S. had approximately 130 servicemembers killed or wounded and the ISF endured approximately 190 in this area. “This JSS has a very significant meaning...we share a bond of sacrifice,” Norman reverently shared.

Now entering a new phase, the 1st Batt., 44th Bde., 11th IA Div. assumes responsibility of securing the area surrounding JSS Sadr City and of providing a safe, secure and stable community for the people of

Iraq.

“[The ISF] will make the most out of the facility, as we did. This installation remains very important; it serves as a visible reminder to the local population that there is a strong security force presence,” said Norman.

The “Lancers” worked with their counterparts to determine the equipment the IA needed to remain at the installation in order to function efficiently. “We have to set the Iraqis up for success when we transfer the facilities. We take care of them so they can be triumphant,” stated Poolesville, Md. native Maj. Sean Davis, logistical officer for the “Ironhorse” Brigade.

Coalition Forces’ combat troops withdrawing from the cities, facili-

tates the first phase of ISF taking the lead. The plan, according to Iraq’s Ministry of the Interior, is for the IA to assume full responsibility of security as the initial phase for the people of Iraq to regain control of their country.

The IA unit will have easy access to their counterparts who have moved to JSS WarEagle or JSS Ur for assistance as needed. “The locations that the various companies have moved to are not disruptive to daily life but close enough to provide support to their IA counterparts when requested,” stated Norman.

JSS Sadr City is one of the eight installations the “Ironhorse” Bde. has turned over to the Government of Iraq. It is the largest in size to date they have returned.

Photos by: Sgt. Shejal Pulivarti



Left: Harker Heights, Texas native Lt. Col. Timothy Karcher, commander of 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division presents Sameer al Haddad, representative from the Office of the Prime Minister, a symbolic key signifying the transfer of responsibility of Joint Security Station Sadr City during the official ceremony June 20.

The Free Shot!

Q & A with SGM Gilford, Ironhorse BCT Operations Sergeant Major

Q: Can we get the latrines and SLUs on WE cleaned more frequently?

A: The latrines are being cleaned three times a day. Soldiers need to clean up behind themselves in order for the latrines to remain clean.

Q: Can anyone wear the green undershirts with ACUs?

A: Yes, all Soldiers can wear the foliage green t-shirts. They can only be worn with the fire retardant sets or when leaving the FOBs.

Q: If the security agreement says we have to be out of the cities by July, why are we maintaining bases within Baghdad (Ur, WE, Shield, Old Mod)?

A: Because we follow orders. Due to the new Security Agreement, we were directed to move out of the city, but still perform our mission by providing assistance to the ISF through training, support, supply and equipment.

Q: Will we be forced to use M1151s in areas that still have a high EFP threat?

A: No, we will not be forced to use M1151s only, but there will be locations MRAPs are limited to.

Q: Why weren't we allowed to pick our own items of clothing through ADO, if it was designated to provide the Soldier with items they are in need of?

A: ADO program was specifically developed to provide support to deployed Soldiers with direct shipping of OCIE for sustainment. ADO is for sustainment only! It is not designed for initial issue or to fill shortages. It is the unit's responsibility to ensure proper ordering of OCIE items and accountability of items ordered due to funds control.

Q: Why are there Soldiers that go out on a regular basis that aren't considered combat or line troops, refused the ACSs?

A: Soldiers were not refused the ACSs. When the BDE picked up the initial issue, they were only enough for 2,000 Soldiers. The BDE S4 and the BDE CSM came up with a plan for issue across the BDE footprint to include 2-8 CAV and 1-82 FA.



Q: Who determines the equipment hand out of per company?

A: The Department of the Army determines who gets what equipment based of the needs of the units. Company Commanders and ISGs base the equipment off the unit MTOE.

Q: Why do Soldiers that are inevitably FOBits, because of position, have fully loaded weapons or supplies that Soldiers who run missions regularly don't have?

A: COs and ISGs determine who gets what equipment.

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

Easy

Don't go too fast! The game is easy to play but difficult to master!

What are YOUR questions for CSM Norman?
Send them to shejal.pulivarti@us.army.mil and next month CSM Norman will answer some more of your questions.
CSM Norman's answers are not official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of the Army or the 1st Cavalry Division.

SUDOKU
*It's easy to play Sukoku!
Simply fill every column so they contain every number between 1 and 9.*

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

Medium

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

Hard

EDUCATION CENTER

TESTING COMING TO WAR EAGLE

DATES: AUGUST 25, 26 AND 27.

AFCT (RAISE YOUR GT SCORE)

SAT'S AND ACT'S

ENGLISH COMPOSITION

HUMANITIES

SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HISTORY

AFAST

GET WITH YOUR NCO FOR THE COMPLETE LIST OF AVAILABLE TESTS.

MUST SIGN UP TO TAKE TESTS. THE SOONER THE BETTER TO SECURE YOURSELF A SEAT

Dragons' public work projects flourish in Diyala

By Pfc. Adam Halleck

FOB HAMMER, Iraq – The streets of Tuwaitha, Jisr Diyala, and Jurf Nadaf West are cleaner than ever now that the 1st “Dragons” Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division has teamed-up with local leaders in the province in order to provide funding for public works projects.

Staff Sgt. Nicholas Lien, a native of Whitewater, Wis. and 1st Lt. Douglas Henry, a native of Edmond, Okla. who represent the Civil Affairs Team for the “Dragons”, selected three separate areas within the Diyala Province for joint public works. The projects are aimed to employ the transitioning Sons of Iraq and disadvantaged residents of the area. The work consists of cleaning up the streets and surrounding areas of trash. Efforts like these increase sanitation conditions and will decrease possible threats to local residents and coalition forces.

In Tuwaitha, a local water treatment facility was chosen as the heart of their efforts. Sheikh Mahmood Jablowi, a local leader, was placed in charge of 118 employees as well as day-to-day operations of the project. Prior to the project's inception, the water treatment facility was inoperable



Whitewater, Wis. native Staff Sgt. Nicholas Lien, a CAT noncommissioned officer for 1st Batt. 82nd FA Regt., finalizes a contract with Abdel Hamid who runs the public works projects in Jisr Diyala.

and trash ridden. Due to the efforts of public works in recent weeks the facility has become fully operational. The water treatment facility once again supplies clean water to the 100,000 people of Tuwaitha and provide employment to 118 local residents.

“I’ve seen the progress this project has made and I am more than impressed,” Lien expressed to Sheikh Jablowi while on a visit to the facility. “It is a good feeling to know that this project has been successful in not only employing the residents of [the] area, but has been able to provide clean water and cleaner streets for [the] people.”

“Our program is more successful than we could’ve ever anticipated.”

In the neighboring city of Jisr Diyala, local leader Abdel Hamid was contracted by the “Dragons” to run the public works within the city. The project allows Hamid to employ 69 residents of Jisr Diyala, which is one of the busiest and most populated cities of the Diyala Province. Their job consists of cleaning the area on a daily basis, ensuring the sanitation, and protection of the city.

The “Dragons” hope that by providing work and employment, the citizens will become a valuable asset to the community. In addition, new jobs mitigate the possibility that military age men may resort to terrorist activity in order to earn money. The public works projects are geared toward keeping the coalition forces and the local populous safe.

“This program has become a blessing for our community,” said Hamid when Lien and Henry visited the area to pay the employees. “The area is cleaner and our people have jobs. Our city is

safer than ever and improving daily.”

The efforts by the “Dragons” also extend to Jurf Nadaf West, where local leader Sheikh Qais Shuter and the “Dragons” partnered to sponsor a project that employs 195 local residents. The area is a mixture of farmland and industry and was riddled with mounds of trash before the project began. The area has become trash-free as a result of the project.

“Our program is more successful than we could’ve ever anticipated,” explained Henry during a visit to Sheikh Qais’ facilities. “We’ve helped employ almost 400 people and by doing so improved sanitation and increased security within the local cities in Diyala.”

The projects have provided a steady income to the residents of Diyala, while at the same time cleaning and securing the cities in the province. The joint public works projects have increased security and positively impacted the local economy. Riding the current wave of success, the “Dragons” plan to continue to work hand-in-hand with the local population on the current public works projects within the area.



Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment pay a public works project employee who resides in Jurf Nadaf West during a visit to the local public works facility. The Jisr Diyala employs 69 local residents.



July 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day (USA)
5 Independence Day (Venezuela)	6 Independence Day (Malawi)	7 Ivan Kupala Day	8	9	10	11 China National Maritime Day
12	13	14 Bastille Day	15 Bon Festival	16	17 Constitution Day (South Korea)	18
19	20	21	22	23 Neptunalia Revolution Day	24	25
26 Garland Sunday	27	28	29 Olsok Olavsoka	30	31	

Coming soon: Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center



Above: Kokomo, Ind. native Pfc. Nathan Walker, a tanker for Co. C, 2nd Batt., 5th Cav. Regt. assists in constructing the new Morale, Welfare and Recreation center on JSS WarEagle. The MWR is scheduled to be opened by June 28. (Photo by Pfc. Bailey Jester)

Above: Pfc. Nathan Walker examines the work on a door with one of the Iraqi contractors June 28. The door leads into the new Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center on JSS WarEagle that is scheduled to open June 28. The MWR will have televisions, Xboxes, pool tables, and other activities for the Soldiers on JSS WarEagle. (Photo by Pfc. Bailey Jester)

Above: Pfc. Nathan Walker, a tanker for Co. C, 2nd Batt., 5th Cav. Regt. Assists in constructing the new Morale, Welfare and Recreation center on JSS WarEagle. (Photo by Pfc. Bailey Jester)

“Black Knights” adopt-a-school program presents progress

By Sgt. Shejal Pulivarti

JSS WAREAGLE, Iraq – Mirroring the adopt-a-school program in the United States with local civil services, the 1st “Black Knight” Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, attached to 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division initiated a partnership program with four schools in their area.

The four companies in the “Black Knight” battalion partnered up with a local Iraqi Security Forces unit, selected a school and began a dialogue with the school official. After identifying the school in need of assistance, they (“Black Knight” Soldiers and their ISF partners) processed a contract to renovate the building for better performance.

“From the time we started the process, this school took a little under 60 days to fully renovate,”



Waltham, Mass. native Capt. William Murphy hands a little girl who attends the Al Areej Kindergarten a present after the renovation completed celebration held at the school in Adhamiyah.

stated Waltham, Mass. native Capt. William Murphy, the civil affairs team leader.

The first such school to be completed is the Al Areej Kindergarten in Adhamiyah. The Civil Affairs Team attached to the “Black Knights” visited the school, assessed the conditions, developed a scope of work, and began the grueling contractor-bid process.

“...is to provide the children a safe school...”

“The project renovated the floors, the latrines, repainted the entire school, and removed all the debris from the playground that surrounds the school,” Murphy said.

During this project, the ISF continued visits to the school to check on progress and interact with the children. In being involved in the renovation process, the children were able to interact with the unit that secures their area and build a relationship with them.

“The renovation of the school is to provide the children a safe school that will promote education while giving the children access to the ISF,” Murphy

shared.

The renovation is funded by the Commander’s Emergency Response Program (CERP), which is a decentralized fund for commanders to use in providing humanitarian and reconstruction services in order to assist Iraq return to normalcy.

Under CERP, schools are rebuilt, medical facilities, water and sewer facilities are constructed, and social programs implemented. The funding is an easily accessible source of funds that produces great benefits, stated Murphy.

“Many of our projects are aimed at providing the local populace with a long lasting effect. Not just a band-aid, but a repair of the overall system and structure,” Murphy proudly said.



Waltham, Mass. native Capt. William Murphy, team leader for the Civil Affairs Team, cuts the ribbon with one of the local contractors that was hired to renovate the Al Areej Kindergarten in Adhamiyah. The celebration symbolized the successful completion of the renovation.

Familiar Faces الله أكبر



Packing shed in Adhamiyah opens

Story and Photos by Pfc. Bailey Jester

JSS WAREAGLE, Iraq-Members of the embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team III (ePRT) attached to the 1st "Ironhorse" Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, attended the grand opening of the Rabee fruit and vegetable packing facility in Adhamiyah June 14.

The Rabee packing shed is the first modern fruit and vegetable packing facility in Iraq, said Stockton, Calif. native Glen Keiser, the ePRT leader. "It will allow farmers to receive more value for their efforts. The produce will be properly cleaned, packed, stored, and transported to different markets around the country."

The Rabee packing shed has introduced advanced post-harvest handling methods for larger fruit and vegetable production in the Adhamiyah, Taji, and Istiqlaal areas of Baghdad.

Post-harvest handling is the stage of crop production immediately following the harvest and includes cooling, cleaning, sorting and packing. The instant a crop is removed from the ground, or separated from its parent plant, it begins to deteriorate. Proper post-harvest handling will significantly slow the process of rotting and increase the final quality of the fruits and vegetables, whether sold for fresh consumption or for use as an

ingredient in a processed food product.

According to Inma, a branch of the United States Agency for International Development, by adopting modern post-harvest handling methods local growers will not only address strategic shortfalls of quality home-grown fruits and vegetables, but will also create jobs for a large part of the of the area's rural workforce.

"The packing shed serves as a model for future packing sheds around the country," said Keiser. "Inma has almost completed a second packing shed in the Taji area, and plans on building three more in the urban Baghdad area. I find this very encouraging and exciting; [I] see this as an agricultural advance for Iraq."

Most packing facilities in Iraq are currently inadequate. Poor packaging techniques contribute to 60 percent of the fruits and vegetables that are damaged beyond consumption. This is due to farmers generally lacking post-harvest skills, proper storage facilities and technology required to transport produce over long distances.

Farmers typically used plastic bags or buckets as packaging containers before the facility was constructed. The containers were then hauled to markets on the back of trucks. Slow transportation coupled with a lack of refrigerated trucks resulted in loss of produce.

Keiser commented that the packing shed will not only help farmers, but also benefit consumers by enabling them to purchase quality produce at a fair price, even if they don't live near a growth area.

"This project that we are about to open represents cooperation between people and it is a gift from American people to Iraqi people," said Sheikh Ali Mejbil-gheeri, the Rabee fruit and vegetable packing shed owner, "we hope that it will be the first initiative and not the last regarding this area in order to enhance the [lives] of the Iraqi people."



Local leaders and Stockton, Calif. native Glen Keiser (right), the embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team III leader, participate in the cutting of the ribbon on the grand opening ceremony of the Rabee packing shed in Adhamiyah June 14. The fruit and vegetable packing shed is a facility designed to clean, pack, store, and transport produce to different markets around the country.

SAFETY ALERT

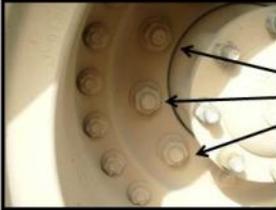


YELLOW HASH
09 - 10 . 011

MRAP LUGS



Recently, MND-B had two mishaps in which the tires fell off an MRAP due to the shearing/breaking of lug studs.




Lug nut



Sheared/broken lug studs can be the result of improper torque.

MRAP lug nuts need to be tightened to 350-400 foot-pounds (ft-lb) of torque. Drivers should check to ensure all lug nuts are tight during the before and after operator PMCS. Also ensure no lug nuts or lug studs are missing. Ask motor pool personnel for the proper torque wrench and proper lug nut torque for the vehicle being serviced.

KNOW THE STANDARD FOLLOW THE STANDARD ENFORCE THE STANDARD

SAFETY ALERT

'Ironhorse' celebrates 234th Army Birthday



Rockingham, N.C. native Pvt. Anahi Padilla (left), human resources specialist for HHC, 1st BCT and Killeen, Texas native Sgt. Maj. Robert Gilford (center), the brigade operations sergeant major, wait to cut the cake as they are honored as the youngest and oldest Soldier on JSS WarEagle by the Brigade Commander. Col. Tobin Green gave a brief history of the Army's traditions. (Photo by Sgt. Shejal Pulivarti)



Rockingham, N.C. native Pvt. Anahi Padilla (left), human resources specialist for HHC, 1st BCT and Killeen, Texas native Sgt. Maj. Robert Gilford (center), the brigade operations sergeant major, cut the cake during the Army's 234th Birthday celebration on JSS WarEagle. Padilla and Gilford were honored as the youngest and oldest Soldiers on the installation. (Photo by Sgt. Shejal Pulivarti)



Soldiers from the 1st "Ironhorse" Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division play basketball as a part of the Army Birthday celebration on Joint Security Station WarEagle. The day consisted of a barbeque, the traditional Army Birthday Cake cutting by the oldest and youngest Soldier, and a basketball tournament. (Photo by Sgt. Shejal Pulivarti)



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IRONHORSEMAN