

RIVER REPORT

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HIGHLANDER

بفرير النهر

الله أكبر

October 15, 2009

Advise & Assist

IRAQI POLICE

الشرطة العراقية

Majarr al Kabir Iraqi Police participated in a training session with U.S. Military Police advisors assigned to 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment. The class was designed to make police aware of Women's rights, religious consideration, and ethical decision making for searches and arrests. Participants also discussed why torturing prisoners is not acceptable. Based on this training Iraqi citizens should be confident that police will attempt to be courteous towards innocents and firm and fair towards outlaw suspects to ensure they have an appropriate legal trial where a judge can issue punishment.

In Dhi Qar U.S. Military advisors visited a jail in Al Belda district. The Iraqi Police at the facility were well disciplined and the jail is clean and ready to house outlaws.

Federal Police in Amarah participated in Humvee vehicle maintenance training with U.S. Army mechanics.



IRAQI ARMY

الجيش العراقي

Officers and Jundee assigned to the 39th Iraqi Army Brigade participated in a military enablers capabilities demonstration with U.S. Army advisors from the 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment. The demonstration included military police bomb sniffing dogs, robots designed for the safe removal of roadside bombs (IED), remote-controlled airplane drones, and loud speaker trucks used to broadcast security messages. Participants also received a class on crime scene investigation and evidence collection from U.S. Explosive Ordnance Disposal experts. Iraqi police from Muthanna also participated.

Iraqi attended the event near Samawa. Article at this link (Arabic): <http://www.sotaliraq.com/iraqnews.php?id=49438>

The 38th Iraqi Army Brigade in northern Maysan foiled an attack and removed materials to launch rockets from the hands of criminals.

DEPARTMENT OF BORDER ENFORCEMENT

قيادة قوات الحدود

Alert border guards from the 2nd Battalion, 11th Department of Border Enforcement Brigade using night vision goggles identified three men who were collecting unexploded ordnance near the Iranian border. The men were quickly detained and questioned. These night vision goggles were distributed to the DBE by U.S. Army advisors from the 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

Shurta who use this technology will be able to stop cross-border smuggling of lethal aid that threatens security for well-meaning Iraqi citizens in cities and villages.





CIVILIAN ASSISTANCE UPDATE

مستجدات المساعدات المدنية



Dhi Qar

PRT Dhi Qar visited the Chief Judge of Dhi Qar Province on 8 October and gave him more than 200 books for Dhi Qar's jurists. Two organizations, the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (based in Italy) and the U.S.-based Lawyers Without Borders, donated the books, which cover subjects that include the American Legal System, the Iraqi Constitution, the laws of Arab countries, International Criminal Law, and anti-corruption. The PRT and the Chief Judge also discussed training programs, including the U.S. Air Force Document Media and Exploitation (DOMEX) system and English Language courses.

Maysan

The 2nd Deputy Governor of Maysan met with the Provincial Reconstruction Team to discuss the status of projects in the province that will improve essential services that benefit Maysani people. A current priority is for projects to improve access to safe drinking water by people affected by the drought. The PRT is committed to selecting contractors for projects that have a good reputation for quality. There are also projects to improve electricity, schools, and agriculture.



Muthanna

The PRT and the 287th Sustainment Brigade delivered 150 backpacks to a mud school in Al Khidr on October 15. The school was identified because of the extreme poverty of the school and because no Americans had ever been there before. The children were delighted to receive the backpacks filled with school supplies and each child also received a gender appropriate gift. Each classroom was given a new soccer ball. The principal of the school thanked the Americans for brightening the children's day.

CULTURAL BOX

الحقبة الثقافية

Iraqi heavy metal rock band Acrassicauda, named after a species of black scorpion is rockin' in the free world after a journey that has enough turmoil to fit its heavy metal style. After avoiding Saddam Hussein's secret police, enduring the bombing of their practice space, dodging death threats, and navigating sectarian warfare, four Iraqi musicians who wanted nothing more than to rock 'n' roll all night are pursuing their dreams of stardom. Acrassicauda (pronounced ah-crass-ih-COW²-dah) was formed in 2000 when drummer Marwan Riyadh and guitarist and lead vocalist Faisal Talal met lead guitarist Tony Aziz in a Baghdad school where they were studying fine arts. Between lessons, they realized they shared a love of heavy metal. Though Acrassicauda's music deals with war and suffering, the band keeps it apolitical, singing of injustices in a general sense in songs such as "Between the Ashes" and "Massacre."

