

Soldiers give the gift of education

By Sgt. Joshua Risner
MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — Education is essential for a child growing up in the world today. That is no less true in Iraq, where schools are a building block for a child’s future.

Three schools were officially re-opened here, Nov. 5, thanks to Multi-National Division Baghdad Soldiers.

The Shab Female School, Yassamin School and Monte Tenaybo Schools were in shambles before they came to the attention of Army civil affairs Soldiers, according to Staff Sgt. Frank Halstead, from Brooklyn, N.Y.

“All three schools had to be completely redone because they were a mess,” he said. “They had to be painted and cleaned, the

wiring had to be redone and the walls on the outside needed repair. Basically they were just the shells of buildings.”

So Halstead and his fellow civil affairs Soldiers took up the contracts and set to work. They arranged for the repairs to be made and periodically checked the work to make sure things were being done to their specifications.

“We had to make sure they were done up to standard,” said Halstead. “Finally it all came together and the people have schools now.”

On opening day, the students gathered to sing songs and perform skits for the Soldiers and officials who came to see the work come to fruition.

“It feels pretty good because



Photo by Sgt. Joshua Risner

Iraqi girls perform a skit for Iraqi officials and Soldiers during a re-opening ceremony at Yassamin School, here, Nov. 5. The project was a joint effort between Government of Iraq officials and U.S. forces

today you actually get to see the kids’ reactions – it’s not just a bunch of older people standing around talking to each other,” said Halstead. “The kids were

happy, they looked like they wanted to be in school, to me that’s a good thing.”

For 1st Lt. Lacey Rector, from Willoughby Hills, Ohio, assigned 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, the girls at Shab Female School were a welcome sight.

“It’s nice to see females because you don’t see them very often over here,” she said. “It’s nice to see that they are being educated as well.”

The project is another example of the continued commitment of U.S. forces to helping the Iraqi people, according to Halstead.

“We’re there to help them not to hurt them,” he said. “They know if their children are being educated then that’s going to help them in the long run. They appreciate it.”

With three more schools operational in the Baghdad area, more children are getting the chance to better themselves and their communities by getting an education.



Photo by Sgt. Joshua Risner

First Lt. Lacey Rector (right), from Willoughby Hills, Ohio, talks with students and teachers at the reopening ceremony for the Shab Female School, here, Nov. 5.

Arch of Ctesiphon assessment

*Photo by Spc. Rebecca Schwab
2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. Div.*



BAGHDAD – Lt. Col. Michael Shinnars (left), of Alexandria, Va., the deputy commander of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, shows Lt. Col. Michael Davey the area surrounding the famous Arch of Ctesiphon during a site assessment mission Nov. 8 in Salmon Pak, Iraq. Shinnars and Davey, the deputy commander of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, along with Iraqi officials, discussed plans to renovate the arch's surrounding area during the visit.



A Soldier assigned to 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, stands guard near the Arch of Ctesiphon, one of the oldest free-standing arches in the world, during a site assessment mission, Nov. 8 in Salmon Pak, Iraq, located in the Ma'dain region outside Baghdad. Built by the Parthian Persians in the sixth century, the arch spans 75 feet and is 110 feet high, and is built entirely of baked brick. U.S. and Iraqi officials discussed plans to improve the grounds surrounding the arch in order to attract tourism and restore national pride.

How you win in Iraq: Face to Face

By Staff Sgt. Robert Jordan
30th HBCT PAO

BAGHDAD — American Soldiers have a wealth of technology at hand in Iraq; drones, armored vehicles, cameras and sensors.

North Carolina National Guard troops with the 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team are finding that some of the successes, here, on the southern outskirts of Baghdad, come when they step outside their humvees and simply interact, face to face, with local citizens.

“We want to show security is getting better. Meeting with the locals helps us learn what is going on and helps us help Iraqi Security Forces,” said Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Mooring, of Pine Level, N.C.

During a joint U.S./Iraqi foot patrol, Nov. 7, the dismounted security patrols through vacant buildings are all in a day’s work.

This is familiar ground; the U.S. Soldiers have done more than 100 patrols and trained many of the ISF who went out on the day’s mission.

Departing the 6th Iraqi Army headquarters in Saydiyah, south of Baghdad, a mix of armored vehicles, both U.S. and Iraqi, rumbled out the gate.

The day’s mission is to canvas the area and learn about families moving back to the area as security has improved, said Mooring.

The area is urban, mixed apartments, small shops and houses. The convoy pulls up to a tree-shaded road with several multi-story houses and apartments.

The troops dismount and meet with local residents asking about anything unusual in the area.

“If they see anyone breaking the law they can call Iraqi secu-



Photo by Spc. Kelly LeCompte, 30th HBCT

Sgt. Richard Goley (center), of Charlotte, N.C., walks down a neighborhood street in the Rashid district in southern Baghdad during a mission with Soldiers of 6th Iraqi Army, Nov. 7.

rity or us, and we will come back with Iraqi forces and a warrant,” said Mooring.

As more families move back to the area, they want to see their Iraqi Soldiers, said Mooring. The recent activity of strangers in abandoned or vacant houses concerns locals.

Leaders direct their Soldiers into small teams to search a nearby four-story building, one of the tallest in the neighborhood. Non-commissioned officers lead their Soldiers into the rough-hewn brick and wood building.

“Once you have the high ground, you win,” said Mooring.

The Soldiers advance up the several flights of stairs. At each floor, Soldiers search every room.

“It is different every time, you do not know what to expect.

It is never the same,” Sgt. Giancarlo Urzi, of Raleigh, N.C.

Now with the high ground secure, the Soldiers now provide security for the Iraqi Forces and fellow U.S. Soldiers as they move in the neighborhood below.

“You can spend more time talking to the locals and one less thing to worry about,” said Staff Sgt. Joseph Sauls, from Pikeville, N.C.

Teams of Soldiers move freely in the neighborhood. The Soldiers stop at local residences trying to get more information of conditions on the street.

“We ask permission and they welcome us in to their homes like a civilian police officer,” said Sauls.

The Soldiers must balance the war fighter and the neighbor.

“You can show you mean business but also show an inter-

est in their problems like water, infrastructure, even the weather,” said Sauls.

Sauls has one simple rule to dealing with his Iraqi civilians, treat others as you want to be treated.

“Kids, family, lots of people come out to see what we are doing,” said Staff Sgt. Marvin McCorvey, of Graham, N.C.

Bags of cement, loads of bricks and tools line many of the yards. “You see a lot of workers and reconstruction here,” said McCorvey of Graham, N.C.

These are the signs of normalcy that the Soldiers use as benchmarks of success. Another day done, another patrol completed; the small victories that come from forging friendships.

“It is a great relief when you come back with all your men, that is a good patrol,” said Sauls.

On This Day In History

November 11, 1921

Dedication of the Tomb of the Unknowns

Exactly three years after the end of World War I, the Tomb of the Unknowns is dedicated at Arlington Cemetery in Virginia during an Armistice Day ceremony presided over by President Warren G. Harding.

Two days before, an unknown American soldier, who had fallen somewhere on a World War I battlefield, arrived at the nation's capital from a military cemetery in France. On Armistice Day, in the presence of President Harding and other government, military, and international dignitaries, the unknown soldier was buried with highest honors beside the Memorial Amphitheater. As the soldier was lowered to his final resting place, a two-inch layer of soil brought from France was placed below his coffin so that he might rest forever atop the earth on which he died.

The Tomb of the Unknowns is considered the most hallowed grave at Arlington Cemetery, America's most sacred military cemetery. The tombstone itself, designed by sculptor Thomas Hudson Jones, was not completed until 1932, when it was unveiled bearing the description "Here Rests in Honored Glory an American Soldier Known but to God." The World War I unknown was later joined by the unidentified remains of soldiers from America's other major 20th century wars and the tomb was put under permanent guard by special military sentinels.

In 1998, a Vietnam War unknown, who was buried at the tomb for 14 years, was disinterred from the Tomb after DNA testing indicated his identity. Air Force Lieutenant Michael Blassie was returned to his hometown of St. Louis, Missouri, and was buried with military honors, including an F-15 jet "missing man" flyover and a lone bugler sounding taps.

FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



DID YOU KNOW?

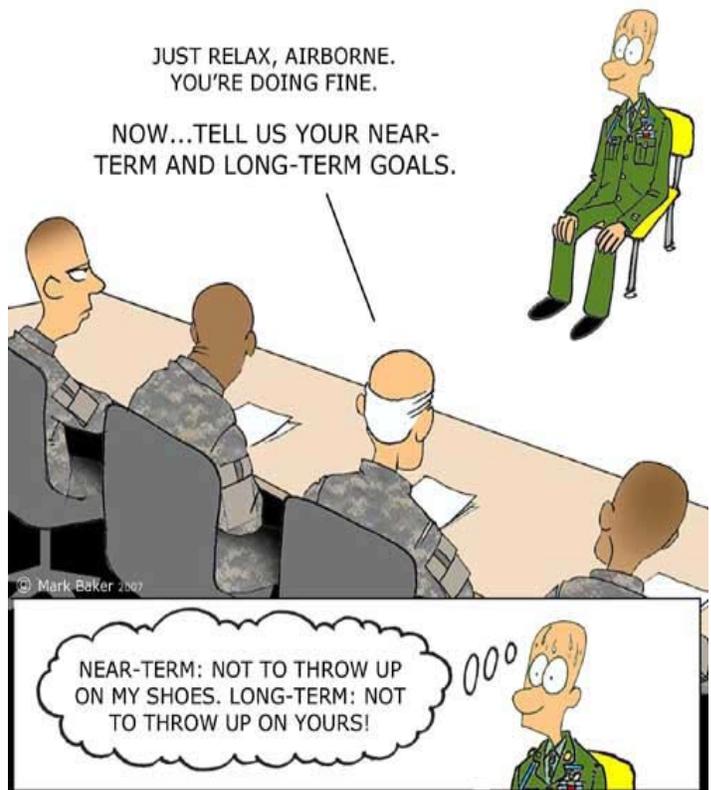
Chuck Norris can drink an entire gallon of milk in thirty-seven seconds.

MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell, MND-B

BAGHDAD — Cpl. John Curtis, a combat medic and former firefighter from Lisbon, Maine, and Iraqi firefighters from the 29th Center for Defense use a fire hose to spray water at a simulated fire during joint-firefighter training at Joint Security Station Ur in northern Baghdad, Nov. 8



JUST RELAX, AIRBORNE. YOU'RE DOING FINE.

NOW...TELL US YOUR NEAR-TERM AND LONG-TERM GOALS.

NEAR-TERM: NOT TO THROW UP ON MY SHOES. LONG-TERM: NOT TO THROW UP ON YOURS!

Quote For Today

“There is no chance, no destiny, no fate, that can hinder or control the firm resolve of a determined soul.”

— Ella Wheeler Wilcox —

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today
79° F | 63° F



Tomorrow
83° F | 65° F



Friday
87° F | 64° F

TRIVIA TIME!!

Which beverage was named after its resemblance to the dark brown clothing worn by 16th century Italian monks?

Last Issue's Answer: INDIA

Cav Round-Up radio newscast available

MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — The Cav Round-Up is a three-minute radio newscast from Baghdad covering military units and events across Multi-National Division — Baghdad.

Today's Cav Round-Up # 195 was produced by SGT Ashley Anderson, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

This newscast includes the fol-

lowing stories:

1. 1st Air Cavalry Brigade maintenance crews help keep Apaches flying. Story from the field by SGT Stephanie Logue, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

Without the maintenance teams the Apache pilots wouldn't be able to keep a watchful over Iraq.

2. Soldiers from the 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infan-

try Division and their counterparts work together to find a weapons cache. Interview with 1LT Michael Slapik, 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 4th SBCT, 2nd Inf. Div.

A mortar system was found.

NIPR LINK: Cav Round-Up

SIPR LINK: Cav Round-Up

Check out more news at the 1st Cavalry Division's homepage:

www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/

Trigger's Teasers

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

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow: **Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.**

Every Sudoku game begins with a number of squares already filled in, and the difficulty of each game is largely a function of how many squares are filled in. The more squares that are known, the easier it is to figure out which numbers go in the open squares. As you fill in squares correctly, options for the remaining squares are narrowed and it becomes easier to fill them in.

Yesterday's Answers

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



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Submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs NCOIC nicholas.conner@mnd-b.army.mil and include author's name, rank, unit and contact information. The **Daily Charge** reserves the right to edit submissions selected for the paper.

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