

U.S., ISF combine to secure polling sites

By Sgt. Jennie Burrett
2nd BCT PAO, 10th Mtn. Div.

BAGHDAD – As the elections in Iraq draw closer, U.S. and Iraqi forces are focusing on providing security for citizens and polling stations in the capital.

Soldiers of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division teamed up with Iraqi Federal Police to move concrete barriers and cement blocks for increased security measures, during the upcoming elections at polling sites in the New Baghdad district, Dec. 7.

Although movement in the city is restricted for U.S. forces under the current Security Agreement; they are still able to provide assistance through

partnership with the Iraqi forces.

“Everything we do on a daily basis is partnered with the Iraqis, with the Iraqis in the lead,” said Capt. Tad Granai, of Providence, R.I.

“It’s been a great working relationship with incredible improvement that’s taken place in a very, very short amount of time. We’ll continue this partnership until we leave,” said Granai.

Iraqi Federal Policeman Col. Alwan Shakir, appreciated what the Americans are doing in support of the people of Iraq.

“I thank our friendly forces for the great support that they are providing to [the people of Iraq],” said Shakir.



Photo by Georges Aboumrad

Pfc. William Chrisman, of Merritt Island, Fla., operates a forklift loading barriers in preparations for a combined operation with Iraqi forces, Dec. 7, to put barriers for security around the New Baghdad polling sites for the upcoming elections.



Photo by Georges Aboumrad

Staff Sgt. William Turner, of Lynchburg, Va., provides security in New Baghdad, Dec. 7, where American and Iraqi forces are placing concrete security barriers for the upcoming elections.

Supporting the Iraqi government and helping the Iraqi people are the main concerns of the 2BCT Soldiers currently serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“We are really excited we get to help the Iraqi government by making sure the elections go well,” said 1st Lt. Robert Makuch, of Scottsville, N.Y. “We are here to support the Iraqi Army and the Iraqi Police by making sure these elections go safely. Our main concern is keeping the Iraqi voters safe so that they feel safe enough to go out and vote and have a good turnout for the elections.”

The combined partnership preparation will continue for the upcoming elections in the beginning of 2010.

Leaders' maintenance course

By Sgt. Mary Phillips
30th HBCT PAO, MND-B



BAGHDAD - Capt. Kenny Ragsdale, of Fayetteville, N.C., (left), and 1st Lt. Ryan Johnson, of Clayton, N.C., both of Company A, 230th Brigade Support Battalion, 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team, look over a technical manual while conducting preventive maintenance checks and services during a class at Forward Operating Base Falcon, Dec. 5.



BAGHDAD - First Lt. Ryan Johnson, of Clayton, N.C., with Co. A, 230th Brigade Support Battalion, 30th Heavy BCT, applies grease to a wench cable at FOB Falcon, Dec. 5, during a preventive maintenance checks and services class.



BAGHDAD - First Lt. Nicole Ebert, of Kewaskum, Wis., with Co. C, 230th Brigade Support Battalion, 30th Heavy BCT, checks the fluids on a mine resistant ambush protected vehicle during the hands on portion of a preventive maintenance checks and services class, at FOB Falcon, Dec. 5.



BAGHDAD - Sergeant 1st Class Sommer Rollins, (right), points out a part of the trailer to Sgt. 1st Class Scott Frasch, during a preventive maintenance checks and services class at FOB Falcon, Dec. 5. Rollins, of Banner Elk, N.C., and Frasch, of Raleigh, N.C., both of Co. A, 230th Brigade Support Battalion, 30th Heavy BCT.

Sailor comes ashore for civil affairs mission

By Staff Sgt. Jeff Hansen

MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — With the transition in Iraq shifting from a U.S. to an Iraqi led force, becoming a joint-service armed force is more important than ever, and Multi-National Division — Baghdad is no exception.

One example of this meshing between the branches is

Petty Officer 3rd Class Colette Culpepper. The Antioch, Calif., native is currently assigned as a movement coordinator with the 414th Civil Affairs Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division, here. She is one of the very few Navy personnel currently assigned to MND-B.

As a systems administrator aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, Culpepper worked as a trouble-shooter for net-

work computers and communications equipment on board the ship. She received on-the-job training via an intelligence program and says it was an easy switch because of her electronics background.

Culpepper volunteered to support Operation Iraqi Freedom because she wanted to help with the transition of responsibility back to the Iraqis. She stated that she was also eager to get some boots-on-ground time, which she hasn't gotten much of during her four years in the Navy.

As a member of the division's Civil Capacity Cell, Culpepper compiles information gathered by aerial footage and ground intelligence in order to brief staff and unit leaders on how to conduct movement safely throughout the area.

The collection is then briefed to MND-B leadership during a Non-Lethal Targeting Board, where plans are formed and revised based on information received from units.

"I enjoy the boards we have here," she stated. "Hearing the generals speak with such passion about what they want to see happen is great."

Culpepper works to ensure the units' movements are conducted in a safe and secure manner. If they can arrive at their destination and accomplish the mission without enduring any combat, Culpepper said she considers that a successful mission.

Though all branches of the military are working together to achieve the same overall objective here, Culpepper said she noticed a difference in the way the services train and actually execute the mission. Being accustomed to working on a ship, she said seeing Soldiers making face-to-face contact with locals was a learning experience for her.

"I've gotten a whole new respect on military service and the way things work from land," she said. "I like how the Army is so hands-on with the communities; it's something I'm not used to."

As the 414th CA Bn. continues their mission, Culpepper says she hopes to continue to be a valuable asset to the team. With the multitude of duties thrown on her plate, Culpepper is proving that Sailors, too, can learn to be Army Strong.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeff Hansen

Petty Officer 3rd Class Colette Culpepper, an Antioch, Calif., native, organizes and prepares for an upcoming Non-Lethal Targeting Bureau, Dec. 8. Culpepper is currently assigned to the 414th Civil Affairs Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division as a movement coordinator and non-lethal targeting assistant.

CSM of the Maneuver Center of Excellence visits

By Sgt. Jennie Burrett
2nd BCT PAO, 10th Mtn. Div.

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The command sergeant major of the Maneuver Center of Excellence, from Fort Benning, Ga., visited Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Dec. 3.

Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Rice met to discuss the quality of training Soldiers receive coming out of the U.S.

Army's main infantry training center, and to talk about senior leader's thoughts on improvement.

"The Maneuver Center of Excellence command sergeant major visited 2nd Brigade today in the continued pursuit of excellence, to help us know and understand we are smarter than we were yesterday, but not as smart as we will be tomorrow," said Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Montour,

of Amarillo, Texas, the brigade's top enlisted leader.

Rice came to speak to senior non-commissioned officers on what is going on at Fort Benning and what NCOs need to do when they get a new Soldier from Fort Benning.

According to Rice, purpose, direction, and motivation are what the Soldiers who come directly out of training at Fort Benning need from

their NCOs to build them up from the baseline the cadre at Fort Benning set for the Soldiers during training.

Some of the topics discussed during the meetings ranged from physical fitness to Ranger school for the Soldiers. The main discussion was based on what the NCOs thought the Soldiers needed to know before they are sent to their first permanent duty station.

On This Day In History

December 10, 1864

Sherman arrives in front of Savannah

Union General William T. Sherman completes his "March to the Sea" when he arrives in front of Savannah, Georgia.

Since mid-November, Sherman's army had been sweeping from Atlanta across the state to the south and east towards Savannah, one of the last Confederate seaports still unoccupied by Union forces. Along the way, Sherman destroyed farms and railroads, burned storehouses, and fed his army off the land, a plan that was approved by President Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant, general-in-chief of the Union armies.

The city of Savannah was fortified and defended by 10,000 Confederates under the command of General William Hardee. The Rebels flooded the rice fields around Savannah, so only a few narrow causeways provided access to the city. Sherman's army had been completely cut off from the North, and only the reports of destruction provided any evidence of its whereabouts.

For ten day, Hardee held out as Sherman prepared for an attack. Realizing the futility of losing in force entirely, Hardee fled the city on December 20 and slipped northward to fight another day.

MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Sgt. Samantha Beuterbaugh, MND-B BAGHDAD – Capt. Thomas Mills (right), of Winfield, W.Va., shakes hands in al-Wissam, Dec. 5, with a local sheikh who would like help from U.S. forces with remodeling another local school.

FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS

DID YOU KNOW?



When Chuck Norris goes to donate blood, he declines the syringe, and instead requests a hand gun and a bucket.

Quote For Today

“Try not to do too many things at once. Know what you want, the number one thing today and tomorrow. Persevere and get it done.”

— George Allen —

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today
68° F | 51° F



Tomorrow
64° F | 50° F



Saturday
66° F | 51° F

TRIVIA TIME!!

What country did ever-prudent King Farouk I declare war on in 1945?

Last Issue's Answer: THE SOVIET UNION

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 # 216 was produced by SFC Brian Scott, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

This newscast includes the following stories:

1. A Soldier from the North Carolina National Guard uses his civilian skills as a bridge engineer to help the Iraqi people in replacing U.S. owned temporary bridges with more permanent structures. Interview with Capt. Jeffery Vones, 252nd Combined Arms Battalion.

2. Civil Affairs Soldiers inspect solar powered water filter filtration systems in Abu Ghraib. The five

systems were made available by CERP funds

http://www.dvidshub.net/?script=general/general_search/&table=audio&query=Cav+Round-Up&type

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

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

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



Multi-National Division - Baghdad

Public Affairs Office

Commanding General:

Maj. Gen. Daniel Bolger

Public Affairs Officer:

Lt. Col. Philip Smith

Public Affairs Chief:

Master Sgt. Nicholas Conner

Editor:

Sgt. Teri Hansen

Staff Writers:

Staff Sgt. Jeff Hansen

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The **Daily Charge** welcomes columns, commentaries, articles, letters and photos from readers.

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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