

Nov. 5, 2005

[www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil](http://www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil)

# The Advisor

Official Weekly Command Information Report for the Multi-National Security Transition Command - Iraq



In an Iraqi Training Brigade pilot course, senior NCOs are

# Training to lead

# MNSTC-I

## Commanding General

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey

## Command Sergeant Major

U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Ralph G. White

## Public Affairs Officer

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Frederick Wellman

## Deputy Public Affairs Officer

U.S. Army Capt. Mark Jacobsen

## Operations NCO

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Paul Tuttle

## Editor

U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

## Journalist

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Mark Woodbury

## CPATT Public Affairs Officer

Ann Bertucci

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, multinational partners or the U.S. Dept. 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@mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil

MNSTC-I PAO  
APO AE 09316  
DPN: 318-852-1334

To subscribe to The Advisor,  
visit us online at:  
[www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil/advisor.htm](http://www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil/advisor.htm)

**Cover: An Iraqi noncommissioned officer demonstrates firing skills from a supported kneeling position during a range exercise. He was among 16 in a pilot course for chief warrant officers and sergeants major at Kirkush Military Training Base.**

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

## Referendum security boosts confidence, British commander tells reporters

**By Samantha L. Quigley**

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The secure environment in which Iraqis voted on a constitutional referendum Oct. 15 increased Iraqis' confidence in their security forces, a top official said.

"I think the real success for the referendum security was the increased confidence it gave to the Iraqi security forces themselves and, through them, to the Iraqi people," British Royal Marine Maj. Gen. Jim Dutton, commander of Multinational Division Southeast, said in a Nov. 4 news conference from Basra, Iraq. "That will be significant in the way in which the (security forces) are seen by the Iraqi people in the future."

Dutton is in charge of Coalition operations in the region. He said this increased confidence is important as plans progress to completely transition security operations to Iraqi forces. While tailored to each individual region, the plans will enable Iraqi forces to provide their own security with decreasing dependence on Coalition forces.

Relative calm in Iraq's southeast gives security forces there a head start on this process. "We are in a situation here now, and have been for some time, (where) Iraqi forces take the lead for security," Dutton said.

Generally, Iraqi Police handle any security issues that arise, he said. Should they need assistance, they request help from the Iraqi Army through a provincial joint operations center that handles emergency calls.

The low number of security incidents has aided the security forces' ability to handle things on their own. The southeast region accounts for about 2 percent of all security incidents in the country, Dutton said.

"It has varied from a low of 1.2 percent up to (about) 5 percent," he said. "Even at its worst, this is a relatively stable area in comparison to other parts of the country."

That insurgent activity hasn't significantly spiked in the region since the referendum reinforces that fact. The improvised explosive device (IED) threat does, however, concern Coalition and Iraqi forces in the region. Since the beginning of August, IEDs caused 18 deaths in the area, with the last occurring Oct. 18, Dutton said. One IED exploded since then, but was not lethal.

Guarding Iraq's border with Iran is one key to reducing security threats, he said. "It's a long and difficult border to police. One of the problems is it only has one legal border crossing between the (Persian) Gulf and Baghdad."

Adding a second legal cross point would make policing the rest of the border easier, he said. Authorities are pursuing that option.

"There's still a lot of work to be done throughout Iraq, and still down here in the south as well, in terms of security-sector reform and in assisting in reconstruction," Dutton said. "How long it takes partly depends on the Iraqis. I hope that a stable government after the elections in December will speed up this process markedly."

**"Individual commitment to a group effort — that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."**

**— Vince Lombardi (1913—1970)**

# Pilot course for Iraqi CWOs, SGMs wraps up

**By U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell**  
MNSTC-I Public Affairs

KIRKUSH, Iraq – A pilot training course for Iraqi Army chief warrant officers and sergeants major wrapped up Nov. 3 at Kirkush Military Training Base, with Coalition advisers deeming it a success.

The four-week course focused on individual training in barracks administration; range planning and conduct; drill and ceremony instruction; planning operations and professional development.

Sixteen students completed the course, most of whom hold the rank of chief warrant officer or sergeant major. Others have been identified for eventual promotion to the ranks, said Australian Warrant Officer Class One David Hatton, senior adviser for the Military Transition Team attached to the 1st Battalion of the Iraqi Training Brigade (ITB).

In the U.S. Army, the Iraqi ranks of chief warrant officer and sergeant major are equivalent to command sergeant major and first sergeant, respectively.

The goal of the training was to improve leadership skills and to prepare the senior noncommissioned officers

(NCOs) to train the soldiers they lead. Some will remain at ITB to teach squad and platoon-level courses, Hatton said.

During barracks administration week, students studied the roles and responsibilities of their ranks; their relationships with Jundis (entry-level soldiers), junior NCOs and officers; accountability and punishments and orders. There were also lessons in values, motivating subordinates, hygiene in both the barracks and in the field, equal opportunity, counseling, communication skills and managing resources. Students were required to write essays on the various aspects of leadership, Hatton said.

“One thing stressed was equity, especially when it comes to ethnicity, gender and religion,” Hatton said.

The second week was devoted to range planning and conduct, during which students practiced their skills with small arms and learned advanced marksmanship coaching, range safety and forecasting.

They were also introduced to night vision goggles (NVGs), a piece of equipment they had never seen before, Hatton said. Instructors



In teams of two, Iraqi NCOs demonstrate firing skills while on the move during range exercises at Kirkush Military Training Base, where they participated in a pilot course for chief warrant officers and sergeants major.

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

gave a classroom lesson on the NVGs, and then had students put them on and walk out to the range in the dark to acquaint them with the devices. A night fire with the NVGs followed.

A touch of humor was inadvertently added to the lesson when Iraqi soldiers in the guard towers near the range became alarmed by the sight of men walking toward them with what appeared to be glowing green eyes, Hatton said. They called in reports of possible space aliens at the range, he added.

Week three consisted of lessons in planning and conducting battalion and company level parades and ceremonies, formal inspections of troops and customs and traditions. In the final week, instruction focused on planning



Range exercises also included firing from standing, kneeling and prone positions.

Photo by U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Mark Woodbury

**See 'Pilot'**

Page 4

# KMTB's Iraqi Training Brigade set for expansion

By U.S. Sgt. Lorie Jewell

MNSTC-I Public Affairs

KIRKUSH, Iraq – Iraqi leaders, with support from Coalition advisers, are on course for adding two more battalions to the Iraqi Training Brigade (ITB).

The first battalion has been training new recruits at Kirkush Military Training Base (KMTB) since last year. A second battalion, which will be based at KMTB, and a third, to be located at An Numaniyah Military Training Base, are on schedule to be operational in 2006.

ITB courses include five weeks of basic combat training for new recruits. The course also includes a seven-week infantry course that spends four weeks focusing on noncommissioned officer development for squad and platoon leader and three weeks in methods of instruction, also referred to as “train the trainer.” Graduates return to their units to train

other soldiers, or stay on at ITB as instructors.

There are also several courses for specialized jobs such as transportation and maintenance that run for five weeks and four-week courses in military police, administration, supply, armor and signal. A five-week medic course is operated in conjunction with Iraq's Ministry of Health.

Instructors come largely from the Iraqi Army ranks and are assisted by Coalition Military Transition Teams (MiTTs). The teams include mobile advisers who travel to other Iraqi bases to assist units.

The basic combat training course is designed for 1,000 soldiers, while the infantry and specialty courses have 500.

Future plans include a stand-alone NCO academy for up to 300 students; expanding the range; improving existing facilities and adding others, such as outdoor lecture shelters and storage facilities.

## Pilot

From Page 3

and leading company and battalion level military operations – convoys, counterinsurgency and urban terrain, for example – running a tactical operations center and leading troops.

Iraqi Chief Warrant Officer Wissam found the training in urban area fighting especially helpful.

“This will help us to be able to enter and clear buildings,” Wissam said through an interpreter. “The other troops could be put in danger if we don't train correctly and then pass on what we have learned to the junior troops.”



Iraqi NCOs used night vision goggles for the first time during a pilot course for chief warrant officers and sergeants major.

Photo courtesy of the Iraqi Training Brigade

Computer skills, such as using programs like Microsoft Word and Excel spread sheets, were included in the training. Students also lived a day in the life of a sergeant major



Two Iraqi soldiers team up for practice drills at the Kirkush Military Training Base firing range. The men were among 16 NCOs attending a pilot course for chief warrant officers and sergeants major.

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

or chief warrant officer, with commanders giving them scenarios and asking for feedback on how they would suggest handling them. Examples included two soldiers caught fighting, with one accusing the other of stealing; a battalion suffering from low morale or putting together an appropriate ceremony for the arrival of a high-level Iraqi general.

Hatton and others consider the pilot course a success, not just because of the performance of the students but because of the involvement of Iraqi ITB leaders in planning the course. Conducting the course during Ramadan – a month-long major Muslim holiday in which observers fast during

daylight hours – posed a particular challenge, Hatton said. The Iraqi chain of command decided not to change the training program, but advised Coalition advisers to be mindful that it may not be accomplished according to set schedules.

Several students also deemed the course a success. “We are now learning how important leadership is within the enlisted troops,” said Iraqi Sgt. 1st Class Ali. “I am grateful to be selected as an NCO.”

The next course for chief warrant officers and sergeants major is scheduled for January.

# Iraqi advisers hit their stride in Marine Corps Marathon

By U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

MNSTC-I Public Affairs

KIRKUSH, Iraq – Long stretches of rocks and gravel, the stench of a sewage processing plant and an improvised explosive device exploding on the horizon did nothing to deter U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Steve Grass from completing the Marine Corps Marathon.

Grass, the senior base support adviser to the Iraqi commanding general of Kirkush Military Training Base, hoped to finish the 26.2 miles in less than four hours. He set off at 6 a.m. Oct. 30, accompanied by a relay team of fellow advisers, and crossed a stretch of red “Caution” tape – a makeshift finish line – three hours, 49 minutes later.

Grass said he was surprised to learn he beat his time from last year’s Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C. by about 10 minutes. A five-mile loop around the perimeter of the base served as the course.

“The last lap, I was starting to hurt,” Grass said. “But seeing the finish line always makes you feel good, and the caution tape was a nice touch.”

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Tammy LaFrancois, the senior medical adviser to the Iraqi Army on the base, started the race as a relay team member. Her intent was to run at least 10 miles, she said before taking off. Instead, she ran the entire course in about four hours, 30 minutes.

“I have a lot of determination,” said LaFrancois, who serves as an emergency room nurse at Blanchfield Army Community Hospital at Fort Campbell, Ky. “Once I made 15 miles, I thought I might as well try to finish it. It feels great to have done it, especially in Iraq.”

Although Grass has run the Marine Corps Marathon twice before, this was LaFrancois’ first marathon. The two run together several times a week, from five to 10 miles.



U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Steve Grass congratulates U.S. Army Lt. Col. Tammy LaFrancois after she completed the marathon in about four hours, 30 minutes.



U.S. Army Lt. Col. Tammy LaFrancois and U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Steve Grass make their way around the perimeter of Kirkush Military Training Base.

Photos by U.S. Army Sgt. Lorie Jewell

The runners faced a few challenges along the way. Roughly 70 percent of the route is over dirt and gravel roads and in one corner of the base sits a sewage plant. But the biggest trial was an improvised explosive device (IED) that went off not far from the base, hitting a U.S. convoy. Grass was on his third lap when he heard the explosion; when he learned it was an IED he planned to abort the run and head to the base operations center.

As he neared the operations center, U.S. Army 1st Sgt. Bob Weakley ran alongside Grass to give him a report on the situation. There were no injuries, everything was under control and there wasn’t anything more Grass would be able to do, Weakley told him. So Grass continued to run.



U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Steve Grass grabs a banana and a drink of water as he starts another lap. Grass finished the marathon in three hours, 49 minutes.

Breaking four hours wasn’t Grass’ only goal for the marathon. He used the event as a way to raise money for Destination Cure, a nonprofit organization that raises money for multiple sclerosis research. Grass’ mother was diagnosed with the disease in 1970 and one of his best friend’s mother died from it.

Grass asked friends, family and anyone else with an interest to make pledges through the organization’s Web site. He won’t know for a few months how much his trek raised.

“I did ask everyone to double their pledge if I broke four hours,” he said, smiling.

Grass is scheduled to leave Iraq in December and return to the Marine Corps Systems Command at Quantico, Va.

# Rainbow division transfers authority to Screaming Eagles

## New commander looks forward to working with Iraqi Security Forces

**By U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Mark Woodbury**  
MNSTC-I Public Affairs

TIKRIT, Iraq – Stewardship of the Multi-National Division North Central area passed from the U.S. Army's 42nd Infantry Division to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at a Nov. 1 transfer of authority ceremony.

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Taluto, commander of the 42nd "Rainbow" Division, handed over the colors to 101st Commander U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Thomas R. Turner before a large crowd of local dignitaries and Iraqi and Coalition members of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The transfer puts the 101st "Screaming Eagles" in charge of defending the Tikrit area, which includes three provinces, from insurgents.

Taluto said he was proud of the 42nd Division and the work they accomplished during their time there. He said he knows things are going well in the Multi-National Division North Central Area and is confident that the 101st Division will continue the mission already in place there.

The 42nd Division increased the number of Iraqi battalions to 18 during its tenure in Iraq, along with preparing Forward Operating Base Danger to be handed over to the Iraqis and arrested countless insurgents.

Turner said he looks forward to continuing the work to bring freedom to every person in Iraq by working with Iraqi Security Forces in this new assignment.

"The 101st Division will continue on the progress established by the 42nd Division," Turner said.

Turner also said he is confident the division will continue to train Iraqis effectively so the responsibility of protecting Iraq from insurgents can be transferred fully into the hands of the Iraqi Security Forces.



U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Joseph Taluto passes the color to U.S. Maj. Gen. Thomas Turner during a Nov. 1 transfer of authority ceremony.

Photos by U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Mark Woodbury

The 101st made its mark in Iraq earlier in the campaign when it took over the Iraqi cities of Karbala and Hilla, followed by a move into Najaf to free citizens who were being held hostage by Iraqi paramilitaries March 21, 2003. The

division was then ordered to secure the city of Mosul, which ended up being the longest air assault in history to date.

After occupying the city, the division neutralized regime loyalists and Muslim extremists and used its resources to oversee more than \$50 million in reconstruction projects while also organizing and training Iraqi Police.

Turner assumed command of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in May 2004.



Iraqi and U.S. Soldiers display the colors during the transfer of authority ceremony.

# Soldiers bring food, water to Iraqi families in need

**By U.S. Army Spc. Ben Brody**

2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq – Iraqi Army troops, in coordination with U.S. Soldiers from 448th Civil Affairs Battalion, distributed food and water to residents of Seven Palaces in north Baghdad Oct. 26.

Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division passed out 1,200 Halal-certified food rations and 1,200 1.5-liter bottles of water that had been stockpiled as a contingency against possible violence on the day Iraqis voted on the Constitutional Referendum.

Since the Oct. 15 Referendum went smoothly, Iraqi Army Sgt. Maj. Nameer said he felt the food should go to needy families in Baghdad.

“The people feel happy when we come to their neighborhoods, because we often give away food to the poor,” Nameer said. “It is good training for the soldiers, too, and they learn to organize the crowds that arrive.”

Seven Palaces is a poor area that was once farmland but is now home to many people who came to Baghdad seeking work, but can’t afford to live downtown. The name is a tongue-in-cheek term from the area’s farming days when there were only seven small houses in the neighborhood, said Iraqi Army Warrant Officer Abdul.

“We are working for one goal – to build the army that will protect and free Iraq,” Abdul said. “It will take time, but we are building the confidence of the people every day.”

Abdul, a former Iraqi Army sergeant major, said he was imprisoned at Abu Ghraib for five years under Saddam Hussein’s regime for speaking out against the dictator. He was liberated in 2003 by U.S. forces.

As the Iraqi soldiers rolled into town, a crowd quickly assembled around the trucks carrying bottled water and Halal



**Iraqi soldiers distribute food and water to residents of Seven Palaces during a humanitarian aid mission.**  
Photo by U.S. Army Spc. Ben Brody

rations. Residents eagerly carted away the donations.

“Civil military operations like this are relatively new to the Iraqi Army, but they’re picking it up quickly and see the importance of assisting their people,” said U.S. Army Capt. Roger Miick, 448th CA Bn. “They’re still fighting a battle against insurgents, but they know it’s important to do what they can to help.”

Miick observed the humanitarian aid drop to both assess the Iraqi Army’s performance and determine residents’ additional needs.

“Everyone wants shoes, winter clothes and blankets as soon as we can get them,” said U.S. Army Capt. Michelle Dyarman, a team leader with 448th CA Bn. “We have hundreds of kerosene heaters to distribute, but we need to line up a consistent supplier of fuel with the Ministry of Oil first.”

After receiving a kiss on the cheek from a little girl who had her arms full of donated food and water, Dyarman said the mission was a big success.

## CENTCOM issues photo, video policy

**By U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Mark Woodbury**

MNSTC-I Public Affairs

TAMPA, Fla. – United States military service members and civilians are prohibited from taking, distributing or possessing photographs or videos of detainees or human casualties, according to a recent policy issued by U.S. Army Gen. John Abizaid, commander of the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM).

The policy applies to service members and civilians employed by or accompanying the U.S. Armed Forces in the CENTCOM area, which includes Iraq and Afghanistan.

Service members caught taking or possessing such photos or video may face administrative and/or disciplinary action through the Uniform Code of Military Justice, according to the policy. Civilians may face criminal prosecution or administrative action for violating the policy.

Possessing magazines or newspapers that depict such images are not prohibited, however. Distributing media images in the course of official duties is also allowed.

Images of wounded individuals recovering in medical facilities are allowed as well, with consent of the individual, the policy states.

The policy was issued to ensure detainees and human casualties are treated in accordance with laws and regulations and to emphasize the importance of respecting the dignity of human life.

# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Interior forces continue offensive

BAGHDAD – Iraqi forces including Baghdad Police, Public Order Police, Special Police Commandos and Mechanized Police went after suspected terrorists in “Operation National Unity” that began Sept. 29.

The operation involved more than 20,000 police officers and 5,000 special police operating in vehicles and on foot patrols, along with manning checkpoints. Since then, they have conducted 189 raids on suspected hideouts, 781 searches and 10,330 roadside checkpoints throughout the Baghdad area.

As a result, 83 suspected terrorists have been killed, 1,393 suspects and 38 stockpiles of weapons confiscated. Tips from local citizens assisted in many of the cases.

In the 24 hours following Oct. 31, Ministry of Interior forces with assistance from the Iraqi Army conducted 128 patrols, six searches, 206 checkpoints, five escort missions and 74 patrols in the capital region.

Citizen tips have brought a 59 percent increase in the number of weapon caches discovered by security forces, officials said. (Task Force Baghdad)

## Team clears junkyard

BAGHDAD – Iraqi contractors teamed up with Coalition troops to clear a scrap metal junkyard of more than 2,400 rounds of unexploded ordnance, which were destroyed in a 12-day operation in rural east Baghdad.

Up to 45 Iraqi contractors and U.S. Soldiers from Headquarters Troop, 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry worked the operation together Oct. 9-23. The junkyard contained 1,135 mortar rounds, 632 artillery rounds, 195 rockets, 22 mines and six bombs.

“The operation takes possible improvised explosive devices off the streets,” said U.S. Sgt. Frank Neal, the small-

arms master gunner for the troop.

Neal said the operation to destroy the ordnance was completed with a focus on safety and that no one suffered any injuries during the controlled detonations. (2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs)

## Suspects flee, drop ammunition

QAIYARAH – Iraqi and Coalition forces captured four men and a large amount of ordnance during a combined operation Oct. 25 to disrupt anti-Iraq force activities.

While Iraqi forces were searching houses, two men fled the area in a vehicle. They were followed and apprehended.

During their attempted flight, the pair dropped several boxes of machine gun ammunition on the road. The boxes contained more than 1,500 rounds. An AK-47 assault rifle and a machine gun barrel were also discovered hidden in the truck.

The Iraqi soldiers identified the two men and then searched their home, finding a significant cache. Among the items confiscated was a machine gun, a sniper rifle, a rifle, four AK-47 assault rifles, 4,500 rounds of machine gun ammunition, 10 full AK-47 magazines, approximately 500 rounds of rifle ammunition, five swords, four flares, three bayonets, rocket propellants and one hand grenade. (Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force)

## Cache seized in Mosul

MOSUL, Iraq – Iraqi Police found and seized a weapons cache Oct. 31 in Mosul.

The cache consisted of one improvised rocket launching tube, 26 rocket-propelled grenades, seven 82 mm mortar rounds, one 60 mm mortar tube, around 3,000 rounds of small arms ammunition, four rolls of detonation cord and a tripod.

## Did you know?

### The history of Veterans Day

Veterans Day in the United States was initially known as Armistice Day, a recognition of the end of World War I hostilities between Allied nations and Germany. An armistice went into effect on the eleventh hour of Nov. 11, 1918.

Armistice Day became a legal holiday with a law approved May 13, 1938, recognizing veterans of World War I. After World War II, veterans organizations urged Congress to amend the law by replacing “Armistice” with “Veterans.” In 1954, Nov. 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

The passing of the Uniforms Holiday Bill in 1968, intended to give federal employees three-day weekends by celebrating four national holidays on Mondays – including Veterans Day – created much con-

fusion. The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed Oct. 25, 1971. In response to overwhelming public desire, President Gerald Ford returned it to its original date, beginning in 1978.

England recognizes Nov. 11 as Remembrance Day, also known as Poppy Day from the tradition of wearing an artificial poppy sold by the Royal British Legion, a charity dedicated to helping war veterans.

Australia began observing Remembrance Day in 1997, with the passing of a proclamation urging citizens to observe one minute of silence at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11 each year to remember those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.

-- [www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.htm](http://www1.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.htm) and other Internet sources



# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Forces raid AIF safe havens

AL QAIM – The 1st Iraqi Army Division and the Iraqi “Desert Protectors,” with the support from Coalition forces, detained 21 men during an Oct. 26 raid at a phosphate plant and cement factory.

Five men were detained during the search of the cement factory; two are suspected Al Qaeda members, while the others are suspected members of local anti-Iraq terrorist cells.

Sixteen men were detained at the phosphate plant and

surrounding village. Most of the men captured are suspected members of local anti-Iraq terrorist cells.

Both locations were suspected safe havens for anti-Iraq forces operating in the Al Qaim area. (Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force)

## Forces sweep up terror suspects

BAGHDAD – Iraqi Security Forces joined Coalition troops for “Operation Clean Sweep,” a series of major combat assaults conducted Oct. 28-29 in south Baghdad.

The operation netted 49 terrorists and a large weapons cache.

In an Oct. 29 assault, Iraqi forces from the 4th Public Order Brigade and U.S. Soldiers with the 1st Battalion, 184th Infantry Regiment swept through the eastern Al-Rasheed district, searching more than 350 target houses and detaining 33 suspects. Bomb-making materials were also found at several of the target houses.

In an earlier mission Oct. 28, the Coalition Soldiers detained 16 terror suspects and discovered a large weapons cache during a cordon and search. The cache was hidden in a second-story crawlspace underneath a bathtub and included 13 AK-47 assault rifles, three MPK machine guns, 20 AK-47 barrels, one pistol, U.S. currency and an ammunition stockpile. (4th Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs)

## Iraqi troops engage mortarmen

AL HABBINIYAH, Iraq – Iraqi Army troops were key in a Coalition air attack that killed four terrorists and destroyed a mortar position and weapons cache Oct. 29.

Troops from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 1st Iraqi Intervention Force were performing combat operations when they observed the four men, mortar tube and weapons cache near a spot from which previous attacks had been launched.

Iraqi troops coordinated with a Coalition forces fire support liaison who called in the successful air strikes, killing the insurgents and neutralizing the mortar tube and cache.

## Suspects killed, cache found

RAMADI – Iraqi Army troops and Coalition forces killed several suspected terrorists and seized a cache during a fire-fight Nov. 2 northeast of Ramadi.

Troops from the 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Division and Coalition forces engaged a group of 15 insurgents armed with AK-47s and rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) launchers after their patrol was attacked.

A vehicle loaded with a cache of ordnance was discovered in the vicinity of the initial attack. An inventory produced one machine gun, two automatic rifles, two RPG launchers, over 1,200 rounds of various small arms ammunition, 10 propellant sticks, two license plates, three Iraqi Army uniforms and some documents.

**Don't cut wires.**



**That's EODs job.**



**STAY ALIVE**

0052

IEDs KILL

# Iraqi Security Forces / In Brief

## Police forces raid hideout

BAGHDAD – Iraq forces with the 3rd Public Order Brigade raided a suspected terrorist hideout Oct. 30, detaining four men. One is suspected of providing a video of beheadings and other crimes to Arab media, while another is being questioned about planting improvised explosive devices and acting as a messenger between groups of anti-Iraq forces.

Forces with the 4th Public Order Brigade, with assistance from the 1st and 4th Special Police Commando Brigades, swept through the village of Al Boaitha south of Baghdad Oct. 30, detaining 34 suspects. (Task Force Baghdad)

## Attack prompts dragnet

BAGHDAD – Iraqi and U.S. Soldiers detained a dozen suspects after a bomb attack against Coalition Forces early Nov. 1 in the Rusafa district of east Baghdad.

Soldiers with the 6th Iraqi Army Division and Task Force Baghdad's 720th Military Police Battalion conducted an early-morning raid that netted the suspects and several small arms.

The MPs were hit by a roadside bomb and a small arms attack at 12:50 a.m. No casualties or damage to equipment were reported. The unit linked up with the Iraqi soldiers after the attack to conduct a hasty cordon and search of a nearby cement factory.

Three hours of searching by the joint forces yielded the suspects and more than 65 AK-47 rifles, 120 AK-47 magazines, three PKC machine guns and three PKC ammunition drums. (2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs)

## Building search yields cache

HIT – Iraqi Army troops from the 1st Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Division discovered and confiscated a cache Nov. 1 in a building in Hit.

The small cache consisted of a mortar sight, a cell phone

hidden in a swamp cooler system and four large packages of CDs containing anti-Coalition videos.

## Cordon and searches net 11

MOSUL – Iraqi Army troops and Coalition forces detained 11 suspected insurgents during cordon and search operations Nov. 1.

Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 2nd Iraqi Army Division and Coalition troops conducted the searches with the intent to capture the members of a terrorist cell operating out of a local neighborhood. The cell was believed responsible for terrorizing several neighborhoods with kidnappings and murders as well as a rash of roadside bombings and shooting attacks on Coalition forces.

## Forces seize bomb materials

AD DULUIYAH – Iraqi Army troops detained five men and an assortment of bomb-making supplies Nov. 2.

Soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 4th Iraqi Army Division stopped the men on a main supply route. The men attempted to bribe the soldiers, claiming to attack only Coalition troops and not the Iraqi Security Forces.

The men had blasting caps, a grenade fuse and a long-range cordless telephone and base commonly used in roadside bombs.

## Joint patrols stop suspects

AL HABBANIYAH – Iraqi Army troops and Coalition forces detained seven suspected insurgents and seized their weapons and cash during Nov. 3 presence patrols.

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Division and Coalition troops detained the military-aged males in two separate locations during the patrols.

Troops seized three AK-47s with magazines, a body-armor vest, some Iraqi Army uniforms and 250 million Iraqi dinar after searching one of the locations.



## Iraqi Marine platoon finishes oil platform defense training

An Iraqi Marine from the 6th Platoon stands guard during training exercises recently on the Al Basrah Oil Terminal in the North Arabian Gulf. The platoon's training culminated with Exercise Total Guardian where they were required to demonstrate skills necessary to defend the platforms from terrorist attacks. The 6th Platoon is the third Iraqi Marine platoon to successfully complete the oil platform defense training, currently being conducted by Mobile Security Detachment 25 led by U. S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Christopher Jacobsen.

Photo courtesy Mobile Security Detachment 25