



Qadisiya Province returns to Iraqi control



Qadisiya governor Al Khoudari and Lt. Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, commanding general, Multi-National Corps - Iraq sign the paperwork turning Qadisiya Province over to the Government of Iraq Wednesday.

servicemembers and many local and national GoI leaders.

“There are a lot of servicemembers and people that are responsible for this,” said Col. David Matakas, Polish advisor, Multi-National Division – Center South. “I hope when they see this they will know they had a big part in creating a free and safe environment in Qadisiya Province.”

An excited crowd gathered around a small table where Qadisiya governor Al Khoudari and Austin officially signed the paperwork returning the province to the GoI.

“Multi-National Corps – Iraq will continue to support Qadisiyah and the Government of Iraq in maintaining security and increasing prosperity,” Austin said.

**Story and photos by
Staff Sgt.**

Jason R. Krawczyk

MNC-I Command Group

Little Iraqi girls waving flowers and Iraqi boys in uniforms walked through the streets of Diwaniya chanting. They were followed by platoons of polished and professional Iraqi police officers and Iraqi army soldiers. This parade marked the beginning of festivities celebrating the return of Qadisiya province to the Iraqi people Wednesday.

Coalition forces handed the security responsibilities

for Qadisiya Province, in southern Iraq, over to the Government of Iraq.

“This is a triumphant day for Iraq as yet another province assumes the lead for its own security and governance,” said Lt. Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, commanding general, Multi-National Corps – Iraq. “And yet another demonstration by the democratic Government of Iraq that it is making progress toward providing for all its people.”

Qadisiya is the 10th province turned back over to Iraqi control since 2006. The ceremony was delayed from late last month when

severe sandstorms grounded travel in Baghdad. The ceremony Wednesday was well attended, bringing together Polish, American and Iraqi



Iraqi girls march in a parade to honor the Qadisiyah Province security being handed back over to the Government of Iraq, Wednesday. The girls chanted about Iraq being complete again and the greatness of their country.

MP NEWS



VBC PROVOST MARSHAL OFFICE



Professional Policing

Provost Marshal's Minute

July 2008 Edition

588th MP DET
CRIME STOPPERS



Victory Base Complex PMO office is looking for help with the following case. The YARA Company located on Western Bypass road was broken into and several items were removed between the hours of 2200 and 0500 on 27-28 June 2008. Locks were cut with bolt cutters and a vehicle was used to load stolen merchandise. If you have any information Please call MPI @ 312-822-5101

ALL TACTICAL VEHICLE DRIVERS

JUST A REMINDER THAT ALL TACTICAL VEHICLES DRIVEN ON VBC MUST HAVE AN ASSISTANT DRIVER INSIDE THE VEHICLE WHILE IT IS MOVING OR OPERATING ON VBC. ALSO LOCK THE EXTENSION ARM FOR THE RINO IN THE UPRIGHT POSITION WHILE TRAVELING ON VBC. PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE VBC REGULATION 190-5 IS BEING FOLLOWED AND ENFORCED BY ALL NCO'S.



FORCE PROTECTION NOTICE

CAMERA CELL PHONE

No contractors/civilians are authorized camera cell phones on VBC!

Employer's responsibility when employee is barred or switches employers:

When barred, must ensure employee leaves MNC-I installations within 48 hrs & return badge.

Gaining employer – require new employee to turn old badge in.



FINGERPRINTING TIMES

Tuesday & Thursday
0800-1000

Sunday
1500-1700

Bring fingerprint cards
and an envelope.

PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency Calls
822 7777

Military Police Desk
24-hour operations
822-4790



The Victory Times Online is an authorized electronic publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of this electronic publication are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government or the Department of Defense. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Public Affairs Office of Multi-National Corps-Iraq.

MNC-I Commanding General: Lt. Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III
MNC-I Public Affairs Officer: Col. Billy J. Buckner
MNC-I PA Sergeant Major: Sgt. Maj. Sharon Opeka
MNC-I Command Info Chief: Staff Sgt. Joy Pariente
Editor: Spc. Samuel J. Phillips
Staff: Staff Sgt. Jeremy D. Crisp, Cpl. Frances L. Goch, Pfc. Eric J. Martinez and Pfc. Eric J. Glassey

The Victory Times online welcomes columns, commentaries, articles and letters from our readers. Send submission or comments to joy.pariente@iraq.centcom.mil. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity and space.



Custom Made entertains servicemembers

Photos by Pfc. Eric J. Glassey

13th Public Affairs Detachment

Sabrina McLemore, female vocalist for the band, Custom Made, performs for servicemembers at Victory Stage July 8. Custom Made is a band out of Los Angeles, Calif., which plays a variety of music including R&B, rap and salsa. The band is on its fourth tour to the Middle East to perform for the troops.



Bryant McLemore, guitar player and singer of the band Custom Made, leads servicemembers in a classic rendering of the Temptations song and dance movements at the Victory Stage on Camp Victory July 8.

Military Happenings



'Immediate Response' underway in Republic of Georgia

Army News Service- About 300 Georgia National Guard Soldiers arrived in Tbilisi, Georgia, Monday for Immediate Response 2008, a three-week international exercise to help build relationships with coalition partners from several Eastern European nations.

Soldiers and Marines from the United States, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Ukraine will conduct this joint training exercise at Vaziani Military Base and the surrounding area. The annual, bilateral security cooperation exercise is conducted between U.S., NATO and coalition partners, to focus on interoperability training and theater security cooperation, officials said.

Air Force medics provide medical care in Panama

Air Force News Service - A two-week U.S. Southern Command sponsored exercise designed to hone the skills of medical personnel while providing free health care in remote locations began in Panama July 12 with the arrival of medics from seven military installations.

The Medical Readiness Training Exercise, or MEDRETE, in Panama is one of about 70 MEDRETEs sponsored each year by U.S. Southern Command and, through partnership with host-nation doctors, will treat patients at three rural locations.

The range of medical specialties of the Air Force medics involved in this MEDRETE includes dentists, optometrists, general physicians, a pediatrician and a dermatologist.

Corpsman saves day

Marine Corps News - Petty Officer 3rd Class John L. Nelson, Marine Special Operations Support Group,

U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Special Operations Command, administered first aid to a Marine having a seizure during a physical training session at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Nelson was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal as a result of his actions.

On the morning of May 21, Nelson was alerted to a Marine begin carried by two other Marines across the street. Nelson ran across the street and quickly assessed the situation. His rapid appraisal of the Marine's condition lead him to the conclusion that the Marine was having a seizure.

"I revived him about three or four times but he kept passing out again and again," said Nelson, who administered CPR to the Marine. "The last time he regained consciousness, the ambulance showed up and their team took over."

The Marine was rushed to the hospital and, after a few days, made a full recovery.

New service uniform available July 31

Navy News Service - The new E1-E6 Service Uniform will be available for purchase in Great Lakes and California Navy Exchanges starting July 31, according to NAVADMIN 190/08.

The SU is for year-round wear and replaces the summer white and winter blue uniforms. It is authorized to be worn for office work, watchstanding, liberty or business ashore when prescribed as the uniform of the day.

The mandatory wear date for all E1-E6 personnel is July 2010. Clothing replacement allowances for fiscal years 2008 and 2009 were increased to cover the purchasing of two sets of new uniforms by July 2010.

Basic SU components include a short-sleeved khaki shirt for males and a short sleeved khaki overblouse for females; black trousers with black belt and silver buckle for males and black beltless slacks for females.