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Courtesy photo

Staff Brigadier General Salam Jabber (left), 39/10th IA Div. commander, discusses plans and operations with Lt. Col. Scott Kendrick, 2-12th Cav. Regt. commander, at COB Adder near Nasiriyah Oct. 25. The two units traded information on criminal activity and discussed future military operations in Dhi Qar Province. Lieutenant Colonel Abbas Hadi Jabbar (right), 39th IA Bde. deputy commander, participated in the sharing of information.

Iraq Army benefits by Joint Planning

CAPT. ROBIN WORCH
4TH BCT, 1ST CAV. DIV.



COB ADDER— Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division hosted a joint-planning meeting with their Iraqi Army counterparts here Oct. 25.

Leaders from the 39th and 40th Brigades of the 10th Iraqi Army Division met with 2-12th Cav. Regt. "Thunder Horse" Soldiers to cover administration and training for Iraqi units operating inside the Dhi Qar and Muthanna Provinces.

"It gives us all a chance to talk about common problems and different ways to solve them based on different cultural views and military regulations," said Lt. Col. Scott Kendrick, a native of Spartanburg, S.C., and commander of the Thunder Horse Battalion.

Several times throughout the meeting, the IA commanders asked questions concerning discipline and retention of Soldiers in the U.S. Army.

The goal was to give the Iraqi commanders insight into the workings of a combined U.S. Army unit, along with demonstrating how those units solve administrative and logistic issues common within a large military organization.

"The ability to see that the U.S. Army has some of the same problems that we do, and handles many of them in the same way is encouraging," said Staff Brig. Gen. Salam Jabber, commander of 39/10th IA Div. "It shows that we have been successful in our efforts as an Army for the Iraqi people."

The ability of the Iraqi Army leadership to learn from the Thunder Horse Battalion in very short periods of time has increased the 10th IA Division's ability to function independently in southern Iraq.

Chef leaves Disney World to cook for troops

By SPC. ALLISON CHURCHILL
41ST FIRES BDE. PAO



FOB DELTA – Two truths define Yedi Yedwabnick – he loves his country and he loves to cook.

Before 2005 he focused on his passions separately: he served in the Navy as an electrical warfare technician for two years, starting in 1986; and he has more than 20 years of experience as a chef.

But in 2005 he discovered a way to combine his two passions and has been working as a food service leader for Kellogg Brown and Root on Forward Operating Base Delta for more than a year.

"I'll never have another job like this," said Yedwabnick. "These are the greatest people I've ever worked with."

His commitment to serve Soldiers comes from Yedwabnick's experience from Sept. 11, which touched him personally. He was home visiting his mom in Rockaway Beach, N.Y., and he and his friends had decided to go to Manhattan that day.

"I'd never felt the earth shake before," he said. After seeing the plane hit the South Tower, he and his friends found shelter in a pharmacy until the dust settled.

Yedwabnick also lost 13 friends who were involved in the rescue operations at ground zero. The tragedy of that day made a lasting impression on Yedwabnick.

Four years later, Yedwabnick found out from a friend who was working as a civilian in Iraq about

the opportunities for civilian cooks in Iraq and Afghanistan.

When he found out he could deploy and cook for Soldiers, he quit his jobs at Disney World, Universal Studios' Planet Hollywood and Orlando Outback Steakhouse to focus



Photo by Spc. Allison Churchill

Yedi Yedwabnick (right), a KBR food service leader, and one of his cooks take the temperature of lunch at the short order line at the Gunner Inn East Dining Facility on FOB Delta Oct. 21.

on the KBR application process.

"I applied for everything," Yedwabnick said, adding he often applied up to 30 times a day for each

cooking position.

Things finally clicked about five months later, when KBR accepted his application.

"I called about 200 friends, and my mom hung up on me three times," he said when he called to let them know he had gotten the job. Although she was initially hesitant, he said she now brags about her son in Iraq.

Yedwabnick's primary role as food service leader is supervising 10 cooks from Najlaa, a KBR subcontractor. He said he appreciates that his supervisor, sous chef Terrance James, allows him to show some creativity within the Army's 28-day meal plan.

"We do a good job with the Heart Healthy plan," he said. As long as they use the same basic ingredients, Yedwabnick and his staff can create their own take on meals.

His favorite part of the job is the contact with Soldiers. He said he often shares treats from care packages with Soldiers who pay him a visit before and after missions.

"I don't need that stuff," he said. "They're the ones who go outside the wire."

His affection is often returned. On Sept. 11, 2007, Soldiers from 214th Fires Brigade presented Yedwabnick with a flag they flew that day. He sent it to one of the widows of his fallen friends.

Yedwabnick is scheduled to stay in Iraq until 2010. He said he hopes the culmination of his experiences will eventually lead to a job cooking at the White House.

THE Mountain View

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4th BCT, 3rd Infantry Division
7th Sustainment Brigade
41st Fires Brigade
354th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
793rd Military Police Battalion
Division Special Troops Battalion, 10th Mtn. Div.
Task Force 49



Women of Iraq becoming empowered

By STAFF SGT. AMBER EMERY
MND-C



CAMP VICTORY – From the beginning of time, women have been a leading component in any successful society. They bear life, care for the family and have power and influence over the type of education their children receive.

The function of the women's initiative group at Multi-National Division - Center is to understand the issues facing women in its area of responsibility, and to translate these issues into programs assisting the improvement of their way of life.

"There are several programs (in progress). The top priorities are health, employment and education," said Maj. Kara Brady, MND-C women's initiative actions officer. "Along those lines, there are non-

government organizations developing programs to create awareness or provide education."

Among programs being developed are a proposal to do mobile clinics and educational programs pertaining to sewing professions – a culturally accepted occupation.

The mobile clinic would be similar to transporting a doctor's office to places where people do not have access to trained medical professionals, which would allow healthcare and health awareness related programs into rural communities. Raising awareness of the importance of cleanliness and sanitation can have a great impact on the health of the surrounding communities.

"Just understanding the environment in which they live and understanding the importance of cleanliness will help

(women) to ensure their family doesn't get sick," Brady said. "Women are the ones that are cooking, so how they cook and how they sanitize things will ultimately have an effect on the health and well being of their family."

The programs teaching women how to sew have been successful due to the cultural adaptability and women's ability to do it in their home, plus it is an occupation which helps clothe their families.

According to Brady, a native of Watertown, N.Y., curricula are being developed that are focused on the needs, wishes and desires of women, so they can better learn and understand the world around them.

"If we are looking at increasing the capabilities for education, for healthcare and preventing things—we need to target the women," said Maj. Ned Coyl, 445th Civil Affairs public health team leader.

Garry Owen Battalion scores 'Goal!' in Amarah

PFC. TERENCE EWINGS, AND CAPT. KEVIN WOLFE
4TH BCT, 1ST CAV. DIV.



COB GARRY OWEN– Scrambling for the ball, the two men collided, both focused on the mission at hand Oct. 23.

The man in red, a member of the 3rd Battalion, 38th Brigade, 10th Iraqi Army Division, came to his feet first and dashed toward the soccer ball, while his blue clad opponent, a member of the Abu Rummanah District All-Stars, could do nothing but watch.

The IA soldier drew his leg back, kicked the ball past the goalie, and the referee yelled, "goal!"

"We are doing good things here for the people in this province," said Lt. Col. Huseiu Abdfileih, an officer from the 3rd Battalion, 38th Brigade, 10th Iraqi Army Division who helped coordinate the soccer game.

The American Soldiers, assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, along with nearly 400 Amaran citizens, gathered to watch the first soccer match on the newly built field.

"We wanted to be here with these people," said Lt. Col. Bohneman, the Commander of the Garry Owen troops and a native of Bronx, N.Y. "It's important to show that we are partnering with them in something other than combat operations."

The Garry Owen and IA soldiers have formed a partnership to stop illegal weapon smuggling along the southeastern Iraq-Iran border. But on this day, you could barely hear the official whistle over the cheering and applause, as the American Soldiers showed their support for their Iraqi counterparts.

"Today we are not only dedicated to providing security to



By Pfc. Terence Ewings

A member of the Abu Rummanah District All-stars kicks the ball away from an Iraqi Army player on the new soccer field in Amarah, Iraq, Oct. 23. The 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division Soldiers, attended the soccer game supporting the 10th Division Iraqi Army Soldiers.

the people of Amarah, but also focused on rebuilding our communities," said Abdfileih.

Ali Aweid Abd Al Sa'ada, the goalkeeper for the Abu Rummanah team, said the new soccer field is good for the community because it gives the young people a safe place to gather and hang out.

There was no official score or time clock during the event, because the real "goal" was to show how the Iraqi and American Soldiers are improving the city of Amarah through partnership.

Long Knife Soldiers assist Iraqis in food drop

By Pfc. Terence Ewings
4TH BCT PAO, 1ST CAV. DIV.



FOB GARRY OWEN – Waiting in line, Ahmed al-Zahra, a local Iraqi citizen of Majarr al-Kabir, in southern Iraq, looked to his left and right as he observes the numerous people in front of him also waiting to receive their fair share of food.

He asked one of the Soldiers from the 10th Iraqi Army Division if there is enough food for everyone, considering he is clearly at the end of the line.

The Soldier reassured Zahra that there would be plenty for everyone during the non-governmental organization food distribution by the al-Yaq Dha al-Thaka Pia Foundation Oct 25.

“The organization has a schedule and keeps records on all the poor families that could benefit from some additional help,” said Zahra, who is the sole provider of his family of seven. “It’s a huge benefit because we don’t have the money to purchase food for our families.”

Currently unemployed, Zahra finally made it to the front of the line where he was greeted by the Soldiers

of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division.

“I am very happy these Soldiers could be here to help out today,” said Dan Foot, the Provincial Reconstruction Team Leader for Maysan Province.

“I think this is a very positive step for us,” he added.

Foot said this is the first time Americans have been in this part of the Maysan province for a NGO food drop.

“Even though they had little American influence before today, they’ve accepted our smile and handshakes as if we were old friends,” Foot said.

This is the second NGO food drop where the 4th Brigade Combat Team “Long Knives” of the 1st Cavalry Division have assisted the PRT in the four months the brigade has been deployed to southern Iraq.



Photo by Pfc. Terence Ewings

An Iraqi woman from Majarr al-Kabir, Iraq, receives food from the non-government food drop Oct. 25. The food was provided by the al-Yaq Dha al-Thaka Pia Foundation and Maysan PRT.

Lieutenant Colonel Edward Bohemann, commander of the brigade’s 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, believes the people of the Maysan Province appreciate the efforts of the coalition forces here.

“This food distribution went well, just like the previous one,” said Bohemann, from Bronx, N.Y. “We are going to continue to do good things to improve upon the conditions for the people here.”



HOLIDAY SHOUT OUTS



Many of us won’t be home for the holidays, but you can make sure that your family and friends get to hear from you with a recorded holiday message that will air on your local television station stateside. This is a great opportunity for you to wish happy holidays to the people that mean the most to you. And it only takes about 20 seconds! Check with your BCT Public Affairs Representative for schedules in your AO.

For MND-C Soldiers, just show up at the Task Force Mountain Media Operations Center, Bldg. 51C, just outside of the Division Headquarters building from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 30 and Oct. 31.



Headline Round-up

World News:

All Zimbabwe's neighbors will hold a summit to try to resolve the southern African nation's power-sharing impasse, officials announced Tuesday after regional leaders debated the issue. An agreement signed Sept. 15 has stalled over how to share government ministries among President Robert Mugabe's party, Morgan Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change and a smaller opposition group.

Sports News:

Game 5 of the World Series was suspended because of rain in the sixth inning Monday night with the Philadelphia Phillies and Tampa Bay Rays tied at 2 and the field already a sloppy, soggy mess. Rain was expected to continue into Tuesday, delaying the Phillies' chance to wrap up their first championship since 1980. Philadelphia leads the seven game series three games to one.

Health News:

Drug-resistant staph bacteria picked up in ordinary community settings are increasingly acquiring "superbug" powers and causing far more serious illnesses than they have in the past, doctors reported Monday. These widespread germs used to be easier to treat than the dangerous forms of staph found in hospitals and nursing houses. Now, the germs causing outbreaks in schools, on sports teams and in other social situations are posing a growing threat. A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study found that at least 10 percent of cases involving the most common community strain were able to evade the antibiotics typically used to treat them.

Odd News:

Health officials shut down a suburban Buffalo restaurant after an inspector found employees butchering a dead deer inside the business. Erie County Health Department officials said they got a tip Friday about a dead deer in the China King restaurant in the town of Hamburg, just south of Buffalo. An inspector soon arrived and saw the deer being butchered in the kitchen. State health laws prohibit butchering an animal inside a restaurant. Officials don't know whether the deer had been killed by a hunter or a vehicle. They said there was no indication the deer meat was served to any customers.

Quote of the Day

"Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself." -Eleanor Roosevelt

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WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM?



Photo by Spc. Justin Snyder

"The Arkansas Razorbacks, because I've watched them since I was a kid and love football," said Spc. Cyrus Behnia, 39th Infantry Division Soldier and a native of Fayetteville, Ark.

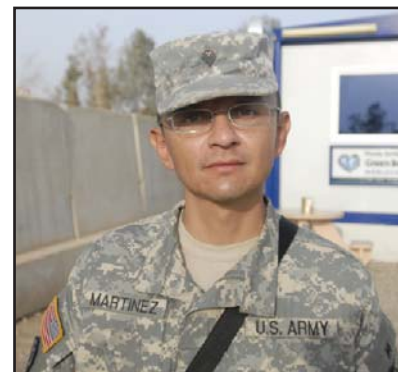


Photo by Spc. Justin Snyder

"I would have to say Barcelona, because the only sport I really follow is soccer," said Spc. Carlos Martinez, 33rd Army Combat Regiment Soldier and a native of Kalleen, Tx.

For the answer to today's puzzle, go to:



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ARABIC QUESTION OF THE DAY

Where do you come from? im-nien en-teh?