

RIVER REPORT

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HIGHLANDER

بفريق النهر

الله أكبر

October 22, 2009

IRAQI POLICE

الشرطة العراقية

Iraqi Highway Patrol in Dhi Qar participated in several training events with U.S. Forces advisors from 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment. A course about vehicle accident investigation was taught by a U.S. civilian police advisor. This is important because driving on Iraqi roads can be dangerous and when accidents happen the IHP must provide accurate information the judges for traffic incidents. The IHP also participated in refresher training on basic medical techniques.

Federal Police in Amarah conducted training on crime scene evidence collection and exploitation. The ability of the Federal Police to obtain good evidence will ensure outlaws stay in jail for the crimes they commit.



IRAQI ARMY

الجيش العراقي

The 3rd Battalion, 41st Iraqi Army Brigade in southern Maysan participated in a weapons range with Advisors from the 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment. The location for the assault rifle training is owned by the Department of Border Enforcement. The 41st IA Brigade works closely with the DBE to stop smuggling in southern Maysan. The weapons training ensures jundee are prepared to take down any outlaws, if necessary.

The 10th Iraqi Army Commando Battalion continued their rigorous combat training at Camp Ur in Dhi Qar. These elite officers and shurta are prepared for any mission given to them by the 10th Iraqi Army Division Commander.

DEPARTMENT OF BORDER ENFORCEMENT

قيادة قوات الحدود

Shurta from the 3rd Battalion, 11th Department of Border Enforcement Brigade trained with U.S. Advisors on Border Transition Team "Scimitar." After training the DBE went on a combined security patrol with the U.S. Army. During the patrol, searches were conducted on random vehicles. The DBE thoroughly searched the vehicles and were respectful towards the drivers.

The ongoing security operations of the DBE are important for the unified security plan with the Iraqi Army and Iraqi Police in Maysan province.





CIVILIAN ASSISTANCE UPDATE

مستجدات المساعدات المدنية



Dhi Qar

PRT Dhi Qar visited the Dhi Qar University Law Faculty on 14 October, met with professors and students, and delivered several books, including volumes on Iraqi law and criminal law donated by the Siracusa, Italy-based International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (ISIS). The PRT's Rule of Law advisor had the opportunity to meet the students, discuss PRT activities with them, and hear the students' views on a number of different issues—legal and otherwise. He reminded the students to use the Internet to get updated legal information and invited them to submit articles for the “Best Legal Articles” contest, promoted by the PRT to support a new legal website.

Maysan

Maysan PRT political advisors met with the head of the Maysan elections committee to discuss the upcoming elections process. Topics included: Polling sites, election laws, and advertising for the elections. The Maysani government desires to ensure voters from all across the province are informed about the election.

The PRT is working with communities in southern Maysan to improve access to water and electricity. In Qalat Salih a recent PRT project provided clean drinking water to 20,000 residents.



Muthanna

PRT Public Diplomacy Officer section held the first of two photography training sessions for Muthanna journalists at the military base southeast of Samawa on October 22. The group was comprised of mostly male photographers but also Muthanna's only female reporter who came because she wanted to increase her skills to make herself more valuable to her outlet. An U.S. Army photographer from the 41st Infantry Brigade taught the class that covered basic camera settings as well as composition. The class was granted permission by the commander of the 39th Iraqi Army Brigade to take photos of the Iraqi commandos training. The Iraqi soldiers were excited to have their photos taken by the Muthanna journalists.

CULTURAL BOX

الحقبة الثقافية

Modern Iraqi Weddings

Iraqi couples who put their lives on hold during recent years of turmoil are rushing to make up for lost time. During the harshest days of Iraq's sectarian violence in 2006-07, many couples put off marriages. Weddings did go on, but they were small, quiet affairs to avoid notice. Now wedding parties can be a lavish event. Cars covered in flowers and ribbons honking through police checkpoints on their way to hotels are becoming a more common occurrence. Flying confetti and rosebuds as women ululate go along with a 10-layer wedding cake and ballroom full of friends and family.

