

# IA led joint patrol protects Aqur Quf

**By Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell**  
MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — On a dusty road in northwestern Baghdad, Sgt. Kegan Cline kneels beside a wall, resting his M-14 sniper rifle as a group of Iraqi girls in blue school uniforms walk by, giggling and pushing each other, Nov. 3.

The Worcester, Mass. native, smiled briefly and nodded at the girls, knowing that his presence, combined with Iraqi Army Soldiers, allows the girls to walk around safely.

“It feels great that we’re here serving a purpose,” said Cline, assigned to Company A, 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division. “These kids can go to and from school without fear and that the community sees two organizations working together as one is a great thing.”

Since arriving a few months ago in Aqur Quf, a rural area in northwestern Baghdad, U.S. troops have worked with IA Soldiers on a daily basis to help keep the area safe.

“It’s a good thing that the U.S. forces support us and we work together and the community sees that,” said IA Capt. Nomas Mohammed Hussein. “These people just need somebody to hear their concerns and understand them.”

In order to do that, the American and Iraqi Soldiers patrol the area on foot, interacting with the people face-to-face and giving the locals a different perception.

“Many of the people think that when we dismount our vehicles, we just arrest people, but that is



Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Burrell

A local Iraqi man discusses security in the area with Iraqi Army Capt. Nomas Mohammed Hussein (left), and Lt. Mike Slapik (middle), an infantry platoon leader from West Bridgewater, Mass., during a routine patrol in northwestern Baghdad, Nov. 3.

not true,” explained Hussein. “We want to show them that now we are here to talk to them.”

The Soldiers move from farmhouse to farmhouse allowing Nomas and the other IA Soldiers time to playfully ask the children their names and talk to the adults about the local security situation.

“These patrols are important because it’s time for us to leave [Iraq] soon, so we let the IA do a lot more of the talking, like today,” said 1st Lt. Mike Slapik, an infantry platoon leader from West Bridgewater, Mass.

As Nomas spoke at length to the men of the house at each location, Slapik stood back and listened to the conversations through his interpreter.

“Everybody’s going to tell you it’s safe, but when you sit down with the people, they’ll want to tell us more information,” Slapik explained. “You have to stay and talk for an extended period of time to get a feeling for how they feel.”

The Soldiers listened to concerns about clean water and jobs. Slapik explained that they cannot fix most of these problems immediately.

“It’s good to show that we’re not going to solve all their problems, but that they have to go through the local system they’ve established,” added Slapik, stressing working within the system the local government has created.

Many of the local people come

to the Soldiers with problems that need to be solved at their local governance level.

“It’s a detective’s job basically,” continued Slapik. “It’s not a short turn-around, finding bad guys is a long legal process with multiple witnesses and arrest warrants issued through a judge. We like to make sure the local people see that process, so there are actual results.”

The biggest thing that Slapik and his Soldiers want to show the local populations is that American forces are simply supporting the IA, as they are the ones in charge now.

One local area man has noticed a difference in the area thanks to this relationship.

# New Texas traffic and criminal laws

The following are notable traffic and criminal laws that went into effect on Sept. 1 in the state of Texas which was released by the Texas Department of Public Safety

## Seatbelts:

HB 537 requires all occupants of a vehicle, no matter their age, to be secured by a safety belt, no matter where they are seated in the vehicle; changes the definition of a passenger vehicle to include a passenger van designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers including the driver; removes the current exemption for third-party Medicaid transportation provisions regarding the use of child passenger safety seats; and prohibits a motorcycle operator from carrying a passenger under the age of 5 unless the child is seated in a sidecar attached to the motorcycle.

SB 61 amends the existing statute regarding child passenger safety seats. The bill requires that any child younger than 8 years of age be restrained in an approved child passenger safety seat unless the child is taller than 4 feet, 9 inches in height. The fine is no more than \$25 for a first offense and \$250 for a second offense.

## Driving:

HB 55 makes it illegal to use a wireless communication device in a school zone unless the vehicle is stopped or a hands-free device is used.

HB 2730 increases the penalties for driving while intoxicated with a child passenger by adding an automatic driver license suspension period for first-time offenders and an increased suspension period for repeat offenders. The driver license re-instatement fee for completing an education program will rise from \$50 to \$100.

## Driver license:

HB 2730 requires that all applicants under the age of 18 take the driving skills exam to receive a driver license. The law also requires that a provisional driver license (under 18) or instruction permit expire on an individual's 18th birthday, removes the requirement that a provisional driver license or instruction permit be renewed annually and increases the fee for those licenses from \$5 to \$15.

HB 2730 and HB 339 restrict all drivers under the age of 18 from using a wireless communication device while operating a motor vehicle.

HB 2730 prohibits DPS from issuing a driver license or identification card to a person who has not established a domicile in Texas. The law specifies that an applicant may receive a driver license at a post office box only if the applicant's residence address has also been provided, with some exceptions

## Crime:

HB 558 allows minors to be charged with public intoxication.

HB 1282 makes it a Class B misdemeanor to steal a driver license, commercial driver license or personal identification.

## Motorcycles etc.:

Senate Bill 1967 requires that applicants for an original class M license or class A, B or C driver license (including commercial driver licenses and permits) with authorization to operate a motorcycle, provide evidence of completion of an approved motorcycle operator training course.

# MND-B troops find outlets during deployment

**By Spc. Howard Alperin  
MND-B PAO**

BAGHDAD – The stresses of a long deployment can wear on Soldiers.

While there are a variety of activities, here on Camp Liberty, some Soldiers prefer to focus their down time in a more personal way.

“It helps me cope with missing home,” said Spc. Wilbur Deshields, an entry control point guard, with A Company, Division Special Troops Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division. “You can only go to the gym so many times. Drawing is my mental escape. It gives me a chance to be creative. There’s no limit to what I can do with my imagination.”

For Deshields, there is therapeutic value in having a creative outlet.

“Whenever I’m mad, stressed-

out or frustrated, that’s when I get out my sketch pad,” continued Deshields, from Akron, Ohio. “I draw best when I’m upset.”

Deshields gets a lot of satisfaction by using his talent to help others.

“Sometimes, people ask me to draw a picture or an image for a tattoo. Other times, I draw something to cheer people up, to make them laugh,” he said.

Creative outlets are another way for Soldiers to express their personal development during deployment.

“Everyone that comes to theater should leave as a different person.

They should have had some transformation along the way,” said 1st Lt. Michele Johnson, a casualty platoon leader and author, from Gulfport, Miss. “For an artist, you

can see that transformation in their work.”

Johnson, a published Christian non-fiction writer, writes blogs, poetry and songs.

“Writing is another way to get out what’s on the inside; the feelings and emotions you’re having about a situation or a person,” said Johnson, assigned to the 271st Human Resources Company, Multi-National Division-Baghdad. “It helps me escape. It gets me away from the dirt and rocks. For however long I’m writing, I can focus on something else.”

With her first fiction novel already published, Spc. Maria Beasley from Marfa, Texas, is using this deployment to publish her second novel and start work on a third one.

“For me, writing is a spiritual

thing,” said Beasley, a human resources specialist, assigned to Headquarters Support Company, DSTB, 1st Cav. Div. “It’s about believing in the impossible.”

Beasley gets her inspiration for writing from her interests, surroundings, the people in her life, stories she hears, and movies or television, she said. Her avenue for escape from the rigors of deployment is by transporting herself into another world with original characters, she added.

Having a passion or an art allows for the time to pass that much faster while deployed, according to these Soldiers.

“It’s an outlet to express myself,” she said. “It allows me to be who I really am. I let my mind get lost in the story.”

# The “Pegasus Pursuit” is here

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ number of prints. I understand that print(s) are \$10 each and that payment is due NLT 12 DEC 2009 in the form of a check or money order made out to “1CD Events Fund”; or in cash paid to my unit representative. The following information is provided to ensure I receive my print(s):

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

MND-B’s OIF 09-10 print, “Pegasus Pursuit” is being completed by Mr. Ronald Constantine, a retired art teacher and friend of the First Cavalry Division. He has volunteered to draw Pegasus Pursuit as a token of his appreciation for your service to our country.

Inside this trifold is an artist concept sketch. This sketch, drawn by PFC Juan Franco, was provided to Mr. Constantine and reflects a fairly accurate rendition of the content of the final print. The print attempts to capture a single scene that might feel real to you. A combined U.S. and ISF patrol on the outskirts of Baghdad reacting to a single shot directed at them. You’ll note a few familiar Baghdad skyline points of reference, familiar vehicles, Soldiers you may recognize as yourself. The unit patches of the those BCTs and other assigned, attached, or OPCON units that comprised the MND-B team are found across the bottom of the print. The final print will be approximately 16” X 22”.

All proceeds will be donated to the First Team Memorial fund to help pay for the cost of adding the names of our MND-B and 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Fallen to the Memorial that sits on the west end of Cooper Field in front of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division HQs at Fort Hood. Payments may be made by cash or check or money order made out to “1CD Events Fund”.

If you are interested in purchasing one or more of these prints, please reserve it/them by filling out the form and turn it and your payment in to your unit representative by 12 DEC 09. They will see to it that the payments are delivered to the Division Representative.

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## Multi-National Division-Baghdad OIF 09-10 Print



## “Pegasus Pursuit”

# On This Day In History

November 6, 1962

## U.N. condemns apartheid

On this day in 1962, the United Nations General Assembly adopts a resolution condemning South Africa's racist apartheid policies and calling on all its members to end economic and military relations with the country.

In effect from 1948 to 1993, apartheid, which comes from the Afrikaans word for "apartness," was government-sanctioned racial segregation and political and economic discrimination against South Africa's non-white majority. Among many injustices, blacks were forced to live in segregated areas and couldn't enter whites-only neighborhoods unless they had a special pass. Although whites represented only a small fraction of the population, they held the vast majority of the country's land and wealth.

Following the 1960 massacre of unarmed demonstrators at Sharpeville near Johannesburg, South Africa, in which 69 blacks were killed and over 180 were injured, the international movement to end apartheid gained wide support. However, few Western powers or South Africa's other main trading partners favored a full economic or military embargo against the country. Nonetheless, opposition to apartheid within the U.N. grew, and in 1973 a U.N. resolution labeled apartheid a "crime against humanity." In 1974, South Africa was suspended from the General Assembly.

After decades of strikes, sanctions and increasingly violent demonstrations, many apartheid laws were repealed by 1990. Finally, in 1991, under President F.W. de Klerk, the South African government repealed all remaining apartheid laws and committed to writing a new constitution. In 1993, a multi-racial, multi-party transitional government was approved and, the next year, South Africa held its first fully free elections. Political activist Nelson Mandela, who spent 27 years in prison along with other anti-apartheid leaders after being convicted of treason, became South Africa's new president.

## FAMOUS FEATS OF CHUCK NORRIS



### DID YOU KNOW?

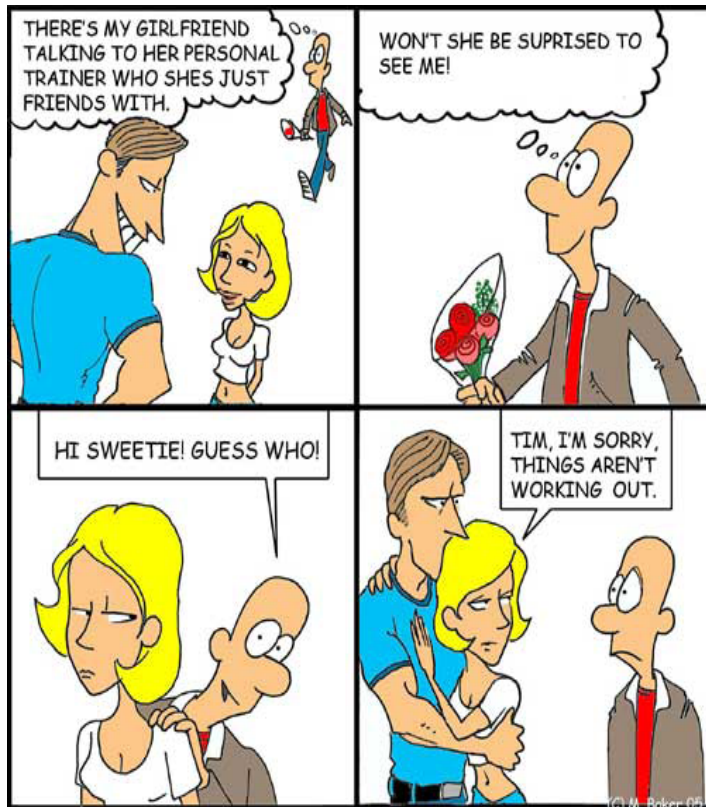
Chuck Norris invented his own type of karate. It's called Chuck-Will-Kill..

# MND-B Pic of the day!



Photo by Spc. Kelly LeCompte, 30th HBCT PAO

BAGHDAD – Iraqi policemen from 5th Federal Police Brigade assess trauma injuries on a medical training dummy during a class taught by medics of 252nd Combined Arms Battalion, 30th Heavy Brigade Combat Team at Forward Operation Base Falcon, Nov 3.



## Quote For Today

“Wisdom consists of the anticipation of consequences.”

— Norman Cousins —

### Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



**Today**  
71° F | 59° F



**Tomorrow**  
76° F | 60° F



**Friday**  
78° F | 61° F

### TRIVIA TIME!!

Former President Johnson, his wife and two daughters all had the initials LBJ, which abbreviated what?

Last Issue's Answer: AXIS

# 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 # 192 was produced by SGT Ashley Anderson, MND-B Public Affairs Office.

This newscast includes the fol-

lowing stories:

1. Soldiers on Victory Base Complex participate in 10K run to honor cancer survivors. Interview with SPC Sandrae Band, 101st Engineer Battalion.

Over 700 participants competed in the 10K run.

2. The 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Inf. Divi-

sion Soldiers celebrate their arrival into country.

They celebrated Oct. 29 with a uncasing of the colors ceremony. They will continue to work with the Iraqi government.

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/](http://www.hood.army.mil/1stcavdiv/)

## Trigger's Teasers

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

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



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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](mailto: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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