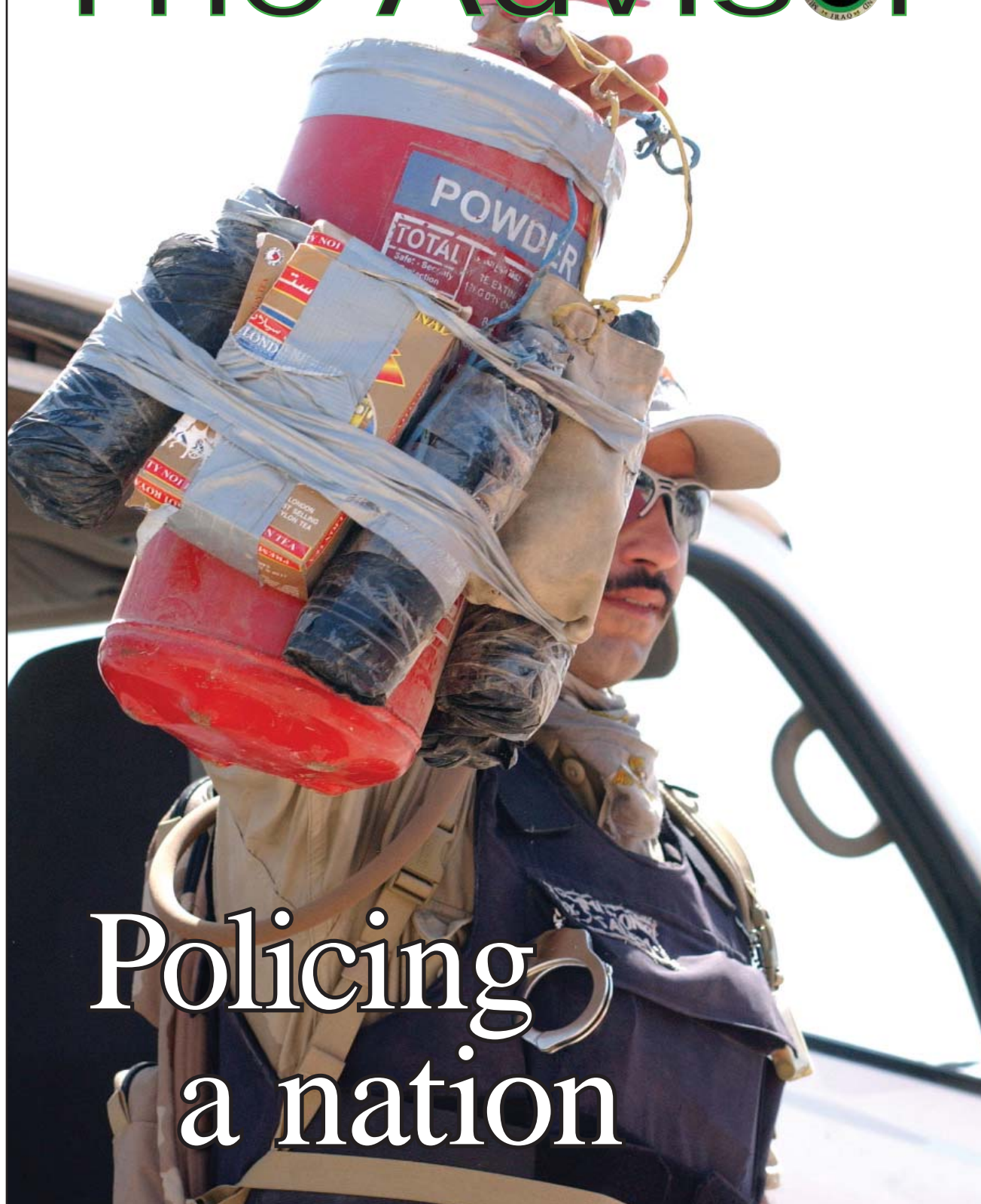


The Advisor



Policing a nation

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Some faces of Iraqi soldiers and police have been altered to protect their identities.

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ON THE COVER

A new graduate of the Baghdad Police College displays the findings of a bomb-sniffing dog during a graduation ceremony demonstration June 29.

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Rick Brown

Munitions found in Iraq meet WMD criteria, official says

By Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The 500 munitions discovered throughout Iraq since 2003 and discussed in a National Ground Intelligence Center report meet the criteria of weapons of mass destruction, the center's commander said June 29.

"These are chemical weapons as defined under the Chemical Weapons Convention, and yes ... they do constitute weapons of mass destruction," U.S. Army Col. John Chu told the House Armed Services Committee.

The Chemical Weapons Convention is an arms control agreement which outlaws the production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons. It was signed in 1993 and entered into force in 1997.

The munitions found contain sarin and mustard gases, U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Michael D. Maples, director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, said. Sarin attacks the neurological system and is potentially lethal.

"Mustard is a blister agent (that) actually produces burning of any area (where) an individual may come in contact with the agent," he said. It also is potentially fatal if it gets into a person's lungs.

The munitions addressed in the report were produced in the 1980s, Maples said. Badly corroded, they could not currently be used as originally intended, Chu added.

While that's reassuring, the agent remaining in the weapons would be very valuable to terrorists and insurgents, Maples said. "We're talking chemical agents here that could be packaged in a different format and have a great effect," he said, referencing the sarin-gas attack on

a Japanese subway in the mid-1990s.

This is true even considering any degradation of the chemical agents that may have occurred, Chu said. It's not known exactly how sarin breaks down, but no matter how degraded the agent is, it's still toxic.

"Regardless of (how much material in the weapon is actually chemical agent), any remaining agent is toxic," he said. "Anything above zero (percent agent) would prove to be toxic, and if you were exposed to it long enough, lethal."

Though about 500 chemical weapons — the exact number has not been released publicly — have been found, Maples said he doesn't believe Iraq is a "WMD-free zone."

"I do believe the former regime did a very poor job of accountability of munitions, and certainly did not document the destruction of munitions," he said. "The recovery program goes on, and I do not believe we have found all the weapons."

The Defense Intelligence Agency director said locating and disposing of chemical weapons in Iraq is one of the most important tasks servicemembers in the country perform.

Maples added searches are ongoing for chemical weapons beyond those being conducted solely for force protection.

There has been a call for a complete declassification of the National Ground Intelligence Center's report on WMD in Iraq. Maples said he believes the director of national intelligence is still considering this option, and has asked Maples to look into producing an unclassified paper addressing the subject matter in the center's report.

Much of the classified matter was slated for discussion in a closed forum following the open hearings.

"These are chemical weapons as defined under the Chemical Weapons Convention, and yes ... they do constitute weapons of mass destruction."

U.S. Army Col. John Chu,
National Ground Intelligence Center Commander

K1 Base transfers operating authority to Iraqi control

**By U.S. Air Force
Staff Sgt. Lucia Newman**
MNSTC-I Public Affairs

KIRKUK, Iraq — Iraqi and Coalition leaders came together June 27 to celebrate the transfer of authority of Kirkuk Military Base, also known as K1.

The transfer came after a year-long relationship between the Iraqi Army and the Coalition forces whose job was to train, equip and mentor Iraqi forces to eventually assume responsibility for the logistics concept and force operations of K1.

K1 is the home to the Garrison Support Unit and its Base Defense Unit, the Headquarters of the 2nd Brigade of the 4th Iraqi Division and that Brigade's 2nd Battalion, the K-1 Regional Training Center as well as the 4th Motor Transport Regiment.

According to officials, K-1 will soon become the home of the 4th Iraqi Division Headquarters.

K1 will take on the administrative



Photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Lucia Newman

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Ed Brown, Garrison Support Unit senior advisor receives the guidon from U.S. Army Sgt. First Class Michael LaMothe, GSU senior enlisted advisor, as an Iraqi Army sergeant major looks on. The ceremony was a demonstration of a traditional change-of-command ceremony in the U.S. military.



Photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Lucia Newman

Iraqi and Coalition leaders render honors during the playing of the Iraqi national anthem at the Kirkuk Military Base transfer of authority ceremony June 27.

and logistical support role for the 4th Iraqi Army Division, which involves caring for more than 4,000 Iraqi troops. This transition is said to be the beginning of independent Iraqi Armed Forces.

"The logistics system has been designed so that the fighting troops do not have to be concerned about their support; and you are doing just that – thinking and anticipating their needs – and giving them the support they need," British Brig. Gen. Jamie Gordon, MNSTC-I deputy commanding general, said during his speech at the K1 transition ceremony.

In the upcoming months, 88 other GSUs and five Regional Support Units are expected to transition to Iraqi control. Gordon said each person who was involved in this transition should feel proud that they were the first in a historical chain.

"This transition ceremony is a credit to all that you have done over the last few months," said Gordon. "It gives me great pleasure to be a guest in your base."

Although the Coalition mission is complete, the relationship will continue, according to U.S. Army Lt. Col. Robert Benjamin, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Division deputy commander.

Benjamin said the relationship between the two forces will be maintained and Coalition forces will remain available to help as the need arises.

"We've gone from a training and developing type relationship to a partnership," he said.

At the close of the ceremony, Iraqi Army Brig. Gen. Younnis, GSU commander, thanked those involved for their support and long-term commitment.

"Coalition forces stood side by side with us to establish our unit and train our elements in many different ways," Younnis said. "We appreciate all of the equipment required to operate the hospital and the support in logistics and administration offices of the GSU. They have met our needs and supported us everywhere and every time from the establishment of our unit to this day."

Iraq's sovereignty:

A nation's progress after two-years of democratic freedom

U.S. Army Gen. George W. Casey, Jr.
Multi-National Force – Iraq Commanding General

The vision of the Coalition and the Iraqi people is one of Unity, Security and Prosperity. The past two years have not been easy. Achievements have been made against the backdrop of an active terrorist insurgency.

The terrorists, though, have failed at every turn. They have failed to disrupt the democratic process, failed to stop the development of the ISF, and most importantly, they have failed to develop an alternative vision for Iraq that resonates with the Iraqi people.

Much as been accomplished, but much remains to be done. Our job will not stop until we reach our desired end-state: Iraq at peace with its neighbors and an ally in the War on Terror, with a representative government that respects human rights of all Iraqis, and security forces sufficient to maintain domestic order and to deny Iraq as a safe haven for terrorists.

The Iraqi people have capitalized on the assistance provided by the international community.

Saddam's legacy of neglect and abuse has been steadily reversed, but continued support is needed to maintain progress in Iraq. What lies ahead, the exciting future of a fledging democracy, is only possible because of the dedication, vision and sacrifice of literally millions of people around the world. A free and prosperous Iraq is in the interest of all nations, including Iraq's neighbors and the greater Middle East.

Unity, Security and Prosperity ... the vision of the future is very bright indeed.



As a result of Iraq's democracy, the country now has 18 governorate councils, 90 district councils, 437 neighborhood councils, and citizens have been given the freedom to vote.



In 2004, Iraqi Armed Forces consisted of about 44,000 personnel. Today more than 116,000 members of the joint forces are serving their nation and helping to enforce the rule of law.



About 46,000 Iraqi police officers worked to keep law and order in 2004. In the two years since, Iraq's police force has grown to more than 152,000.

Minister celebrates with police graduates

By U.S. Army
Sgt. 1st Class Rick Brown
MNSTC-I Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi Minister of Interior Jawad Al-Bolani helped kick off the graduation of 444 new Iraqi policemen – noncommissioned officers – at the Baghdad Police College June 29.

The heavily guarded Minister spoke to the new graduates about their commitment and responsibility to all Iraqi citizens, regardless of religious affiliation.

To substantiate those values, the recruits took an oath of allegiance to the people of Iraq and to the constitution, which MOI and Coalition leaders emphasized “is not to a dictator or individual.” This, they say, drives a wedge between the terrorists and police forces, and diminishes the chance of insurgent infiltration into the police force.

Following the ceremony, Iraqi Police Brig. Gen. Hussein, dean of the college, answered numerous questions from the media revolving around sectarian division in the ranks. “We have recruits from all areas – Shia, Sunni, Christian,” he said through an interpreter. “They all get the same training.



New graduates of the Baghdad Police College celebrate their graduation June 29 by hoisting a fellow classmate.



Photos by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Rick Brown

Iraqi Minister of Interior Jawad Al-Bolani speaks to the 444 new graduates of the Baghdad Police College June 29. The primary theme of the day was respecting human rights, which was demonstrated by all graduates taking an oath to the people of Iraq and the Iraqi constitution.

It makes no difference,” he said.

That 10-week training includes instruction on small-arms weaponry, human rights, traffic control, police investigation techniques and search and seizure. Graduates will next be assigned throughout Iraq, according to the needs of the ministry.

More than 152,000 Iraqi police officers and noncommissioned officers have been trained throughout Iraq in the past three years.

In an effort to accelerate an increased Iraqi police presence, the Baghdad Police College is undergoing several renovation projects totaling \$68 million that will allow the facility to improve support for all departments of the MOI. The venture will add a forensics training laboratory and ballistics chamber,

reference library, outdoor firing ranges and various classrooms, including new computer-generated indoor training simulators.

The academy was built in 1936 and has a current capacity of about 1,200 to 1,500 students. Once renovations are complete, it will house and train some 4,000 cadets at a time.



A bomb-sniffing dog searches for explosives as part of a demonstration during the graduation ceremony at Baghdad Police College June 29.

Police transition team works with national police

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Russell Lee Klika
133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

SAMARRA, Iraq — When the Minister of Interior in Baghdad orders a company of the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 1st National Police Division to move to hot spots around Iraq, a special group of Coalition Soldiers move with them.

3rd Battalion's Special Police Transition Team, made up of Soldiers from the U.S. Army European Command and attached to the 101st Airborne Division, is responsible for training and advising police personnel on movement tactics, planning, cordon and search procedures and weapons.

"We have been with this division since February," said U.S. Maj. Cory Crosbie, team leader of the team during an interview June 23. "When they move, we move. We plan, rehearse and conduct raids with them."

During the week of June 23, the team trained 20 policemen a day on how to zero, clean and clear a malfunction of their AK-47 rifles at Patrol Base Olsen in Samarra.

"We train them as we train our own," said Crosbie. "We teach them on the proper ways of handling a weapon, from breathing techniques to trigger squeeze."

Things usually go well with the help of two interpreters, but sometimes things get lost in translation so the team rehearses with the translators on what they will be teaching before each training event.

Crosbie said the biggest problem they run into is that the police officers become frustrated if they cannot hit targets on the rifle range. When this happens, Soldiers get down on the ground and demonstrate proper procedures.



Photo by U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Russell Lee Klika

A platoon of Iraqi police officers from the 1st National Police Division are led to a live-fire range at Patrol Base Olson in Samarra. U.S. Army Capt. Geoffrey Farrell of the Special Police Transition Team attached to the 101st Airborne Division led the Iraqi police, who went to the range to zero their AK-47 rifles.

"You show them that it can be done and it usually motivates them," said U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Brent Briggs, a team member. "Once they see that they can hit the target, their confidence level goes way up."

On this day all but one police officer zeroed his weapon. Once the round casings were picked up and the range cleaned, the team handed out cigars to every police officer for a job well done.



Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Rick Brown

Baghdad Police College graduates stand in formation with the "Martyr's Monument" looming in the backdrop. The new policemen completed a 10-week training program June 29 and will be assigned throughout Iraq based on the needs of the Ministry of Interior.

Camp Ur transfers authority to Iraqi control

**By U.S. Navy Journalist 2nd Class
John J. Pistone
MNSTC-I Public Affairs**

TALIL, Iraq — The Iraqi Army took a first step toward controlling its logistical systems in a transfer of authority ceremony at Camp Ur near Talil June 25.

Camp Ur was the first Garrison Support Unit to be transferred from a Coalition supported operating facility to an Iraqi supported operations base.

According to Coalition advisors, there are approximately 90 more such units to follow suit. Advisors said the transition of these units will occur over the next few months and are vital steps for the Iraqi Army to be fully self-sufficient.

GSUs are units that provide logistical services such as life support, vehicle maintenance and supply transport to troops in the field.

For the past several years, the Coalition has provided and maintained these systems while training the Iraqi Army how to manage them.

According to U.S. Army Maj. Robert J. McIlwain, the Coalition officer in charge, the base was simply a construction site when he arrived 11 months ago. Now it has transitioned into a fully functional self-sufficient military base.

He credits the changes to the hard work of the Iraqi Army and Coalition

advisors.

McIlwain said that the obstacles tested the unit's resolve and helped form the members into a strong team.

He said the leadership has gained the confidence of their superiors in taking this base forward, supporting the nation and taking the Iraqi people into the future.

In his speech during the ceremony, British Brig. Gen. Jamie Gordon, MNSTC-I deputy commanding general, said there were several obstacles that

an integral and key element to the logistics system that supports the Iraqi Armed forces," Gordon said. "This handover marks the first step in bringing this system alive and bringing to reality the Iraqi Armed Forces self-sufficiency."

He congratulated Coalition members and Iraqi armed forces for being the first GSU to be transferred to Iraqi control and for all their hard work.

He said this work had brought the GSU to a standard where it can be transitioned to the Iraqi armed forces.

"You can be proud that this is the first support unit amongst five regional support units and some 90 other garrison support units - to transition.

It is up to you to insure that the Iraqi Armed Forces gets the best possible logistics support that they deserve to keep them in the fight," Gordon said.

Iraqi Brig. Gen. Ali, Camp Ur base commander, said he feels this transition helps the Iraqi Army

"We have learned that an army cannot exist without its logistical forces. These garrison support units are an integral and key element to the logistics system that supports the Iraqi Armed forces. This handover marks the first step in bringing this system alive and bringing to reality the Iraqi Armed Forces self-sufficiency."

**British Brig. Gen. Jamie Gordon
MNSTC-I Deputy Commanding General**

had to be overcome for the base to get to this point.

"Building the logistic concept and the logistic forces has not been an easy task," Gordon said.

"They have been last in a fourth-generation process, not because of a reflection of their importance, but because combat forces were needed first to combat insurgents," Gordon said.

He said that the GSUs were vital to the success of the armed forces.

"We have learned that an army cannot exist without its logistical forces.

"These garrison support units are

fulfill a promise to the people of Iraq.

"We promised the Iraqi people to keep the army active and protect our country from terrorists and finally, by this ceremony, I can say that we have kept this promise," Ali said through an interpreter.

Ali said that both sides had worked hard to make this day possible and thanked the Coalition Soldiers for all of their assistance and hard work.

"We have worked hard together to be successful and we have learned to work as one team," Ali said, "and I say thank you for all of your help."

IRAQI SECURITY FORCES / in brief

Iraqi Security Forces capture terror facilitator

BALAD — Iraqi Security Forces conducted an early morning raid south of Baghdad and captured a key member and facilitator of an insurgent cell June 27.

Abdullah Haydar Nasir Al-Juburi, a facilitator of local terrorist operations, was captured at his home by Iraqi Security Forces just west of Salmanpak. Al Juburi facilitated terrorist activities by using his home to harbor terrorists.

No Iraqi or Coalition forces were injured during this operation.

— *Multi-National Force – Iraq Combined Press Information Center*

Iraqi government, MNF-I release 430 detainees

BAGHDAD — The government of Iraq and Multi-National Force - Iraq released approximately 450 security detainees June 27 from Coalition-run Theater Internment Facilities in a joint initiative.

National Security Advisor Muwafaq Al-Rubai addressed the security detainees at Abu Ghraib Theater Internment Facility and asked them to return to their jobs and share in the wealth of their country.

He said Prime Minister Maliki has declared a reconciliation program for all those who are not tied to terrorism and that there is

no room for terrorists in Iraq.

This release is part of a plan to release 2,500 security detainees during the month of June through a series of 200 to 500 person releases.

The Iraqi Government has approved the discharge of detainees who are not guilty of serious crimes such as bombing, torture, kidnapping and murder. The released individuals must renounce violence and pledge to be good citizens of Iraq.

The decision to conduct these releases highlights the importance of progress toward democratic governance and the rule of law by the government of Iraq and MNF-I.

— *Multi-National Force – Iraq Task Force 134 Public Affairs*

Soldiers detain eight, seize weapons in Hit

HIT — Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Division and Coalition troops detained eight men in separate incidents June 24 in Hit.

One Iraqi soldier was wounded in operations in the area.

Various assault rifles, long range cordless telephone base stations, numerous phone cards, and a large amount of U.S. and Iraqi money were seized during the operations.

The detainees and weaponry were transferred to authorities for further investigation.



Former Abu Ghraib Internment Facility detainees walk to their busses that will take them to their release locations June 19. More than 2,500 detainees were scheduled to be released during the month of June. The discharges were conducted as part of a joint initiative by the government of Iraq and Multi-National Force - Iraq.

Photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Lucia Newman

IRAQI SECURITY FORCES / in brief

Five detained, weapons seized in Haqlaniyah

HAQLANIYAH — Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Division and Coalition troops detained five men in multiple incidents June 24 in Haqlaniyah.

Blank identification cards, 17 white phosphorous grenades and blasting caps were seized during the operations.

The detainees and weaponry were transferred to authorities for further investigation.

No injuries or damages were reported.

Troops nab suspects, cash in Ramadi

RAMADI — Soldiers from the 7th Iraqi Army Division and Coalition troops detained five suspected insurgents and seized \$5,000 in U.S. currency during operations near Ramadi June 24.

The military-aged males were collared by troops in separate incidents west and northeast of the city; two after they were observed attempting to emplace a roadside bomb and three others after they exhibited suspicious behavior.

The detainees and currency were turned over to authorities for further investigation.

No injuries or damages were reported.

Iraqi Forces Capture Insurgent Leader

BALAD — Iraqi Army forces conducted an early morning raid on June 21 in Ad Diwaniyah and captured a local insurgent leader.

Soldiers from the 8th Iraqi Army Division, supported by Coalition force advisors, breached two objectives simultaneously and captured six insurgents including Ali Al-Najar, a local insurgent commander.

Al-Najar directed the operations of several cells in the Diwaniyah area, including a local assassination cell.

He was directly responsible for recent mortar and rocket attacks on Coalition personnel.

Iraqi troops also confiscated one AK-47 assault rifle and one pistol.

No Iraqi or Coalition Forces were injured during this operation.

— *Multi-National Force – Iraq Combined Press Information Center*

CCCI convicts 10 insurgents

BAGHDAD — The Central Criminal Court of Iraq convicted 10 security detainees June 14 through June 20 for various crimes including possession of illegal weapons, passport violations and illegal border crossings.

The individual conviction cases included Jamal Yahya Mohamed Abdul Kareem who was found guilty of illegally entering Iraq in violation of Article 10 of the Iraqi Passport Laws and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

Coalition Forces apprehended the Saudi man during a targeted raid. He later admitted to illegally entering the country and creating propaganda for terrorists.

The trial court also found Mohammed Elaiwy Fahad Al-Almary guilty of illegally entering Iraq, in violation of Article 10 of the Iraqi Passport Laws, and sentenced him to 10 years imprisonment. Coalition Forces apprehended the Saudi man after his vehicle crashed near an Iraqi checkpoint.

A search of the defendant's vehicle revealed illegal explosives, and he later admitted to traveling to Iraq to join the Mujahadeen.

The trial court found Ali Abdulah Dharbi guilty of possession of illegal weapons, in violation of Coalition Provisional Authority Order 3, and sentenced him to six years imprisonment. Coalition Forces apprehended Dharbi after he was captured near the site of an attempted ambush against Coalition forces.

The defendant was found near five RPKs, three AK-47s, three RPGs, one 60 mm mortar tube, six 60 mm mortar rounds, three hand grenades and five RPG rounds. He later admitted his involvement with the ambush.

The trial court found Taha Yassin Khalaf guilty of possession of illegal weapons in violation of Coalition Provisional Authority Order 3, and sentenced him to one year imprisonment.

Coalition Forces apprehended Khalaf after a search of his property revealed more than 3,000 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, six hand grenades, multiple mortar rounds and one Dragunov sniper rifle.

Upon conviction, all defendants were turned over to the Iraqi Corrections Service to serve their sentences.

To date, the CCCI has held 1,248 trials of insurgents suspected of anti-Iraqi and anti-Coalition activities threatening the security of Iraq and targeting Multi-National Forces personnel.

These proceedings have resulted in 1,076 individual convictions with sentences ranging up to include the death penalty.

— *Multi-National Force – Iraq Task Force 134 Public Affairs*



Photo by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Lucia Newman

A Force Protection Course instructor at Besmiyah Range Compound shows new students how to search a vehicle July 1.