

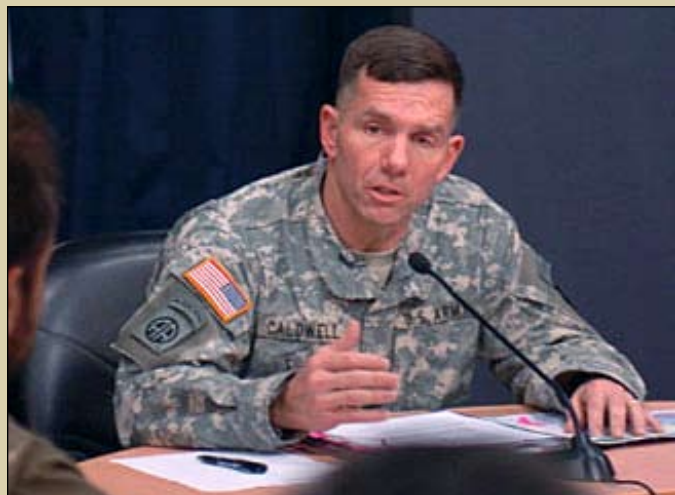
Caldwell: Rebuilding and securing Iraq will be a total team effort

By **Spc. Carl N. Hudson**
10th Public Affairs Operations Center

BAGHDAD — The Multi-National Force – Iraq spokesman held an operational update briefing at the Combined Press Information Center in the International Zone Wednesday to discuss Baghdad security and other issues.

“Militarily, the first additional Iraqi forces and the first of five additional U.S. brigades have arrived in Baghdad and are conducting operations,” said Maj. Gen. William B. Caldwell IV, MNF-I spokesman.

Caldwell also said the non-military parts of the plan are in effect and have been strengthened. — [Full Story](#)



Maj. Gen. William B. Caldwell IV, Multi-National Forces-Iraq spokesman, holds an operational update briefing at the Combined Press Information Center in the International Zone Wednesday. Photo by Army Sgt. Matthew Roe, 10th PublicAffairs Operations Center.

Despite risks, air still safest travel in Iraq

Story and photo by **Spc. Laura M. Bigenho**
28th Public Affairs Detachment

WASHINGTON — Air travel is still the safest way to transport troops and supplies in Iraq, despite the recent rash of downed helicopter incidents, a top official there said yesterday.

Six helicopters have either been shot down or crashed since Jan. 20, Army Maj. Gen. James E. Simmons, deputy commanding general for support for Multi-National Corps - Iraq, said.

In the past three weeks, two Army UH-60 Black Hawks and two AH-64 Apaches have been shot down, killing 16 soldiers, he said. — [Full Story](#)



A soldier watches for enemy action as fellow soldiers board a U.S. Army UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter following a cordon and search operation in Tall Aswad, Iraq. The soldiers are from Delta Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment. U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Robert C. Brogan. Photo courtesy MNF-I.

CENTCOM PODCAST

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EXPOSING THE ENEMY

AL-QA'IDA'S SAWT AL-JIHAD MAGAZINE THREATENS 'MAJOR' ATTACKS



A jihadist website posted a message from the Al-Qa'ida Organization in the Arabian Peninsula, announcing the release of their 30th issue of their online magazine Sawt al-Jihad.

In the introduction of this edition, the author assures Bin Ladin that the mujahidin of Al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula are keeping their promise and are preparing for “what will please him,” threatening new attacks against “Crusader” interests in the Arabian Peninsula. The magazine also includes an article on Bin Ladin's strategy to use “the oil weapon” against the West.

— [Full Text](#)

WARFIGHTER STORIES

GUARDSMAN AWARDED SILVER STAR FOR SELFLESS ACTS



Urban combat often devolves into a series of actions that traverse winding streets and narrow alleys--sometimes for hours. That was certainly the case for Sgt. 1st Class Stephens on June 24, 2004, in Baqubah.

That morning, Stephens and his platoon were called in to assist another platoon taking heavy fire from insurgents. Stephens's platoon helped the others fight through the engagement and then proceeded further into Baqubah. And then they ran into the first ambush of the day. — [Full Story](#)

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