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Al-Doura residents welcome Soldiers, security

By Multi-National Force - Iraq

BAGHDAD — "Face time." It seems to be a term used more by celebrities than Soldiers, but as Iraqi Army and Police go on patrols with Coalition forces, "face time" is something one unit is saying is very important to their mission of capturing the bad guys.

On what's become a normal patrol mission in Baghdad's northwest Al-Doura neighborhood, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division Soldiers are using the results of their "face time" to help catch the enemy.

"Our presence is very important," said Staff Sgt. Juan A. Lopez, a Bronx, N.Y. native. "The [locals] will talk to us and tell us where the caches and insurgents are, they will tell us about new people who have moved into their neighborhood threatening them. — Full Story



Bronx, N.Y., native Staff Sgt. Juan A. Lopez, speaks Arabic with some Iraqi children during his unit's patrol of a market in Baghdad's Al Doura district. Photo courtesy MNF-I.

MiTT focuses on Iraqi Army NCO Corps

Story and photo by Sgt. Robert Yde

FOB HONOR — As a member of a military transition team, 1st Sgt. Joseph McFarlane spends the majority of his days training and advising members of the Iraqi Army.

During the three month that he's been in Iraq, McFarlane, the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division's MiTT, said he has seen a great deal of progress by Iraqi soldiers. But one area he and his teammates would like to see more improvement in is the development and strengthening of the Iraqi Army's NCO corps. — Full Story



Staff Sgt. Buakai Tamu demonstrates the proper way to report to the president of an Army promotion board for members of the Iraqi Army. Members of the 4th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment's Military Transition Team conducted a mock board for the Iraqis, so they could gain a better understanding of how the U.S. Army promotes its noncommissioned officers. Photo courtesy of MNF-I

CENTCOM PODCAST

CENTCOM PODCAST 23 FEB 07 — CENTCOM Headquarters receives a visit from the Sergeant Major of the Army, Airmen help rebuild a village in Kyrgyzstan and a look at the progress in Afghanistan from a top enlisted leader.

FROM AROUND THE AOR

Market Grand Opening
Signifies Iraqi Resilience

Afghan Doctors Learn Medical, Management Techniques

Blair Announces British
Reduction of Forces in Iraq

Desert Hawk Takes Command of Aviation Ops

Learn more about CENTCOM's AOR here!

EXPOSING THE ENEMY

AS-SAHAB VIDEO OF SUICIDE BOMBING TARGETING AN AMERICAN CONVOY IN ORGUN



As-Sahab, the multimedia production arm of al-Qaeda, issued on Saturday, February 17, 2007, a 12:43 minute suicide bombing video from Afghanistan. This video is from the Sahab series, "Pyre for the Americans in the Land of Kharasan [Afghanistan]," and depicts an attack on an American convoy in Orgun.

Like the entry distributed two days prior, depicting a documentary-style presentation of an attack on an American base in Arghandab, this video opens with taunts from Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri. — Full Text

WARFIGHTER STORIES

MARINE OF THE YEAR
DRAGS SEVEN COMRADES
TO SAFETY DURING AMBUSH



On June 23, 2005, then-Sgt. Padmore was leading a security force near Fallujah, Iraq, when his convoy was ambushed. The attack began when a suicide car bomber crashed into the lead vehicle. Padmore immediately jumped out to assess the damage to the lead vehicle. Even with enemy fighters firing from rooftops – and with .50 caliber rounds firing off in all directions as the vehicle burned – Padmore dashed across 200 yards of open ground to reach those injured by the blast. Padmore, an emergency medical technician in civilian life, quickly set to removing the men from danger and administering medical attention. — Full Story

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