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May 6, 2009

# MND-S hosts media open house



Photo by Sgt. Joe Roos

Brig. Gen. Jefforey Smith, 10th Mountain Division Deputy Commanding General for Support, answers questions from the Iraqi media during a gathering with reporters May 3 at Contingency Operating Base Basra. The gathering, hosted by the 10th Mountain and 34th Infantry Divisions, was to introduce the media to the organizations and to begin a relationship of openness.

Sgt. Joe Roos  
MND-S



COB BASRA – “We’re doing business with the Iraqis the way the Iraqis do business,” said Lt. Col. Kevin Olson, 34th Infantry Division public affairs officer.

As the members of the Iraqi media were gathered in the meeting room, American and Iraqi styles of doing business were enmeshed.

The Iraqi journalists and news editors were treated to a

smorgasbord of traditional Iraqi foods, and mingled with senior leaders from the 10th Mountain Division, 34th Infantry Division and 14th Iraqi Army Division.

While the military leaders literally broke bread with the Iraqi journalists, they took time to get to know each other, as well as the organizations being represented.

The gathering over food and chai tea finally led to a serious question and answer session from the media and the most senior ranking American officer in the room, Brig.

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# Coalition forces train Iraqi combat medics

1ST LT. JAMES JACKSON  
4TH BCT, 1ST CAV. DIV.



FOB HUNTER – Though they're less than a month from completing a year-long combat tour in Iraq, troops assigned to the 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division continue to assist the 10th Iraqi Army Division.

The 5th Battalion 'Black Dragons' provided medical training to their IA partners in the 41st Iraqi Army Brigade here recently.

"The training is a great step for the Iraqi Army medical personnel," said Sgt. John Lewis, the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the Black Dragon medics, from Oregon, Ohio.

The Black Dragons began their training with their IA counterparts last September, while their unit was stationed in Kumayt, an Iraqi compound inside southern Iraq's Dhi Qar province. Since then, the American troops have trained their partners in everything from basic combat life saving skills to advanced medical training techniques.

While at Kumayt, the Iraqi Soldiers completed a week-long training program to become certified as combat medics. The certified IA medics will eventually share their new-found techniques with other troops within their unit.

"I had fun out there," said Pvt. Justin Ross, a native of Paola, Kan. "All their medics seemed to want to learn more."

After the 41st Iraqi Army Brigade established their headquarters at Forward Operating Base Condor, adjacent to the operating base here, the two units' partnership continued with actual operations along Iraq's southeastern border. The Black Dragon medics will continue

to train the 41st Bde. medical personnel to ensure their independence.



Photo by 1st Lt. James Jackson

An Iraqi soldier, assigned to 41st IA Bde., 10th IA Div., inserts an intravenous drip into one of his fellow troops during a training exercise with 5th Bn., 82nd FA Regt., 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div.



## 12th Annual Bataan Memorial March

The march begins at DSTB May 10. The 20-mile event begins at 6 a.m. and the 10-mile event begins at 8 a.m. The course is mixed asphalt, dirt and gravel. All 20-mile participants must have written approval of the first lieutenant colonel in their chain of command. Awards will be given to the first three finishers in each category. Registration is due by 10 pm. May 6 to the 34th ID G-2 section.

## THE Mountain View

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### Contributing Units

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4th BCT, 1st Cavalry Division  
41st Fires Brigade  
343rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment  
793rd Military Police Battalion  
Division Special Troops Battalion, 10th Mtn. Div.  
Task Force 449





## MEDIA

From page 1

Gen. Jefforey Smith, 10th Mountain Div. Deputy Commanding General for Support.

Smith explained how all operations will be conducted within the perimeters of the security agreement.

"The people need to know that we're not directly involved in (kinetic operations) anymore," said Smith. "For example, we no longer take detainees under our control anywhere in Multi-National Division-South."

Smith assured the Iraqi media representatives that Coalition forces in MND-S would be acting in complete good faith and to the benefit of the Iraqi citizens.

"All the operations we're involved in with the Iraqi Security Forces are under their lead," he said.

Finally, Smith commented on what the changes will look like from the Americans, citing the arrival of the U.S. provincial reconstruction team and the type of infrastructure-building work that team does.

Smith gave the media a realistic assessment, saying the transition "will take some time."

He assured the interviewers that MND-S is "going to be bringing additional resources (to Basra) to help the Basrawis and the provincial government in any way we can with essential services."

Following the engagement with Smith, Iraqi media members headed to the serene turtle pond located at MND-S Headquarters, followed by a tour of the headquarters facility with occasional stops for questions and answers.

The tour served as a gesture to communicate the openness MND-S is aiming to have with the Iraqi media in future operations.



Photos by Sgt. Joe Roos

(Top) Maj. Tanya Bradsher, 2nd BCT, 4th Inf. Div. public affairs officer, meets with a member of the Iraq media May 3 at COB Basra. The gathering, hosted by the 34th Inf. and 10th Mtn. Divisions, was to introduce the media to the organizations and to begin a relationship of openness. (Bottom) Leaders of the 10th Mtn. Div. and 34th Inf. Div. break bread with members of the Iraqi media.

**COMING SOON**

**THE RED BULL REPORT**

# Headline Round-up

## Iraq News:

BAGHDAD - Iraq's government Monday ruled out allowing U.S. combat troops to remain in Iraqi cities after the June 30 deadline for their withdrawal, despite concern that Iraqi forces cannot cope with the security challenge following a recent resurgence of bombings. Asking U.S. forces to stay in the cities, including volatile Mosul in the north, would be embarrassing for Iraq's prime minister, who has staked his political future on claims that the country has turned the corner in the war against Sunni and Shiite extremists. The departure of heavily armed combat troops from bases inside the cities is important psychologically to many Iraqis, who are eager to regain control of their country after six years of war and U.S. military occupation. U.S. officials played down the Iraqi decision, with Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman saying it's up to the Iraqi government to request an extension of the U.S. presence in the cities and "we intend to fully abide by" terms of the security agreement.

## Odd News:

FRIBOURG, Switzerland - Swiss police said they are investigating a 7-year-old girl's discovery of a condom in her McDonald's Happy Meal. Fribourg state police said the mother called them after the girl discovered the condom among her French fries. Police said Monday they were investigating where the condom came from and how it got into the Happy Meal. They said an analysis was being done to determine if the condom posed a health risk. McDonald's in Switzerland declined to comment because of the ongoing investigation.

## Word Search

### Marine Life

ANCHOVY  
BARRACUDA  
CLAM

STARFISH  
STINGRAY  
TUNA

WALRUS  
WHALE

CLOWNFISH

COD

CRAB

DOLPHIN

HALIBUT

JELLYFISH

LAMPREY

LOBSTER

MANATEE

MARLIN

OCTOPUS

OYSTER

PENGUIN

PORPOISE

PRAWN

SARDINE

SCALLOP

SEA LION

SEA OTTER

SEA TURTLE

SEALS

SHELLFISH

SHRIMP

SPONGE

SQUID

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## AROUND THE COMMUNITY

### Finance

Monday - Saturday

Open: 9 - 11:30 a.m.,  
1:30 - 4 p.m.

Sunday

Open: 1 - 4 p.m.

### DFAC 1 Worship

Sunday

Roman Catholic Mass, UK  
led @ 9:30 a.m.

General Protestant @ 11 a.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of

Latter Day Saint @ 2 p.m.

General Protestant @  
6:30 p.m.

### DFAC 3 Worship

Sunday

Gospel Worship @ 2 p.m.

### DFAC 4 Worship

Monday - Saturday

Daily Mass @ 8 p.m.

Sunday

Protestant Contemporary  
Worship @ 10 a.m.

Holy communion, Protestant  
(UK) @ 11:30 a.m.

Roman Catholic Mass, UK  
led @ 8:30 p.m.

### MWR Stage

May 16

Basra Idol @ 6 p.m. To  
audition contact CW2

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mil