

A PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNEY THROUGH MND-S

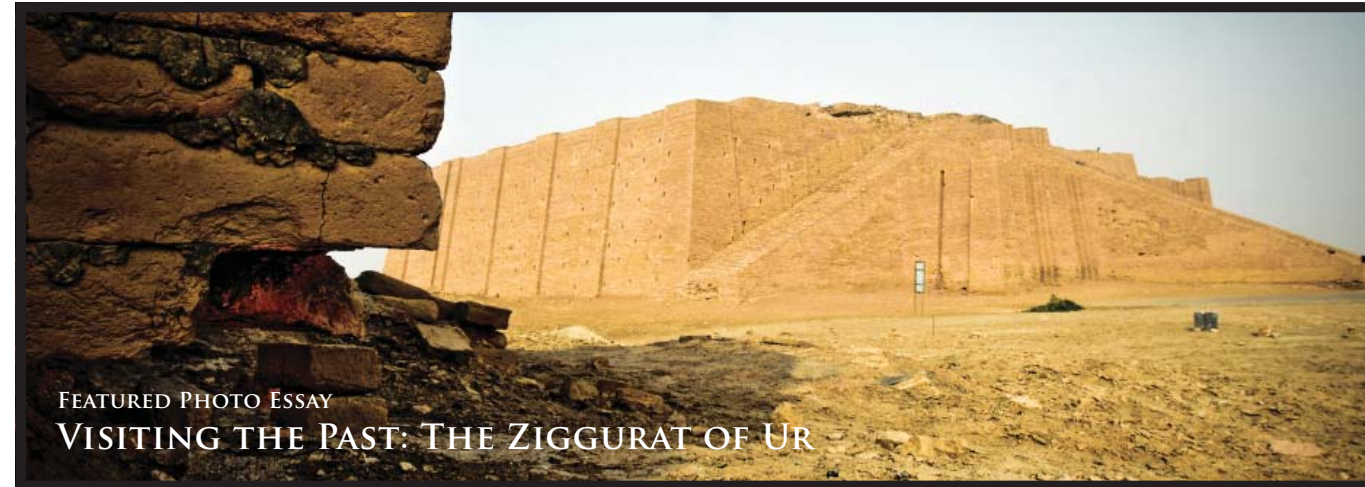
THE SANDSTORM

عاصفة رملية

THE SANDSTORM

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NOVEMBER 2009



CHAPTERS

- › PHOTO ESSAY
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- › BASRA
- › PHOTO CONTEST

BEHIND THE COVER PHOTOGRAPHS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY PFC. J. PRINCEVILLE LAWRENCE



THE ZIGGURAT OF UR, LOCATED NEAR THE MODERN CITY OF NASIRIYAH, WAS BUILT APPROXIMATELY IN THE 21ST CENTURY BC BY SUMERIAN KING UR-NAMMU AS A SHRINE TO THE MOON GOD NANNA. (PAGE 4)

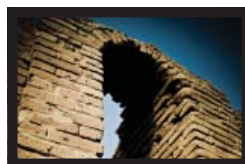


OF THE 25 ZIGGURATS KNOWN FROM IRAQ AND IRAN, THE ZIGGURAT OF UR IS THE BEST PRESERVED. (PAGE 6)



“DO NOT WALK ON TOP OF THESE ROCKS. KEEP OUR HISTORY SAFE.” SINCE 2003, SECURITY OF THE 5000-YEAR OLD ZIGGURAT HAS MAINLY BEEN UNDER CONTROL (PAGE 10)

BACK COVER PHOTO BY PFC. J. PRINCEVILLE LAWRENCE



IN THE SHADOWS OF THE ZIGGURAT OF UR LIES SEVERAL RUINS, INCLUDING THIS ARCHWAY, OFTEN CONSIDERED THE OLDEST IN THE WORLD.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

The Sandstorm is now in its fifth issue and remains a promising outlet for the work of the best professional and amateur photographers in Multi-National Division – South. The public affairs staff of the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division continues to urge all photographers throughout MND-S to continue to submit your best work and showcase your talents. Every picture tells a story and we want to tell yours.

The November issue of The Sandstorm offers its audience a unique segmental view of MND-S with an opening photo essay. This month’s photographic story takes readers to a historical site—the Ziggurat of Ur.

This month’s issue also highlights the work of a young and talented photographer. Pfc. J. Princeville Lawrence, a native of Redwood Falls, Minn., is an up-and-coming photojournalist providing documentation of the experiences of his first deployment as an Army National Guard Soldier.

November’s edition of The

Sandstorm also features work from two Combat Camera photographers working out of Contingency Operating Base Basra, Staff Sgt. Chrissy Best and Spc. Samantha R. Ciaramitaro.

Finally, the winner of last month’s photo contest, “juxtaposition,” will be announced and submission rules, tips and guidelines for this month’s photo contest will be released.

As always, The Sandstorm will allow slight photo manipulation, to include hue and saturation, dodging and burning, contrast, clarity and custom white balance in order to achieve the photographer’s vision. The original content of the photo will not be altered. However, liberal adjustments will be authorized. Any photo which does not accurately depict the originally captured subject will be labeled as a photo illustration.

Please enjoy the Sandstorm and make any comments or recommendations to sandstorm@theredbulls.org. All photo submissions should also be made to sandstorm@theredbulls.org.

“Which of my photographs is my favorite? The one I’m going to take tomorrow.”

- Imogen Cunningham

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS TO THE SANDSTORM!

- Any individual in MND-S may submit photos taken within MND-S to The Sandstorm.
- Photos must be submitted in the largest file size possible.
- If photos have been edited, submit an edited and an unedited version of the photo.
- Ensure photos don’t contain classified or secret information. Consult your Public Affairs section if unsure.
- Rename photos as such: rank-first name-last name-sequence#
Example: Sgt-John-Smith-001, Sgt-John-Smith-002
- Submissions can be made one of two ways:
 - CD or DVD brought by the PAO section in Division HQ
Label CD’s/DVD’s as follows: ATTN: Sgt. Eric Jungels
Rank, first and last name
 - E-mail photos to Sandstorm@TheRedBulls.org
- Advanced photographers using DSLR’s are asked to take and submit photos in RAW format.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNEY THROUGH MND-S

CONTRIBUTING UNITS

172ND INFANTRY BRIGADE
COMBAT TEAM

17TH FIRES BRIGADE

4TH BCT, 1ST ARMORED DIVISION

343RD MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

28TH COMBAT AVIATION BRIGADE

55TH SIGNAL COMPANY (COMBAT CAMERA)

COMMANDING GENERAL - MAJ. GEN. RICHARD C. NASH
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR - COMMAND SGT. MAJ. DOUG JULIN

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VISITING THE PAST

THE ZIGGURAT OF UR

PHOTO ESSAY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
PFC. J. PRINCEVILLE LAWRENCE

THE ZIGGURAT OF UR, LOCATED NEAR THE MODERN CITY OF AN NASIRIYAH, WAS BUILT APPROXIMATELY IN THE 21ST CENTURY BC BY SUMERIAN KING UR-NAMMU AS A SHRINE TO THE MOON GOD NANNA. THE STEP PYRAMID IS THOUGHT TO HAVE TOWERED 100 FEET INTO THE AIR.

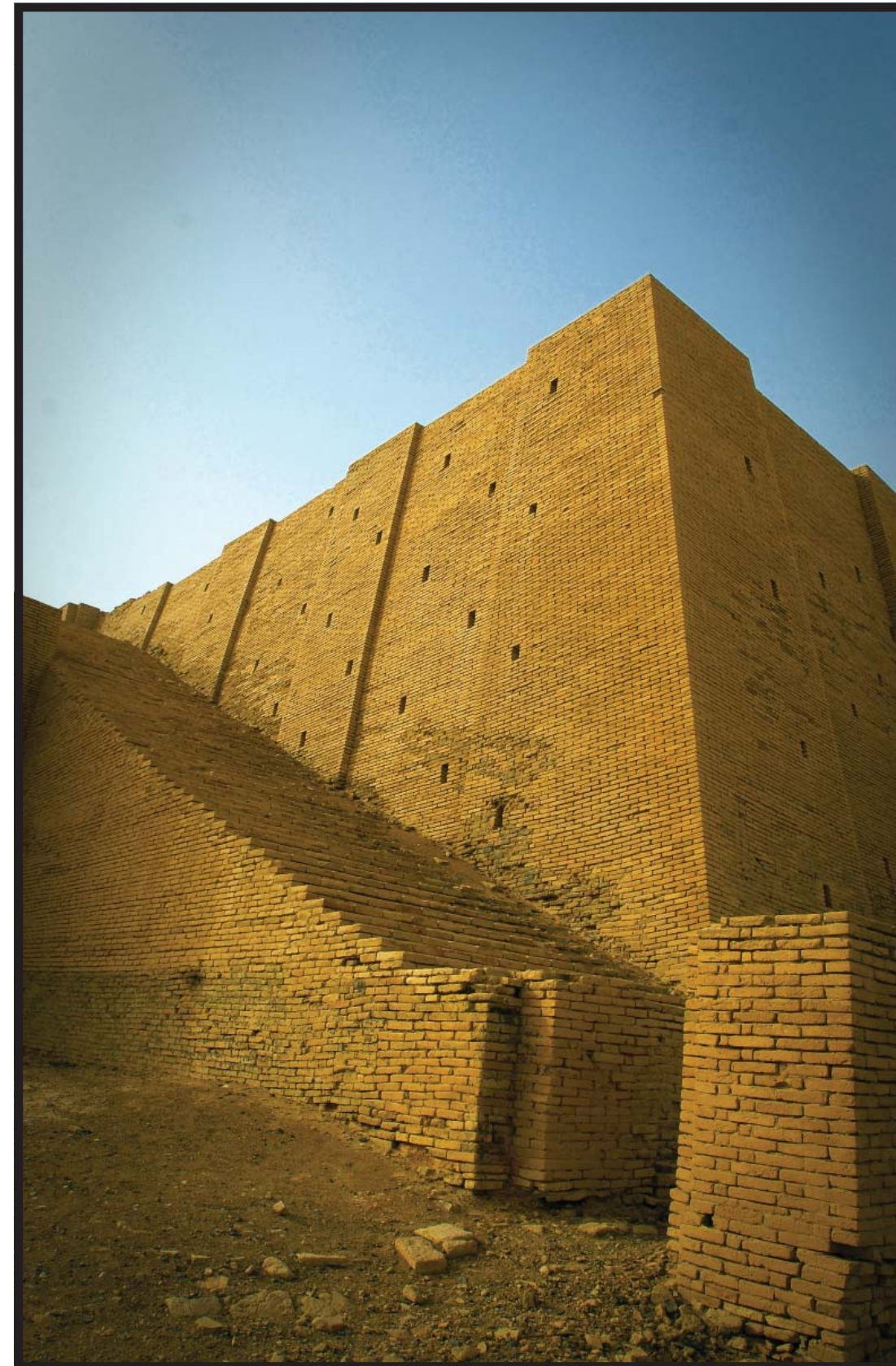


VISITING THE PAST



OF THE 25 ZIGGURATS KNOWN FROM IRAQ AND IRAN, THE ZIGGURAT OF UR IS THE BEST PRESERVED. IT WAS RESTORED IN THE 6TH CENTURY BC BY KING NABONIDUS, LAST KING OF THE NEO-BABYLONIAN EMPIRE. IN THE 1980S, THE FAÇADE OF THE LOWEST LEVEL AND THE MONUMENTAL STAIRCASE WERE REBUILT UNDER THE ORDERS OF SADDAM HUSSEIN.

THE ZIGGURAT OF UR



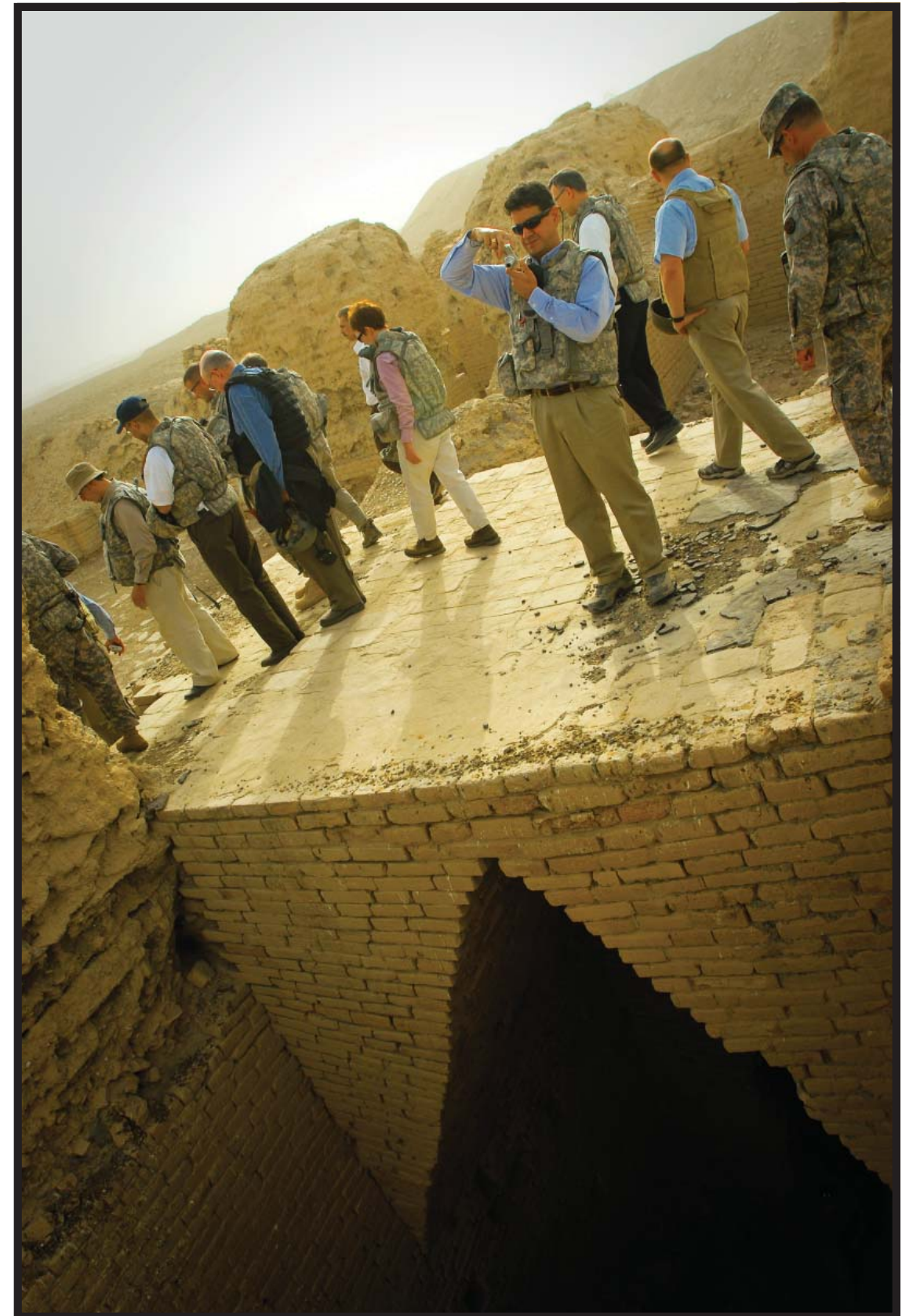
FROM 1922 TO 1934, UR WAS THE SITE OF EXTENSIVE EXCAVATIONS BY SIR LEONARD WOOLLEY, WHO WAS WORKING ON BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA. WHILE MANY HAD DONE PRELIMINARY WORK, WOOLLEY AND HIS TEAM WERE ABLE TO MEASURE THE ZIGGURAT, FIND OTHER BUILDINGS THAT WERE PART OF THE COMPLEX AND GATHERED INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT THE BUILDING LOOKED LIKE.

VISITING THE PAST

THE ZIGGURAT OF UR



THE ZIGGURAT WAS DAMAGED IN THE FIRST GULF WAR BY SOME 400-BULLET HOLES AND THE STRUCTURE WAS SHAKEN BY EXPLOSIONS, RECOGNIZABLE BY FOUR NEARBY BOMB CRATERS.



AMONG THE RUINS NEXT TO THE ZIGGURAT, ARCHEOLOGISTS FOUND A HOUSE INSCRIBED WITH THE NAME 'ABRAHAM.' IN THE EARLY 1990s, POPE JOHN PAUL II EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO VISIT THE HOUSE, LEADING SADDAM HUSSEIN TO ORDER THE BUILDING BE REBUILT UPON THE ORIGINAL FOUNDATION. THE POPE NEVER MADE THE JOURNEY DUE TO SECURITY CONCERNS.

VISITING THE PAST

THE ZIGGURAT OF UR



ممنوع الصعود فوق هذه
البنائيه حفاظاً على آثارنا

“DO NOT WALK ON TOP OF THESE ROCKS. KEEP OUR HISTORY SAFE.” SINCE 2003, SECURITY OF THE 5000-YEAR OLD ZIGGURAT HAS MAINLY BEEN UNDER CONTROL OF COALITION FORCES. HOWEVER, ON MAY 13, 2009, RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ZIGGURAT WAS CEREMONIOUSLY TRANSFERRED TO IRAQI SECURITY FORCES.

VISITING THE PAST

THE ZIGGURAT OF UR



THE SITE IS NOW OFFICIALLY CONTROLLED BY THE DHI QAR IRAQI POLICE AND MANAGED BY THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM. "EVERY CITIZEN NEEDS TO HAVE ACCESS TO THIS ZIGGURAT BECAUSE EDUCATION IS NOT JUST IN THE CLASSROOMS," SAID DR. ANNA PROUSE, DHI QAR PROVINCIAL RECONSTRUCTION TEAM LEADER.

DHI QAR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. ERNEST SIVIA III



A UH-60 BLACKHAWK HOVERS AT THE ANCIENT ZIGGURAT OF UR NEAR AN NASIRIYAH, IRAQ. THE HELICOPTER WAS PILOTED BY CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER DARREN "DOC" DREHER AND CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER THADDEUS "TED" SIMPSON FROM COMPANY A, 2ND BATTALION, 104TH AVIATION REGIMENT PROVIDING DIRECT SUPPORT TO THE 4TH BRIGADE, 1ST ARMORED DIVISION "HIGHLANDER." THE PILOTS ARE ASSIGNED TO THE ILLINOIS ARMY NATIONAL GUARD. THE HIGHLANDER BRIGADE IS DEPLOYED FROM FORT BLISS, TEXAS. THE ZIGGURAT, CONSTRUCTED IN 2,100 B.C. BY SUMERIAN KING UR-NAMMU, IS PRESERVED BY THE IRAQI MINISTRY OF ANTIQUITIES.

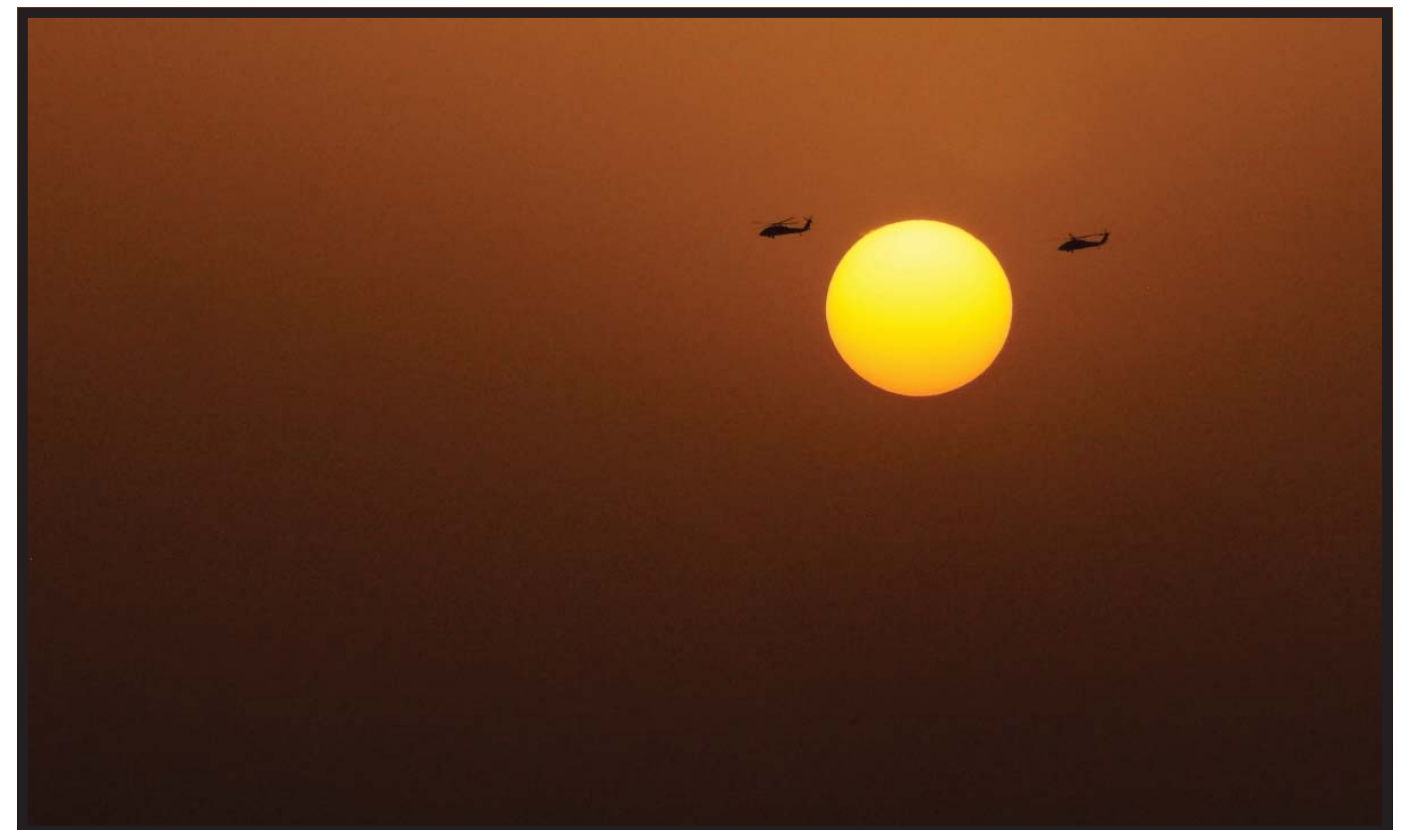


DHI QAR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SGT. MATTHEW JONES



SPEED. STEALTH. ASSAULT FROM ABOVE. IRAQI SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES EXIT THE BATTLEFIELD ON UH-60 BLACK HAWK HELICOPTERS AFTER A JOINT TRAINING EXERCISE. MEMBERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL GUARD'S COMPANY B, 1ST BATTALION, 150TH AVIATION REGIMENT ASSISTED IN THE AIR ASSAULT TRAINING.

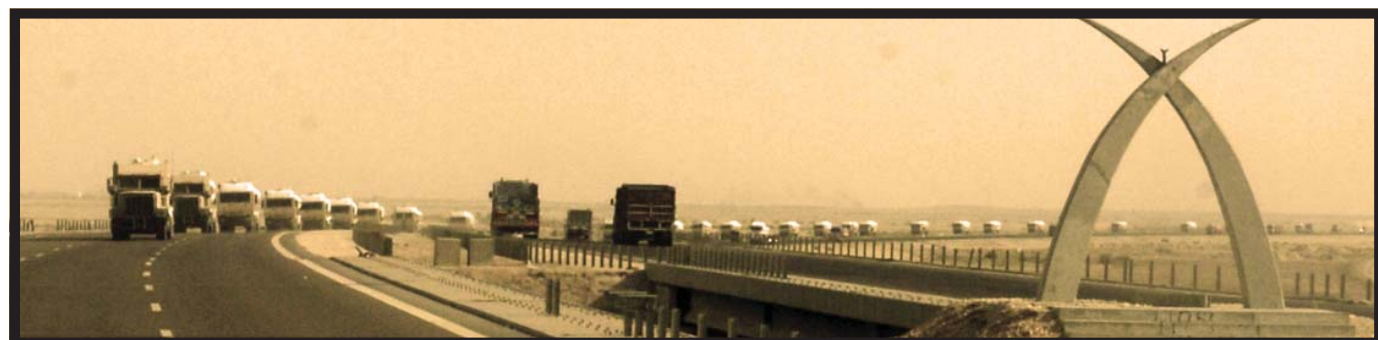


DHI QAR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. ANITA VANDERMOLLEN

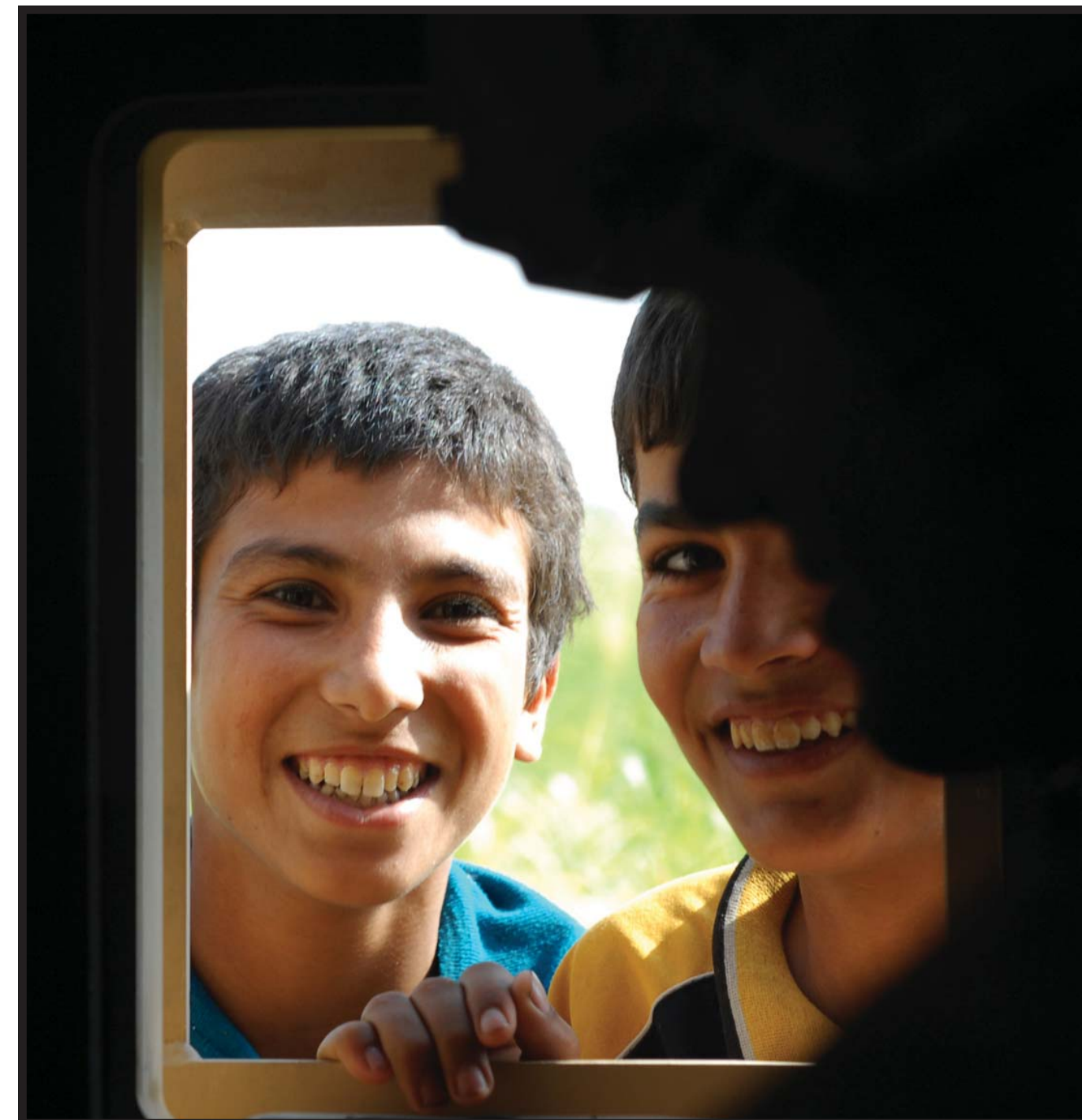


SOLDIERS OF OREGON NATIONAL GUARD'S 41ST INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM PREPARE FOR A NIGHT CONVOY IN TALLIL. THE 41 IBCT'S MISSION IN IRAQ IS CONVOY SECURITY. SGT. 1ST CLASS ALLAN EZELLE AND MASTER SGT. BRAIN LOOP, PICTURED BELOW, GO OVER DETAILS OF THE MISSION, WHILE SPC. RUSSELL CARDEN, PICTURED BELOW RIGHT, PREPARES FOR THE MISSION.



DHI QAR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. ANITA VANDERMOLLEN



IRAQI BOYS NEGOTIATE FOR TRINKETS WITH SOLDIERS THROUGH THE WINDOW OF A STOPPED HUMVEE DURING A PATROL. SOLDIERS FROM THE OREGON NATIONAL GUARD'S 41ST INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, INCLUDING SPC. BYRON SPEAR (SILHOUETTE ABOVE), WERE SEEKING INFORMATION REGARDING THE WHEREABOUTS OF A GIRL THEY HAD PREVIOUSLY TREATED FOR BURNS.

DHI QAR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
PFC. J. PRINCEVILLE
LAWRENCE

DUSTOFF FOR LANDING



1ST LT. CHARMAINE PARKER, A MEMBER OF THE 7TH ENGINEER BATTALION, WAITS FOR THE ARRIVAL OF A UH-60 BLACKHAWK HELICOPTER NEAR THE BORDER OF DHI QAR AND MAYSAN PROVINCE.



DHI **ذی قار**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
PFC. J. PRINCEVILLE
LAWRENCE

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE . . .



JOSEPH ADONA, QUALITY TECHNICIAN FOR OASIS INTERNATIONAL WATER, STANDS IN FRONT OF A SEA OF BOTTLED WATER PALLETES AT CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER NEAR NASIRIYAH, IRAQ. OASIS INTERNATIONAL WATER PROVIDES PURIFIED WATER FOR ARMY BASES THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN IRAQ.



CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE ADDER FEATURES A WATER TOWER—A RARITY IN SOUTHERN IRAQ—WHICH USES THE POWER OF GRAVITY TO ACCOMPLISH THE MISSION. A PUMP CARRIES WATER UP THE TOWER, AND THEN GRAVITY BRINGS THE WATER DOWN THROUGH THE PIPES AND TO BASE RESIDENTS.

BASRA

البصرة



PHOTOGRAPHY BY
STAFF SGT. CHRISSY BEST



IRAQI SOLDIERS PULL SECURITY WHILE CONDUCTING A JOINT CIVIL RECONNAISSANCE PATROL WITH U.S. SOLDIERS ASSIGNED TO THE 1314TH CIVIL AFFAIRS COMPANY, 17TH FIRES BRIGADE, IN BASRA, IRAQ.

BASRA

البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. SAMANTHA R. CIARAMITARO



AN IRAQI SOLDIER PULLS SECURITY FOR U.S. SOLDIERS OF THE 17TH FIRES BRIGADE DURING A JOINT PATROL IN THE HAYYANIYAH DISTRICT OF BASRA, IRAQ.



AN IRAQI CHILD STANDS OUTSIDE A LOCAL BUSINESS WHILE U.S. SOLDIERS FROM THE 17TH FIRES BRIGADE SPEAK WITH LOCAL BUSINESSMEN. U.S. AND IRAQI SOLDIERS CONDUCTED THE JOINT PATROL IN AL WAKI VILLAGE, NORTH OF BASRA, IRAQ.

BASRA

البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. STEPHANIE CASSINOS

SOLDIERS FROM CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE BASRA WERE GREETED BY A CHORUS OF LITTLE VOICES SINGING THE IRAQI NATIONAL ANTHEM WHEN THEY SURPRISED THE CHILDREN WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES, TREATS AND EVEN GUITARS AT ST. EFRAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BASRA. THE KINDERGARTNERS WERE ALSO EAGER TO MAKE THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS FEEL AT HOME BY PERFORMING A COUPLE OF CLASSICS IN ENGLISH: "HEAD AND SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES" AS WELL AS THE ENGLISH ALPHABET. BISHOP IMAD AL BANNA, ACTING BISHOP OF BASRA, EXPLAINED THE TWO SCHOOLS SPONSORED BY THE CHALDEAN CHURCH ARE THE ONLY KINDERGARTENS IN THE COUNTRY TO COMBINE CHILDREN OF MIXED RELIGIONS IN ONE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT. "WHEN YOU TEACH CHILDREN TOGETHER THEY LEARN TO BECOME ONE NATION," SAID AL BANNA. "THEY LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR COUNTRY AND CULTURE AND BECOME UNITED. THEY LEARN TO LOVE AND SERVE BY LOVE AND NOT WAR."



BASRA

البصرة



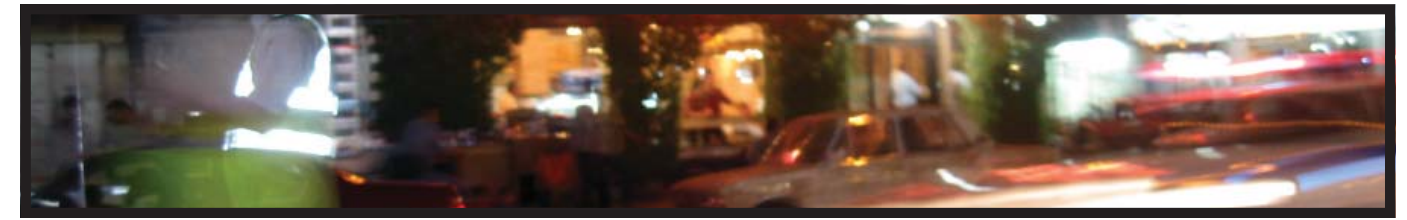
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
PFC. J. PRINCEVILLE LAWRENCE



MAJ. SCOTT VIRGIL, TEAM CHIEF OF THE MILITARY TRANSITION TEAM ASSIGNED TO THE 14TH PROVISIONAL TRANSPORT REGIMENT, ADVISES AN IRAQI SOLDIER ON PROPER USE OF THE M4 DURING A TRIP TO THE SHOOTING RANGE OCT. 14 NEAR CAMP SAVAGE. VIRGIL, A BARTLETT, ILL., NATIVE, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HELPING TRAIN THE 14TH PTR INTO A SELF-SUSTAINABLE FORCE.

BASRA البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
KEVIN RING



DR. RUBY BRAYE, A SOCIAL SCIENTIST WITH HUMAN TERRAIN SYSTEMS, TALKS TO LOCAL MERCHANTS IN ORDER TO GATHER THEIR OPINION ON CURRENT ISSUES. HTS, WHICH WAS STARTED IN JUNE OF 2006 AND EXPANDED BY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ROBERT GATES IN 2007, IS A PROGRAM THAT SEEKS TO STUDY CULTURAL PERCEPTIONS BY ATTACHING ANTHROPOLOGICAL RESEARCH TEAMS TO COMBAT UNITS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN.

THROUGH SURVEYS AND FACE-TO-FACE INTERACTION, HTS SCIENTISTS ASK IRAQIS QUESTIONS LIKE *ARE YOU SCARED TO VOTE IN THE ELECTIONS? DO YOU TRUST THE IRAQI POLICE? WHAT CAN COALITION FORCES DO FOR YOU?* "THE COMMANDER MAY HAVE CRITICAL INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS AND WE WOULD TAKE THOSE REQUIREMENTS AND TURN THEM INTO A SURVEY OR AN INTERVIEW FOR THE LOCAL PEOPLE," SAID BRAYE.



BASRA البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. MAURICE A. GALLOWAY

IN A COMBINED HUMANITARIAN AID EFFORT, MEMBERS OF THE 308TH CIVIL AFFAIRS BRIGADE, 17TH FIRES BRIGADE, 34TH RED BULL INFANTRY DIVISION AND PROVINCIAL RECONSTRUCTION TEAM DISTRIBUTED 20 WHEELCHAIRS TO CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AT THE MOOSAWII PRIVATE HOSPITAL IN BASRA, IRAQ.

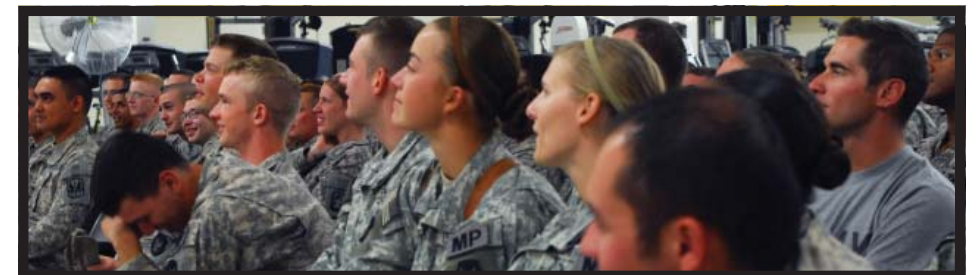


BASRA البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
MASTER SGT. RICH KEMP



SOLDIERS AT CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE BASRA WATCH SHARYON CULBERSON AND CHRIS SANDERS DURING "SEX SIGNALS." THE TWO-PERSON SHOW IS A NEW PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED BY THE U.S. ARMY TO HELP COMBAT SEXUAL ASSAULT, SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND RAPE.



BASRA

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
PFC. J. PRINCEVILLE LAWRENCE



IN AN EFFORT TO RELIEVE STRESS, SGT. GREGORY OPOIEN, A BLOOMINGTON, MINN., NATIVE AND AN INFORMATION ASSURANCE OFFICER WITH THE 34TH RED BULL INFANTRY DIVISION, SPENDS HIS FREE TIME KICK-FLIPPING, GRINDING, POPPING AND JUMPING OFF RAMPS IN A PARKING LOT IN CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE BASRA.



