

RIVER REPORT

1 HIGHLANDER

تقرير النهر

الله أكبر

January 15, 2010

IRAQI POLICE

الشرطة العراقية

The Dhi Qar Provincial Chief of Police, staff Maj. Gen. Sabah Al-Fatlawi hosted a parade in honor of IP Celebration Day. Highlights of the parade were marching shurta displaying their equipment and uniforms. Police and emergency units drive their vehicles on the parade. Provincial and national political leaders attended, including Ammar al-Hakim.

Also this week, Soldiers from Company D, 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment completed the first half of a two-week tactical skills training course at the Muthanna Provincial Police Training Center. Training consisted of; proper weapons handling, first aid, personnel searches, vehicle searches, squad tactical movement procedures and room clearing.



IRAQI ARMY

الجيش العراقي

Iraqi Army Maj. Mohammed taught map reading techniques to the Iraqi Police, Federal Police, and Civil Defense liaison officers in the Maysan Operations Center. This training marks the first time that the various ISF in the operations center near Amarah worked together on this type of training, and indicates a growing sense of trust and friendship between these officers.

Upon the Operations officer's request, his U.S. Forces advisor has begun training the staff officers on Microsoft Office computer software. The officers have demonstrated great enthusiasm about learning new computer skills, and are now capable of creating basic slides in PowerPoint, and have a better understanding of how to format and proofread documents in Microsoft Word. Classes will continue until the staff officers have mastered these two programs, and future training will also cover Microsoft Excel.

DEPARTMENT OF BORDER ENFORCEMENT

قيادة قوات الحدود

U.S. Army Spc. Isaac Danner, a Troop B, 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment mortarman, requested that his reenlistment be conducted on a Department of Border Enforcement boat. (When U.S. Soldiers volunteer for more years of service they have a ceremony conducted by a U.S. Army officer) 1st Lt. Heather Kaiser conducted the ceremony.

The Iraqi Commandos at the Umm Sa'ah border fort eagerly participated, and on January 9 the ceremony occurred on two boats on The Zubayr River approximately 500 meters east of the Commando's Border Fort. It was a very memorable event, and one that honored the duty, sacrifice, and continuing service of a great American Soldier and his respect for the DBE shurta.

After the ceremony, Maj. Abdel Hassan, the Commando's Commander, spoke of the many ways the United States has helped his nation, and how privileged he and his men were to witness Spc. Danner's oath.





CIVILIAN ASSISTANCE UPDATE

مستجدات المساعدات المدنية



Dhi Qar

The Al-Shatra passenger bridge reconstruction was completed and now connects both sides of the community in Al Gura'an Village which is separated by the Abu-Diwaneej River in the Al Shatra District of Dhi Qar. This new passenger bridge will help the neighborhood expand their buying and selling power, as well as help stimulate the economy in the surrounding areas. The bridge will help farmers tend their crops on both sides of the river.

The 917th Federal Engineer Department confirmed that all corrections had been made safely and that the construction of the bridge was 100% complete. The ceremony was a great success and all participants were satisfied with the bridge.

Maysan

Over 25 community leaders attended a Maysan-wide rule of law conference in Amarah. Attendees include the Provincial Chief of Police, Chief Judge, Prison Director, Property Rights Attorneys, Iraqi Army lawyers, and others. Participants discussed the different roles between Iraqi Police and Iraqi Army for making arrests of outlaws. They also discussed humanitarian needs in the community and important efforts to fight corruption.

The Maysan PRT rule of law advisor and U.S. Forces advisors attended the discussions but had minimal participation.



Muthanna

Leaders from the Muthanna PRT visited three drip irrigation sites near Rumaytha. With the current water shortages it is important for farmers to use the best techniques to irrigate their fields without wasting water or using contaminated water.

During the past week, Tatweer NGO conducted a ten-day Information Technology training course for nine participants from the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works at the Muthanna Technical Training Center.

The PRT conducted visits to construction projects at Al Safad and Al-Hurryia school.

CULTURAL BOX

الحقبة الثقافية

Land Tenure and Property

Private property ownership was an important concept first introduced by the Sumerians during their control of Mesopotamia, and emerged again in the late nineteenth century. The reintroduction of private property had a major impact on Iraq's social system, as it went from a feudal society where sheikhs provided both spiritual and tribal leadership for the inhabitants, to one separated between landowners and sharecroppers. Before the 2003 Iraq War, many people sold their land to the government to purchase essentials such as food and medicine.

The ability to own private property is essential for strong democracies.

