

RIVER REPORT

1 HIGHLANDER

بَاقِرِ الرَّهَر

الله أكبر

March 6, 2010

IRAQI POLICE

الشرطة العراقية

Iraqi Police protected polling sites during special needs voting on March 4. Across Dhi Qar, Maysan, and Muthanna, Iraqi Security Forces, prisoners, hospital workers, and patients participated in the early voting. None of the polling sites in these southern provinces were attacked. Thousands of Iraqi Army soldiers voted and proudly displayed their purple finger tips.

Over the past few months the Iraqi Police has been training non stop in order to provide the most secure environment for their brothers and sisters.

The police chiefs in Dhi Qar, Maysan, and Muthanna have done an exceptional job preparing their men for election day.



IRAQI ARMY

الجيش العراقي

Approximately 110 Iraqi Army commandos from the provinces of Dhi Qar, Muthanna, and Maysan, were trained by U.S. forces in a Combined Aerial Reconnaissance Force. The jundee practiced loading and unloading the helicopters and flew to a secret location for rehearsals. The program aims at preparing those commandos to deal with emergencies that may arise during Iraq's upcoming parliamentary election on March 7, 2010.

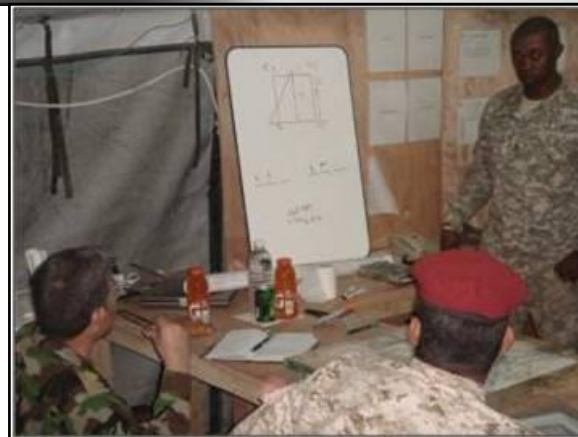
The Iraqi Security Forces are responsible for the security plan during the elections. During special needs voting on March 4, there were no significant security incidents in the south of Iraq. This is evidence that the ISF are capable of maintaining security. Also, local citizens are rejecting the violent acts by outlaws.

DEPARTMENT OF BORDER ENFORCEMENT

قيادة قوات الحدود

Training at the Joint Security Station Amarah Joint Intelligence Operations Center is focused on basic map reading and terrain recognition. The 11th Department of Border Enforcement staff is advised from U.S. Forces, 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division. Sharing intelligence has strengthened the relationship between the DBE and U.S. Forces. The U.S. advisors are able to request special maps, images, and video from unmanned surveillance aircraft that can be shared with the DBE leadership.

A safe and protected border is important. The motto of the 11th DBE and U.S. advisors is "Everyone Working Together."





CIVILIAN ASSISTANCE UPDATE

مستجدات المساعدات المدنية



Dhi Qar

PRT representatives met with the warden of the new prison in Dhi Qar. The PRT intends to start sewing, metal, and wood workshops to give the prisoners the chance to learn job skills and the opportunity to begin a new life away from crime on release from prison. The workshops are meant to increase prisoner work programs and develop partnerships with the private sector. The PRT, which worked closely with Mr. Abbas in the past, is developing a series of training initiatives for the inmates including Arabic literacy and mathematics. Many prisoners voted during special needs voting.

The PRT hosted a team of French journalists from Arte' Magneto TV who are producing a film about the Ziggurat of Ur.

Maysan

Iraqi English teachers and several Americans met for the tenth of twelve "Practice English" conversation classes near Amarah. The American's told the Iraqi English teachers about Nick Madaras who lost his life in Iraq in 2006. Mr. Madaras loved soccer his family started the "Kick for Nick" program supplying soccer balls to U.S. military deployed in Iraq. The U.S. Forces would give those soccer balls to Iraqis who lived near their base. All Iraqi English teachers were provided soccer balls to take back to their schools in honor of Nick. The teachers and Americans had about an hour of discussion time to improve the teacher's comprehension and speaking skills.



Muthanna

Muthanna farmers hosted PRT Team Leader and other representatives during a visit to three locations where the drip irrigation projects were being implemented. The farming expert reported that most of the cucumber and okra plants are growing successfully. He also conducted workshops, attended by 18 farmers, on the correct method to install drip irrigation systems. The farmers will harvest their first batch of Iraqi cucumbers, which will be sold to the market in the upcoming weeks. Farmers will start to make a profit after the next harvest. They will also plant watermelons and eggplants. Using drip irrigation will help conserve water across Muthanna province.

CULTURAL BOX

الحنينة الثقافية

Iraqi Fashion

There are only a handful of fashion designers in Iraq, and most are women. In recent years, the rise of fundamentalist groups and the violence made life tough for designers. Most of the demand now is for the *abaya*, or head covering, and traditional folklore dresses. Designer Salim al-Shimiri employs models and tailors to produce and show his line of fashion. Reem Alasadi is an internationally-known Iraqi haute couture (exclusive custom) fashion designer. She is based in both London and Tokyo, and is very popular in Japan. Also of note is Hana Sadiq, an Iraqi fashion designer who has held fashion shows in Amman; Jordan, Naples, Italy, Beirut; Lebanon and Dubai; UAE. Sadiq specializes in the integration of Arabic art with the best of contemporary high fashion.

