

RIVER REPORT

1 HIGHLANDER

بَاقِر الرِّفَاف

الله أكبر

March 28, 2010

IRAQI POLICE

الشرطة العراقية

Iraqi police in the Ar Rifai District of Dhi Qar participated in a two day course on land navigation taught by Scouts from U.S. Forces, 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment. Instruction on day one consisted of basic map reading techniques and use of the Military Grid Reference System. Once the group was proficient with using map reading, instruction was provided on how to use the Ar Rifai IP Department's handheld Global Positioning System.

On the second day of instruction the IP participated in a practical exercise and used the GPS to determine their current location and plot it on a map. Once that was completed, the IPs were given a target grid which they plotted and navigated to with the GPS as vehicle commander. Their Ar Rifai district commander Colonel Emad plans to use newly trained officers as subject matter experts.



IRAQI ARMY

الجيش العراقي

The 40th Iraqi Army brigade discovered a cache after a responsible citizen informed them of the location. The exceptional leadership in 1st Battalion, 40th IA brigade and 2nd Battalion, 39th IA brigade responded to the citizen's tip and seized the cache.

All Munitions are under control by the IA and will be disposed of by the IA EOD. Some of the items found were Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPG), 60mm Mortar Tubes, Katyusha Rockets, and other weapons used for terrorism.

On March 26, in southern Maysan, U.S. Forces permanently departed the military base near Qalit Salih and turned the facility and over \$1 million dollars of equipment to the 10th Iraqi Army Division.

DEPARTMENT OF BORDER ENFORCEMENT

قيادة قوات الحدود

On the Iran-Iraq border, shurta from the 2nd Commando Battalion, 11th Department of Border Enforcement Brigade conducted training on aerial medical evacuation with advisors from U.S. Forces from 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

This training with helicopters was conducted over two days. The shurta learned how to establish a helicopter landing zone, use a tactical radio to request helicopters, and safely prepare wounded patients for traveling on the helicopters.

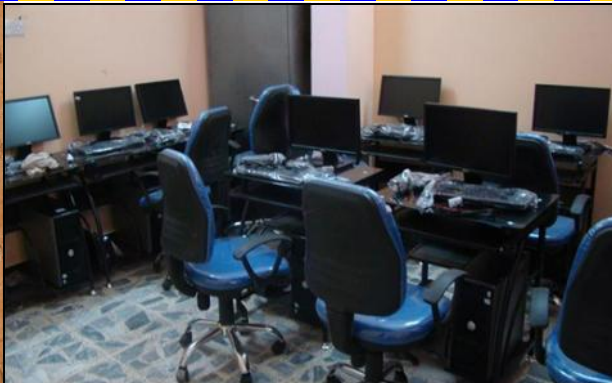
When the Iraqi Air Force is operational in Al Kut they will be able to support the DBE on the border in Maysan. The Iraqi Security Forces cooperate to stop smuggling of drugs, lethal aid, and counterfeit money from neighboring countries.





CIVILIAN ASSISTANCE UPDATE

مستجدات المساعدات المدنية



Dhi Qar

The PRT coordinated a purchase of computers for women's technology center.

The internet and computer center will provide an avenue for women to receive training that empower their voice in the community and highlight their roles. The project will not only build the capacity of local women's organizations, but will give women stronger voices within the community – thereby further democratizing civic society and ensuring business, education, and leadership opportunities are available for everyone.

Maysan

A basketball tournament for 20 school teams in Al Amarah concluded the USAID sponsored initiative for "Raising Awareness About Community and Local Government Through Sport." During this project students at Al Amarah schools learned about building their community and the operations of local government. Lectures on these topics were held in each of their schools, and were followed by a distribution of sports equipment and the establishment of this multi-week basketball tournament for the teams of each school. More than 200 students from area schools came to watch the championship basketball match that concluded this project. Everyone cheered on the competition and the participants received awards and trophies.



Muthanna

The Muthanna PRT conducted a variety of visits this week to check on construction projects. One of the important events was the ground breaking ceremony at a new fish market (see photo).

Recently, Ms. Anne Bodine, the senior deputy Anti-corruption advisor from the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad visited the PRT and met with the Muthanna province chief investigative judge and anti-corruption leadership.

In the Al Darraji sub-district, PRT funded water purification units are being installed. Clean water helps eliminate illness.

CULTURAL BOX

الحقبة الثقافية

Iraqi National Symphony Orchestra

The Iraqi Orchestra was originally founded in 1948. In early 2003, their facility in Baghdad was looted, however, they regrouped and are now performing concerts across the world.

The nearly 60 musicians, are male and female, range in age from the teens to early 70s. Most of them have other full-time professions as lawyers, accountants, teachers and engineers. The orchestra represents diversity across Iraq and has members who are Shi'a, Sunni, Kurds, Armenians, Assyrian Christians, and Turkomen.

The perform mostly in Baghdad and other large cities.

