

RIVER REPORT

1 HIGHLANDER

الله أكبر

April 18, 2010

IRAQI POLICE

الشرطة العراقية

The Dhi Qar Iraqi Police and U.S. Forces Police Transition Team constructed a classroom at the Dhi Qar Provincial Joint Coordination Center in Nasiriyah. This facility will provide a place for meetings and training on advanced police techniques. New furniture and air conditioning will be added soon.

The building also provides U.S. Advisors and Iraqi Police with a weightlifting room to assist in maintaining a healthy body.

In Dhi Qar, Maysan, and Muthanna Iraqi police are training on boats to patrol the rivers for outlaws and keep people safe from water accidents.

The U.S. Forces, 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division offers condolences to the shurta who recently perished in the massive dust storm earlier this week. They were brave men.



IRAQI ARMY

الجيش العراقي

Jundee from the 38th Iraqi Army Commando Company attended M16A2 training with U.S. Advisors from Company A, 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment. The Iraqi company recently received M16A2 rifles from the Ministry of Defense. The Commando Company was enthusiastic and motivated to learn about their new weapons. Each student participated in the hands on portion of the class, which included weapons clearing, disassemble, reassemble, and functions check. The IA Soldiers showed that they understand the material covered, and that they are capable of teaching basic functions, assembly/disassembly of the M16A2 to their subordinates.

In Muthanna, the 39th Iraqi Army Brigade received nearly 2,000 M16 rifles from the 10th Iraqi Army Division. U.S. Advisors from the 39th IA Military Transition Team and 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment will train the IA on the new rifles.

DEPARTMENT OF BORDER ENFORCEMENT

قيادة قوات الحدود

The 2nd Battalion, 11th Brigade of the Department of Border Enforcement and U.S. Border Transition Team Advisors worked together to construct an obstacle across the Dwob River. This project will help stop outlaws from smuggling illegal weapons across the marshes.

The shurta from the the DBE are committed to keeping the Hwayzah Marsh area safe. They are also keeping a watchful eye on illegal fishermen and hunters who use poison and electricity to kill animals.

At Al Sheeb on the Iraq-Iran border, the commander of the 11th Department of Border Enforcement Brigade and the Port of Entry Directorate commander met to discussion operations and intelligence. The improved coordination between the Port of Entry, Customs, and Border shurta will benefit the people of Maysan.





CIVILIAN ASSISTANCE UPDATE

مستجدات المساعدات المدنية



Dhi Qar

Dhi Qar Deputy Governor Bunyan cut the ribbon for the PRT's Ziggurat of Ur project this week, formally opening the site's new boardwalk and a refurbished conservation workshop. The walkway, which runs from the Ziggurat, through the temple, and past the Sholeki Palace to the Royal Cemetery, is designed to keep visitors off some of the site's sensitive areas. The workshop, which archaeologist Taha Baqir once called home, has been refurbished to permit conservation work and research. The project also includes a well and desalinization system, so the ancient city of Ur has an ample supply of drinkable water. The project was finished just in time: American, British and Irish adventure tourists visited the site and Nasiriyah this week.

Maysan

The construction project for the sports yard and new restroom facilities at Al-Kahla'a Secondary School for Girls was completed and handed over to the community. This project will provide recreational facilities for Iraqi girls, giving them the opportunity to learn teamwork, leadership and conflict management in a safe environment, while at the same time participating in physical exercise to improve their health.

The PRT rule of law advisor met with Maysani judges to discuss important improvements to courthouses and an upcoming conference for legal officials from throughout the province.

USAID CAP III Sports Yard & Restrooms at Al-Kahla'a Secondary School for Girls



Muthanna

The PRT's Team Leader, Mr. John Kuschner, was interviewed by the editor of Voice of Muthanna newspaper. He discussed the PRT's support for the media, civilian aide organizations, and the ongoing civil projects.

Judges from Muthanna met with the U.S. State Department regional rule of law advisor and the Muthanna PRT rule of law advisor. The American legal experts went on a tour of the courthouse and met the courteous and professional staff at work. The men discussed the potential improvements to courthouses and future legal conferences between Iraqi judicial leaders, police, PRT, and U.S. Forces lawyers.

CULTURAL BOX

الحقبة الثقافية

Culture Box: Iraqi TV Reality Show "Comedy Star"

Many Iraqis watch "Comedy Star." The show was created by Jassim Sharraf, one of Iraq's best-loved funnymen. Sharraf, who also serves as one of the show's judges, says he came up with idea because he got tired of TV talent shows never featuring any comedians. Sharraf took the concept to Baghdad-based Al-Rasheed TV, and the show hit the airwaves a few months later. The competition is open to all, including women. Contestants can do whatever they want, as long as they get laughs. They are performing in front of a tough crowd -- a panel of five of the funniest comedians in Iraq. The judges try to keep the atmosphere positive -- even for those voted off -- offering constructive criticism and insisting it's their duty to encourage more comics and more comedy in Iraq.

