

The Advisor

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The faces of Iraqi soldiers and police have been altered to protect their identities.

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>> FROM THE COVER

An Iraqi soldier monitors the blood pressure of another student during a mass casualty exercise during Taji military base's Basic Medical Course Aug. 1.



Photo by U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Christie Putz

>> IRAQI POLICE: ADDING TO THE FORCE



Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Kimberly A. Green

Hundreds of Iraqi Police stand tall at their graduation cermony held at the Habbaniyah Police Training Center in Al Anbar Aug. 11. The 537 men made history as the first class to graduate from the center and marked a major milestone in Iraq's efforts to combat sectarian violence.

Other features

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Success depends on economy

Deputy undersecretary for business transformation says terrorist networks are preying on economic distress in Iraq and the key to security lies in a strong economy.

ISF progressing despite challenges

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. James M. Dubik acknowledges challenges and improvements within Iraqi Security Forces due to a shortage of experienced military leaders and sectarian divisiveness.

New AIT course focuses on maintenance

An eight-week course developed by the head of maintenance RSU provides routine maintenance and vehicle repair training to help keep the Iraqi Army adequately supplied in their fight against terrorism.

Guarding resources

Iraqi Air Force has taken part in the protection of oil and electric lines by placing forces in the air, as well as on the ground.

Training the forces

11 Hundreds of Iraqi Security Forces graduate from various schools throughout the country every month. Highlighted are a few of the recent ceremonies.

Long-term security in Iraq depends on economic conditions, official says

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Getting Iraqis back to work is critical to Iraq's future as a stable, secure and prosperous country that can stand up to terrorists, the Defense Department official overseeing that effort said

Iraq's long-term security depends on a strong economic climate, Paul Brinkley, deputy undersecretary for business transformation, told online journalists and "bloggers" during a conference call from Baghdad.

More than 50 percent of the Iraqi population is out of work or underemployed, a statistic Brinkley said would create unrest anywhere, including the United States.

"Terrorist networks are preying on this economic distress in Iraq," he

He cited U.S. Army Gen. David H. Petraeus' counterinsurgency vision for Iraq: a security establishment augmented by rapid economic development and restoration of employment and hope to the Iraqi people.

This two-pronged approach "directly undermines the ability of terror networks and insurgents to gain sympathy from local populations and makes the job of securing this country vastly easier," Brinkley said.

As director of the Task Force to Improve Business and Stability Operations (in) Iraq, Brinkley is working to ensure the economic side of Petraeus' equation keeps pace with security progress.

The task force's No. 1 focus is Iraq's idle industrial base, which fell into distress after 2003 and left many Iraqis out of work. Congress recently appropriated \$50 million to the task force to speed up the restart of Iraqi industries, Brinkley said.

The first step to getting Iraq's factories up and running is to ensure they have the sewer, water, electrical and telecommunications services they need to operate, he said. As the U.S. reconstruction effort brings Iraq's neglected infrastructure up to speed, it's laying the foundation for Iraq's economic development.

Brinkley cited several recent and upcoming milestones that mark progress:

- More factories are reopening. The factories, announced Aug. 13 during a joint news conference with Iraqi officials, joined six Iraqi factories already operational throughout Iraq.
- A reopened Iraqi clothing factory announced its first orders for export. Major U.S. retailers are involved, and some Iraq-made clothes are expected to be on U.S. shelves in time for Christmas.
- Executives from major U.S. corporations recently visited Iraq to explore ways to put Iraqis back to work manufacturing vehicles and heavy equipment for the Iraqi government and Iraq's private transportation infrastructure.
- More than 30 plant managers from around Iraq attended a session earlier this month to discuss efforts to reemploy Iraq's skilled workforce and the need for financial transparency in spending funds allocated toward this effort.

Brinkley said this kind of success breeds more success and gives the Iraqi people hope for the future. He expressed confidence that these and other efforts under way will help Iraq regain its past reputation for having "one of the most skilled and educated workforces in the Middle East."

what key eaders are saying

>> U.S. ARMY COL. JOHN CASTLES,

2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division Commander

"From where I'm sitting, things are starting to look pretty good. Overall throughout the area of operations, the security situation has been improving The Iraqi people and security



forces are also stepping forward to challenge terrorists."

>> U.S. ARMY LT. COL. CHRISTOPHER GARVER, Multi-National Force – Iraq spokesperson

"Our operations targeting al-Qaida in Iraq are progressively dismantling and destroying the terrorist network. We will continue to attack al-Qaida at the current fast and steady pace."

>> NOURI AL-MALIKI, Prime Minister of Iraq



"The shared desire of both countries is to develop relations in various fields. This foundation is built on strong relationships, particularly on the issue of security, although

this doesn't face Iraq alone, but faces all countries in the region."

General assesses quality of Iraqi Security Forces

By John J. Kruzel

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Iraq's security forces are making great strides, but the army is enduring a shortage of experienced military leaders, while law enforcement is troubled by sectarian divisiveness on a national scale and distrust by some local societies, the general overseeing training for Iraqi Security Forces said Aug. 9.

"There are a lot of positive developments in the Iraqi Army, there's absolutely no doubt about it," U.S. Army Lt. Gen. James M. Dubik, MNSTC-I commanding general, told military analysts during a conference call.

But raising and replenishing an army during a war and in the midst of a nascent government poses challenges, he said. "These are all incredibly hard things to do; it's hard enough to raise an army when people aren't shooting at you," he said. "But they're doing it, and they're fighting, and they're dying, and they're not running."

Dubik said he feels "relatively positive" on the army developments, though "huge

problems" exist, especially a shortage of experienced Iraqi combat leaders.

"When you grow an army as fast as we've grown this one, you can't produce leaders fast enough," he said. "You can't grow majors and lieutenant colonels and colonels in four years. You can grow good captains and lieutenants in four years, ... but it takes longer to build the field-grade officer."

Iraq's army is waging an aggressive recruiting campaign, buying television and newspaper advertisements aimed especially at former army officers. Dubik noted the Iraqi parliament is debating overturning a law barring former Baathists from returning to government positions, but no such law bars former military members from reenlisting.

The general said he even recruited an Iraqi interpreter yesterday after a meeting with the minister of defense. "What did you do before you translated?" Dubik recalled asking the Iraqi. "He said, 'I was an Iraqi pilot.' Well by the time we left, he was recruited."

Speaking about Iraq's national police,



Photo by US Army Sgt. Armando Monroig

Iraqi Security Forces help repair a broken water hose for a resident of Ba'Qubah, Iraq. Iraqi soldiers and Coalition forces traveled the city to assess progress in several neighborhoods.

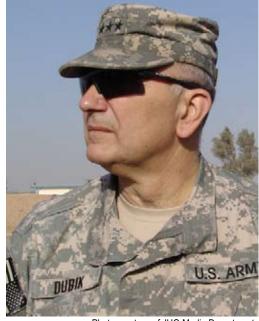


Photo courtesy of JHQ Media Department

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. James M. Dubik, MNSTC-I commanding general, and Iraqi Minister of Defense Abd-el-Kader Mohammed Jasim visited Taji base to assess the situation in the field for the fighting units in the camp. Dubik also attended the M-16 rifle practices of the 2nd Armored Brigade in the 9th Division to assess the training platforms and the ability of the brigade.

Dubik called it "overly infiltrated with militia elements."

"There's no doubt in the National Police that the sectarian influence remains and will be hard to eradicate," he said.

The Sunni-led bombing in February 2006 of a heralded Shiite mosque's golden dome in Samarra widened sectarian fissures that divide Iraq's national police today, Dubik said

"They were a relatively good force in

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"The issue with local police is always the relationship of the society to the police; that's true everywhere."

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. James M. Dubik

MNSTC-I commanding general



Photo courtesy of JHQ Media Department

Iragi Minister of Defence Abd-el-Kader Mohammed Jasim looks over a target after an Iraqi soldier completes an M-16 rifle qualification at Taji base.



An Iraqi Army physician evaluates a young boy's eye for damage during a combined medical operation with Coalition forces in Baghdad's Al Jami Ah neighborhood Aug. 15.



Photo by U.S. Army Spc. John Crosby

An Iragi soldier mans a traffic control point to provide security and keep traffic moving on Aug. 13.



Photo courtesy of Joint Combat Camera Center

An Iraqi policeman helps a man apply to the police force during an IP recruitment drive in Yusufiyah, Iraq. Almost 1,200 area men applied for jobs with the Iraqi Police during the drive, which is part of efforts to increase IP manpower in the Yusufiyah area.

From ASSESS, Page 4

early 2006, but the sectarian violence has really taken a toll on them," he said.

Iraq's National Police commander, Lt. Gen. Hussein, has cleaned house in the past four to six months, amputating all nine National Police brigade commanders from the law enforcement body and replacing them with command teams that equally represent the country's sectarian makeup. The commander also has fired 17 of 24 battalion commanders and retrained battalions containing members with dubious allegiance to maintaining law and order in Iraq.

Hussein has enlisted help from a battalion of Italy's paramilitary police force, the Carabinieri, to train eight of his battalions over two months. Those eight battalions, in turn, will train other National Police battalions, Dubik said.

Discussing police at the local scale, Dubik said much of the forces' effectiveness depends on their reputation among locals.

"The issue with local police is always the relationship of the society to the police; that's true everywhere," he said. "If the trust breaks down in the society, (then) the police break down."

Distrust of police by local Iraqi societies has hampered the force's ability to protect and defend residents. The adverse relationship also can make police officers and their family members targets of intimidation or violence, he said.

"The local policeman here goes to work, his family stays home, and his family and he are subject to fear and intimidation associated with terrorist campaigns," he said. "We all know that one of the things terrorists (and insurgents) try to do is intimidate local officials, and they do a real good job of that."

But in areas like Fallujah, Ramadi, Ba'Qubah and sections of Samarra, where al Qaida has been mostly purged, local police are "returning to life."

After undergoing a vetting process that tracks recruits with biometric and other data, some 7,000 new local policemen have been hired in Anbar province, and 4,000 others have enlisted in Diyala province, where officials soon expect to hire 1,500 more.

"Once we can get the insurgents out, and the terrorists out," Dubik said, "local police (can) come back."

Kirkush Military Training Base: New home to AIT for Iraqi Army

By U.S. Navy MC1(SW) Anthony Koch

MNSTC-I Public Affairs

KIRKUSH, Iraq - Kirkush Military
Training Base is welcoming a new vehicle maintenance training program to assist in their ability to attract new recruits or "junoud."

One year ago, the Regional Support Unit Maintenance Company could only

One year ago, the Regional Support Unit Maintenance Company could only provide basic servicing to include oil, tire, and filter changes. Six months later, the same team was able to develop

basic diagnostic skills and other students gained additional knowledge of some electrical systems. Now, a formal maintenance and servicing course is being offered as an Advanced Individual Training course.

An Iraqi Army Lt. Col., an intelligence company commander and 20-year army veteran said, "One great improvement with the new army as opposed the old is that commanders now can get the critical equipment they need much easier than with the old army."

With more than 105 models of vehicles in their fleet, it is important for the Iraqi's to be able to maintain and repair the vehicles they operate. To mitigate possible training issues, an eight-week course has been developed by the head of the maintenance RSU.

"The hardest thing for us to relay to the Iraqis is preventative maintenance," said U.S. Army Maj. Mark Grant, KMTB's logistics executive officer.

The vehicle maintenance course is designed to provide students the opportunity to work on many different vehicles. Familiarization with driving each vehicle helps in its maintenance. "Driving a functionally sound vehicle will help each mechanic get a feel for a possible issue or cause for concern," Grant said.

Providing a maintenance support and training program is important to the future of KMTB, as this location is a distribution center for 4th and 5th Iraqi Army Division units said the RSU commander. The



An Iraqi soldier looks over various auto parts in the maintenance division at Kirkush Military Training Base Aug. 8.



Photos by U.S. Navy MC1(SW) Anthony Koch

Iraqi soldiers show Danish Brig. Gen. Werner Kahle body armor that is being issued to incoming Iraqi Army junoud at Kirkush Military Training Base in Kirkush, Iraq, during a visit to the facility Aug. 8.

mission of the commander, U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Karl Kornchuck, and his team of advisors is to transfer effective control of the Iraqi infrastructure and logistical functions, through training, education and mentoring of Iraqi counterparts.

"I am proud of the efforts of our junoud," said Kornchuck. "I am glad to know we have the knowledge they want and we are providing it for them. After all, this is for them."

The ability to provide routine maintenance and vehicle repair helps keep the Iraqi Army adequately supplied in their fight against terrorism. An Iraqi jundi, who asked that his name not be used due to security reasons said, "I want very much to see Iraq solve its own problems and be like any other normal, stable country."



An Iraqi soldier prepares to hand out issued uniform items at Kirkush Military Training Base, Kirkush, Iraq Aug. 8.









Photos by U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Christie Putz

CASUALTY: SIMULATED

TAJI, Iraq — Iraqi soldiers practice treating injuries and coordinating further medical treatment during a mass casualty exercise at the Taji military base's **Basic Medical Course Aug. 1. The** course, which prepares students to be combat medics, includes instruction on medical procedures and techniques for operations in both field and garrison medical facilities. Special emphasis is placed on treatment of wounds, diseases and other medical conditions commonly encountered in a military environment.







PROTECTING RESOURCES:

Air Force helps keep country's lifelines flowing

By U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Christie Putz

MNSTC-I Public Affairs



TAJI, Iraq – Much like veins pumping

blood to the body's vital organs, underground pipelines crossing the country carry Iraq's most precious resource: oil. Disruption to either of these systems can cause problems, but the latter on a grander scale, affecting the economy of an entire country.

The Iraqi military has taken part in the protection of these lines, as well as the electric lines that supply power to local

homes and businesses, by placing surveillance forces in the air and also on the ground.

"We've combined the Iraqi Air Force reconnaissance capabilities of their Cessna aircraft that flies high and looks out for potential (enemy) activity with Huey helicopters that fly down lower and look for additional activity and specific damage to platforms," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Cy Bartlett, 770th Air Expeditionary Squadron commander at Taji.

According to a recent U.S. Government Accountability Office report, millions of dollars of government revenue are estimated to be lost each year to oil smuggling or the diversion of refined products, an activity that many of Iraq's residents find upsetting.

"It makes me angry," said Iraqi Maj. Mohammed, a helicopter pilot at Taji military base who requested his name be changed for security purposes. "That's not for him (the terrorists), that's for all of the Iraqis."

The GAO report also states that a variety of criminal, insurgent, and militia groups engage in the theft and illicit sale of oil to fund their activities.

In preventing this flow of money to the insurgents, and keeping the natural resource flowing to residents, the IqAF is using their growing aircraft fleet to keep an eye on pipeline activity.

There are currently 35 helicopters assigned to the IqAF, split between the Bell UH-1H Huey IIs, Bell 206B JetRangers and Mil Mi-17 Hips. That's double what the military had the year before, and there are plans to triple it next year, said U.S. Army Lt. Gen. James M. Dubik, MNSTC-I commanding general.

In other plans for the future, the general talked about building an air assault capability into the Air Force. "This capability will allow us to shift around the battlefield with ground forces," he said.

It will also allow them to engage if smuggling activity is spotted, versus calling in ground forces.

"Every little bit we can stop in terms of oil stealing, or every little bit we can stop in terms of destruction of electricity increases

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An Iraqi Air Force pilot based out of Taji, Iraq, lands after completing an electrical powerline patrol Aug. 2.



Powerlines and towers run through cities and neighborhoods across the country, providing essential electrical power to homes and businesses.



Photos by U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Christie Putz

An Iraqi Air Force pilot navigates the skies during a patrol of the electrical infrastructure near the Taji military base. A typical patrol mission involves two Huey II helicopters and one Cessna Caravan for overwatch, scanning ahead and spotting potential enemy activity.



Oil platforms and pipelines across the country are being targeted by terrorists. These missions aim to prevent attacks on the key infrastructure.

From PROTECT, Page 9

the economy and increases what services the government can give the citizens," said Dubik.

The pilots at Taji base don't take this mission lightly. Being a part of the growing military and stopping these acts of terrorism promotes a sense of pride among the unit.

"It's a very important feeling for me," said another one of the Taji pilots, through an interpreter. "It makes me feel proud."

This sense of pride is renewed when he flies over neighborhoods and cities and is greeted by people on the ground, waving back at them. "They think they are more secure when they see a helicopter flying in the air," he said.

Already in 2007, the Taji unit has flown more than 100 missions outside the wire, exposing them to not only appreciative citizens on the ground but also enemy contact.

"They're susceptible to automatic weapons fire from AK-17s, there's a threat of rocketpropelled grenades and also the threat of some surface-to-air missiles," said Bartlett. "So far we've been very fortunate not to experience any combat damage to the Iraqi aircraft."

The Iraqi helicopters operate in the same areas as Coalition helicopters, and are open to the same risks, but currently fly a fraction of

"They want to get in this fight, and they want to support their Army on the ground."

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. James M. Dubik, MNSTC-I commanding general

the Coalition aircraft hours.

In 2006, the unit only had 300 flight hours. However, this year they already have more than 1,300 hours in training missions, passenger movement and infrastructure protection and assessment – or a combination of the three.

"Training a pilot takes a lot longer than buying an aircraft," said Dubik.

So even while training new pilots, they are concurrently conducting surveillance missions – an initiative proposed by the Iraqi pilots themselves. "That's the key," the general said. "Not wait until you're trained, but train and fight at the same time.

"This is not a military that waits around," he added. "They want to get in this fight, and they want to support their Army on the ground."





The above infrared images were taken from a Cessna Caravan intelligence, surveillance and reconnaisance aircraft during a patrol of the Bayji powerline near the Taji military base area.

Iraqi Security Forces continue to develop

By U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Kimberly A. Green

MNSTC-I Public Affairs



AL ANBAR, Iraq – It is the largest province in Iraq. It shares the border with Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia and is home to an institution that fortifies Iraq's security forces.

Al Anbar, what used to be known as an al-Qaida stronghold, houses the Habbaniyah Police Training Center.

Following an increase in sectarian violence, the center opened its doors early June in hopes to attract prospects

from the local populace – men willingly volunteering to regain control of their province.

"The men that are trained here know where their loyalty lies," said Iraqi Army Maj. Gen. Khalid, training center dean, through an interpreter. "They are here because they love their country and they want to fight terrorism."

Khalid, a commander in the former regime, said even though the police have made incremental steps toward progress, he pointed out the fact that Iraq still has a ways to go.

"We need leaders in our forces today. Our jobs are different now," noted Khalid.

While accounts of the increased progress of Iraq's security forces have also been cited by many Coalition leaders, the police center continues to make significant contributions to the fight against terrorism

A ceremony held for more than 500 new recruits marked a major milestone as they were the first class to graduate from the center Aug.

The presence of the Iraqi Minister of Interior, Al Anbar officials, local sheikhs and Coalition commanders marked the significance of the event.

But, the dean acknowledged the Iraqi's could not have done it alone and there is still work to be done by the Iraqis.

"We are not lacking anything from the United States, we work side by side," said Khalid. "It is a collaborative effort as a part of the way forward."

The graduates will be assigned throughout the Al Anbar province.

"I am happy today," said 1st Lt. Kamel, through an interpreter. "I hope for peace in this area and all of Iraq. I am willing to fight for what I love – my country."

New recruits partner up to demonstrate individual fighting techniques.





Photos by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Kimberly A. Green

Iraqi Police set the ground work to uphold the Iraqi flag during their graduation ceremony held at the Habbaniyah Police Training Center in Al Anbar Aug. 11.



Iraqi Police hoist the symbol of Iraq as they march by during the ceremonial activities.



Photos by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Kimberly A. Green

Iraqi Police demonstrate some of their newly learned firearms and defense techniques during a graduation held at the Habbaniyah Police Training Center in Al Anbar province Aug. 11. The 537 men made history as the first class to graduate from the center that opened early June.

IRAQI SECURITY FORCES GRADUATIONS



Photo by Maj. Herdis Sigurgrimsdottir

The National Defence College held its first graduation of 13 students Aug. 12. The course attendees, including high-ranking officers of the Iragi Armed Forces, influential civilians in government administration and one member of the Iraqi Parliament, received masters degrees in National Security Studies with their completion of the course. The students studied at NDC for one year, while most of them simultaneously held full-time jobs.

MAN ON THE STREET

What have you done for the Iraqi Security Forces that you're most proud of?

U.S. ARMY CAPT. SARAH FERNANDEZ,

MNSTC-I Operations Plans & Projects Office

"I'm most proud of the collaborative efforts put forth by both the Coalition and Iragis to work together and develop their national crisis response plan."



DR. JULIO GARCIA,

MNSTC-I Health Affairs



"I am proud of the tremendous strides made in Iragi healthcare. We have developed significant relationships with Iraqi doctors and nurses which allows our training program to grow."

U.S. ARMY LT. COL. **GORDON TERPSTRA,**

MNSTC-I Chaplain

"I am proud to assist Iraqi orphanages obtain clothing and basic needs for approximately 100 children in the Baghdad area."



Iraqi Army provides humanitarian aid, medical supplies to Sinjar victims

SINJAR – Iraqi soldiers were among the first to respond with humanitarian assistance to the victims of the deadly terrorist bombings in the Sinjar area of Ninawa' Province, which killed hundreds of Iraqi citizens Aug. 14.

Terrorists associated with al-Qaida in Iraq and the Islamic State of Iraq are believed to be responsible for the multiple truck bomb attacks.

Within hours of the terrorist attacks in the small northwestern Iraqi villages of Khataniyah and Al Jezeera, two Iraqi Army battalions were on scene in Khataniyah providing medical assistance and humanitarian aid to the displaced and injured Iraqi people by delivering several pallets of food and water to the survivors.

Iraqi soldiers immediately evacuated urgent patients from the blast sites to the Sinjar and Bi'aj hospitals. The continued Iraqi effort resulted in the recovery of two little girls buried alive in the rubble. Iraqi bulldozers, water trucks and ambulances continue relief efforts.

- Multi-National Corps - Iraq Public Affairs

Joint team detains 7 terrorist suspects in western Ninawa' Province

BAGHDAD – Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade, 3rd Iraqi Army Division, with U.S. Special Forces as advisors, conducted a cordon and search operation in the village of Abu Bareyj, near Bulayj, and detained seven suspected terrorists Aug. 14.

One of the alleged terrorists was detained during the initial search on the east side of the village. The individual is a suspected cell leader and is believed to be operating a safe house used by insurgents to conduct attacks in the Bulayj area. One other suspicious individual was also detained.

Another five individuals were detained during a search of the west side of the village who are believed to be part of a terrorist cell that is responsible for attacking an Iraqi Army checkpoint in Bulayj two weeks prior.

- Multi-National Corps - Iraq Public Affairs

IA, U.S. detain key rogue JAM leader, capture al-Qaida in Iraq medic

BAGHDAD – Iraqi Special Operations Forces, with U.S. Special Forces as advisors, detained a suspected Shia militia Jaysh al-Madhi platoon leader during an intelligence-driven operation Aug. 12 in central Baghdad. The forces also detained five of the suspected leader's associates.

The forces detained the targeted individual and his associates without incident. The primary suspect is accused of conducting attacks targeting Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces in the vicinity of Karada.

- Multi-National Corps - Iraq Public Affairs

Iraqi Security Forces, U.S. Special Forces detain 16 al-Qaida in Iraq

TAJI – Iraqi Security Forces, with U.S. Special Forces as advisors, conducted multiple cordon and search operations detaining 16 suspected al-Qaida in Iraq insurgents in the village of Subayat Hamash, near Sinjar, Aug. 11.

Four of the detainees are suspected al-Qaida in Iraq cell leaders wanted by the Iraqi Army for IED and mortar attacks, facilitation of



Photo by U.S. Army Spc. Leith Edgar

Neighborhood searches

Iraqi National Policemen speak with an elderly woman during a search of her home for IED-making materials in western Baghdad Aug 2. Hours later, residents of the neighborhood were evacuated for safety precautions as an explosive ordnance disposal team demolished a building containing the necessary ingredients for homemade explosives used by suspected insurgents to target Coalition forces.

al-Qaida in Iraq terrorist attacks against civilians and hijacking food shipments.

Six vehicles, including four passenger cars, a pickup truck and a dump truck, were seized during the operation.

- Multi-National Corps - Iraq Public Affairs

Iraqi, U.S. Forces detain 2 suspected terrorist cell leaders in Baghdad

BAGHDAD – Iraqi Special Operations Forces, with U.S. Special Forces as advisors, detained two suspected terrorist leaders and three other suspected terrorists during early morning operations in Baghdad Aug. 10.

During the first operation, joint forces conducted a systematic search of the three buildings in the town of Yusufiyah and detained their primary target: a suspected al-Qaida in Iraq Amir.

The suspected terrorist is believed to command a large cell involved in IED, mortar and small arms attacks. Two other suspected al-Qaida in Iraq cell members were also detained during the operation. A passport, a camera, a video cassette tape and various documents were seized.

- Multi-National Corps - Iraq Public Affairs

Joint operation clears Abu Tina

DIYALA RIVER VALLEY – Iraqi and Coalition forces conducted Operation William Wallace to destroy al-Qaida elements in the Abu Tina area Aug. 8.

Conducting an early-morning air assault, Iraqi and Coalition troops cleared the village, resulting in four terrorists killed, two suspected terrorists detained and a weapons cache discovered.

The detainees were transferred to a facility for further questioning.

– Multi-National Division – North Public Affairs