

A PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNEY THROUGH MND-S

THE SANDSTORM

عاصفة رملية

THE SANDSTORM

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OCTOBER 2009



FEATURED PHOTO ESSAY
OFF THE COAST OF IRAQ: WAVES AND MELODIES

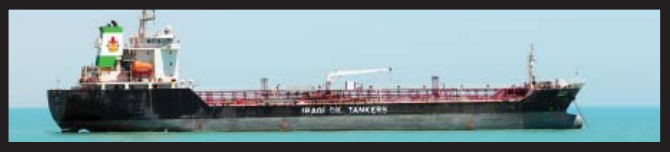


CHAPTERS

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BEHIND THE COVER PHOTOGRAPHS

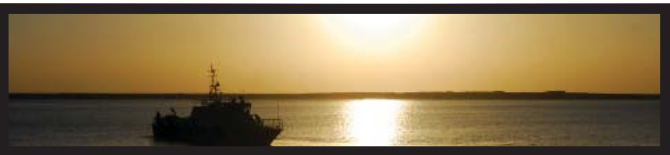
PHOTOGRAPHY BY SPC. DARRYL L. MONTGOMERY



AN OIL TANKER MOVES THROUGH THE WATERS OF THE PERSIAN GULF NEAR THE AL BASRAH OIL TERMINAL. (PAGE 7)



“THE PORT OF UMM QASR IS CONSIDERED IRAQ’S MAIN PORT OF ENTRY FOR GOODS BEING SHIPPED INTO THE COUNTRY. THE PORT ALSO SERVES AS THE HOME OF IRAQ’S NAVAL FORCES.” (PAGE 5)



AN IRAQI PATROL BOAT MOVES THROUGH THE WATERS NEAR UMM QASR IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS. (PAGE 5)

BACK COVER PHOTO BY SPC. DARRYL L. MONTGOMERY



THE SOUTHERN PLATFORM OF THE AL BASRAH OIL TERMINAL STANDS HIGH ABOVE THE WATERS OF THE PERSIAN GULF.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

The Sandstorm continues to showcase the best professional and amateur photographers in Multi-National Division – South this month. The editorial staff of the 34th Red Bulls Infantry Division continues to urge all photographers throughout MND-S to continue to submit your best work and show off your talents. Every picture tells a story and we want to tell yours.

As always, The Sandstorm will allow a degree of photo manipulation to include hue and saturation, dodging and burning, contrast, clarity and custom white balance in order to achieve the photographer’s vision. The original content of the photo will not be altered. However, liberal adjustments will be authorized. Any photo which does not accurately depict the originally captured subject will be labeled as a photo illustration.

Every month The Sandstorm offers its readers a unique view of

MND-S with a story composed of photographs. October’s photo essay takes readers along with a group of Soldiers as they travel miles off Iraq’s coast. Experience waves and melodies through the eyes of one photographer.

This month’s issue also offers a glimpse of the children of Iraq through the eyes of a few different photographers.

Finally, the winner of last month’s photo contest focusing on social commentary will be announced and submission rules, tips and guidelines for this month’s photo contest will be released.


Please enjoy the Sandstorm and make any comments or recommendations to sandstorm@theredbulls.org. All photo submissions should also be made to sandstorm@theredbulls.org.

“A photograph can be an instant of life captured for eternity that will never cease looking back at you.”

- **Brigitte Bardot**

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS TO THE SANDSTORM!

- Any individual in MND-S may submit photos taken within MND-S to The Sandstorm.
- Photos must be submitted in the largest file size possible.
- If photos have been edited, submit an edited and an unedited version of the photo.
- Ensure photos don’t contain classified or secret information. Consult your Public Affairs section if unsure.
- Rename photos as such: rank-first name-last name-sequence#
Example: Sgt-John-Smith-001, Sgt-John-Smith-002
- Submissions can be made one of two ways:
 - CD or DVD brought by the PAO section in Division HQ
Label CD’s/DVD’s as follows: ATTN: Sgt. Eric Jungels
Rank, first and last name
 - E-mail photos to Sandstorm@TheRedBulls.org
- Advanced photographers using DSLR’s are asked to take and submit photos in RAW format.



A PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNEY THROUGH MND-S

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CONTRIBUTING UNITS

172ND INFANTRY BRIGADE
COMBAT TEAM

17TH FIRES BRIGADE

4TH BCT, 1ST ARMORED DIVISION

343RD MOBILE PUBLIC
AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

28TH COMBAT AVIATION BRIGADE

OFF THE COAST OF IRAQ

WAVES AND MELODIES

PHOTO ESSAY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. DARRYL L. MONTGOMERY

THE PORT OF UMM QASR (RIGHT) IS CONSIDERED IRAQ'S MAIN PORT OF ENTRY FOR GOODS BEING SHIPPED INTO THE COUNTRY. THE PORT ALSO SERVES AS THE HOME OF IRAQ'S NAVAL FORCES.

MEMBERS OF THE 34TH INFANTRY DIVISION BAND, CENTER MASS, (BELOW) WERE ABLE TO TOUR THE PORT WHILE ON A WEEK-LONG MISSION PERFORMING FOR UNITED STATES SERVICE MEMBERS IN THE REGION. THEIR MISSION TOOK THEM FROM THE PORT, TO THE AL BASRAH OIL TERMINAL (ABOT) AND THEN THE USS DECATUR.



OFF THE COAST OF IRAQ



AS THE WATER OF THE PERSIAN GULF GETS DEEPER HEADING OUT TO SEA, IT BEGINS TO APPEAR CLEARER AND EVENTUALLY BECOMES A DEEP TEAL COLOR.

WAVES AND MELODIES



DURING THE BAND'S FOUR-HOUR RIDE ON AN IRAQI PATROL BOAT TO THE ABOT, LOCATED 30 MILES FROM UMM QASR, THEY WERE ABLE TO SEE MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF BOATS AND SHIPS. FROM SMALL IRAQI FISHING BOATS, HUGE IRAQI OIL TANKERS AND EVEN SUNKEN IRAQI NAVAL SHIPS THAT REST IN THE SHALLOW WATERS NEAR THE PORT.

OFF THE COAST OF IRAQ

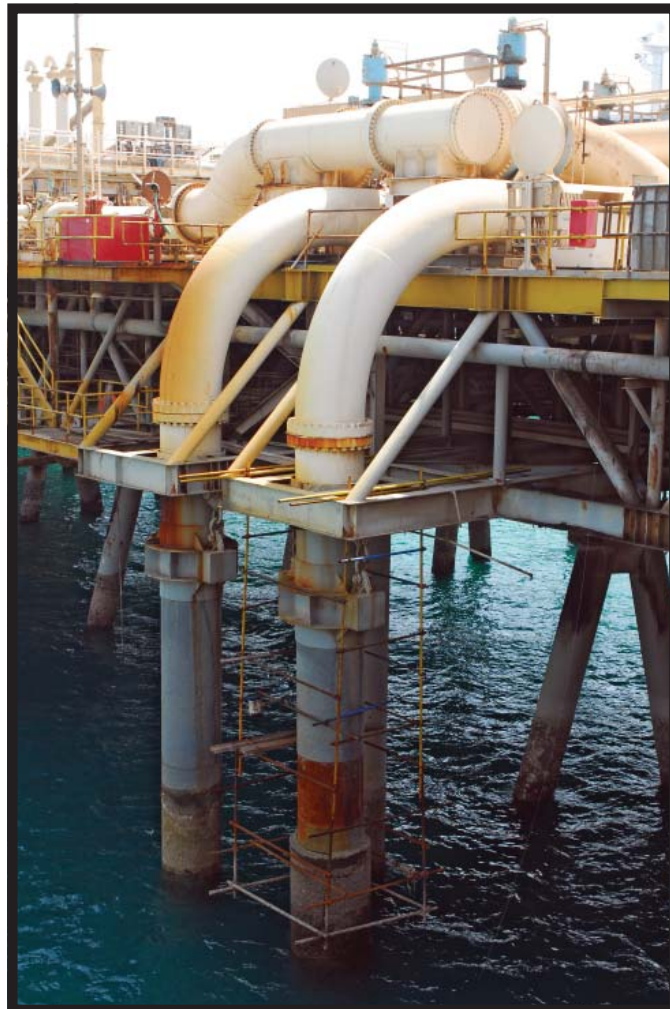


DURING THE TRIP TO THE ABOT, CENTER MASS MEMBERS SPC. AL MACDONALD AND SGT. 1ST CLASS TIMOTHY JOHNSON PUT ON A SHOW FOR THE SHIP'S CREW. ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE BAND SAID THEY ENJOYED THE UNIQUE EXPERIENCE OF TRAVELING OUT TO SEA ON THE PATROL BOAT AND ITS CREW.

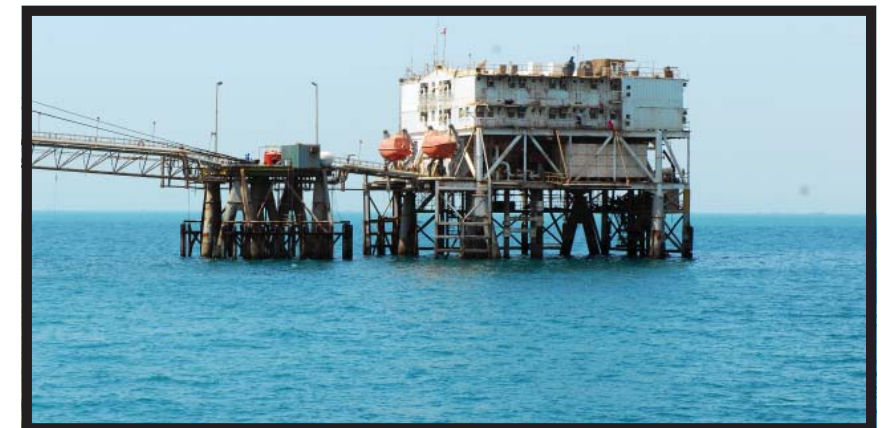
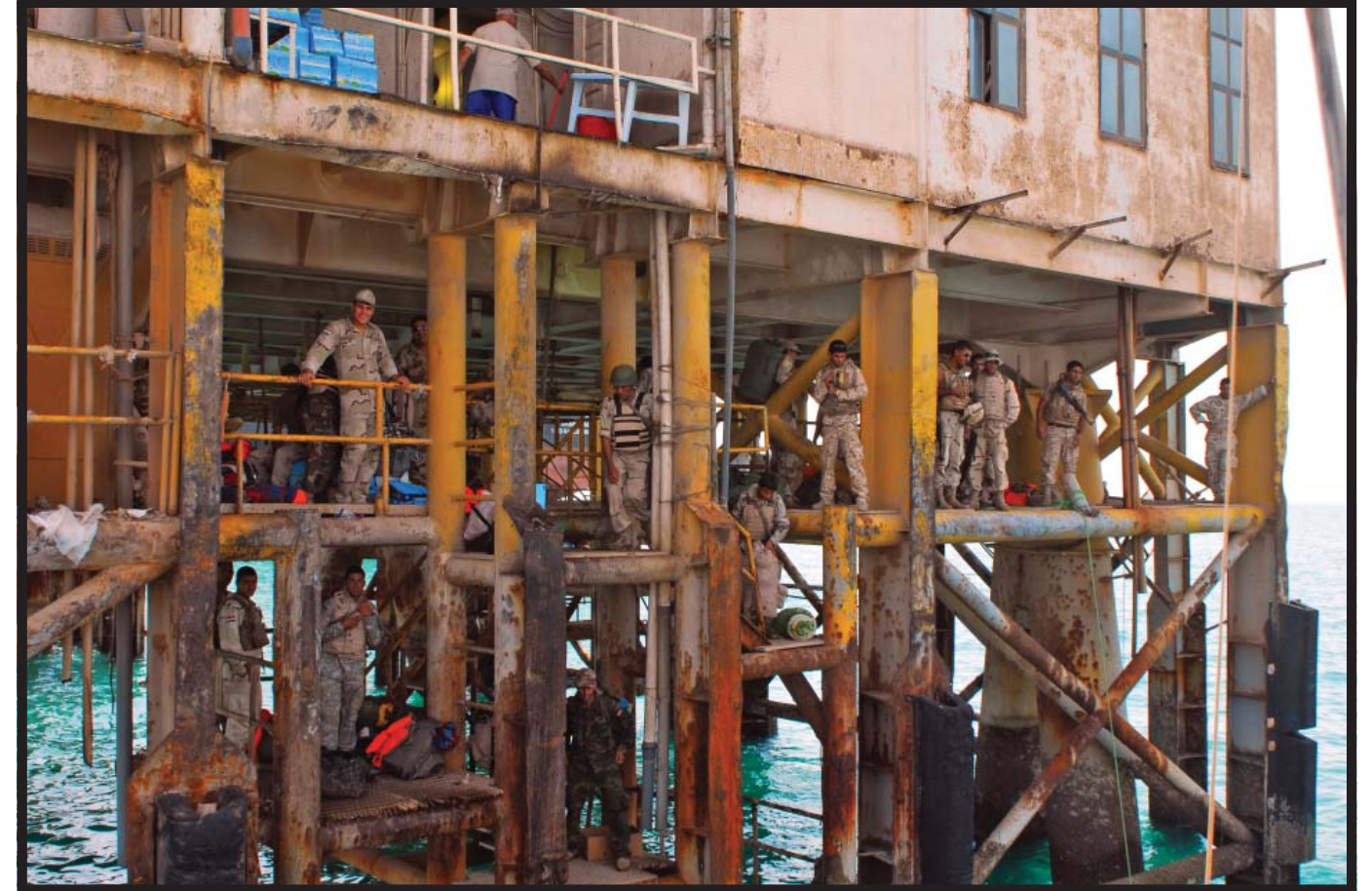
WAVES AND MELODIES



OFF THE COAST OF IRAQ



WAVES AND MELODIES



THE AL BASRAH OIL TERMINAL, LOCATED 30 MILES FROM UMM QASR, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR 80 PERCENT OF IRAQ'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT. IT CAN HOUSE FOUR SUPER TANKERS AT A TIME AND PUMPS ON AVERAGE 1.5 MILLION BARRELS OF OIL PER DAY. THE PLATFORM IS OPERATED BY IRAQI WORKERS FROM THE SOUTHERN OIL COMPANY WHILE SECURITY IS PROVIDED JOINTLY BY US AND IRAQI FORCES. CIRCLING THE PLATFORM IS A SMALL FLEET OF US NAVY SHIPS PREPARED TO DEFEND IT AT ANY COST.

OFF THE COAST OF IRAQ

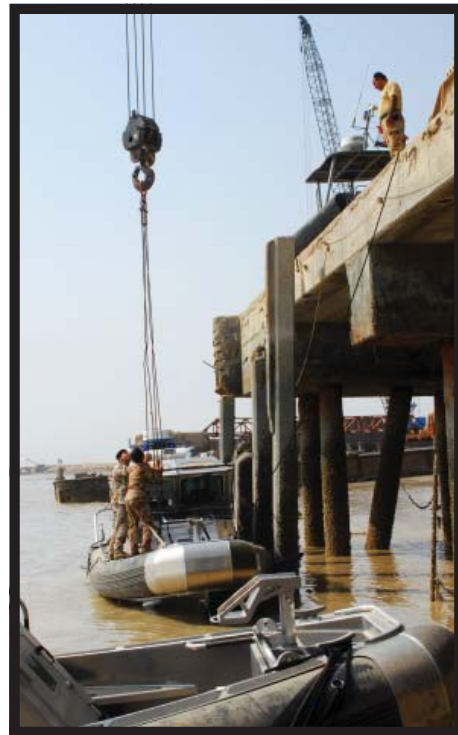
WAVES AND MELODIES



THE 34TH INFANTRY DIVISION BAND, CENTER MASS, PERFORMS FOR THE US SERVICE MEMBERS STATIONED ON THE AL BASRAH OIL TERMINAL. ALMOST EVERYONE ON THE PLATFORM SHOWED UP FOR THE SHOW EVEN THOUGH IT WAS LATE AND THEY HAD ALREADY WORKED ALL DAY. MEMBERS OF THE CROWD EVEN GOT TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE BAND, USUALLY PLAYING THE COW BELL AND BEING OFFERED THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A SOLO FOR THEM TO SHOW OFF THEIR SKILLS.

OFF THE COAST OF IRAQ

THE PORT OF UMM QASR IS POPULATED BY FISHING BOATS, CARGO SHIPS AND IRAQI NAVY SHIPS. U.S. MARINES AND SAILORS ARE STATIONED AT THE PORT TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO THE IRAQI NAVY AND NEWLY-FORMED MARINES.

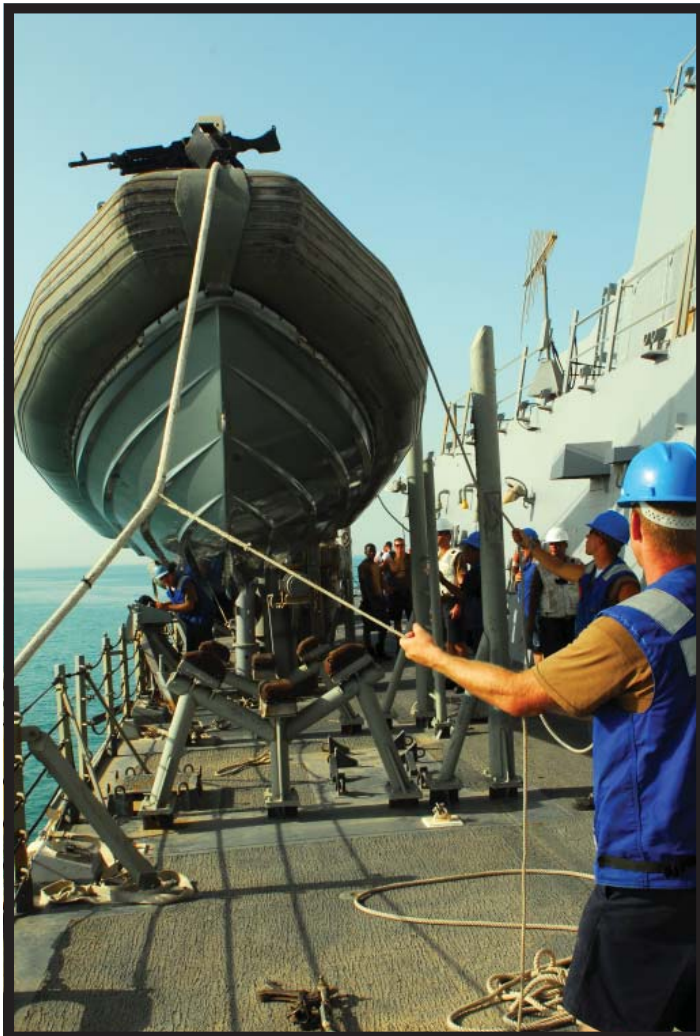


WAVES AND MELODIES



SGT. 1ST CLASS
TIMOTHY JOHNSON, THE
BASSIST WITH THE 34TH
INFANTRY DIVISION BAND,
CENTER MASS, PERFORMED
FOR THE MARINES AND
SAILORS AT THE PORT.
HE SAID HE ENJOYS
PLAYING FOR THE SERVICE
MEMBERS WHO DO NOT GET
ENTERTAINMENT DUE TO
BEING STATIONED AT SMALL
FORWARD OPERATING BASES
AND OBSCURE LOCATIONS.

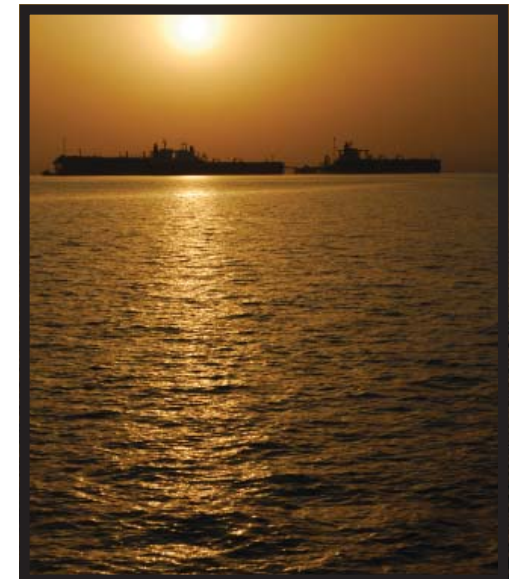
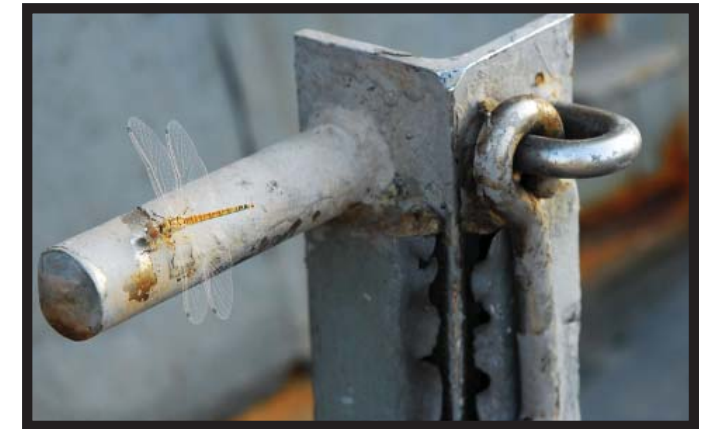
OFF THE COAST OF IRAQ



THE HIGHLIGHT FOR MANY IN THE 34TH INFANTRY DIVISION BAND, CENTER MASS, WAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY ON THE USS DECATUR. MANY OF THE SHIP'S CREW, AS WELL AS THE BAND MEMBERS, BELIEVE IT IS THE FIRST TIME AN ARMY BAND HAS PLAYED ABOARD A DEPLOYED NAVY SHIP.

EVERY MEMBER OF THE DECATUR'S CREW SHOWED UP ON THE FLIGHT DECK TO WATCH THE BAND PERFORM AS THE SUN WENT DOWN. WHILE THE BAND PLAYED, THE DECATUR CONTINUED TO CIRCLE THE AL BASRAH OIL TERMINAL AND PROVIDE SECURITY FOR THE PLATFORM.

WAVES AND MELODIES



DHI QAR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
STAFF SGT. BRENDAN
STEPHENS



IRAQI CHILDREN FILL THEIR WATER JUGS WITH CLEAN DRINKING WATER AT A WATER TREATMENT FACILITY IN AL BATHA, IRAQ. THE FACILITY WAS REBUILT WITH U. S. FUNDS AND PROVIDES CLEAN DRINKING WATER TO OVER 10,000 PEOPLE.

DHI QAR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
STAFF SGT. BRENDAN
STEPHENS



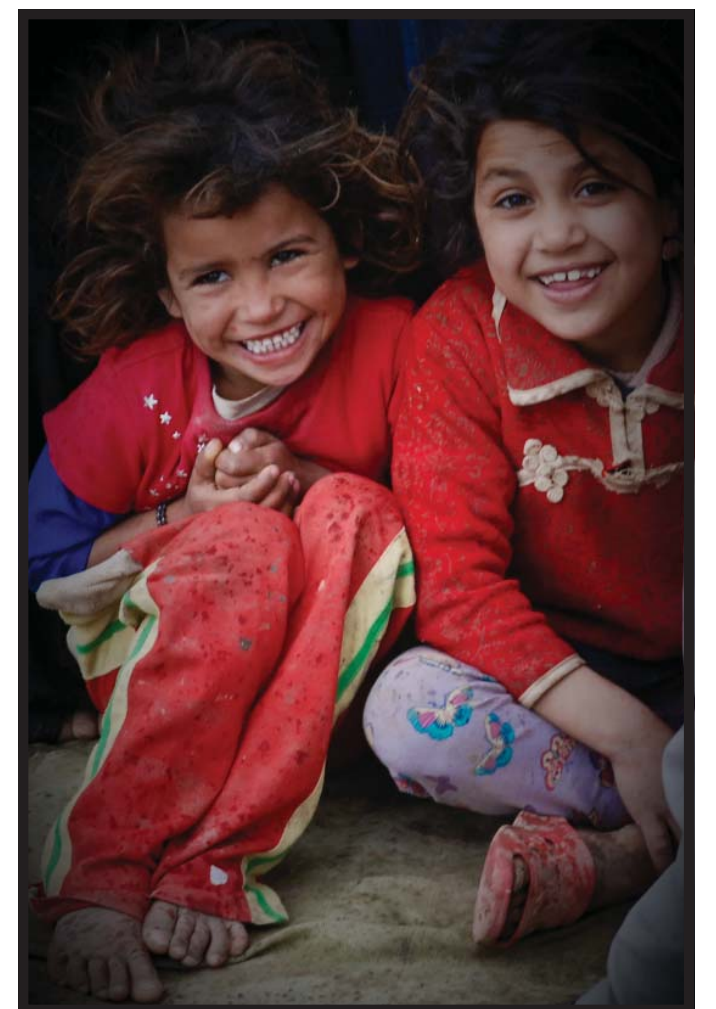
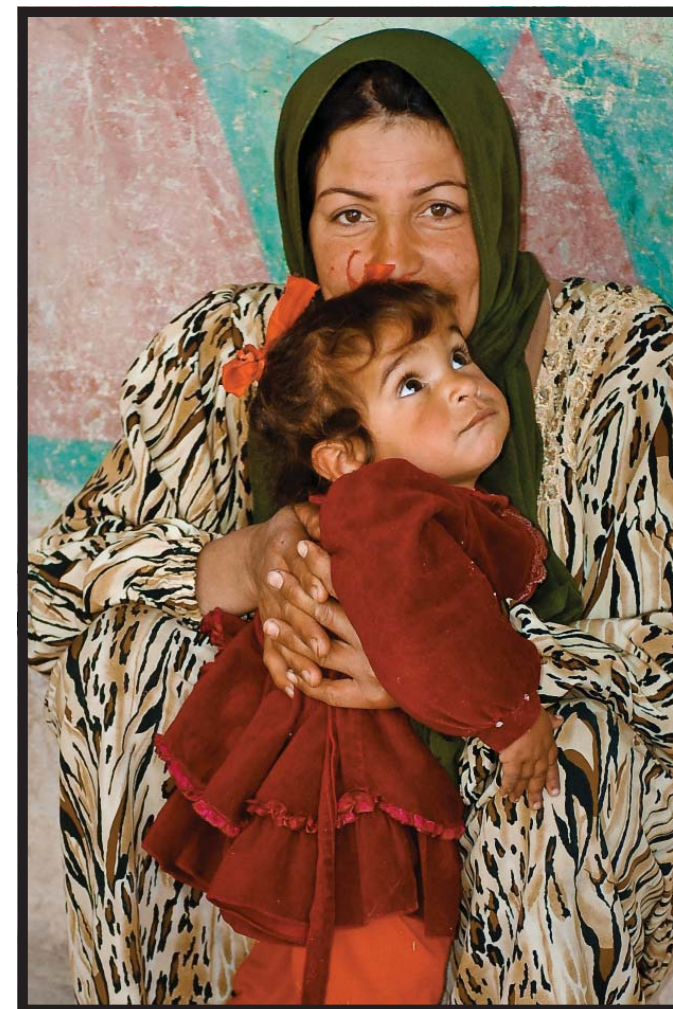
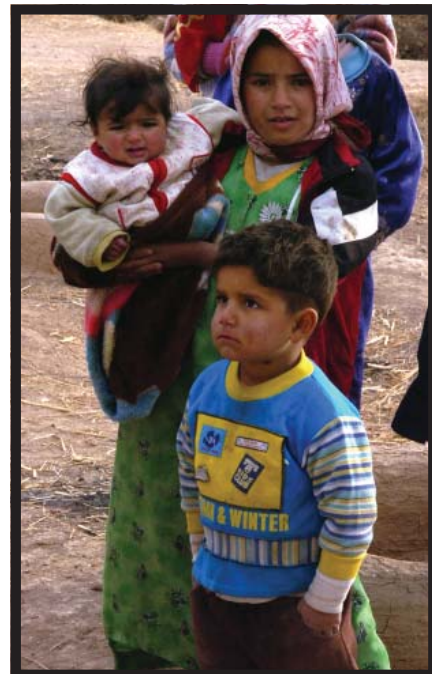
U.S. Army Maj. Gretchen Decker, Civil Military Operations Chief for 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division, chats with Iraqi girls at Camp Mittica in Dhi Qar Province, Iraq.

DHI QAR

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
STAFF SGT. DAVE LANKFORD



MOST YOUNG CHILDREN OF IRAQ HAVE ONLY KNOWN THE WAR AND HAVING FORCES WITHIN THEIR COUNTRY, BUT IT IS EVIDENT THEY APPRECIATE WHAT THE FORCES HAVE DONE AND WHAT THEY CONTINUE TO DO FOR THEM.





PHOTOGRAPHY BY
STAFF SGT. BRENDAN STEPHENS



AN IRAQI INFANT WAITS TO BE SEEN BY U.S. ARMY MEDICS AT THE MEDICAL CLINIC IN BENI HASHIM. THESE CIVIL MILITARY ENGAGEMENTS BRING MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND SERVICES TO RURAL MAYSAN PROVINCE.

BASRA

البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
STAFF SGT. ADAM STONE

AN IRAQI CHILD FROM THE AL-FAW AREA STARES INTO THE EYES OF AN IRAQI SOLDIER. THE IRAQI SECURITY FORCES WERE IN AL-FAW TO GIVE FOOD AND WATER TO AN AREA WHERE THE SALINITY RATE OF THE WATER IS INCREASING. AL-FAW IS LOCATED ON THE SOUTHERN MOST POINT OF THE SHATT AL-ARAB WATERWAY NEAR THE PERSIAN GULF. "I WAS EXCITED TO BE WORKING WITH IRAQI TO GET THIS MISSION COMPLETED. RIGHT NOW WE ARE SEEING THE RESULTS OF A LOT OF HARD WORK. WE ALL FEEL GREAT ABOUT THIS MISSION," SAID MAJ. MANNY SEPULVEDA, DEPARTMENT OF BORDER ENFORCEMENT, MILITARY TRANSITION TEAM, 17TH FIRES BRIGADE.



A YOUNG IRAQI SHOWS OFF HIS 1000 IRAQI DINAR NOTE AFTER CLEANING EMPTY BOXES FROM THE BACK OF AN IRAQI ARMY TRUCK. "IT MAKES ME FEEL GOOD THAT THE DBE (DIRECTORATE OF BORDER ENFORCEMENT, IRAQI SECURITY FORCES) WANTED TO DO GOOD FOR THEIR PEOPLE," SAID STAFF SGT. COURTNEY MINTER, DBE MITT, 17TH FIRES BRIGADE.

BASRA البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. SAMANTHA R. CIARAMITARO



AN IRAQI SOLDIER GUARDS THE GATE OF THE KARMAT ALI KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SIXTH GRADE SCHOOL. THE SCHOOL HAS THIRTEEN TEACHERS AND SIX HUNDRED STUDENTS.



A LOCAL IRAQI MAN AND CHILD STAND OUTSIDE THE KARMAT ALI KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SIXTH GRADE SCHOOL THAT HAS BEEN CHOSEN BY THE 17TH FIRES BRIGADE TO BE REFURBISHED.

BASRA

البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. SAMANTHA R. CIARAMITARO



(ABOVE) A LOCAL IRAQI MAN SPEAKS WITH U.S. ARMY SOLDIERS ATTACHED TO THE 17TH FIRES BRIGADE ON THE NEEDS OF THE HYYANIYAH DISTRICT. THE DISTRICT IS PART OF AN ONGOING OPERATION TO SECURE BASRA. (RIGHT) U.S. ARMY SGT. THOMAS JONES FROM BROOKLYN, N.Y., TACTICAL PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS DETACHMENT 3050, 17TH FIRES BRIGADE, SHOWS SOME 34TH RED BULL INFANTRY DIVISION SPIRIT WITH IRAQI CHILDREN IN THE HYYANIYAH DISTRICT.



AN IRAQI CHILD STAYS AT HER FATHER'S SIDE WHILE U.S. SOLDIERS ASSIGNED TO 17TH FIRES BRIGADE SPEAK WITH LOCALS FROM SOUTH HYYANIYAH ABOUT THREATS TO THE AREA.

BASRA البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. STEPHANIE CASSINOS



A YOUNG IRAQI GIRL SMILES WHILE ATTENDING A WOMEN'S INITIATIVES CONFERENCE IN AL QUERNA. THESE MEETINGS THROUGHOUT MULTI-NATIONAL DIVISION-SOUTH HELP DEVELOP PROGRAMS TO BENEFIT IRAQI WOMEN AS A CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC FORCE.

BASRA البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SGT. DEBRALEE CRANKSHAW



(LEFT) AN IRAQI ARMY SOLDIER PASSES OUT STUFFED BEARS TO CHILDREN AND (BELOW) ANOTHER TAKES PICTURES OF THE STUDENTS AT THE AL BESTOR SCHOOL IN AL HARIWAB. IA SOLDIERS, SUPPORTED BY THE MILITARY TRANSITION TEAM 336 FOR 33RD IA BRIGADE, 8TH IRAQI DIVISION, DELIVERED TOYS, PENCILS, PAPER, PENS, ERASERS, MARKERS, NOTEBOOKS, PENCIL CASES, BACKPACKS, A FREEZER AND A MESSAGE ON SAFETY, TIME MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION TO THE GIRLS, AGES 6 TO 12.



BASRA

البصرة

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
1ST LT. CHRISTOPHER
DUNPHY



"RIVERINE DUTY IS A VOLUNTARY PROGRAM," SAID U.S. NAVY CMDR. TY BRITT. "THE TRAINING WE RECEIVE IS UNLIKE ANYTHING ELSE WE DO IN THE NAVY. IT'S PHYSICALLY DEMANDING AS WELL AS MENTALLY CHALLENGING, REQUIRING US TO LEARN SMALL UNIT TACTICS AND APPLY THEM ON THE WATER."

BRITT, A BRANDON, MISS., RESIDENT, COMMANDS RIVERINE SQUADRON 2, WHICH IS UNDER 17TH FIRES BRIGADE TACTICAL CONTROL. KNOWN AS THE "BROWN-WATER" NAVY BECAUSE OF ITS ASSOCIATION WITH COASTAL WATERS, RIVRON 2 HAS THREE DETACHMENTS BASED IN MULTI-NATIONAL DIVISION-SOUTH.

NOT USED SINCE THE VIETNAM WAR, RIVRON RESUMED OFFICIAL OPERATIONS AFTER SEPT. 11 TO ASSIST WITH ONGOING COASTAL OPERATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. SERVING UNDER THE NAVY EXPEDITIONARY COMBAT COMMAND, THE NORFOLK, VA.-BASED RIVRON 2 IS ON ITS SECOND DEPLOYMENT TO IRAQ SINCE ITS FORMATION IN 2007.

IN SECURING THE WATERWAYS OF IRAQ, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SECURITY AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRAQ AND THE U.S., RIVRON FORCES CONDUCT COMBINED OPERATIONS WITH THE IRAQI SECURITY FORCES, TRAINING THEM IN OPERATIONS, INTELLIGENCE AND SURVEILLANCE.

"I JOINED RIVRON BECAUSE I FELT I COULD REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE," SAID BOW GUNNER PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS JASON ELLIS (LEFT BACK), RIVRON 2, DET. 1, 17TH FIRES BRIGADE. FELLOW BOW GUNNER PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS TIM BOWER MANS AN M-240B MACHINE GUN.

(BELOW) RIVRON 2, DET. 1 RIVERINES MAN THEIR STATIONS ABOARD ONE OF THEIR TWO PRIMARY FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION, THE RIVERINE ASSAULT BOAT. THE RIVERINES ALSO UTILIZE THE SLIGHTLY SMALLER RIVERINE PATROL BOAT.





PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SPC. DARRYL L. MONTGOMERY



(LEFT) INSIDE AN IRAQI HUMVEE, ARMY SGT. ASHRAF HEGAZY AND AIR FORCE MAJ. LEE DEWALD COACH AN IRAQI OFFICER HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH AIRCRAFT. THE EXERCISE TAUGHT THE IRAQI ARMY HOW TO WORK WITH THEIR AIR FORCE AND ALLOW THE PLANES TO BE THEIR EYES IN THE SKY TO TRACK TARGETS AND SPOT IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES. THE MISSION WAS A SUCCESS AND MADE ALL THE EFFORT WORTHWHILE, ACCORDING TO DEWALD.



PHOTO CONTEST: JUXTAPOSITION

Juxtaposition is an act or instance of placing subjects close together or side by side for comparison or contrast. This allows the photographer to present perspective and scale in a photo. Is David's deed as impressive without Goliath's mass?

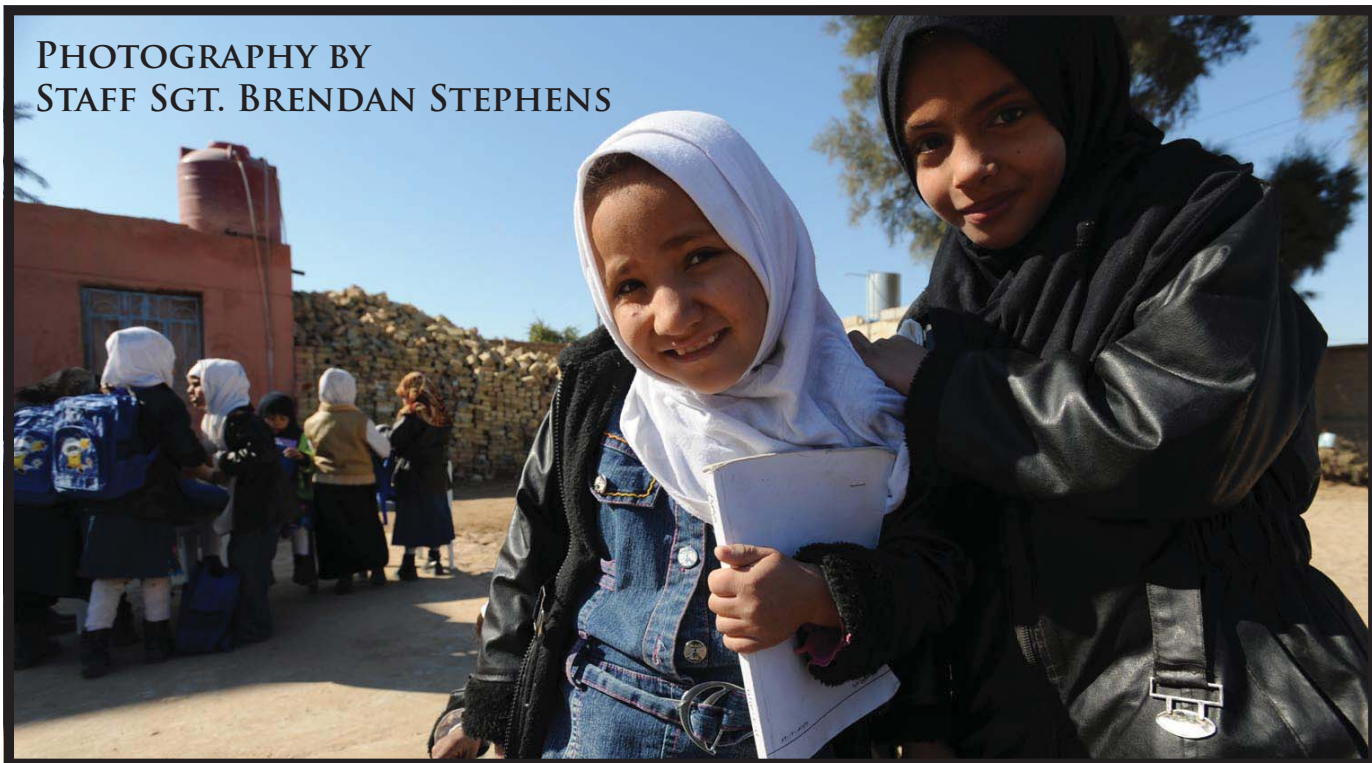
Through the use of juxtaposition, the photographer has the means to inspire awe and wonder, put things in context or give the viewer a clear view of scope and scale of subjects.

This style of photography, when properly utilized can draw a viewer into the photographer's world with resounding success. Contrast equates to effect. Effect illicit reaction. A photographer's goal is reaction.

JUXTAPOSITION TIPS

- Look for contrast. This can be as simple as big compared to small or white compared to black.
- A lone figure in front of a crowd is more dramatic than groups facing groups.
- Composition can aid the photographer greatly in creating contrast. Experiment with different angles to give your subject the desired effect.
- If you want to give a subject the appearance of being larger, photograph it from beneath. To make it appear smaller, shoot from above.
- Look for the strongest contrast available. In most cases, bigger is better.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
STAFF SGT. BRENDAN STEPHENS



LAST MONTH'S SOCIAL COMMENTARY PHOTO-CONTEST WINNER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
STAFF SGT. BRENDAN STEPHENS



RULES AND SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Any individual in MND-S may submit photos taken within MND-S to The Sandstorm monthly photo-contest.
- Photos must be submitted in the largest file size possible.
- If photos have been edited, submit an edited and an unedited version of the photo.
- Ensure photos don't contain classified or secret information. Consult your Public Affairs section if unsure.
- Rename photos as such: rank-first name-last name-sequence#
Example: Sgt-John-Smith-001, Sgt-John-Smith-002
- You may submit as many pictures as you like to each contest.
- Entries can be made one of two ways:
 - CD or DVD brought by the PAO section in Division HQ
Label CD's/DVD's as follows: ATTN: Sgt. Eric Jungels
Photo-contest: Juxtaposition
Rank, first and last name
 - E-mail to Sandstorm@TheRedBulls.org
- Photographers using DSLR's are advised to take and submit photos in RAW format.
- Deadline for submissions is October 21.

