

Paratroopers, Iraqi Soldiers protect main highway



By Staff Sgt. Alex Licea, 82nd Abn. Div.
1st Lt. Logan Cole, of Fort Knox, Ky., uses a communication device to relay instructions to his Paratroopers during a foot patrol March 28 in the 9 Nissan district of eastern Baghdad.

By Staff Sgt. Alex Licea
3rd BCT PAO, 82nd Abn. Div.

BAGHDAD — Traffic is common in a city of seven million people. With the lingering threat of roadside bombs at any turn, Paratroopers work daily with their Iraqi counterparts to ensure the people of Baghdad are safe on the highway.

Walking along side a busy road is no easy task. Coalition Forces and their Iraqi partners have to contend with the dangers of improvised explosive devices and speeding motorists on the roadway.

Despite the dangers of this



By Staff Sgt. Alex Licea, 82nd Abn. Div.
Sgt. Nicholas Cottrill, of Milan, Mich., a team leader, uses a communication device to speak to his fellow Paratroopers during a route clearance operation March 28 in the 9 Nissan district of eastern Baghdad.

foot patrol, it's a mission Paratroopers assigned to Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Multi-National Division — Baghdad, take very seriously. Working in Baghdad's 9 Nissan district, Paratroopers and Iraqi soldiers patrol the area in order to keep the highway safe from violent acts against Iraqi citizens.

“This is one of the main roads into Baghdad and if it is not clear, then people will be



By Staff Sgt. Alex Licea, 82nd Abn. Div.

Sgt. Gary Baugh, of Jonesboro, Ark., yells instructions to his Paratroopers during a foot patrol March 28 in the 9 Nissan district of eastern Baghdad. Baugh, a team leader, along with Paratroopers assigned to Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, conducted a combined clearance operation with Iraqi Army Soldiers.

scared to drive on it and it can affect commerce, daily life and security as a whole,” said 1st Lt. Logan Cole, platoon leader for Company C.

Cole and his men patrol with Iraqi Army soldiers assigned to the 3rd Bn., 44th IA Bde., 11th IA Division. Cole said the frequent patrols have given his men a good perspective of the roadway and helps them identify anything new or suspicious on the road.

“The good thing about doing this everyday is that we get

to know what the terrain looks like and familiarize ourselves with the area,” said the native of Fort Knox, Ky. “When we see something new in the area, we can recognize it right away and look into it.”

Working with the Fort Bragg, N.C.-based Paratroopers, Iraqi Army officials have credited the combined efforts in keeping this once violent stretch of highway safe.

“Because of these patrols,

See HIGHWAY, Pg 2

MND-B Soldiers, Salman Pak leaders reopen industrial school

By Lt. Col. Wayne Marotto
2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armd. Div.

BAGHDAD — For years Salman Pak located on the southeast edge of Baghdad, along the east bank of the Tigris River, was on the front lines of sectarian violence in Iraq. The fighting between criminal groups, insurgents and al-Qaeda left the city, once considered a top tourist destination stop for all Iraqis, lawless and in shambles.

The Iraqi Army and Coalition Forces eventually suppressed the sectarian violence in the area and Salman Pak has slowly returned to normal.

In yet another sign of the improving security situation in Salman Pak, Multi-National Division — Baghdad Soldiers from Task Force 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, attended the grand opening of the Salman Pak Industrial School, March 24. The USAID provided funding for the \$600,000 renovation project.

The Industrial School reopened its doors after major reconstruction work was completed after virtually being destroyed during insurgent led at-

tacks at the height of sectarian violence in 2006-2007.

The Industrial school will offer eight courses available for up to 700 students to learn skills on sewing generator maintenance, welding, automotive repair, plumbing, electrical installation, masonry and carpentry.

Learning a trade for these men and providing job opportunities are important in keeping them from rejoining the insurgency by providing them an opportunity to obtain a steady paying job and support for their families.

The Industrial school also received new equipment for a women's sewing room, a machine and metal working section and a computer room.

The Ministry of Education will maintain the building grounds, hire and retain qualified teachers for the school, and provide a full-time guard for the school.

"This school has a 30-year history and always represented a chance for learning and helping the youth of the Mada'in Qada in progress, but because of the violence in the area after the war it stopped," said Qassi Mrweh, Mada'in Qada Council Chair-



By Maj. Fred Dixon, 2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armd. Div.

Qassi Mrweh (at microphone), the Mada'in Qada Council Chairman, gives a speech during the ribbon cutting ceremony held to celebrate the reopening of the Salman Pak Industrial School. The school reopened after a major reconstruction project was completed in Salmon Pak, March 24. The Industrial School will provide job opportunities for the area's young men and women.

man.

The improved security situation brought by the ISF, CF and also by the local people who became tired of the instability, enabled contractors to rebuild the industrial school, according to Mrweh.

"This is an excellent example of cooperation between coalition forces and our Iraqi counter parts in the Mada'in

Qada," said Christopher Crowley, mission director, USAID/Iraq, and a native of Wilmington, N. C.

Local leaders, partnered with MND-B Soldiers, continue to work to bring Salman Pak to its former glory days when the city was known for the Ctesiphon Arch and city amusement park and not as a battle ground of sectarian fighting.

Suspected RKG-3 cell member arrested in Ghazaliyah

MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — Iraqi Security Forces and Coalition Forces Soldiers arrested a suspected criminal based on an Iraqi judge-granted warrant in the Ghazaliyah neighborhood of northwest Baghdad March 30.

At approximately 7:45 p.m. Iraqi Sol-

diers serving with the 4th Battalion, 22nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division and Troopers serving with the 5th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, arrested an individual accused of working with members of an RKG-3 anti-tank grenade cell operating in northwest Bag-

dad.

The Soldiers detained the individual to hold the suspect for further questioning.

In accordance with Iraqi law, the Soldiers worked together to obtain the judge-granted warrant in order to arrest the suspected individual.

The incident is under investigation.

These efforts have helped reduce the threat of IEDs

HIGHWAY, From Pg 1

this area is safe and secure," said Iraq Maj. Abd Alrhamen Jaber.

"These efforts have helped reduce the threat of IEDs and attacks have gone down significantly in this area."

Sgt. Robert Durst, of Douglas-

ville, Ga., said the efforts of his unit and their Iraqi partners have led to lasting peace and safety in this region of eastern Baghdad.

"This is a very busy and im-

portant road, and we save a lot of lives because we patrol this area everyday looking for anything that can endanger the area and the people," he said.

Recharging the deployment battery

Story courtesy of 2-1 BSTB, 1st Inf. Div., MND-B

BAGHDAD — If there is one thing that soldiers value, it is their time off. For those Soldiers on deployment, their time off is especially valuable. With long hours, stressful missions and less than desirable living conditions, it's no wonder that soldiers look forward to a few weeks off to relax and return to a "normal" life.

Deployed units implement leave schedules to give their Soldiers time away from a forward deployed area. Known over the years by many names — rest and recreation, mid-tour leave, and for Soldiers now deployed, environmental and morale leave.

"Rest and recuperation is a necessity," said Capt. Felix Torres, a native of Sacramento, Calif., commander, Company B, Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. "Soldiers are known to work themselves into the ground, so they need that break in order to re-focus and replenish their mind, body, and spirit."

Traditionally the "replenishing" consists of 15 days of leave, most often near the half-way point of deployment. Often the "mid-tour" leave is seen as a milestone during deployments.



U.S. Army photo courtesy of Cpl. Christopher Hnatiuk, 2nd HBCT, 1st Inf. Div.

SIDNEY, Australia — Cpl. Christopher Hnatiuk (left), a native of Hobart, Ind., and Spc. Joseph Shinskey, both from Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, pose during their environmental and morale leave before sky-diving March 15.

Whether the leave is spent with the family back home, at an exotic locale, or simply on the couch at "Mom's" house, those 15 days are a chance for

a Soldier to, amongst other things, relax and recharge for the rest of their tour.

The two weeks of leave are often a topic of conversation

both before and after the event, with some of the themes of the conversation consisting of time spent with their significant others, the exceptional taste of a certain beverage or food, or perhaps the first time a Soldier will see their newborn child.

Many Soldiers will say they cannot make an entire year without their mid-tour leave. More than just a physical break from stress and the high operation tempo, the leave serves as a mental mid-point of the tour.

"There has to be a mental separation from the 24-hour operations in a combat environment," said Sgt. Kevin Jenson, from Savannah, Mo., Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd HBCT. "The mind just can't handle the stress for extended periods of time."

Once the leave is over, a Soldier can look back on the time leading up to the leave and realize they can handle the road ahead.

"My leave helped give me time to relax and see my family and friends," said Deland, Fla. Native, Spc. Phillip Formel, Company B, 2-1 BSTB, who recently returned from mid-tour leave. "I didn't want to come back, but now that I'm here it will be easier to handle the missions because I had a good break."

Cav Round-Up radio newscast available

MND-B PAO

BAGHDAD — The Cav Round-Up is a three-minute radio newscast from Baghdad covering military units and events across Multi-National Division — Baghdad.

Today's Cav Round-Up No. 34 was produced by Sgt. Lisa Heise, MND-B

Public Affairs Office.

The March 31th newscast includes the following stories:

1. Spc. Ashley Anderson reports on Iraqi Army soldiers learning how to become combat medics — an important skill that can save a life in the field.
2. Sgt. Lisa Heise reports on new opportunities for former Sons of Iraq members that are helping the men

learn skills and trades to help them integrate into their communities.

To hear the Cav Round-Up, click on the following links:

NIPR LINK: Cav Round-Up

SIPR LINK: Cav Round-Up

Check out more MND-B news at the 1st Cavalry Division's homepage:

www.cavcountry.net

Stryker Soldiers search Abu Ghraib



Army photo by Petty officer 2nd Class, attached to 2nd HBCT PAO, 1st Inf. Div. BAGHDAD — Spc. Mark Cameron (right), 2nd Stryker Battalion, 112th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, posts watch at a building in Abu Ghraib, Iraq March 23. The Stryker Soldiers spent time searching the area as part of security operations prior to a District Advisory Counsel meeting.



Army photo by Petty officer 2nd Class, attached to 2nd HBCT PAO, 1st Inf. Div. BAGHDAD — Staff Sgt. Ronald Chun, 2nd Stryker Battalion, 112th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Multi-National Division — Baghdad, searches a room for possible weapons or explosives in Abu Ghraib, Iraq March 23. The Soldiers searched various places in the neighborhood to keep the streets safer.

Explosives cache seized in Abu T'Shir

2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armd. Div.

BAGHDAD — Iraqi National Police officers from 7th Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 2nd NP Division, discovered and seized a large weapons cache while conducting operations in the Abu T'Shir area, March 29.

A U.S. Army explosive ordnance disposal team from the 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, responded to assist with the safe removal of the explosives for later disposal.

The cache consisted of five improvised explosive devices, to include 40 copper explosively formed projectiles, 30 mortar charges, twenty 120mm mortar rounds, in addition to other explosive making materials and ammunition.



U.S. Army photo

BAGHDAD — Iraqi National Police display a large explosives cache seized March 29 during.

Crossed Sabers
www.cavcountry.net

MARCH 30TH EDITION ON NEWSSTANDS NOW. STAY INFORMED.

On This Day In Military History

On this day in 1942, General of the Army Douglas MacArthur was awarded the Medal of Honor for his service in the Philippines and on the Bataan Peninsula.

Gen. MacArthur was awarded the Medal of Honor for his leadership in the defense of the Philippines. Gen. MacArthur's Medal of Honor citation reads that he mobilized, trained and led an army which has received world acclaim for its gallant defense against a tremendous superiority of enemy forces in men and arms. His utter disregard of personal danger under heavy fire and aerial bombardment, his calm judgement in each crisis, inspired his troops, galvanized the spirit of resistance of the Filipino people, and confirmed the faith of the American people in their Armed Forces.



MacArthur

As the Japanese forces tightened their grip on the Philippines, and the loss of Bataan became apparent, President Franklin Roosevelt ordered Gen. MacArthur to evacuate to Australia. Gen. MacArthur gave his now famous speech in which he promised "I shall return." Gen. MacArthur returned to the Philippines in 1944 and began planning for the invasion of Japan. However, the Japanese surrendered in September 1945. Gen. MacArthur accepted the formal surrender aboard the USS Missouri.

Gen. MacArthur, a native of Little Rock, Ark., graduated first in his class at West Point Military Academy in 1903 and enjoyed one of the most distinguished careers in the Army, serving as a general officer in World War I, World War II and the Korean War. He died in 1964.

Iraq 3-Day Weather Report



Today
77° F | 53° F



Tomorrow
80° F | 60° F



Friday
84° F | 66° F

Calling All Interested Personnel

The MND-B Equal Opportunity Team is looking for all interested Soldiers and Civilians who would like to assist with the planning and participate in MND-B's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM) Celebration. Those who would like to assist can contact the MND-B EO Office at DSN 847-2532 or VOIP 242-4133, ask for SFC Rodriguez or by email frank.e.rodriguez@mnd-b.army.mil or frank.e.rodriguez@mnd-b.army.mil

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH






Come join us and watch

"Wrestlemania 25"

Pegasus Oasis Dining Facility
Movie Room
April 7th 2009
1300-1700

VICTORY BASE COMPLEX & WASHINGTON DC
"SIMULCAST"
CREDIT UNION
CHERRY BLOSSOM TEN MILER/5K



DATE: 5 APR 2009
START TIME: 1540
LOCATION: EAST LIBERTY
POC: SPC Amber Storey 847-2029 or
amber.d.storey@mnd-b.army.mil



Registration forms can be picked up at your local Mayor Cell or by emailing the POC.



Pvt. Murphy

by Mark Baker



Quote For Today

"The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't."

— Henry Ward Beecher 1813-1887
American clergyman, abolitionist

PEGASUS OASIS DFAC HOURS

BREAKFAST 0530 TO 0830

LUNCH 1130 TO 1330

DINNER 1700 TO 2000

MIDNIGHT CHOW 2300 TO 0100

SUNDAY ONLY

BRUNCH 0730 to 1330

DINNER 1700 to 2000

MIDNIGHT CHOW 2300 to 0100

Trigger's Teasers

3	4		1		5		9
6	7			2	8		
	1		3			6	7
2	4			9			
	3		8	5		1	
			7			4	5
9	5			4		8	
		6	9		7		3
8	1		3		2		4

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow: **Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order. Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.**

Every Sudoku game begins with a number of squares already filled in, and the difficulty of each game is largely a function of how many squares are filled in. The more squares that are known, the easier it is to figure out which numbers go in the open squares. As you fill in squares correctly, options for the remaining squares are narrowed and it becomes easier to fill them in.

Yesterday's Answers

7	4	1	8	5	2	6	9	3
8	3	2	7	9	6	1	5	4
5	9	6	3	1	4	8	2	7
4	1	7	9	6	3	5	8	2
3	5	8	4	2	1	9	7	6
2	6	9	5	7	8	3	4	1
6	2	5	1	8	7	4	3	9
9	7	4	6	3	5	2	1	8
1	8	3	2	4	9	7	6	5



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Submissions should be sent to the Public Affairs NCOIC nicholas.conner@mnd-b.army.mil and include author's name, rank, unit and contact information. The **Daily Charge** reserves the right to edit submissions selected for the paper.

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