

## MND-B ‘Iron Brigade’ holds Women’s Initiative conference

**By Pfc. Evan Loyd**

*2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armd. Div.*

BAGHDAD – Members of the Embedded Provincial Reconstruction Teams Health and Women’s Initiatives group from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Multi-National Division-Baghdad, met at Camp Striker, Iraq Feb. 15 to discuss Iraqi women support programs in the areas of literacy, economics, and health.

This was the first joint Mada’in and Mahmudiyah Women’s and Health Initiatives meeting. Workers from the two Qadas south of Baghdad have worked together before but never had the chance to sit down and actually meet to discuss future plans in person.

This meeting is an important venue for sharing ideas from other areas,” said Lt. Col. Michael Mammay, commander of

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*By Pfc. Evan Loyd, 2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armd. Div.*

Members of the Embedded Provincial Reconstruction Teams Health and Women’s Initiatives group from 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, met at Camp Striker, Iraqi Feb. 15 to discuss and support the development of Iraqi women in the areas of literacy, economics, and health.

## ISF, MND-B Soldiers provide secure environment for march to Karbala



*By Spc. Kevin Holden, 2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armd. Div.*

A soldier of the 17th IA Division provides security during the Arba’een march in Lutifiyah on Feb. 12.

**By Spc. Kevin Holden**

*2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armd. Div.*

BAGHDAD – In support of the Security Agreement implementation, Multi-National Division—Baghdad Soldiers from 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment and their Iraqi Security partners conducted a combined operation in Lutifiyah, south of Baghdad, to provide a secure environment for Iraqis marching in the Islamic religious holiday of Arba’een Feb. 11 to Feb. 15.

The 1st Battalion, 25th Brigade, 17th Iraqi Army Division, Iraqi police, and National police provided the main security force while MND-B Soldiers provided assistance to ensure sectarian extremists did not attack the marchers on their way south to Karbala.

“The IA and MND-B Soldiers have worked together on security patrols and combined military operations every day since the Security Agreement on Jan. 1,” said 1st Lt. Jason Mitnacht, a native of Tulsa Okla. “The ISF are well trained and capable of providing security for political and religious events. MND-B Soldiers will

**See KARBALA Pg. 3**

## 'Centurion' troopers prepare, promote before Iraq tour



By Spc. Jodie Gollighugh, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div.

CAMP BUEHRING, Kuwait—Capt. Marla Chan, commander, Company B, 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division uses an electro-magnetic wand to search a mock suspect for explosives or other harmful devices during a training exercise Feb. 13. Cpl. Linda Kimbrell, provided security for during this exercise. "I'm prepared to run an entry control point. I never knew that searching a person was so difficult, but I did it," said Kimbrell. "Now, I know I can do it in theater."

UDARI RANGE, Kuwait—Soldiers from the 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division practice firing their weapons Feb. 13 at the Udari Multi Purpose Range Complex in the northern Kuwaiti desert. Troopers of the "Centurion" battalion spend roughly two weeks at Camp Buehring before heading north into Iraq.



By Spc. Jodie Gollighugh, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div.

UDARI RANGE, Kuwait—"Centurion" Troopers of 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, put down their weapons while a wild camel herd crosses the range Feb. 13. Practicing the mantra of 'Safety First', Soldiers ensure that paper targets are the only thing hit during a live fire range at the Udari Multi-Use Range Complex in the northern Kuwaiti desert.



By 1st Lt. Leyla Law, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div.

## Clinics provide way for women to come together

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the 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery, from Merrimack, N.H. "We can help to define strategies for the future and see what was successful and wasn't previously."

Members discussed the success of the mobile health clinic established through Coalition Funds in the Mada'in Qada. The clinic currently travels throughout the outlying areas of the Qada to provide medical exams and referrals for additional medical services and prescriptions.

"The clinic makes five trips a week and helps at least fifty people per trip, which

is over 250 people served every week," said Stacy Lamon, a senior health advisor for the U.S. State Department's Embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team in the Mada'in Qada. "Because of that impact the Iraqi people have really gotten behind this project."

A previous project from the Women's Initiative was included the creation of sewing centers in the Mahmudiyah Qada. At the sewing centers women can gain employment as seamstresses and other marketable skills. These centers also provide a way for the women to come together and share ideas.

"This is an important project which gives the Iraqi women hope," said Mariam Youmarn, an interpreter and worker in the EPRT's Women's Initiative. "Women are getting excited to work and are gaining confidence."

The meeting wasn't just about the previous and future projects; members want to find and cultivate Iraqi ideas from the planning board and into reality, said Lamon.

"We can have all the good ideas in the world, but what we need is to find those local Iraqis with good ideas and give them support they need to bring their ideas about."



# Soldiers capture suspected criminal, prevent attack

2nd HBCT PAO, 1st Inf. Div.

BAGHDAD – Iraqi Security Forces and Multi-National Division—Baghdad Soldiers wounded and captured a suspected criminal as he was about to attack a convoy Feb. 15 in the Mansour district of northwest Baghdad.

At approximately 6:40 p.m., Soldiers from the 2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., positively identified and engaged with accurate small arms fire a suspected criminal approaching the convoy, carrying two hand held, shaped-charge grenades. When wounded, the individual dropped an already armed grenade, causing it to detonate.

ISF and MND-B Forces apprehended the alleged criminal and safely recovered the other hand held, shaped-charged grenade, as well as one fragmentation grenade.

MND-B Soldiers treated and transported the alleged criminal to a Coalition medical facility for numerous injuries suffered in the ensuing blast.

There were no other injuries or damage reported.

The incident is currently under investigation.



Courtesy Photo

A Soldier displays a fragmentation grenade he disarmed after taking it off of a suspected criminal Feb. 15 in the Mansour district of Baghdad.

## Conditions allow Iraqis to take part in pilgrimages

KARBALA, From Pg 1

assist with security when requested by the (Government of Iraq)."

Arba'een is a time of mourning for Shia Muslims and participating in the pilgrimage reflects their Muslim faith in the Imam Husayn, the grandson of the prophet Muhammad. Husayn died in 680 A.D. in the Battle of Karbala. This Shia religious event has been banned in the recent past. Observing Arba'een in Iraq begins on foot in Baghdad and ends in the holy cities of Najaf and Karbala.

The pilgrimage from Baghdad to Karbala takes Muslim travelers through multiple cities. Lutifiyah was peaceful as crowds of people walked on the main southbound highway waving flags, playing music, and celebrating.

The MND-B Soldiers and their Iraqi Security Force partners patrolled the road ways and visited IA checkpoints in Lutifiyah during the holiday at the request of the Government of Iraq. The two forces set the conditions to allowed Iraqis the freedom to take part in the Ashura and Arbaeen pilgrimages and observances.

There were no reports of violence in their patrol areas.

"Shia Muslims feel safe, and there is freedom of religion to celebrate Ashura Arba'een," said Iraqi Army 2nd Lt. Yasser H. Mohamed. "I am proud to serve the people and the new Government of Iraq."



photo by Spc. Kevin Holden, 2nd BCT PAO, 1st Armd. Div.,

1st Lt. Jason Mitnacht, of Tulsa, Okla., platoon leader with 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment visits an Iraqi Army checkpoint during the Islamic religious holiday Arba'een on Feb. 12.

## Chaplain's Inspiration

How do you start your day? Are you grumpy because you had to get out of bed, or grateful for another day? Your attitude will have a tremendous effect on how you deal with stress. If you remember the words, "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is mystery, today is a gift," you will find yourself able to give thanks in all circumstances, and the stress in your life will not rule the day. (Paraphrased from Clive Williams' The 100 Steps necessary for Survival in a Stressful Environment)

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his steadfast love endures forever." Psalm 107:1

Iraq  
3-Day  
Weather  
Report

**Today**  
70° F | 48° F



**Tomorrow**  
67° F | 47° F



**Thursday**  
68° F | 47° F

## 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

## Arabic Phrase of the Day:

**Come with me!**

**Defined:**

**Ta'ala/ta'alay ma'ee!**

## Pvt. Murphy

by Mark Baker



**T**reat every weapon as if it is loaded.

**H**andle every weapon with care.

**I**dentify the target before you fire.

**N**ever point the muzzle at anything you don't intend to shoot.

**K**eep the weapon on safe and your finger off the trigger until you intend to fire.

**WEAPONS SAFETY!**



## Daily Laugh

Normal people ... believe that if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Engineers believe that if it ain't broke, it doesn't have enough features yet.

### David Letterman's Top Ten Surprising Perks Of NASCAR Drivers

10. Don't have to shave your body like Olympic swimmers...although, why not? (Jeff Gordon)
9. Hasselhoff promised me one of those talking cars. (Greg Biffle)
8. I use old checkered flags to make fabulous throw pillows (Tony Stewart) There's nothing like going through a car wash at 190 miles per hour (Jeff Burton)
7. GPS underpants (Denny Hamlin)
6. Sorry, I forgot my joke -- I was thinking about
5. Jessica Alba -- man she's hot (Clint Bowyer)
4. Run out of olive oil? A little Quaker State will spruce up any salad (Dale Earnhardt, Jr.)
3. Traveling to exotic locations like Martinsville, Virginia and Dover, Delaware (Jimmie Johnson)
2. At high school reunions, it's fun to ask, "So what do you do for a living?" (Carl Edwards)
1. After a race, your butt vibrates for days (Kyle Busch)

## Pegasus' Daily Games

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.

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



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