



April 30, 2010

U.S. rep, Iraqi leaders to stop corruption

**By Capt. Rebecca Walsh
4IBCT, 1st Inf. Div. PAO**

U.S. Department of State anti-corruption coordinator, Ambassador Joseph Stafford, toured Salah ad-Din province to assess anti-corruption efforts at the provincial and local level, April 24-26.

For three days, the ambassador met with local government leaders, non-governmental organizations, judicial officials and business leaders to discuss ways to stop the abuse and misuse of power and eliminate corruption in the province where Contingency Operating Base Speicher is located.

According to Stafford, the purpose of his visit was to show the citizens of Salah

ad-Din that the United States is working with the Government of Iraq to raise awareness of corruption and find solutions to build integrity and transparency within Iraqi organizations, both private and governmental.

This included informing leaders of the new Iraqi National Strategy for fighting corruption, which was issued earlier this month.

"We are dedicated to helping the Iraqi government and people with their efforts in building an Iraq, and I'm honored for the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas," said Stafford.

Stafford's visit culminated with a visit to the Tikrit Provincial Council building, where he was able to meet with several provincial coun-

cil members.

During this meeting, numerous problems were identified, potential solutions were discussed, and progress was noted. According to Stafford, in 2008, Iraq was the second most corrupt nation, moving down to the fourth in 2009.

"This might not be at a good level yet, but it definitely shows improvement," he said. He added that the majority of court cases regarding corruption resulting in sentencing improved from 97 of 350 cases in 2008 to 300 of 900 cases, showing movement in a positive direction.

“It will be impossible to get rid of (corruption) one hundred percent, but we can eliminate certain areas

of it. In the end, it's a temporary situation. We need to work on empowering (Iraqi) law because there are weak points in (it)," he said. "In the end, it's a financial issue. It is important for officials to be dedicated in fighting corruption and those who are corrupt.

Step by step, the government and the people will cooperate in fighting corruption."

Provincial Council member Fatin Abdul Qader, who also runs an orphanage and day care center in Tikrit, acknowledged anti-corruption efforts will take time.

"Even if we can't solve corruption for our generation, hopefully we can solve it for generations to come," she said.

'Sex Signals' play enforces that no means no

**By Spc. Richard Colletta
4BCT, 1st Inf. Div. PAO**

People talk about it. People joke about it. But when you get serious about sex people tend to get quiet pretty quickly. "Sex Signals", a show put on by a group of actors from a company in Chicago, Ill., breeches the subject with humor, sketches and improvisational acting to teach Soldiers about sexual assault prevention.

The two-person show was per-

formed by Sharyon Culberson and Kyle Terry, who engaged in playful banter on stage, and acted out stereotypes and sexual situations where misunderstandings can occur that can lead to sexual assault.

The program which was geared towards young adults originally began in 2000 and premiered at various college campuses and was later contracted by Army leaders to train and educate

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Photo by Spc. Shantelle Campbell, 41BCT, 1st Inf. Div. PAO
Sharyon Culberson and Kyle Terry perform in "Sex Signals," a play that discusses sexual assault, April 27 at COB Speicher .

Kids for Kirkuk

Soldiers and Airmen team up to help Iraqi children

By Sgt. Steven Livingston,
1BCT, 1st AD PAO

Soldiers and Airmen partnered to bring school supplies to children at Karkar Baba Elementary School in Kirkuk, Iraq, April 15.

“Kids for Kirkuk” is a program where schools in the United States help provide much needed school supplies to children of the Kirkuk province.

The units involved in the event were the 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division out of Fort Stewart, Ga., and the 506th Air Expeditionary Group on Forward Operating Base Warrior.

These servicemembers delivered the supplies and pictures drawn by U.S. school children to the Karkar Baba Elementary School.

“I wanted to help out,” said Tech. Sgt. Robert Clarkin of the 506th Air Expeditionary Group, and a native of Burleson, Texas.

“As soon as I mentioned it to my parents they got organized and collected the supplies,” said Tech Sgt. Clarkin. “They were able to send 15 boxes of school supplies and 75 soccer balls.”

“I am extremely proud of what we are doing here,” added Tech Sgt. Clarkin. “I came to take pictures so my Family can see the difference we are making.”

As the Soldiers arrived at the school, you could hear the children scream with excitement as the Kirkuk lion made his appearance.

“I love this kind of mission,” said Spc. Jacob Bartley, a chaplain assistant with the 1/30th Inf. Regt.

“I get to get out and interact with the kids.

“I like to think I am making an impact on the future of Iraq,” said Spc. Bartley a native of Fountain, Ind. “What better way to do that than to make a positive influence on the future leaders of Iraq.”



Photos by Sgt. Steven Livingston, 1BCT, 1st AD PAO
Above: Iraqi students display art drawn by U.S. children for students at Karkar Baba Elementary School, Kirkuk province, April 15.

Right: An Airmen from the 506th Air Expeditionary Group hands out school supplies to an Iraqi student at the Karkar Baba Elementary School, Kirkuk province, during a mission to bring them school supplies from children in America, April 15.



Below: The Kirkuk Lion interacts with students from Karkar Baba Elementary School, during a mission to bring them school supplies, April 15.



Gen. Casey awards 3ID and 1AD Soldiers

By Pfc. Jessica Luhrs,
1BCT, 1st AD PAO

The U.S. Army Chief of Staff, Gen. George W. Casey, Jr., made a visit to Forward Operating Base Warrior, Kirkuk, Iraq, where he honored Iron Soldiers of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division out of Fort Bliss, Texas, and 2nd Brigade combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, out of Fort Stewart, Ga., for their hard work, April 27.

Upon arrival to FOB Warrior, Gen. Casey, was welcomed by Col. Larry Swift, commander of 1/1 AD and Command Sgt. Maj. James Daniels, command sergeant major of 1/1 AD. Immediately afterwards, Command Sgt. Maj. Daniels, introduced Gen. Casey to nine Iron Soldiers. These Soldiers were nominated by their command for their outstanding performance.

General Casey then held a ceremony, recognizing the

Soldiers, by awarding them with his personal coin. "It is outstanding what these Soldiers do on a day-to-day basis and I thank them for their service," Gen. Casey said, to the nine Soldiers and their leadership.

Along with the ceremony Gen. Casey, spoke to the Soldiers about the progress that has been made in Iraq these past few years and what is in store for the future.

We are well on track to

accomplishing this mission and have made great progress in Iraq, but there is still work to be done, said Gen. Casey.

The work Gen. Casey was referring to is the transition to stability operations that is scheduled to occur by August.

He continued with some words of encouragement for Soldiers and Families.

As the drawdown of forces begins Families and Soldiers should not focus on the fact some Soldiers will be staying in Iraq --- they should focus on the positive side --- some Soldiers are coming home early, he said.

In his final words to the Iron Soldiers he spoke of the support the people in the U.S. have for the Soldiers in Iraq and referred to it as being "sky high."

After his time with the Iron Soldiers, Gen. Casey, had lunch and a brief meeting with Task Force Marne Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo; Task Force Marne Deputy Commanding General Maneuver, Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Donahue, II; Col. Swift; Command Sgt. Maj. Daniels and the battalion commanders and command sergeants major of 1/1 AD.



Photo by Pfc. Jessica Luhrs, 1BCT, 1st AD PAO

General George W. Casey, Jr., U.S. Army Chief of Staff, awards his personal coin to Sgt. Dwayne Niesel, a master gunner with Co. A, 1/30th Inf. Regt., 2nd HBCT, 3ID, during a visit to FOB Warrior, April 27.

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Soldiers in the United States as well as those deployed to Iraq. The program has performed more than 1,000 shows since its inception.

"We found a majority of victims and perpetrators of date rape or acquaintance rape are within the age group of 18 to 24," Culberson said.

Culberson said this is her second trip to Iraq and it has definitely been a great experience.

"Out here people's mindsets are in a different place. We're just trying to make sure people don't hurt each

other," she said.

Terry says they try to break down the subject as simply as possible and try to dispel common assumptions about sex and sexual assault that most people have.

"Sometimes our assumptions can end up hurting people," he said.

"One of our goals is to make sure if you're the initiator that you make sure your partner wants the same thing you want," said Terry. "Rape is a problem everywhere. It's good to know the Army is taking a proactive stance

to reduce the occurrences within it's ranks."

First Sergeant Brian Starns with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, says it's important for Soldiers to understand sexual assault awareness and prevention program and that every Soldier is entitled to work in a safe environment.

"It's important for us to set the climate that every Soldier is equal and no Soldier should be sexually harassed in the workplace," 1st Sgt. Starns said.

Task Force Marne Heroes of the North



Private First Class Daniel Ladner, of Bogue Chitto, Mo., is with the 1st Engineer Battalion, 130th Engineer Brigade. He performs superbly and goes above and beyond his duties as a Construction Equipment Repairer by being a member of the part expediting team on Joint Base Balad. Private First Class Ladner communicates with the company executive officer and the battalion maintenance control officer on a daily basis to expedite parts for companies operating out of multiple forward operating bases, as well as worksites that include the disputed internal boundary areas across northern Iraq and the anti-vehicular ditch and berm in the Ninewa province. His efforts have ensured the combat readiness of the battalion's equipment for its high priority missions and daily operations. His expertise, attention to detail, and never-quit attitude, regardless of the situation, is what makes him an excellent choice for today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.



Specialist William Remmy of Anchorage, Alaska, is with Company B, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division. He serves as a line medic for his platoon and is recognized as the best medic in the company. His medical skills are above and beyond the standard, and were put to test on Feb. 10, when one of the Soldiers from his platoon was injured during combat operations. Specialist Remmy showed keen attention to detail and made a tactical assessment using his medical knowledge and triage management skills. He determined the casualty did not need to be evacuated thereby conserving combat power and allowing the mission to continue. Upon return from the mission, Spc. Remmy was recognized by the physician assistant for going above the call of duty in splinting his patient's foot. Specialist Remmy has also assisted in medical classes given to the 2nd Battalion, 19th Regiment, Iraqi Army headquarters on the three phases of care; care under fire, tactical field care, and casualty evacuation. His motivation and dedication to duty brings great credit upon the Blackhawk Company, the Tomahawk Battalion, and the Arrowhead Brigade and his actions and attention to detail make him an excellent choice for today's Task Force Marne Hero of the North.

Movie Crossword Puzzle

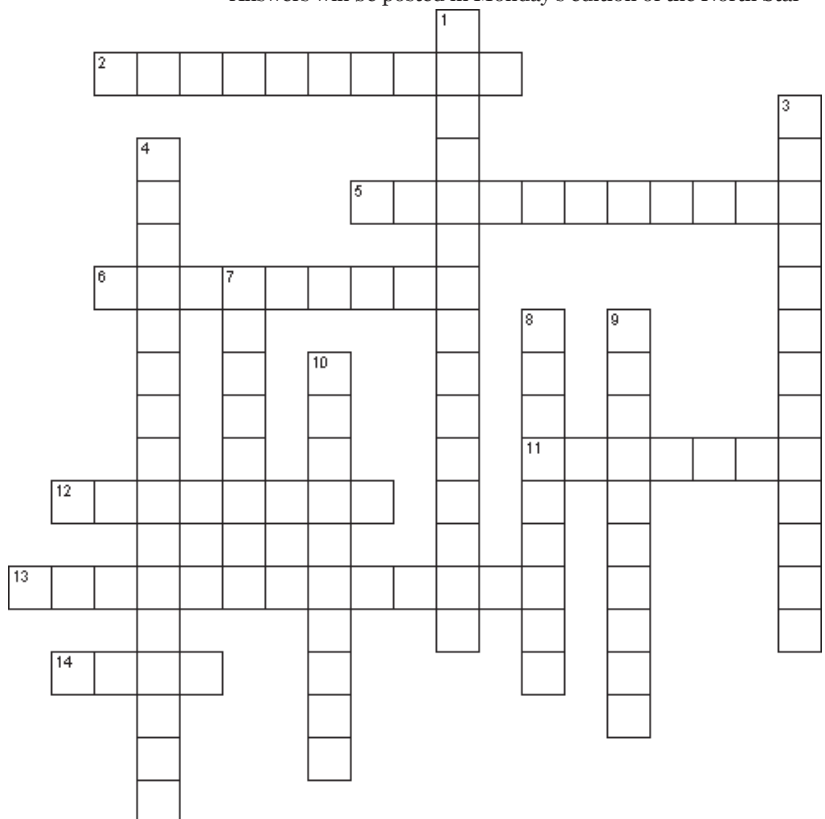
Answers will be posted in Monday's edition of the North Star

Across

2. Tom Cruise is Vincent in this 2004 movie.
5. Joaquin Phoenix is Johnny Cash in this 2005 movie.
6. Maggie Smith is Mother Superior in this 1992 movie.
11. Dustin Hoffman is Raymond Babbitt in this 1998 movie.
12. Julianne Moore is Clarice Starling in this 2001 movie.
13. Jessica Alba is Sue Storm in this 2005 movie.
14. Brad Pitt is Achilles in this 2004 movie.

Down

1. Glenn Close is Alex Forrest in this 1987 movie.
3. Arnold Schwarzenegger plays the title role in this 1984 movie
4. Clive Owen is Louis Salinger in this 2009 movie.
7. Arnold Schwarzenegger is Harry Tasker in this 1994 movie.
8. John Travolta is Edna Turnblad in this 2007 movie
9. Tom Cruise is David Aames in this 2001 movie.
10. Leonardo DiCaprio is Howard Hughes in this 2004 movie.



REGIONAL HEADLINES

Smash-and-grab burglars leave without TV – again

Atlanta Journal Constitution

ATLANTA - For the second day in a row, would-be flat-screen TV thieves smashed their way into a southwest Atlanta nail salon early April 28.

And for the second time in two days, they left empty-handed after being unable to pry the TV from the wall.

Burglars first threw a rock through the glass front door of Top Ten Nails in the Camp Creek Pavilion around 5:30 a.m. April 27. The thieves were targeting a 42-inch television but were unsuccessful in removing the TV from its bracket. Just before 3:30 a.m. April 28, the door was again broken out by thieves after the TV. Again, the TV's bracket held.

Thieves also struck at the same time early the same day two doors down from the salon, breaking out the front glass at a Comcast cable office.

Texas governor shoots, kills 'wily' coyote during jog

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Pistol-packing Texas Gov. Rick Perry has a message for wily coyotes out there: Don't mess with my dog.

Perry told The Associated Press on April 27 that he needed just one shot from the laser-sighted pistol he sometimes carries while jogging to take down a coyote that menaced

his puppy during February run in an undeveloped area near Austin.

Perry said he will carry his .380 Ruger pistol - loaded with hollow-point bullets - when jogging on trails because he is afraid of snakes. He'd also seen coyotes in the area. When one came out of the brush toward his daughter's Labrador retriever, Perry charged.

"Don't attack my dog or you might get shot ... if you're a coyote," he said April 27.

Perry is living in a private house in a hilly area southwest of downtown Austin while the Governor's Mansion is being repaired after a 2008 fire. A concealed handgun permit holder, Perry carries the gun in a belt.

"I knew there were a lot of predators out there. You'll hear a pack of coyotes. People are losing small cats and dogs all the time out there in that community," Perry said.

"They're very wily creatures."

On this particular morning, Perry said, he had been jogging without his security detail shortly after sunrise. "I'm enjoying the run when something catches my eye and it's this coyote. I know he knows I'm there. He never looks at me, he is laser-locked on that dog," Perry said.

"I holler and the coyote stopped. I holler again. By this time I had taken my weapon out and charged it. It is now staring dead at me. Either me or the dog are in imminent danger. I did the appropriate thing and sent it to where coyotes go," he said. Perry said

the laser-pointer helped make a quick, clean kill.

"It was not in a lot of pain," he said. "It pretty much went down at that particular juncture."

Texas state law allows people to shoot coyotes if they are threatening livestock or domestic animals. The coyote never reached the dog, which was unharmed, Perry said. Perry's security detail was not required to file a report on the governor discharging a weapon, said Department of Public Safety spokeswoman Tela Mange.

"People shoot coyotes all the time, snakes all the time," Mange said. "We don't write reports."

As for the coyote, Perry left it where it fell.

"He became mulch," Perry said.

Spouse Appreciation Day

May 7, 2010

To send a Certificate of Appreciation to your Spouse signed by you and the Commanding General, please e-mail your spouse's full name and your full name to:
3id-g1-awards-actions@3id.army.mil.

Anti-Kidnapping tip:

If operating in a crowded environment, counter-measures include frequent personnel accountability checks, personnel pairing and effective communications. If you suddenly find yourself in the midst of a hostile crowd, position shoulder to shoulder or back to back and move out. Establish and practice effective immediate kidnapping reaction procedures.

THE North Star

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1st Infantry Division
2nd Heavy Brigade Combat Team,
3rd Infantry Division

3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team,
2nd Infantry Division
1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team,
1st Armored Division

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