

# The Advisor



## Taking control of the future



## THE ADVISOR

Volume 3

Issue 27

**Commanding General**

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey

**Command Sergeant Major**U.S. Marine Corps  
Sgt. Maj. Daniel Burs**Public Affairs Officer**

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Michael Negard

**Deputy Public Affairs Officer**

U.S. Army Maj. Gerald Ostlund

**Public Affairs NCOIC**

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Ronda Jordan

**Editor**

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Rick Brown

**Journalists**U.S. Navy  
Journalist 2nd Class John J. Pistone

## U.S. Air Force

Staff Sgt. Lucia Newman

**CPATT Public Affairs Officer**

Ann Bertucci

**The Advisor** is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Defense Department and multinational partners.

*Contents of this paper are not necessarily the official views of the U.S. government or multinational partners of the U.S. Department of Defense. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Multi-National Security Transition Command — Iraq Public Affairs Office.*

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

Direct questions and comments to:

pao@mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil

MNSTC-I PAO

APO AE 09316

DSN: 318-852-1334

To subscribe to **The Advisor**,  
visit us online at:[www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil/advisor.html](http://www.mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil/advisor.html)**ON THE COVER**

**Iraqi children celebrate the transfer of control for the al-Muthana province from the Coalition during a ceremony July 13.**

Photo by U.S. Army Spc. Rick Rzepka

# U.S. official says peace in Iraq depends on Iraqi citizens

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**

American Forces Press Service

**CAMP TAJI, Iraq** — In recent weeks, Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki has ordered Iraqi Security Forces to make a unified and intense push to secure Iraq and deny it as a safe haven for terrorists.

The Iraqi-led security plan – dubbed Operation Together Forward – involves 48 battalions of Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces operating within the Baghdad area.

In a press conference held July 20 in Baghdad, U.S. Army Maj. Gen. William B. Caldwell IV, Multi-National Force – Iraq spokesman, discussed the ongoing operation, focusing on the security of Baghdad at a time when sectarian violence is on the rise.

“As you look throughout what’s occurring in the city, I know the questions asked, ‘Are these efforts enough?’ And the answer to that is no, but it’s a start, and we’re moving in the right direction,” said Caldwell.

The general said of the 18 provinces in Iraq, 14 of them experience few, if any, incidents on a daily basis.

“But there are four provinces where we need to focus our efforts ... utilizing the Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces to reduce the level of violence. And again, specifically, Baghdad is the number one [area] that the prime minister has set as a must-win,” said Caldwell.

The general described certain operations being run by Iraqi and Coalition forces in the region to try to capture known terrorists.

“Iraqi and Coalition forces conducted multiple assaults over 10 days in early to mid-July, resulting in a significant blow to the Umar Brigade,” Caldwell said. “Operations focused in the Baghdad area since July 7 have resulted in security forces successfully detaining four of the top leaders within the

Umar Brigade; two who are well-known as top al-Qaida in Iraq leaders, as well.”

Caldwell said the detained terrorist leader of the group, Abu Uthman, claimed his group was responsible for the July 1 bombing in Baghdad that targeted the Sadr City market, specifically stores owned by Shi’a Iraqis. “And as we all know, that attack killed about 62 Iraqis and injured another 114, including men and women,” added Caldwell.

He said Iraqi Security Forces are constantly working to make Iraq a peaceful country, and the sacrifices they make do not go unnoticed.

“From June 13 through July 19, Iraqi Security Forces have suffered casualties in their efforts to bring security here to the Baghdad area,” Caldwell said. “They have been valiantly involved in this fight.”

He said 31 national police, 24 local police and 27 Iraqi soldiers have been killed in action, while 114 national police, 103 local police and 227 Iraqi Army soldiers have been wounded, for a total of 92 killed in action and 444 wounded in the line of duty during that time frame.

“Clearly, the Iraqi Security Forces are engaged, they’re committed and they’re given the role to bring security to the Baghdadi citizens,” added Caldwell.

Closing his press conference the general emphasized how all Iraqis are needed to make the new democracy work.

“Iraqi and Coalition forces can set the conditions to allow peace to occur, but they cannot make the peace,” Caldwell said. “Military force cannot make peace. It will take the local government, it will take the local imams, and it will take the people to dialogue with each other and working together as one coherent effort to achieve the security and peace that all the people of Baghdad and all the people of Iraq want to see.”

*“Clearly, the Iraqi Security Forces are engaged, they’re committed and they’re given the role to bring security to the Baghdadi citizens.”*

**U.S. Army Maj. Gen. William B. Caldwell IV,  
Multi-National Force – Iraq spokesman**

# Iraqi government takes control of first province

By U.S. Army  
Staff Sgt. Russell Lee Klika  
133rd Mobile  
Public Affairs Detachment

**SAMAWAH, Iraq** — Coalition forces handed over responsibility for al-Muthanna province in southern Iraq to the provincial Iraqi government July 13.

Coalition officials said the province was ready to handle its own security and governmental responsibilities. It is the first of Iraq's 18 provinces to achieve this status.

More than 1,400 troops from Britain, Australia and Japan will move out of the province by the end of July, said Maj. Gen. Kurt A. Cichowski, Multi-National Force - Iraq deputy chief of staff of strategy, plans and assessments.

The more than 600 Japanese troops who worked reconstruction duties in the province have already gone home, while the British and Australian forces are slated to move their operations to other parts of the country later this month.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki attended the event and said the transfer



**Iraqi Security Forces celebrate after the first provincial transfer ceremony in Samawah, in Southern Iraq, July 13.**



Photos by U.S. Army Spc. Rick Rzepka

**Iraqi soldiers conduct a pass and review during a transfer of authority ceremony in Samawah, in southern Iraq, July 13. Full responsibility for the province was handed over to the al-Muthanna provincial government by Coalition forces. It is the first of Iraq's 18 provinces to have total responsibility for security.**

of responsibility was the beginning of a new era for Iraq, one that will "bring joy to all Iraqis." He promised unwavering government support to the province of more than 500,000.

"We promise to give you what you need to fight the terrorists," he said.

Cichowski, who was responsible for many of the efforts leading up to the transfer, and British Maj. Gen. John Cooper, commander of Coalition forces in southeastern Iraq, were also among those present.

"We came not as conquerors, but as liberators," said Cooper, who touted al-Muthanna as a peaceful, hardworking province. "Multi-National forces will be available to you if you need help, but I don't think that will be necessary," he said.

Policemen, local tribesmen and soldiers from the 10th Iraqi Army Division danced and pumped their fists in celebration of the province's autonomy. Women and children waved Iraqi flags as a flock of birds were symbolically released.

Cichowski said that many of the

division's soldiers have been accredited with the highest level of training by Coalition forces and that the quality of training was a major factor in turning the province over.

He said the competence of policemen in the province was another deciding factor.

For the past four months, the local police force has run the Provincial Joint Operations Center in Samawah. The center's role is similar to a 911 call center in the United States, enabling the police to react swiftly to emergencies and tips from citizens.

A provincial SWAT team has recently completed its training, adding more security capability to the more than 3,000 policemen already patrolling al-Muthanna.

The criteria for the transfer of provincial authority are; threat, governance, security capabilities and the province's relationship with the Coalition. Cichowski said al-Muthanna met all of those requirements.

"First one down, 17 to go," he said.

# Iraqi Minister discusses first 30 days in office

**By U.S. Army  
Sgt. 1st Class Rick Brown  
MNSTC-I Public Affairs**

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — Iraqi Minister of Interior Jawad al-Bolani hosted a press conference July 15 with local and western media to discuss his first 30 days in office.

After having lunch with the journalists, al-Bolani outlined what he considered to be his biggest achievements since he took the ministerial position in June. Among those accomplishments, al-Bolani said he has formed investigating committees to search out those who continue to plague freedom and democracy in Iraq.

“The Ministry of Interior will not be easy on those who violate laws and regulations,” al-Bolani said through an interpreter, “and those who violate them will be taken to court.”

He said that telephone tip-lines have been implemented so that Iraqi citizens can make their concerns known to the ministry and their local police, promising to punish those who abuse human rights.

“We are trying to win the confidence of the Iraqi people,” he said, “and make them feel that the Ministry of Interior is for all Iraqis. We have worked from the beginning to introduce and activate a culture of citizenship and tolerance between the Iraqi people.”

The minister pressed hard on the issue that many Iraqis have given their lives to achieve a democratic society, saying, “I would like to honor and give credit



Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Rick Brown

**Minister of Interior Jawad al-Bolani speaks to Arab and western media during a press conference July 15 in Baghdad. Al-Bolani invited the press to discuss his first 30 days in office, outlining what he considered several significant accomplishments since taking the post.**

to (those) who fought against terrorism and offered more than 3,000 martyrs and thousands of wounded.” The wounded, he said, continue to suffer their impairments, and as a result, so do their families.

While al-Bolani would not elaborate, he said he has a strategic vision for the ministry and a desire to restructure and reform the organization. He added, “These changes will improve the performance of this ministry and I envision a time frame

for these changes within 90 days.”

He said Iraqi leaders are very keen to keep the MOI and the Ministry of Defense as national ministries and that the two have a duty to cooperate in order to provide security for all of Iraq.

Al-Bolani also implored the media to take responsibility in reporting the news, saying they must analyze the news for truth and accuracy and determine that it is fact, before reporting it.

## The Ministry of Interior at a glance

*The Ministry of Interior is responsible for the recruiting, training, equipping and managing of more than 152,000 uniformed personnel in the Iraqi Police Service, the Civil Intervention Force, the Emergency Response Unit, the Department of Border Enforcement, the Bureau of Dignitary Protection, and the National Police Forces.*

*By the end of 2006, the Ministry will have more than 188,000 trained and equipped police officers protecting the Iraqi people.*

# Iraqi Joint Staff College holds first graduation

**U.S. Air Force Capt. Stacie N. Shafran**  
NATO Training Mission-Iraq Public Affairs

**AL RUSTAMIYAH, Iraq** — The first graduation of the recently re-structured Iraqi Joint Staff College in Al Rustamiyah, took place July 15, formally recognizing 87 students. Among them were three female graduates.

The Joint Staff College educates Iraqi officers and civilians about such topics as international relations, national security, defense policy, leadership, international and humanitarian law, as well as operational planning methodology, computer use and the English language.

Officers in the ranks of senior captain, major and lieutenant colonel attend the eight-month junior course while civilians and officers in the ranks of lieutenant colonel, colonel and brigadier general attend the nine-month senior course. All of the students began their respective programs Sept. 25, 2005.

“Our students and staff sacrificed a great deal, in terms of security, to attend these courses,” said the Joint Staff College’s Iraqi commandant. “Despite this, everyone proved they have the motivation to do well and achieve the goals of the course. I’m proud of our new graduates,” he said. “They are the future of the new Iraq.”

The Joint Staff College has been located at Al Rustamiyah since the mid-1920’s. The Iraqi’s abandoned it in 2003, prior to the war, but in 2005, NATO Secretary Gen. Jaap de Hoop Scheffer and then Prime Minister of Iraq, Ibrahim al-Jaafari, re-opened the institution.

NATO now has servicemembers from 12 countries stationed in Al Rustamiyah, training and advising the Iraqi forces, in addition to providing technical assistance.

Last summer NATO Training Mission - Iraq members helped the Iraqi Joint Staff College’s directing staff develop the course.

Now they serve as mentors, partnering with the staff to assist with the students.

For Italian Navy Cmdr. Giuseppe Platania, serving as a senior course mentor at the college has been a rewarding experience. “I feel strong motivation and satisfaction for what I’m doing here,” he said. “When I was in the classroom teaching, the students expressed such hope and curiosity for all of the new information I shared with them. I started to see them open their minds. It’s still going to take a lot of time

for changes to be made here, but this graduation shows our progress.”

The graduates also expressed their gratitude for their opportunity to study at the Joint Staff College. For them it was an opportunity to gain valuable professional skills while also establishing themselves as Iraq’s newest leadership.

Iraqi Army Maj. Angham is one of the few women serving in the Iraqi Army. She attended the Joint Staff College Junior Course and is the school’s first ever female graduate.

“Attending the

Joint Staff College Junior Course meant a lot to me,” she said.

“The course gave me confidence, trust, information and patience,” she expressed in well-spoken English, a language she learned over the past year.

Angham feels that she is also paving the way for more Iraqi women to serve in the army. Although she often faces resistance for serving in the military – and even spent nine months requesting permission to attend the Joint Staff College – she remains persistent. “It’s the hard times that make the officer stronger,” she said.

The next challenge for the graduates is to apply their newly learned knowledge in the field and use it to improve Iraq.

“Soon you will be back with the soldiers and policemen charged with defending Iraq and your freedom,” said U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, NTM-I commander. “You are the future of Iraq and the sons and daughters will rely on you to unify this nation.”



Courtesy photo

**Graduates listen to speakers at the graduation ceremony of the Senior Staff Course July 15 at the Iraqi Joint Staff College at Al Rustamiyah. This was the first graduation since the school’s closing in September 2005 to undergo upgrades.**

# Coalition forces transition “Courage” to Iraqi control

By Staff Sgt. Lucia Newman  
MNSTC-I Public Affairs

**MOSUL, Iraq** — The “key to the palace” — the former presidential compound of Saddam Hussein — was handed over to the Iraqi government during a transfer ceremony in Mosul July 20.

Duraïd Mohammed Da’ud Abbodi Kashmoula, the Nineveh province governor, accepted control of Forward Operating Base Courage from U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Thomas Turner II, Task Force Band of Brothers commanding general, signifying the official transfer.

“The turnover of FOB Courage is one part of the larger effort toward empowering the Iraqi people and represents an important step in achieving Iraqi self-reliance,” said Turner.

FOB Courage has been under Coalition control for more than three years. It was first secured in 2003 as the command post for the 101st Airborne Division. Since then, it has changed commands from Task Force Olympia, to Task Force Freedom, and most recently to Task Force Band of Brothers, all from within the 101st.

Since early 2006, the compound has been used by elements of the 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team and other Coalition forces, which began the task of vacating and restoring the compound to be transferred to Iraqi control.



(left to right) U.S. Army Gen. George Casey, MNF-I commander; Duraïd Mohammed Da’ud Abbodi Kashmoula, Nineveh province governor; and the Nineveh vice governor, speak to the press about the transfer of FOB Courage.



Photos by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Ronda Jordan

**Duraïd Mohammed Da’ud Abbodi Kashmoula, Nineveh province governor accepts the “key to the palace” from U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Thomas Turner II, Task Force Band of Brothers commanding general, during the transfer of authority ceremony in Mosul July 20. Forward Operating Base Courage was turned over to the Iraqi government after three years under Coalition control.**

The Mosul site is more than 10 years old. It covers approximately 2.2 square kilometers and at one time contained Saddam Hussein’s northernmost presidential site and included several palaces, VIP residences, three lakes and man-made waterfalls.

“This palace, built by Saddam Hussein, has stood on this hill as a symbol of oppression and tyranny,” said Turner. “We are honored to be able to be the U.S. division to turn this palace over to the Iraqi people.”

Turner said the history of the compound is what brings significance to the transfer. “The soil of Mosul, that has been continuously inhabited for at least 8,000 years, stands as an example of the diverse ethnic and religious nature of Iraq,” he said.

While serving as the 101st Airborne Division headquarters, the compound hosted many foreign dignitaries to include the U.S. secretary of defense and secretary of state, U.S. secretary of the army and numerous U.S. senators.

Mosul, Iraq’s third largest city, with an estimated population of 2.3 million citizens,

is setting the example for a successful Iraq, Turner said. Returning this palace to the Iraqi people represents the increased capability of the Iraqi Security Forces, he said.

“The relationship and coordination between the Iraqi government, police and army here may be the best in Iraq,” Turner said. “The security of the province improves daily. I fully expect that by early next year Nineveh provincial security will be under Iraqi control.”

As the abilities of the Iraqi Security Forces have increased, Coalition presence has decreased, as in the transfer of FOB Courage, but Turner said the outcome remains the same for the Coalition.

“The Coalition end-state has not changed — an Iraq at peace with its neighbors, an ally on the war on terror with a representative government that respects the rights of all Iraqis, and with Iraqi security forces capable of providing domestic order and denying safe haven to terrorists,” he said.

*Editor’s note: Information in this article was provided by the 138th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.*

# Police view new vehicles as symbols of progress

By U.S. Army Cpl. Michael Molinaro  
2nd BCT PAO, 4th Infantry Division

**FOB DUKE, Iraq** — Iraqi Police in the Najaf province gain new confidence and skills every day, whether it's on the job patrolling the streets or training with Coalition Soldiers.

Recently, the Coalition presented them an additional boost to their capabilities by providing them with 40 brand-new police trucks. These trucks were added to their fleet of vehicles in the Najaf province July 17 at the Crucible training complex at Forward Operating Base Duke.

The trucks, acquired through a U.S. government program, were manufactured in the United States. They are three-quarter ton, four-wheel drive police vehicles which can seat six people and handle almost any situation.

"The trucks are more than just vehicles," said Iraqi Police Maj. Gen. Abbas, Najaf provincial police chief. "They symbolize the future of the holy province of Najaf. When people see these on the roads, they will know that their streets are safe and secure."

Police in Najaf previously used smaller, less-equipped trucks while on patrol. The new, modern vehicles come with many accessories vital for a police force to provide security for its citizens. Front-end bumpers were installed to assist citizens when their vehicles break down, along with



**Iraqi Police Maj. Gen. Abbas, Najaf provincial police chief, talks to Iraqi Police July 17 at the Crucible training complex.**



Photos by U.S. Army Cpl. Michael Molinaro

**An Iraqi Police officer directs the flow of new vehicles out of the Crucible training complex July 17. The Najaf police received 40 brand new trucks from the Coalition to be used to keep the streets of Najaf safe from terrorism.**

a trailer hitch on the rear bumper to tow stranded automobiles.

"This signifies more than pieces of equipment being given from Coalition forces to the Iraqi Security Forces," said U.S. Army Maj. Tim Knowles, executive officer. "It signifies the relationship the Coalition has with the leaders and the people of Najaf."

Numerous lights, a loud siren-and-speaker system, and enhanced radios are also new to the police.

"These new trucks are very nice," said Iraqi Police Lt. Sahaam. "Immediately, our confidence is high knowing we will be patrolling our streets with these new trucks."

The donation coincides with the continued training of Iraqi Police at the base by Coalition Soldiers and the International Police Liaison Officer program. Approximately 150 police complete the program every two weeks. According to Knowles more than 1,000 have graduated thus far.

"The trucks are modern and equipped, just like the Iraqi Security Forces," said Mark Davison, provincial reconstruction team leader and a representative from the U.S. State Department.

Police from Karrar, Al Ghari, Manathera, Radhwiya and other regions and towns from the province were presented the keys to the vehicles, briefed on the truck's capabilities

and drove them off to their respective police stations. The trucks will immediately be put into use as the IPs continue to strive to keep the streets of Najaf safe from terrorism.

The police have been embraced by the people of Najaf, said Assad Sultan, governor of Najaf. The area is revered throughout the Islamic faith and is a tourist haven for Shiites. The progress the Iraqi Security Forces have made in the region has made it a mecca for both tourists and transplanted Iraqis from other areas of the country.

"People are coming to Najaf because they see people living without fear," the governor remarked. "That is attributed to our security forces and their professionalism. These new trucks are another symbol of the new, great Iraq that is our future."



**A mechanic for the province of Najaf, explains to Iraqi police officers the modern capabilities of their new police trucks at the Crucible training complex July 17.**

## Iraqi Security Forces / in brief

### Iraqi soldiers detain 6 terrorists

**BAGHDAD** — Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 6th Iraqi Army Division captured six suspected terrorists and a large weapons cache during a search in northwestern Baghdad at approximately 2 p.m., July 20.

Iraqi soldiers searched an apartment complex in the suburban area after receiving a tip from a concerned citizen and seized the terrorists along with a weapons cache.

The cache consisted of 250 hand grenades, seven rocket-propelled grenade launchers and 14 rocket-propelled grenades, two artillery shells, a mortar system, seven rockets, two machine-guns, 300 rounds of machinegun ammunition, detonation fuses, four to five pounds of home-made explosives, several batteries of varying voltage, a cluster bomb system, a home made rocket launcher, several switches connected to fuses, 300 feet of time fuse and an improvised-explosive device.

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office*

### 9th Iraqi Army thwarts roadside bomb attack

**BAGHDAD** — 9th Iraqi Army Division soldiers arrested an Iraqi citizen and discovered an improvised explosive device north of Baghdad July 19 after acting on suspicious activity in the area.

After discovering the IED, a cordon was put in place and an Explosive Ordnance Disposal team was called to the site.

An Iraqi Army patrol passing the site spotted four civilians hiding behind a wall. The soldiers discovered a cell phone with a text message urging the recipient to detonate the IED.

The suspects were detained and EOD preformed a controlled detonation of the device.

In a separate incident, soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, working at a traffic control point, confiscated three rocket-propelled grenade launchers, multiple RPG rounds, Iraqi Army uniforms and a vehicle during a routine traffic stop. The vehicle's occupants were detained.

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office*

### Iraqi soldiers raid terrorist hideout

**BAGHDAD** — Iraqi soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 6th Iraqi Army Division captured four suspected terrorists and a large cache of weapons July 19 in a raid on a suspected terrorist hideout in western Baghdad.

The captured suspects and weapons cache were taken into custody by the Iraqi Army.

The cache consisted of 10 mortar rounds, seven concussion grenades with fuses, 27 rocket-propelled grenades, three assault rifles with ammunition, three kilograms of TNT, five mortar rounds, two mortar base plates and a land mine.

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office*



Photo by U.S. Army Maj. Christopher Quick

**Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, along with Coalition soldiers, secure the scene July 17 after terrorists attacked a market place in Mahmutiyah. Reports indicate 42 people were killed in the attack and 70 were wounded. Iraqi soldiers conducted a search of the area and found two suspected terrorists in a nearby house with two rocket-propelled grenades, an AK-47 rifle and a bag containing an unknown number of grenades. The suspects were taken into custody.**

## Iraqi Security Forces / in brief

### Iraqi soldiers kill 1 terrorist, detain 10

**BAGHDAD** — Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division killed one terrorist and detained 10 others July 19 after a firefight south of Baghdad.

An Iraqi Army patrol reported seeing mortars being fired from a blue truck at approximately 8 p.m. and initiated a pursuit.

The truck was being escorted by two additional vehicles carrying an unknown number of terrorists. The three vehicles separated as one stopped to engage the Iraqi soldiers near a checkpoint.

The Iraqi and Coalition Soldiers were able to suppress the small-arms fire, killing one terrorist and detaining four others.

Later that evening Iraqi soldiers located the blue truck and a second group of terrorists in the village of Al Raquaba. Iraqi troops wounded one terrorist and detained another six.

One Iraqi soldier was wounded during the second firefight.

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office*

### Iraqi Forces capture insurgent in Mosul

**MOSUL** — Soldiers from the 2nd Iraqi Army Division conducted an early-morning raid in Mosul July 18, capturing an insurgent cell member.

The cell member is believed to have been involved in emplacing improvised explosive devices in the area. Seven other individuals were also captured during the operation.



Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Melissa Thornhill

**U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Davis Jr., left, and Lt. Col. William Mason, commander, 402nd Civil Affairs Battalion, wash an Iraqi child's hands in a village near Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Iraq, July 7. Personnel from the 402nd CA Battalion are distributing donated toiletries, clothing, toys and other items to establish good will and a sense of community with their Iraqi neighbors.**

No Iraqi or Coalition troops were injured during the operation.

— *Multi-National Corps – Iraq Public Affairs Office*

### Iraqi and Coalition Forces capture terrorist

**BAGHDAD** — Iraqi Security Forces working with Multi-National Division-Baghdad Soldiers detained a known terrorist during a combined security operation in the Al Bayaa district of south Baghdad July 18.

Acting upon intelligence gathered from another known terrorist, Iraqi Security Forces detained Sa'ad Jiniyah. Jiniyah is a known member of an armed militia operating illegally in western Baghdad. He is suspected of kidnapping and torturing Iraqi citizens and instructing his armed militia to operate illegal checkpoints in the area, searching cars and murdering Iraqi citizens.

Iraqi Security Forces captured Jiniyah after receiving small-arms fire from the rooftops around his location. He was taken to a nearby hospital and is in stable condition.

No Iraqi or Coalition Forces were injured in the operation.

— *Multi-National Corps – Iraq, 4th Brigade Combat Team PAO*

### Iraqi Army captures four insurgent leaders

**TAL AFAR** — Iraqi soldiers, acting on intelligence gathered from captured insurgents, seized four high-profile suspects in Tal Afar July 17.

The troops received small arms fire upon approaching the target house. The four suspects were found in a hidden room inside the house.

An additional suspect and a weapons cache including a fully-functional IED, multiple assault rifles and ammunition were also seized.

No injuries or damages were sustained during the operation.

The detained were transferred to local authorities.

### Iraqi Police detain 13 from regional 'wanted' list

**MOSUL** — Iraqi Police detained 13 suspects from a regional 'wanted' list and discovered one improvised explosive device July 17 during a cordon and search operation.

The IED consisted of two artillery rounds, a five gallon bucket of explosives and a trigger device. The IED was recovered by Iraqi Army explosives ordinance personnel.

The detainees were held for further investigation.

No injuries or damages were sustained during the operation.

### Iraqi Army troops capture two insurgents

**AL MADAIN** — Troops from 2nd battalion, 4th brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division captured two heavily armed insurgents July 17 in Al Madain.

The troops came across the pair carrying a rocket-propelled grenade launcher with multiple grenades, assault rifles, fragmentary grenades and other items.

The two have been linked to the Mahmoudiyah market attack earlier in the week.

No injuries or damages were sustained during the operation.

## Iraqi Security Forces / in brief

### Iraqi Forces capture insurgents in Balad

**BALAD** — Iraqi Security Forces conducted two operations in Baghdad July 17 and captured seven insurgents involved in 'extra judicial killing' cells.

During the first operation near Abu Ghraib, Iraqi Forces captured two key insurgents believed to be involved in several kidnappings, mostly focusing on Iraqi citizens working for Coalition forces. Their activities also involved weapons-dealing and facilitating the movement of foreign fighters in Iraq.

One other person of interest was detained during a second operation near Al Gazaliah, when Iraqi Forces captured four insurgents believed to be involved in kidnapping and 'death squads' in the Baghdad area. In this operation, two assault rifles and two semi-automatic pistols were seized.

No Iraqi or Coalition forces were injured during this operation.

— *Multi-National Corps – Iraq Public Affairs Office*

### Iraqi soldiers seize large weapons cache

**CAMP TAJI** — Using two lifts and more than 20 Blackhawk helicopters, the 1st Mechanized Brigade, 9th Iraqi Army Division conducted a large air-assault operation to capture members of a roadside bomb making cell north of Baghdad July 17.

The Iraqi Army unit searched a number of houses and detained one local national who had bomb making materials in his home.

Equipment seized during the mission included five assault rifles, two machineguns, a shotgun with 11 shotgun shells, a bolt-action rifle, a rocket, five artillery fuses, multiple ammunition stockpiles, a mortar shell, three trigger devices, four feet of detonation cord and an artillery round set up to be a roadside bomb.

— *Multi-National Corps – Iraq, 1st Brigade Combat Team PAO*

### Iraqi Army captures terrorist weapons caches

**BAGHDAD** — Soldiers from 3rd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division discovered two significant weapons caches July 17 in a rural area northwest of Baghdad.

The two weapons caches contained a mortar system, two helicopter rockets, 15 pounds of high explosive materials, three large bombs, six mortar rounds, six artillery rounds, two rockets and a rocket fuse wired to a motorcycle battery.

Explosive ordinance teams destroyed the caches.

No Iraqi or Coalition forces were injured during the operation

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office*

### Iraqi soldiers thwart kidnapping

**BAGHDAD** — Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, thwarted a kidnapping attempt on an Iraqi citizen July 16 in central Baghdad.

Iraqi soldiers observed three armed men attempting to kidnap a civilian and opened fire on them, wounding one.

The three gunmen fled in an unmarked car, leaving the

victim unharmed.

The victim was released on site.

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office*

### Iraqi Forces capture a 'Most Wanted' leader

**BALAD** — Iraqi Security Forces captured a 'Most Wanted' insurgent leader at an Iraqi Police checkpoint without incident July 16.

Iraqi Forces received an anonymous tip that the individual, a local sheikh, was on his way toward the checkpoint, and they were on hand to detain him as he waited to pass through.

The sheikh, who tops the local police 'Most Wanted' list is believed to be in charge of several assassination cells in the Diwanayah area. He is also allegedly involved in other insurgent operations and activities throughout Qadisiyah Province.

Two other individuals traveling with the sheikh were also detained. They were released a short time later.

No Iraqi or Coalition forces were injured during this operation.

— *Multi-National Corps – Iraq Public Affairs Office*

### Iraqi soldiers clash with insurgents

**BAGHDAD** — Iraqi soldiers killed four terrorists, wounded two and detained five others while conducting an operation July 15 in Adhamiyah, a district in northern Baghdad.

The engagement began when soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 6th Iraqi Army Division were fired upon as they conducted a cordon and search for a weapons cache.

Terrorists attacked the Iraqi soldiers with rocket-propelled grenades and small-arms fire.

Two Iraqi soldiers were wounded in the engagement. The wounded soldiers and two wounded terrorists were transported to a medical facility for treatment.

The weapons cache was empty.

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office*

### Iraqi citizen, soldiers foil kidnapping

**BAGHDAD** — Iraqi soldiers and an Iraqi citizen prevented an attempted kidnapping and a bombing attempt in separate incidents July 15 near Baghdad.

Iraqi soldiers from 2nd Brigade, 9th Iraqi Army Division, staffing a checkpoint near a Taji marketplace, thwarted the kidnapping attempt at approximately 11:15 a.m.

A vehicle pulled into the market, began firing and attempted to kidnap market workers. The Iraqi soldiers engaged the terrorists, who then fled on foot.

In another incident in Rusafa, a taxi driver found a plastic bag in the back seat of his taxi after dropping off two passengers. Inside the bag, the driver found an anti-armor mine with wires attached. He cut the wires and called the Iraqi Police.

The police disarmed the bomb and removed it from the area.

There were no injuries or damages in either incident.

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs Office*