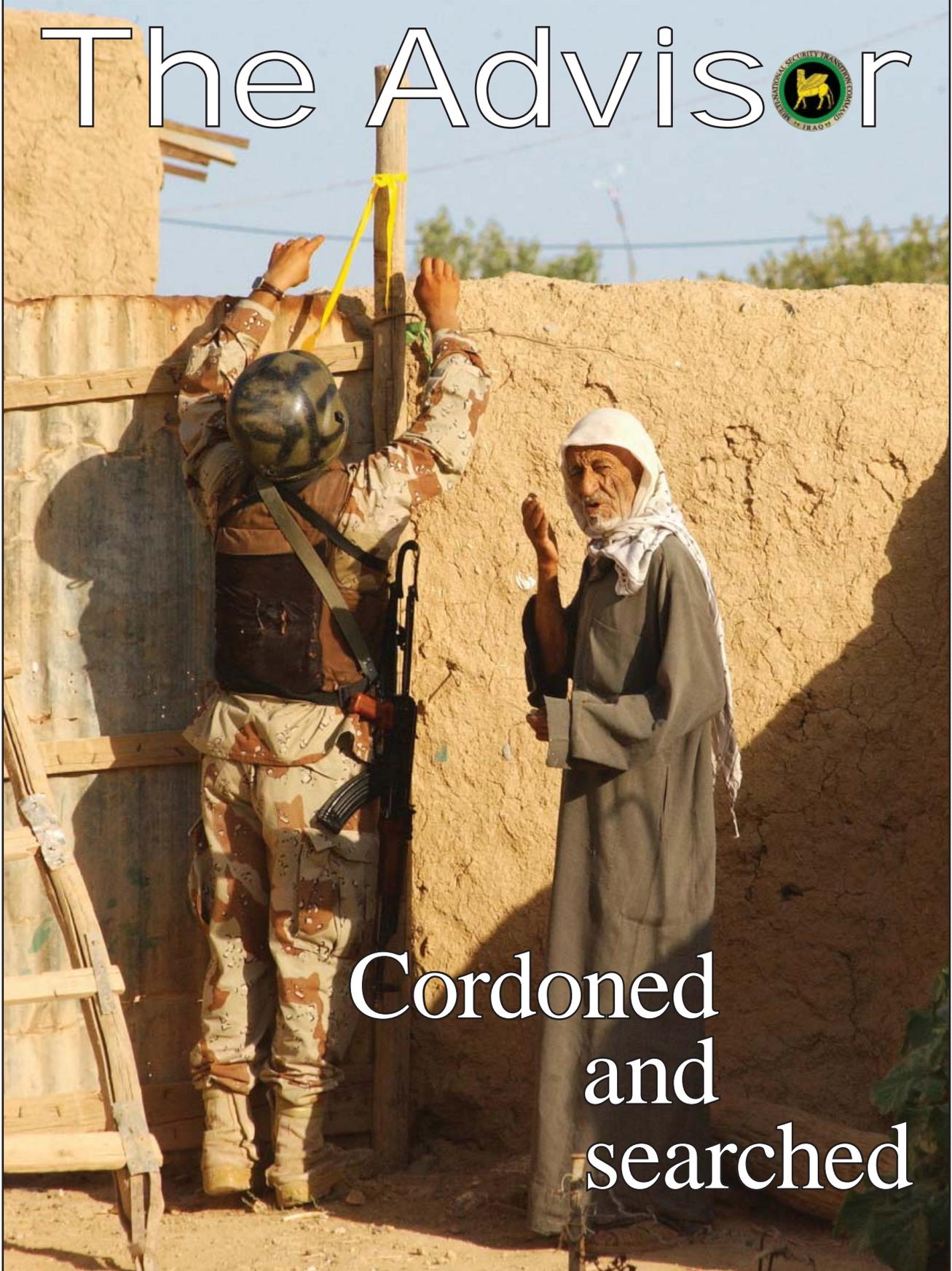


# The Advisor



## Cordoned and searched

# THE ADVISOR

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

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## ON THE COVER

**An Iraqi soldier ties a yellow ribbon on the front gate of a Kirkuk man's home Aug. 6 during Operation Lion's Crown. The yellow ribbon signifies the home has been searched and cleared.**

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

# Rumsfeld: No rush to leave

By Cal Thomas  
Miami Herald

**WASHINGTON** — Opponents of President Bush and his Iraq policy have jumped on a comment by Gen. John Abizaid, commander, U.S. Central Command, before the Senate Armed Services Committee: "I believe that the sectarian violence is probably as bad as I've seen it, in Baghdad in particular, and that if not stopped, it is possible that Iraq could move toward civil war."

Ignored in most of the media coverage was what Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Peter Pace, said at the same hearing: "I believe that we do have the possibility of that devolving to a civil war, but that does not have to be a fact. Our enemy knows they cannot defeat us in battle. They do believe, however, that they can wear down our will as a nation."

Sen. Hillary Clinton, called the administration's Iraq policy a failure, which can only encourage terrorist insurgents to keep on fighting and killing Iraqis and American soldiers. Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., seemed fixated on timetables for withdrawal instead of defeating those who want to destroy the elected government of Iraq.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld reminded the panel that the United States and the free world are in a "global struggle against violent extremists." Rumsfeld's testimony bears reading and repeating to a large number of people who, in their quest for pleasure and personal peace, appear to lack the staying power required to defeat perhaps the greatest evil the world has ever faced.

Taking note of the differences between the way the United States and terrorists fight, Rumsfeld said, "...one side puts their men and women at risk in uniform and obeys the laws of war, while the other side uses them against us." We have seen that in the world's reaction to Guantánamo Bay prison and Abu Ghraib. Terrorists use torture and murder and no court of public opinion or judicial entity holds them accountable. The rare instance of abuse by American soldiers ended in punishment.

Rumsfeld elaborated on the difference between the two sides: "One side does all it can to avoid civilian casualties, while the other side uses civilians as shields, and then

skillfully orchestrates a public outcry when the other side accidentally kills civilians in their midst. One side is held to exacting standards of near perfection; the other side is held to no standards and no accountability at all."

Rumsfeld noted how the enemy uses our media to undermine American resolve, "planning attacks to gain the maximum media coverage and the maximum public outcry." And then, most importantly, he said: "If we left Iraq prematurely, as the terrorists demand, the enemy would tell us to leave Afghanistan and then withdraw from the Middle East. And if we left the Middle East, they'd order us, and all those who don't share their militant ideology, to leave what they call occupied Muslim lands, from Spain to the Philippines, and then we would face not only the evil ideology of these violent extremists, but an enemy that will have grown accustomed to succeeding in telling free people everywhere what to do."

For those who claim Iraq has nothing to do with the war on terrorism, Rumsfeld noted, "This enemy has called Iraq the central front in the war on terrorism."

During World War II, U.S. and German forces fought the battle of Hurtgen Forest. It began Sept. 19, 1944 and ended Feb. 10, 1945. That was one battle in a strategically insignificant corridor of barely 50 square miles east of the Belgium-Germany border. The Germans inflicted more than 24,000 casualties on American forces, while another 9,000 Americans were sidelined due to illness, fatigue and friendly fire. Had live TV beamed this battle to America, there might have been an outcry that the policy was failing and somehow a cease-fire and an accommodation with Hitler should be achieved.

America won that war because the objective wasn't to understand the Nazis, or to reach an accommodation with them; the objective was to win the war. Anything less in this war will mean defeat for the United States and for freedom everywhere. That's what Rumsfeld meant when he said, "We can persevere in Iraq or we can withdraw prematurely, until they force us to make a stand nearer home. But make no mistake: They are not going to give up, whether we acquiesce in their immediate demands or not."

# Iraqi 4th Division takes control of operations

By U.S. Army Spc. Rick Rzepka  
124th Mobile  
Public Affairs Detachment

**TIKRIT, Iraq** — The Iraqi Army marked the halfway point Aug. 8 for having its division headquarters take the lead in security operations throughout the country.

The 4th Iraqi Army Division assumed control of its area of responsibility, encompassing regions spanning three of Iraq's northern provinces; Salah Ad Din, Sulaymaniyah and Kirkuk provinces.

The cities of Tikrit, Kirkuk, Bayji and Samarra now fall into their area of responsibility, as well as the major oil and electrical infrastructure in northern Iraq.

The 4th Division is the fifth of 10 Iraqi Army divisions to take control of Iraqi units in their assigned regions. To date, 25 brigades and 85 battalions have assumed operational command and control.

"Today is a day of dignity for us Iraqis who are loyal to the motherland," said Iraqi Army Maj. Gen. Abdul-Aziz, commander of the 4th Iraqi Army Division. "We will not stop or look back."

Two years ago, armed only with a briefcase and a few names, Aziz was asked to build a division from scratch. Today he stood before the Iraqi Minister of Defense Abdul Qadir Mohammed Jasim and dozens of his subordinate officers to claim the area that he



Photos by U.S. Army Spc. Rick Rzepka

**Iraqi Army Maj. Gen. Abdul Aziz, commander of the 4th Iraqi Army Division (left) and his division sergeant major unveil the division colors Aug. 8 during a ceremony in Tikrit, Iraq. The ceremony marked the transfer of security for the provinces of Sulymaniya, Salah Ah Din, and Kirkuk to the 4th Iraqi Army Division. This assumption of responsibilities also marks the halfway point of primary control of the country by the Iraqi Army.**

and his men will fight for.

"We had to search for many officers and soldiers," he said. "It was a very difficult job, but thanks to God we have succeeded."

Aziz has continued to lead the way for the 4th Division despite 19 assassination attempts on his life. "We keep going forward to build a new Iraq," he said. "Our motto is and always will be: 'Unity is power. Unity for all denominations.'"

There are more than 275,000 Iraqi security personnel tasked with the job of keeping the citizens safe, with about 115,000 of those in Iraq's military and the remainder in its police forces.

"Gen. Aziz's soldiers have been working hard to take control of this large, complex area and that day has come," said U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Thomas R. Turner, commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division. "They have set the example."

While the Iraqi Army has taken the lead in security, help will still remain available to them, said U.S. Army Gen. George W. Casey Jr., commanding general of Multi-National

Force – Iraq. "This is one step, and we will help them become independent. We are going to do what it takes," he said.

That help will come in the form of intelligence capabilities, logistics and medical care. "These things take a little longer to understand," said Casey. "I think what you saw here today was a great statement in progress and unity in Iraq. They (Iraqis) keep taking small steps and getting better and better everyday."

"We will need the intelligence, logistical and medical support," said Iraq's National Security Advisor Dr. Mouwafak al-Rubaie. "Three years ago we had absolutely nothing and now we have 10 divisions. Today 60 percent of operations here are led, conducted, monitored and accessed by Iraqis," he said.

This significant step in self-reliance is due to the stable command and control structure headed by a democratically elected government, said al-Rubaie.



**U.S. Army Gen. George Casey, Multi-National Forces – Iraq commander, present gifts to the senior staff of the 4th Iraqi Army Division during a ceremony held in Tikrit, Iraq.**

**See TRANSFER, Page 6**

# Lion's Crown puts Iraqi Army in lead

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

**KIRKUK, Iraq** — Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 4th Iraqi Army Division, to include Scouts and Special Forces troops, took the lead in conducting a pre-dawn cordon and search operation Aug. 6, spanning two rural farming communities northwest of Kirkuk.

The mission, dubbed Operation Lion's Crown, was conducted based on intelligence information gathered from a captured suspected terrorist in July. The suspect provided the location of a man on the brigade's "most wanted" list who was believed to be involved in numerous improvised explosive device plantings along a major highway in Kirkuk. As in most operations of this nature, the mission included searching all homes in the area to gather further intelligence, and to search for additional suspected terrorists.

With Coalition troops – a Military Transition Team from the 2nd Battalion,



**Soldiers check every possible hiding space for weapons and information during Operation Lion's Crown Aug. 6 near Kirkuk.**



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

**An Iraqi soldier searches the backyard of a house on the outskirts of Kirkuk Aug. 6 as part of Operation Lion's Crown. The mission was conducted to search for known insurgents and illegal weapons in the rural Khotan and Khoshkya neighborhoods.**

327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division – in support, the Iraqi soldiers gathered the initial intelligence, and planned and conducted the entire operation.

The senior Iraqi commander involved in the operation, who asked to not be identified, was extremely proud of the work his soldiers had conducted and believes that the Iraqi people have no reason to be afraid of Iraqi soldiers, unless they're trying to hide something or someone.

"We need to show the bad guys there's always someone watching them, so they don't feel like they're free to do whatever they want," the commander said through an interpreter. "Always, we are watching them and always we are working hard to catch them."

Starting with the first formation of troops at about 1 a.m., the operation eventually took the form of a massive convoy, heading to the Khotan and Khoshkya neighborhoods on the outskirts of the city.

By 4 a.m., the outer security was in

place and the house-to-house searches began – first in the Khotan neighborhood, then Khoshkya, each village separated by about 400 meters on the main road.

The search process was systematic. Teams of five to 10 soldiers knocked on the front door or gate to a house.

As the resident answered, they were asked if they would allow a search of their home. If they declined, residents were questioned as to what they were hiding, and eventually, the house was searched, as this was the intent of the mission.

Soldiers then entered the house and searched every room – looking in closets, under beds, behind sofas, in attics, under stacks of blankets, in barns, outside in animal pens, under haystacks and on and on.

Each military-aged male in the house was required to provide official identification and sign a statement confirming his identity and home address.

**See OPERATION, Page 6**

# Iraqi soldiers say, 'Go home, we got it'

By U.S. Marine Corps  
Lance Cpl. Ray Lewis  
1st Marine Division

**SADIQUIYAH, Iraq** — Iraqi soldiers assigned to the 3rd Brigade, 1st Iraqi Army Division conducted their own mission with support from the Coalition during Operation Sidewinder Aug. 1.

The mission was a cordon and search operation to interrupt anti-Iraqi forces activity within a nearby urban neighborhood, just outside the Habbaniyah region.

"We were trying to get an Iraqi face in the area," said U.S. Marine Sgt. Brian A. Richmond, a rifleman who provided support for the Iraqi soldiers. "Their presence showed the Iraqi people that their army was making a difference."

Iraqi soldiers cleared buildings, narrow passageways and gathered intelligence from the local citizens there. Coalition forces set up security positions on the outer perimeter.

Richmond said the Iraqi soldiers gathered more intelligence from the citizens than he believes Coalition troops could have. He said when the Iraqis saw someone with whom they could relate, they cooperated more readily.

"They know their culture," said U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Clint G. Graeff, a



**U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Derrick Popham, from Regimental Combat Team 5, observes Iraqi soldiers on patrol during Operation Sidewinder in Sadiquiyah Aug 1.**



Photos by U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Ray Lewis

**An Iraqi soldier provides U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Derrick Popham intelligence information during Operation Sidewinder in Sadiquiyah, Iraq, Aug 1. Iraqi Soldiers and Coalition forces conducted a cordon and search to interrupt insurgent activity in the area.**

Coalition soldier attached to the battalion.

He said the Iraqi soldiers knew who to talk to and what questions to ask. The cultural nuances are easily understood by the Iraqi soldiers and they are the subtle signs that the Marines, many times, don't understand.

"They know what signs to look for," Graeff said. "Since they're from here they know what looks out of place."

That keen eye of the Iraqi soldiers paid off. They found insurgent material in various locations along the way of their search mission.

Richmond said he'd worked with the Iraqi Security Forces on a previous deployment to Iraq and these soldiers were better than he's ever seen.

"They have tactics," Richmond explained. "They bound, employ their weapon systems properly and know their sectors of fire."

Overall, the collaboration was a success, advisors said.

After all the houses and alleyways were cleared, many Iraqi soldiers encouraged the Coalition forces to go back to camp saying "go home, we got it."

It was a reassuring sign of an independent Iraqi Army taking on the burden of security for themselves.

"You can start to see that light," Richmond said. "In perspective, it feels good to start seeing them (Iraqi soldiers) work independently."

Richmond said the Coalition will continue to support and train Iraqi soldiers to set them up for success, establish a stronghold and sustain that success.

"We're going to do what we can to help them out, so they can be successful at taking back their country," Richmond said.

Graeff agreed. "It's nice because we can turn the country over to them and we can go home to our families," he said.

Advisors say that although the Iraqi Army has become more independent, there's still plenty of work to be done.

# Operation nets 14 suspected insurgents

## From OPERATION, Page 4

If he matched up with a name on the wanted list, or if he could not provide proper ID, he was taken into custody and questioned.

Any weapons found without a proper permit, or an ammunition cache exceeding 150 rounds was confiscated and could be claimed later with the proper paperwork.

Within the first hour of the nearly five-hour search, four suspects had been taken into custody and several AK-47 rifles were confiscated.

In many cases, where a suspect was taken into custody – cuffed and blindfolded and led away by soldiers – there were small children in the home, watching the soldiers canvas their quarters and take their father or brother away. Many of the children, and the older women of the families, cried and screamed as the detainees were removed from the house. A stressful and difficult situation, at best, for all involved.

But the mission commander said he and his soldiers have to see past all that. They know what crimes most of these detainees have committed and that means more to the soldiers than anything.

“This is actually good practice, I can tell, for my soldiers as they catch the bad guys and they are getting stronger every day,” he said. “Some of them, they have lost their friends – other soldiers – because of kidnapping or being killed.” Dealing with these people, he said, is part of making Iraq safe for all citizens.

## Transfer marks military’s ability to operate independently

### From TRANSFER, Page 3

“Very soon, we will have command and control of Baghdad. Neighborhood by neighborhood, authority is being handed back to the Iraqis.”

Rubaie also discussed a meeting that was held recently in which the heads of the sectarian militias gathered to discuss plans for peace. “They have sworn on the Koran that they will stop killing each other. Arabs killing Arabs will not continue in this country,” Rubaie said.

“I think this is a good day for Iraq,” said U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Zalmay Khalilzad. “The people of Iraq are starting to get organized

The culmination of each individual search, whether or not suspects or weapons were found, was having an Iraqi soldier tie a yellow ribbon on the resident’s front door or gate to signify that their home had already been searched – the payoff for having been awakened and having their homes rummaged through in the middle of the night and early morning hours.

The Coalition MiTT team leader, U.S. Army Capt. Chris Walsh was pleased with the conduct of the individual searches and the overall mission by the Iraqi soldiers. “They’ve got some really sharp guys out here who know how to take the lead and manage their team.”

He said it’s gotten to the point where, quite often, he feels that his team doesn’t need to provide any input on the planning and conduct of these missions. He said his team is always standing by to interject where needed, but he sees the MiTT teams pulling back a little further each day.

For Operation Lion’s Crown, the Iraqi commander

said his men reached an 80 percent success rate as far as the wanted list is concerned. And while the prime suspect was nowhere to be found, at mission completion, the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 4th Iraqi Army Division took 14 suspected insurgents into custody and confiscated 30 AK-47 rifles.

“I am very proud of the soldiers and they are very happy to do such a good job,” said the commander. “This is a very strong unit and that is why we were picked for this mission.”



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

**Iraqi soldiers search for weapons and any information that could lead to other possible terrorists in the rural community of Khoshkya, just outside of Kirkuk, during Operation Lion’s Crown Aug. 6.**

so they can take on more responsibility for their own country.”

Attending the ceremony were the governors of Salah Ad Din, Sulaymaniyah and Kirkuk provinces along with a host of local leaders.

The 4th Iraqi Army Division is the second division in the 101st Airborne Division’s area of operations to make this transition.

The 5th Iraqi Army Division assumed the lead for security operations in Diyala Province in July.

Throughout northern Iraq, 33 battalions, nine brigades and two divisions have demonstrated their ability to operate independently and now lead the fight against terrorists and anti-Iraqi forces.

# Joint mission, learning lesson for Security Forces

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

**KIRKUK, Iraq** — Members of the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 4th Iraqi Army Division along with policemen from the Kirkuk Emergency Services Unit teamed up for a pre-dawn cordon and search mission in the Kirkuk neighborhood of Adnasa Aug. 3.

This was the fifth such mission in Kirkuk in the past two months with both Iraqi soldiers and police leading the mission and Coalition troops in support. The mission objective revolved around a list of known insurgents in the area wanted for kidnapping and murder. A secondary objective was the confiscation of any weapons being kept by residents in the neighborhood.

While ESU personnel searched each house in the area, the Iraqi soldiers provided the outer cordon for the mission – a sign that the Security Forces are striving for more combined missions in the protection of Iraqi citizens, according to Coalition leaders involved in the operation.

“This is a show of force,” said U.S. Army Capt. Chris Walsh, team leader for the 101st Airborne Division’s Military Transition Team working with the Iraqi 2nd Battalion soldiers. “The fact that we have the Iraqi Army and the Emergency Services Unit working together on a mission is a significant point. The Iraqi people need to know their forces are working together,” he said.

Iraqi Army Maj. Mohammed, a unit commander with the 2nd Battalion and the senior Iraqi Army commander on the mission, is eager to work with the police in any capacity he can. Walsh said that can often be the key to overcoming obstacles that prevent unity between the army and police. He said Mohammed “gets it” and is not concerned about having to place his soldiers in the lead on every single mission.

“One of the most important subjects we train on is outside cordon,” Mohammed said through an interpreter, referring to his unit’s

role on this mission. “After the liberation of Iraq, there are bad guys and terrorists fighting inside the city. Because they are not a regular enemy,” he said, “they have their own behaviors and their own ways to reach their goals.” Because of this, he said different teams must play different roles in order to defeat the insurgents.

While walking the cordon in Adnasa, Mohammed said he’s

learned much of what he knows about tactics and procedures from the Coalition training teams – his team has trained with them from the onset. The biggest difference now, according to Mohammed, is that the Coalition has taken a step back in planning and conducting operations.

“Before the transfer of authority from Coalition to Iraqi’s, the Coalition forces did the missions and the Iraqi Army just helped them,” Mohammed said. “But during that time, they trained us until we could handle the battle space. After the transfer of battle space, the Iraqi Army and Police are doing the missions and the Coalition is now supporting us,” he said.

Walsh said his MiTT team – from the 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team - is not there to tell the Iraqi soldiers what to do. He said the Iraqis have been trained and the role for the Bastogne Soldiers now is to mentor their counterparts and to help them see things they may not otherwise see.

“We’ll ask them questions about how they’re going to handle a particular situation,” Walsh said. “This gives them the opportunity to think it through and offer a solution. If it needs a different avenue of thought, we’ll lead them in that direction.”

Even during downtime after the mission, the MiTT team, dubbed “No Slack” along with the rest of their battalion, could be seen mentoring their Iraqi

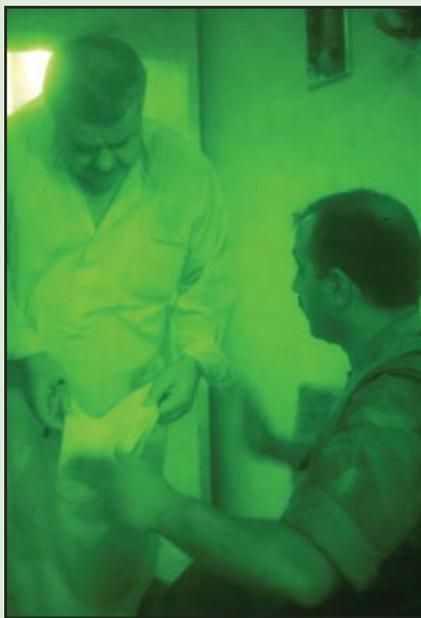
equivalents up and down the hallways and in the offices of the Iraqi battalion headquarters at K1 Iraqi Army Base on the outskirts of Kirkuk.



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

**A policeman from the Kirkuk Emergency Services Unit searches a closet for hidden weapons in the early morning hours Aug. 3 during Operation Buffalo Smoke 5. Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 4th Iraqi Army Division provided the outer security cordon for the mission, the fifth such joint operation in Kirkuk in the past two months.**

**See POLICEMEN, Page 8**



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

**Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 4th Iraqi Army Division and policemen from the Kirkuk Emergency Services Unit team up to conduct Operation Buffalo Smoke 5 Aug. 3. The pre-dawn cordon and search mission was the fifth such joint operation in Kirkuk in the past two months. This operation culminated in detaining eight suspected terrorists wanted for kidnapping and murder, among other crimes. A Coalition Military Training Team from the 101st Airborne Division was also present in order to provide tactical advice to the joint force.**

## *Iraqi soldiers, policemen work together in Kirkuk*

### **From POLICEMEN, Page 7**

Their relationships are so tight in fact, that the Iraqi 2nd Battalion has adopted the No Slack moniker as their own.

Mohammed said that for each section in his battalion, the MiTT team has a person who has experience in what that section does – operations; logistics; intelligence – and they're able to help the Iraqi officers to run those sections – to feed them with the information and guidance needed.

Mohammed admits that although his troops have conducted a lot of successful missions, they, along with other security forces, still require support from the Coalition, primarily air and medical support.

"Some of the (soldier's) injuries cannot be treated at our civilian hospitals," Mohammed explained, "so the Coalition will take them to the base to be treated and they treat them very good."

Back at the mission headquarters in the Adnasa neighborhood, the cordon and search that had begun at 3 a.m. wrapped up about 8 a.m. When all was said and done, the combined team took eight

suspected insurgents into custody along with a large cache of small-arms weapons. Walsh and Mohammed talked about the strong points of the cordon portion of the mission and where there could be some improvement.

"Overall, they did a pretty good job on this mission. They captured some known insurgents," Walsh said. "Sometimes it's not always perfect out here, but it's not always perfect for us (the Coalition) either."

Mohammed said he learned some valuable lessons on this mission, thanks in no small part to the Coalition troops who trained him and his soldiers to get to this point. "I believe the Coalition forces are trying their best to establish a very good Iraqi Army so we can handle the battle space," he said.

"Everybody knows that the American army is the best army in the world. All armies in all the world hope to have just one day or just one month with the American Army to do demonstrations and training," he continued, "and we get to do real battle with them for the past three years – we are lucky."

## Iraqi Security Forces / in brief

### Iraqi and Coalition forces detain four in raid

**MUQDADIYAH** — In a joint cordon and search operation, Iraqi soldiers from the 3rd Brigade, 5th Iraqi Army Division and Coalition forces detained four suspected terrorists in Muqdadiyah Aug. 9.

Operating on a tip from local citizens, Iraqi and Coalition forces searched a building in the northern part of the city.

The search revealed a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device factory, three vehicles that matched the description of cars used in an attack on an Iraqi Police checkpoint earlier in the week and one rocket-propelled grenade launcher.

Four suspected terrorists were found in the building and detained. The detainees were turned over to authorities for further questioning.

No injuries or damages were reported

### Iraqi soldiers foil kidnapping, detain terrorists

**BAGHDAD** — Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade, 9th Iraqi Army Division, foiled a kidnapping attempt by two men Aug. 8 northwest of Baghdad.

The two men drove to an Iraqi Army checkpoint stating they had a medical emergency and needed to get to a hospital. While questioning the occupants, a soldier heard noises coming from the trunk of the vehicle.

The soldier ordered the two men out of the vehicle, inspected

the trunk and found a man tied up and beaten.

Numerous pieces of identification were also found during a search of the car.

The two kidnappers were detained for questioning.

No injuries were reported

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

### Combined troops detain suspected terrorist

**ISKANDARIYAH** — Iraqi Army and Coalition forces detained a suspected terrorist and seized several weapons at a checkpoint Aug. 7 in Iskandariyah.

Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, along with Coalition Soldiers were manning a checkpoint when a group of 20 buses approached.

A search of the buses uncovered several weapons including 13 AK-47 rifles, 36 magazines of AK-47 ammunition, two RPK machine guns, four 9 mm pistols with six magazines of ammunition, a .45-caliber pistol, a sniper rifle with five magazines of ammunition and two hand grenades.

One suspected terrorist was detained in connection with the weapons. The suspected terrorist was turned over to authorities for further questioning.

No injuries or damages were reported.

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



**An Iraqi military cadet prepares an individual fighting position while another cadet provides security during field training at the Iraqi Military Academy at Rustamiyah Aug. 10**

Photo by U.S. Army Maj. Gerald Ostlund

## Iraqi Security Forces / in brief

### Iraqi forces conduct raid in Baghdad

**BAGHDAD** — Iraqi and Coalition forces conducted an early morning raid in eastern Baghdad Aug. 7, capturing three individuals believed to be involved in punishment and torture cell activities.

The suspected insurgents were detained and one AK-47 assault rifle with approximately 30 rounds of AK-47 ammunition was seized during the raid.

The combined forces received sustained automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenade fire from several insurgent positions in the Sadr City neighborhood.

One Coalition Soldier was wounded during the raid. The Soldier was taken to a medical facility in Baghdad for emergency surgery. He is currently listed in stable condition.

One Iraqi woman was also injured. Iraqi medics began treating her on the scene. Her injury was not life-threatening.

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

### Iraqi National Police raid Doura market

**BAGHDAD** — Iraqi National Policemen and Coalition Soldiers seized weapons and detained three suspects during a cordon and search operation in Baghdad's Doura market Aug. 7 in south Baghdad as part of its ongoing Operation Together Forward.

Policemen from 6th Brigade, 2nd National Police

Division, along with Coalition forces, searched approximately 247 buildings during the 11-hour operation and found eight AK-47 assault rifles, two handguns, a shotgun and two AK-47 magazines.

Three suspects were detained for questioning.

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

### Operation Together Forward continues

**BAGHDAD** — Iraqi Security Forces along with Coalition forces continued Operation Together Forward, also known as Ma'an ila Al-Amam, in an effort to increase security and reduce violence in Baghdad Aug. 7.

The operation is a combined effort between the Iraqi National Police, the Iraqi Army, local Iraqi Police and Coalition forces to reduce the level of murders, kidnappings, assassinations, terrorism and sectarian violence in the city and to reinforce the Iraqi government's control of Baghdad and its surrounding areas.

Iraqi Security Forces and Coalition Soldiers have killed or captured 411 murderers associated with death squads since the operation began July 9. The combined forces have conducted several thousand combat patrols and seized more than 43 weapons and ammunition caches.

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

### Iraqi soldiers detain 6 suspected terrorists

**BAGHDAD** — Soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 1st Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division detained six suspected terrorists and seized a large weapons cache during a raid of the Al Hassana'n Mosque in southwestern Baghdad Aug. 6.

The weapons cache consisted of four PKC machineguns, 13 AK-47 assault rifles, two rocket-propelled grenade launchers, three rocket-propelled grenades, four rocket-propelled grenade fuses, five 60 mm mortar rounds, a 60 mm mortar tube, a box of mortar cartridges, a flare gun, various bomb-making materials and terrorist propaganda.

The suspects were detained for questioning.

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

### Iraqi Police, Coalition forces detain 13

**BAGHDAD** — Iraqi policemen and Coalition forces found a weapons cache northwest of Baghdad Aug. 6.

Iraqi police officers and Coalition forces were attacked by small-arms fire from multiple directions.

The combined forces conducted a cordon and a house-to-house search in response to the attack.

While cordoning off the area, they found a weapons cache consisting of four rocket-propelled grenade launchers, 31 RPG rounds, two 82 mm mortar systems, a 14.5 mm machinegun with 100 rounds and two PKC machineguns.

Thirteen suspects were detained during the cordon.

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



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

**As dawn breaks over the Iraqi desert, a guard stands atop a watchpost overlooking an Iraqi oil pipeline Aug. 6. Watchposts such as this are located about every mile-and-a-half along the country's pipelines, which are high-value targets for terrorists in the region.**