



TASK FORCE DANGER

Press Release

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FORWARD OPERATING BASE DANGER, TIKRIT, Iraq. Recent progress in the four provinces of North-Central Iraq is continuing to allow the division to shift more of its efforts away from combat operations and place a significant amount of energy into stability and civil-military operations. The future of Iraq is bright. We all look forward to a free, secure, and prosperous tomorrow, and the drumbeat of irreversible momentum is beginning to pick up steam. The success of Iraq is our success. In the past two weeks, the division level sphere of influence has engaged with substantive meetings with the Task Force Danger Iraqi Advisory Council and meetings with both Presidents Barzani and Talabani of the Kurdish Democratic Party and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, respectively. Our intent with this bi-weekly press release is to inform the public of the great work our service men and women are doing in Iraq. This is an effort to inform and garner support for our Soldiers and their families.

Making a Difference in North Central Iraq.

Task Force Danger, in full partnership with the Iraqi civil and military authorities, continues to ensure a secure and stable Iraq. Over the past two weeks, several division initiatives have shown irreversible momentum towards achieving that goal. Units at



every level continue to work together with the Iraqi people to make enormous impacts on the security, government, and economic development of Iraq.

Task Force Danger Leads with Joint Coordination Centers.

Task Force Danger leads the theater with robust Joint Coordination Centers (JCC), with one in each of our four provinces and nineteen in major cities. A JCC is a command post designed to bring together Iraqi security and emergency response services. Each JCC is resourced with tactical communications, computers, maps, telephones, and the tools of a command post. Iraqi Police, National Guard, fire department, and medical response officers are trained in the functions of a command post and the resulting synchronization of capability is impressive. In the recent months, JCCs across the Division's battle space have performed well and will be the backstop to local control in the weeks and months ahead. Each JCC currently has or will be equipped with the equivalent of a "911" line in order to better respond to security or medical emergencies.

Post 28 June Transfer of Sovereignty Strategy Calls for Local Control.

Task Force Danger soldiers are working hard to train, equip, and mentor Iraqi Security Forces to be self sufficient in the months ahead. We are working in partnership with the Iraqi National Guard, the Iraqi Police, and the Department of Border Enforcement to provide security and set the conditions for national and provincial elections in January 2005. The goal is to achieve local control with the ten Iraqi National Guard Battalions, numerous city police departments, and border patrol in Task



Force Danger's provinces of Salah Ad Din, Diyala, Kirkuk, and As Sulaymaniyah within the coming months. We are well on our way to accomplishing this mission as we conduct full spectrum, counter insurgency operations. The Iraqi Security Forces are getting more and more proficient with thousands of dedicated, loyal, and courageous Iraqi's fighting for the future of their country. In Task Force Danger, there is no question about the outcome and the future is indeed a free and democratic Iraq.

2nd Brigade Combat Team and 1-4 Cavalry Battle the Enemy in Samarra.

From August 13th-15th the 2nd Dagger Brigade along with the troopers of 1st Squadron, 4th U.S. Cavalry conducted operation Cajun Mousetrap III on the periphery of the city of Samarra. This deliberate intelligence driven operation was an overwhelming success, defeating anti-Iraqi forces on all of the units' objectives and ensuring the security of critical routes through the region. An estimated 45 terrorists, foreign fighters, and former regime elements were killed in the fight. The division is working to eliminate the anti-Iraqi forces from Samarra and return the city to normalcy and the rule of law. The onus is currently on the Iraqi provincial and city leadership to remove the enemy from the city and support the good citizens of Samarra.

Taking the Elements of Violence off the Streets.

In the last two weeks, operations in the Task Force Danger area of operations have resulted in an estimated 64 anti-Iraqi forces killed, an estimated 23 wounded, and an additional 109 detained. Significant ammunition seized from caches included more than 21 rockets; one mortar tube; 925 mortar, artillery and tank rounds; 139 small arms



weapons and rocket propelled grenade launchers; 43 fuses; 91 anti-personnel mines; 50 pounds of C4; and 10 grenades. Major equipment found included two surface-to-air missiles and 700 machine gun rounds. 1st Infantry Division units also seized \$364,000 in US currency. Finally, over the past two weeks, 61 improvised explosive devices were discovered prior to detonation, preventing the needless loss of life at the hands of anti-Iraqi forces.

Task Force 2-2 Infantry Helps Train 200 Iraqi National Guard Soldiers.

Iraqi National Guard (ING) instructors and Soldiers of Task Force 2-2 Infantry finished training 200 new ING recruits on August 4th at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Normandy. The newest graduates are part of the 205th Iraqi National Guard Battalion that operates and trains at FOB Normandy. The training included a 15-day period in which recruits learned individual, squad, and platoon tasks designed to help them function as a team. Seventy percent of the instructors were ING soldiers, selected from previous graduating classes. Task Force 2-2 Infantry noncommissioned officers provided assistance to ensure the quality of training and standards were being met. At the graduation ceremony, Lt. Col. Thear Abid, ING battalion commander, and Sgt. Maj. Bohn, Task Force 2-2 Infantry Operations Sergeant Major, spoke about the need for competent and capable security forces. By mid-October, there will be new facilities completed to include renovated classrooms, planning bays, company-size barracks, and an ING dining facility.



Task Force 2-11 Field Artillery Trains More Than 200 Iraqi Police from Altun Kupri.

Iraqi Police and Soldiers from Task Force 2-11 Field Artillery trained more than 200 policemen from Altun Kupri this past month. These policemen trained on weapons marksmanship, weapons safety, and proper use of force needed to maintain the security and freedom of the Iraqi people. The Iraqi Police and Task Force 2-11 Soldiers understand that the future security of Iraq depends upon a well-trained Iraqi Security Forces. They have been working hard in all areas of weapons training, including the proper use of force. Unlike Saddam Hussein's forces, today's Iraqi Security Forces are focused on maintaining security to safeguard the civil liberties of all law-abiding Iraqis. Not only are these policemen learning the technical and tactical skills required to maintain security, but they are also learning to respect and protect the rights of the Iraqi people.

Iraqi Security Forces Making a Difference.

Iraqi Security Forces continue to do great work in North-Central Iraq. There are now 10 battalions of Iraqi National Guard (ING) and one battalion of the Iraqi Army in the 1st Infantry Division's area of shared responsibility. These forces are working around the clock to make Iraq safe, stable and secure. For example, soldiers from the 205th ING Battalion reacted to information provided by a local leader that led to the apprehension of a key high value target in Muqdadiyah this week. The soldiers conducted a cordon and search of the area where the anti-Iraqi force was living. He tried to flee as the soldiers approached his house. The Iraqi ING soldiers pursued and captured the target,



making the environment safer for all Iraqis. Information sharing of local Iraqi leaders ensures security in their communities. As more and more Iraqi soldiers are recruited and trained and as the ISF gains more and more experience, the ability of these security forces will continue to improve.

Joint Coordination Center in Ad Dawr a Success.

Security continues to improve in the Ad Dawr area with Charlie Troop, 1st Squadron, 4th U. S. Cavalry's recent addition of a Joint Coordination Center (JCC). The JCC will be the coordination hub between Iraqi National Guard, Iraqi Police, coalition forces, and fire and emergency services in Ad Dawr and the surrounding villages. This effort brings with it an unprecedented level of cooperation between coalition forces, Iraqi Security Forces, and the Iraqi people.

Local Governance Fund Served its Purpose Well.

We are making a big difference. The Salah ad Din Province Local Governance Fund (LGF) was started in February 2004. The purpose of the LGF was to fund small, immediate impact projects throughout the province. For the past six months, it funded 124 projects totaling \$2.5 million. With an average project cost of \$20,000, the LGF funds community-based projects such as school refurbishments, playgrounds, and water projects. The program has two primary purposes. The first is to start projects quickly in the local communities. The accelerated contracting process with local contractors injected much needed capital into the local economy. Just as important as the creation of jobs was the development of the local contractor base. Only small



contractors receive contracts, thus providing the experience necessary to compete for larger projects in the future. The second purpose of the fund is to empower the local *Qada* (county) governments in the decision-making process. For democracy to succeed in Iraq, local governments must take an active role in their communities. Each of the eight *Qadas* selected an Iraqi engineer. The engineer helps the *Qada* councils identify, prioritize and manage all LGF projects. The *Qada* council also choose the winning contractor, thus taking full ownership of the entire process. The hidden benefit of the LGF was the development of the *Qada* engineer structure. The establishment of engineers at the local levels allowed larger follow-on programs such as the Rapid Regional Reconstruction Program (R3P) and the Accelerated Iraqi Reconstruction Program (AIRP) to be quickly implemented. With the *Qada* engineers in place, the initiation of future programs became much easier. During the past six months, LGF has come a long way--from its first project, \$400 to clear debris from battle damage at the Tikrit vocational school, to its final project, \$47,000 for the construction of the emergency clinic at the Balad train station. This alpha and omega of LGF symbolizes the reconstruction efforts throughout Iraq; removal of debris as the result of war to the construction of a new medical facility to heal the sick.

1 ID Provides Chilling System for North Region Electricity Control Center.

The 1st Infantry Division is providing two new chilling units for the North Region Electricity Control Center (NRCC). The existing chilling system operates at one third of its capacity and is not able to properly cool the control equipment. This causes the controls to overheat and malfunction. The malfunctions can damage equipment and



cause electricity outages. There have been three shutdowns recently due to the high temperatures in the control room. The new chilling units will lower the control room temperature to normal operating conditions, even on the hottest summer days. This will immediately improve operation of the facility, minimizing shutdowns and providing more reliable electric service to the Iraqi people. Located in Taza, the NRCC controls all the electricity transmission for Northern Iraq. Here, generation from all the power plants is monitored and allocated throughout Northern Iraq. The NRCC also controls the transmission of electricity south to provide power to areas with less generation. More than half of the generation from the north, approximately 1,000 megawatts, is transmitted south to Baghdad. The NRCC is vital to providing equal power allocation to all of Iraq.

Task Force 1-6 Field Artillery Donates Medical Supplies.

Task Force 1-6 Field Artillery Soldiers donated medical supplies to the Baqubah General Hospital recently to help fill the need of depleted supplies in the Diyala Province. The Baqubah General Hospital is responsible for supplying the medical needs of the local clinics and hospitals. Coalition Forces continue to help improve the local infrastructure of the Diyala Province by providing supplies to hospitals and clinics. Coalition Forces are also helping local contractors improve the infrastructure of Diyala Province by supporting the building or rebuilding of schools, roads, clinics and hospitals, homes and more.



2nd Brigade Combat Team Soldiers Help Restore Water to Two Iraqi Towns.

Task Force Danger units helped two local towns regain water August 7th after valves failed and water flooded a pump house. The towns of Ouja and Wynot were without water for three days, but quick action by Iraqi water officials and Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team restored the water supply and put in place a back-up plan in the event the valves fail again. Pumps force the water up from the water plant located on the Tigris River, and the check valves keep the water from flowing back down hill. When the valves failed, the water flooded the pump house. Tikrit Water Department officials removed the valves and sent them to Baghdad for repairs, but they weren't sure how long the repairs would take. 2nd BCT Soldiers mounted a combat patrol for the pump house, inspected the system, and devised a plan to bypass the valves. The only steel heavy enough to withstand the water pressure was excess steel plate that was left over from early efforts to armor the unit's vehicles. Soldiers began constructing caps for the leaking valves Saturday and mounted a second combat patrol to the pump house late Saturday night. Upon arrival, Tikrit Water Department officials were installing the repaired valves that had already come back from Baghdad. When the power was turned on to the pumps, the entire area went dark. After realizing the pumps had knocked out the power, his team trouble shot the power generators and fixed the problem. The team left the fashioned pieces behind for the water officials to use if the valves failed again, and the two towns now have a steady supply of water. We find that water and electricity are the two commodities in greatest demand.



First IRR Train Operates From FOB Speicher.

The first train from the Iraqi Railroad arrived at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Speicher in support of coalition forces efforts to move shipping containers back to the ports in Kuwait last week. The train consisted of 25 flatcars and was scheduled through the close coordination of the Iraqi Railroad, the Multi-National Corps - Iraq Logistics Office, the 13th Corps Support Command, and Task Force Danger. Soldiers from the 368th Cargo Transfer Company, attached to the 167th Corps Support Group, loaded 40-foot containers onto the cars for transit to the MNC-I container retrograde consolidation point. The train originated in Baghdad and came to FOB Speicher specifically to load the containers. The crew was happy to be operating their train in the Tikrit area. The Chief Engineer said that they had not worked in this area since the Al-Sahra Air Base was closed around the time of the first Gulf War in 1991. Their skilled and efficient operations indicated that the Iraqi Railroad was on its way to becoming a valuable asset in the rebuilding of Iraq. The rail spur into FOB Speicher was repaired and restored after several months of effort. The goal was to expand the Iraqi transportation infrastructure and the overall logistics infrastructure in the Task Force Danger area of operations. In the next few months, rail service to FOB Speicher is expected to continually improve and increase in regularity. This will add to the irreversible momentum for improvement of Iraqi infrastructure and assist in providing Task Force Danger Soldiers with the best logistics support available.



TF Danger Continues Full Spectrum Operations.

The 2nd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division (Warrior) is once again complete with the arrival of Task Force 1-14 Infantry from An Najaf. Task Force 1-21 Infantry conducted several deterrent operations, the most recent being Operation Phoenix, with the ING and the Iraqi Police. Task Force 1-27 Infantry continues to conduct aggressive counter sniper operations in al Hawiyjah. Task Force 1-14 Infantry has reintegrated with Task Force Warrior and is currently recovering and conducting combat operations in the brigade's southern area. Task Force 2-11 Field Artillery continues to secure its assigned area, as well as advise the ISF. The Brigade Combat Team has conducted several changes of command, presenting a fresh face across the BCT.

During the last two weeks, units from the 30th Brigade Combat Team (Old Hickory) discovered 13 weapon caches. Since March 24th, the 30th BCT has discovered a total of 249 caches and cleared more than 200. This week, Soldiers from E Troop, 196th Cavalry discovered one cache of two RPGs and ten 60 mm mortar rounds. The discovery was made after receiving small arms fire and maneuvering to engage the AIF. Charlie Company of Task Force 150 conducted a joint patrol with Soldiers from the 206th ING Battalion to investigate an underground weapons cache. They discovered 200 rounds of 14mm ammunition and one shotgun. Soldiers from Task Force 150, working in conjunction with members of Balad Ruz Iraqi police and 206th ING Battalion, detained individuals suspected of building and detonating an Improvised Explosive Device that killed one U.S. Soldier and injured two others along with 10 Iraqi civilians on July 27th. The suspects had materials relating to the construction of IEDs. At the request of Iraqi Police, Task Force Danger Soldiers from 196th Cavalry assisted in the



capture of a suspected bomb maker near Tuz on August 11th. The Iraqi Police arrested an Arab male suspect, Raheem Hakeem Agile, during the cordon and search. Two AK-47s, various lengths and gauges of electrical wire, electrical switches, a cordless telephone and its base were confiscated during the search. The detainee was taken to the Tuz Police Station.

During the past two weeks, the 2nd Brigade Combat Team (Dagger) continued to provide security and help to improve the infrastructure of the Salah Ad Din Province. TF 1-77 Armor Tigers initiated Operation Tiger Cub in the town of Isahki. Isahki is the location of one of nine schools the Task Force intends to either repair or rebuild. In Isahki, the groundbreaking ceremony for a new school was held on August 4th. The new building will accommodate nearly 600 primary school children from surrounding villages. In the City of Balad, the Steel Tigers recently started Operation Tiger Care. The objective of the operation is to acquire and deliver much needed medical supplies to the local hospital. The hospital is the primary medical and trauma center for the entire area south of Samarra. A new, state-of-the-art detention facility opened on FOB Remagen and can hold up to 200 detainees. The facility is equipped with a dedicated medical evacuation crew, recreation yard, latrine and shower pods, and the building is air-conditioned. Detainees receive regular visits from Red Cross and Red Crescent, and have access to the Geneva Conventions in their native language. In the village of Kassem, which is next to the ruins of the ancient city of Ashur, children had been attending school in a small, mud-brick building, which didn't have any electricity or plumbing. CPT Shannon Way, Task Force 1-7 Field Artillery's civil affairs officer, saw the situation and recommended funding for a new school. A local Sheik donated land



for the building, and the project was underway. Now, there is a brand new building, complete with air conditioning, heating, restrooms and functional lighting. In the near future, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony and the school will be ready for students this fall.

During the past two weeks, the 3rd Brigade Combat Team (Duke) has made a significant impact on reducing the number of IEDs in Western Diyala. Task Force 82nd Engineer continues conducting counter-IED patrols along Blue Babe Highway, and that has contributed to the significant reduction in IEDs. Task Force 2-63 Armor, with the assistance of the Brigade Reconnaissance Troop, continues aggressively running counter-mortar operations. They also recently discovered a cache of munitions to include mortars and rockets. Task Force 2-2 Infantry continues to set the example in providing training and leadership to the Iraqi National Guard. Task Force 2-2 Infantry has also destroyed more than 4,900 tons of weapons and munitions since April in its Unexploded Ordnance Pit. There have been a number of award ceremonies throughout AO Duke. Some of these awards have included Army Commendation Medals, to include ARCOMS with Valor, Bronze Stars with Valor, and Combat Infantryman's Badges. The FOB Warhorse Fitness Center was recently dedicated to CPT Christopher Cash, A Company /1-120 Infantry commander who was killed in combat in Baqubah on June 24th.

The 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment (Saber) has been extremely busy during the last two weeks, reintegrating Bravo Troop into Squadron operations. They are back on FOB MacKenzie now, and already contributing to our continued success. Alpha Troop, near Ad Duluyiah, conducted numerous cordon and knock operations over the past 10



days, detaining several local anti-Iraqi force leaders of both rocket and IED cells. Coordination with the new Iraqi government is ongoing, and has allowed the Squadron to complete several school and mosque refurbishment projects. Charlie Troop continues to secure a vast area east of Tikrit, and is working to establish a new patrol base and close FOB Wilson. Darkhorse and Eagle Troops continue to fly armed reconnaissance missions for the Squadron and the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, respectively. Of course, none of these great accomplishments could happen without the stalwart support of Workhorse, Witchdoctor, and the Cavalry Support Detachment.

In the last two weeks, the 4th Brigade (Dragon) continued to provide relevant and responsive support to TF Danger. The 1-1 Aviation Gunfighters flew almost 1,050 hours this month, executing critical infrastructure security missions, major operations in Samarra and Bayji, as well as quick reaction missions cross-sector in support of US Marine actions in AL Kut. They continue to support both the Division and Corps by escorting elements of the 1-23 Infantry (Stryker) across the TF Danger AO. The Gunfighters are a continual asset to the BCTs with their reconnaissance of oil pipelines and other NAIs. Their coverage of the skies and the efforts of our maintainers ensure the division's ground commanders have critical attack support when and where they need it. The 2-1 Aviation Eagles have flown more than 1,400 hours in the last month supporting VIP visits, providing an aerial platform for command and control, and moving Soldiers as well as military and civil leaders around the battlefield. The Eagles continue their support of the Command Group, which should be easier now that the DTAC has redeployed to FOB Danger. They have successfully balanced mission execution with maintenance, holding above the DA standard operational readiness rate while keeping



TF Danger agile and moving across the battlefield. The 602nd Aviation Support Battalion Typhoons have fulfilled their critical role of sustaining the Dragon Brigade and 1-4 Cavalry by completing 2,510 aviation work orders and repairing 412 Non-Mission Capable vehicles to date. They have conducted outstanding FARP operations, pumping 707,952 gallons of fuel and servicing 2,853 aircraft to date. They continue to provide outstanding maintenance support to the brigade, including aircraft phases on our Apaches and Blackhawks as well as supporting both 1-4 Cavalry and our direct support aircraft from A/1-106 Aviation. Typhoon Soldiers from the Cavalry Support Detachment distinguish themselves on the road as well by conducting two combat logistics patrols weekly to conduct resupply from LSA Anaconda to FOB MacKenzie in support of 1-4 Cavalry.

The 701st Main Support Battalion continues to provide uninterrupted Combat Service Support to the 1st Infantry Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom II. The 701st MSB conducted several combat logistics patrols to FOBs Bernstein, Summerall, Warrior and Danger, providing mission essential Class I, enhancements, bottled water, fuel, ice and mail. The 701st MSB also provided thirteen Heavy Equipment Transporters, twelve S&Ps, one PLS system, two HEMTT wreckers and five gun trucks to support the movement of Task Force Danger units from FOB Duke to their home forward operating bases. The 701st MSB also provided personnel and equipment to move 58 pallets of inbound mail from Germany and the United States and 27 pallets of out going mail for the 38th Postal Detachment on FOB Speicher. During the recent two-week period, the 701st Warehouse processed 10, 999 requisitions; 11,037 receipts; and 12,420 material release orders, almost tripling the workload required in Germany. The 701st MSB fuel



farm provided 1,781,283 gallons of JP8; 36,250 gallons of MOGAS; and 120,000 gallons of diesel fuel to 1ID units. The Charlie and Delta Company maintenance teams supported the Division by completing 223 work orders during this period. The 701st MSB aid station supported the people of Iraq by providing medical treatment to two Iraqi National Guard Soldiers and one Iraqi civilian. To date, the 701st MSB has issued 1.2 million MREs, issued 17.8 million gallons of fuel, treated 6,927 patients, completed 3,097 job orders, and driven 582,807 miles in 353 combat logistics patrols.

The 1st Infantry Division Artillery (Drumfire) continues to clear FOBs, abandoned Iraqi Ammunition depots, and Ammunition Holding Areas throughout the 1st Infantry Division's area of operations. At Tikrit North, near FOB Speicher, 1st Battalion, 33rd Field Artillery has cleared 1,096 separate pieces of ammunition since they started this particular operation three weeks ago. More than 82,000 pounds have been removed from this former Iraqi Army depot. This particular ammunition holding area is the fifth location that has been cleared since the 1st Infantry Division's transfer of authority in March. To date, DIVARTY has transported or destroyed more than 22 million pounds of captured enemy ammunition for the 1st Infantry Division. The deliberate clearance of enemy ammunition is a significant mission required to achieve security in Iraq.

Conclusion

Task Force Danger continues to simultaneously conduct combat and stability operations that are leading to a secure environment and improved infrastructure. Our Soldiers are making a huge difference in Iraq. Our family members are behind us 100 percent. The price has been high, but the Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division and Task



Force Danger are resolute and steadfast. We will accomplish the mission. We have made great strides in partnership with the courageous people of Iraq towards their future of civil and military self-reliance. The American people should be very proud and confident in the outcome of the Operation Iraqi Freedom mission. Duty First!

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For more information on the 1st Infantry Division and Task Force Danger: www.1id.army.mil
