

# IRAQI DESTINY

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## Company returns from Fallujah

Pfc. Thomas Day  
40<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

Soldiers of Company B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault) returned to Mosul after 38 days of missions with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division (Mechanized) in Fallujah early Monday morning.

In a ceremony Monday, Col. Joseph Anderson, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment commander, honored every soldier in the company upon their return to Mosul with Combat Infantryman's badges and Combat Medic badges for the medics. Anderson praised the company for "an awesome job from day one."

The soldiers were very much a part of the growing hostilities in predominantly Sunni territories. "It started off with hand shakes, thank yous and then it went into open resentment and kids throwing rocks," said Sgt. Dennis Harris of Bogalouse, La. It is likely Company B's next mission will be within the Ninevah Province, according to

the company cadre. Co. B lost one soldier in combat, Spc. Brandon Oberleitner.

"They'll continue to march, continue to do their jobs on behalf of Spc. Oberleitner," said First Sgt. Benjamin Jones of Union, Ky., company first sergeant. "I think that's what makes us a strong company."

Oberleitner was killed in operations in Fallujah June 5 when a patrol in the city was ambushed. He was the only one of five soldiers in the company to receive the Purple Heart award posthumously from operations in Fallujah.



Pfc. Thomas Day

Sgt. Douglas Clemons of Witheville, Va., Company B, 2-502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), pins a Combat Infantryman's Badge to the uniform of Cpl. Nima Nejad of Deltona, Fla. Monday.

## National budget announced

BAGHDAD -- The administrator for the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq, Paul Bremer, outlined in an address to the Iraqi people the key spending priorities for the Iraqi national budget over the next six months.

These include improvements to the water, electrical, public health and telecommunications systems.

"I have just approved the Iraqi budget for the remainder of this year. This is a very important step in getting Iraq and Iraqis back to work," Bremer said, before detailing projects and expenditures totaling more than 9 trillion

dinars (\$6 billion).

"All of Iraq's resources will be spent on you, the Iraqi people, and on projects which directly benefit you," he said.

One U.S. dollar currently equals 1,500 Iraqi dinars.

The United States government is providing an additional 4.5 trillion dinars (\$3 billion) for Iraqi reconstruction, Bremer said. Iraqi oil sales will finance a little more than half of the budgetary expenditures, he added.

See *ECONOMY*, Page 4

### Facts About the New Iraqi Banknotes:

In close consultation with financial experts from Iraq and the international community, a new series of Iraqi banknotes will be introduced Oct. 15 to the local populace.

These new notes will address problems like the shortage of 250-dinar notes and the poor quality of the notes in circulation.

See *DINAR*, Page 4

**Editor's note:** Due to a reduction in staff, the *Iraqi Destiny* will become a weekly publication beginning this issue. The ID will be distributed digitally on Thursday afternoons.

# Wells spring up in Ayn Al Ghazal village

Pfc. Thomas Day  
40<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

The village of Ayn al Ghazal hasn't had a working water well in almost 40 years. That has changed though, thanks to the help of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault).

Funding from Company C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Abn. Div. (AAslt.), helped restore water, making it possible for the

people to wash their clothes and dishes, and provide water for their animals.

"The British built a well for the town in the 1950s, but it has been in disrepair for close to 40 years," said Capt. Derek Mayfield of Columbus, In., commander, Co. C.

In order to get water the town's people have had to purchase it from Sinjar and have it shipped to them by truck.

The Company found people in the

village to perform the work on the well, which helped to put money into their economy.

"We hired a contractor from the town who did an estimate on the cost of the well repair," Mayfield said. "He put in a new pump, new pipes and spickets."

The village will still receive drinking water from Sinjar, but the well provides them with water for other uses.

"My platoon leader gave a description of the town to me, and I can't say it any better, 'it was Biblical,'" Mayfield said.

"The people are very happy to have water back," said Sheik Sahla Mohammad Hassein, village leader.

"Every time I visit the well, I remember what you have done for us. I've been given a good picture of what the Army is doing here," Hassain added.



photos by Spc. Blake Kent

People from the northern village of Ayn al Ghazal, wash dishes at the newly restored well in town. The well hasn't been working for close to 40 years, but was made operational again through the help of Co. C, 2nd Bn., 3rd Brig, 101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.).



Dishes can be washed again in the northern village of Ayn al Ghazal at the newly restored well in the town.

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# Coalition helps out independant paper

## *Free press created through cooperation*

Pfc. Mary Rose Xenikakis  
22<sup>nd</sup> MPAD

**N**ewsweek Mosul hit the paper stands throughout the city Monday. This newly established newspaper has overcome many obstacles and still faces more.

Before the war, Wadalah Sarhan, co-owner of Newsweek Mosul, wrote and edited many stories, but only at the direction of Saddam's regime. Iraq's political leaders tailored the media's products, throughout the country, to enhance their abilities at controlling the populace.

Sarhan and his friend, a fellow journalist, Zeiyad Hamdoon Al Sh Saleh, Newsweek Mosul editor, grabbed a hold of the opportunity to create free press. Both of these eager journalists have lived with the dream of having their own paper.

"We've suffered from the regime many years," Saleh said. "America has a free pen. Freedom has been our hope."

After the Coalition entered Mosul

Sarhan and Saleh contacted the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), which is in charge of the northern area of Iraq. Col. Joseph Anderson, commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault) jumped into action to setup the newspaper in Mosul.

"I financially backed Newsweek Mosul to cover all three outlets for media in Mosul: television, radio and newspaper," Anderson said.

Money was used from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bde's discretionary fund to aid the newspaper.

"A total of \$1,818 was given to Newsweek Mosul," said Maj. Charmaine Means, public affairs officer with the 22<sup>nd</sup> Mobile Public Affairs Detachment and also the liaison between 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade and Newsweek Mosul.

These funds were donated to buy up-to-date computer equipment and to finance a printing contractor. Even with this donation, Newsweek Mosul staff had many challenges trying to get their new business off the ground.

With the lack of competition between local businesses that specialize in printing and contracting, Sarhan is forced to pay high prices to produce their paper. They have also had issues with political leaders in Mosul as well, according to Sarhan.

"There are politicians out there who don't want us to succeed, because we want to speak the truth to the people. Political people have even offered higher salaries to some of my employees. People need to take care of their families, so they left for more money," Sarhan said.

Even with interference from political leaders, high prices to produce their paper and a lot to learn with the new technology they've dreamed about, they still ran with the opportunity given to them.

In a small office, with no air conditioning, in 119 degree heat, little furniture and working with the equipment given to them, they published the first issue of Newsweek Mosul.

The 12-page publication covers many topics including politics, culture, arts, sports, entertainment and Coalition Forces.

"We are proud of this paper and are very grateful to the 101<sup>st</sup> for helping us accomplish this. This is a very happy day for us and our families," Sarhan said.

He continued to say it will be hard to compete with other newspapers out there that have political money backing them, but they are marketing their paper by using flyers and talking with other businesses throughout Mosul.

## Mosul prison guards receive correctional training

Iraqi prison guards began a three-day Correctional Training Program June 30 at a juvenile facility in Mosul, Iraq.

The program, led by elements of the 156th Military Police Company, from Charleston, W.V. and the 431st Civil Affairs Battalion from Little Rock, Ar., both attached to the 2nd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), is geared towards giving the new guards a basic correctional facility curriculum.

The course instructors bring several years of correctional facility knowledge both federally and at the state and local levels, said Staff Sgt. Jay Boen, 431st CA Bn., and a nine-

year veteran of the Texas Department of Corrections system.

"We also have experience as response teams (riots) or other forms of law enforcement," he said.

Training including ethics, physical fitness, inmate handling procedures and perimeter security, which is more important now after a prison break in June, brought much scrutiny to the abilities of the prison guards. Also during the training, a mock riot was held with the soldiers playing the inmates.

"They got pretty hands on," said Sgt. Jason McCloud, a corrections officer in West

Virginia.

This is the second class of guards to go through the course. The first class of 46 ended training June 29.

The 18,000 square foot prison is classified as maximum security and can hold up to 1,700 prisoners when completed, said Khalid Fathi Hameed, director of the juvenile facility.

The Badush prison is the largest in Northern Iraq and will house prisoners from areas such as Tikrit, Erbil and Basra.

Badush will be the primary location where guards will be stationed.

Along with the training course the correctional training

team conducted several assessments of the juvenile facility and Badush prison.

Both facilities will act as way stations before sentencing and long-term detainment.

The juvenile facility is where under-age offenders will be placed until they are sentenced.

Both the training and the site assessments are part of the Coalition Provisional Authority's mission to return normalcy to the country of Iraq.

Both classes held a graduation ceremony July 3 with 77 of the projected 79 graduating Boen said.

Contributed by 101st Abn.  
Div. (AAslt.) PAO

**ECONOMY, from Page 1**

The priorities in the budget are to improve Iraqi lives, Bremer said.

He listed key projects in the areas of security and justice worth around 350 billion dinars.

Improvements will be made to the electricity system worth about 440 billion dinars.

Construction and other reconstruction spending of about 385 billion dinars, public health improvements will be made worth about 315 billion dinars.

There will also be water and sewerage improvements worth about 110 billion dinars and spending on telecommunications to the value of 225 billion dinars.

"Together, these programs will have an enormous impact on your lives," Bremer said.

"But some will take time to come into effect, so you and we, working together, will have to be patient. And, again, I want to stress that all this money will be spent in a way that the Iraqi people will know what it was spent

on. For the first time, you will know what is being done with your money," Bremer added.

Bremer also announced that beginning Oct. 15, 2003, a new Iraqi dinar would come into circulation, replacing both the "Swiss" and "print" banknotes now used in Iraq.

After Oct. 15, Iraqi citizens will have three months to swap their existing notes for the new ones.

"So there will be no need to rush. There will be plenty of new notes available," he said.

Bremer highlighted the fact that the new dinars will be printed in a full range of denominations: in 50s; 250s; 1,000s; 5,000s; 10,000s; and 25,000s.

"For the first time in 12 years, all of Iraq will again use one set of banknotes," he said. "They will be higher quality and last longer. They will be very hard to forge, and thus be notes in which all Iraqis can be confident."

Contributed by the Bureau of  
International Information Programs,  
U.S. Department of State

**DINAR, from Page 1**

The new notes will unify the currency across all of Iraq.

Once the exchange of notes has been officially completed, these notes will become the official currency for the entire country.

The official conversion rates will be as follows:

One existing Iraqi dinar ("print dinar", as used in most of Iraq) will be worth one New Dinar.

One former national dinar ("Swiss dinar", as used in some Northern areas) will be worth 150 New Dinars.

Current banknotes -- both the normal Iraqi ("print") dinar and the former national ("Swiss") dinar -- will continue to be accepted at the full face value until the entire exchange has been officially completed.

The new banknotes will be available beginning October 15, 2003.

Official exchange locations will be announced before Oct. 15. These will include branches of the Rasheed and Rafidain banks.

Exchange will be possible over a three-month period, from Oct. 15 to Jan. 15. There is no need for people to rush to exchange their notes.

People who now hold money in bank accounts will not need to withdraw this money in order to exchange.

All bank accounts will be automatically converted to new notes at the official exchange rate.

The new banknotes will look very similar to the former national ("Swiss") dinar notes.

The Swiss dinars were used throughout Iraq until the early 1990's, and are still used in some Northern areas.

The new currency will be fully convertible into other, non-Iraqi currencies -- including the dollar -- at the prevailing market rate.

Advantages of new notes:

- ◆ They will be much better protected against counterfeiting.
- ◆ They will be much more durable and suffer less "wear and tear."
- ◆ They will have many more denominations, so they will be much more convenient for people to use.

Contributed by the Bureau of  
International Information Programs,  
U.S. Department of State

## **International Organization for Migration helps Iraqis**

by Spc. Joshua M. Risner  
40th PAD

The International Office for Migration, a United Nations organization, has been the victim of rumors and attacks from the Mosul population in the last few weeks.

Hearsay has abounded that the organization does many things. Some say that IOM allows Iraqis to immigrate to other countries for free. Some say that they even provide a cash sum to facilitate the trip. Still others believe this is only possible through a cash payment and Iraqis must give up their citizenship to leave the country.

A rumor has also arisen that the organization is bringing in Israelis to populate the country, thus creating a new Palestine.

The truth is that IOM does none of these things. Their job is a different one entirely.

IOM specializes in accommodating Iraqi citizens who have been displaced by the war or the ex-regime. The goal of IOM is to help displaced people return to their rightful places in Iraq.

"We are here to help Iraqi people rebuild their country, not to migrate them abroad," the managers said.

The organization works to identify these people so residential housing can be built. They also work to get people back to their homes.

The organization has branches in Erbil, Baghdad, Basrah, Hilla and Kirkuk. The office in Mosul came under attack from rocket propelled grenades and has been vacated for the time being.

It is not certain whether IOM will come back to Mosul.

## Village clinic operational

Spc. Blake Kent  
22<sup>nd</sup> MPAD

Renovations in the Ayn al Ghazal Health Clinic, which supplied much-needed healthcare improvements, were funded by soldiers of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

The clinic has been open in town for more than 20 years, but this is the first time they have been happy with the building, said Khalil Osman, engineer, Ayn al Ghazal.

Soldiers became aware of the clinic's needs when they brought in a sick boy.

"We brought in our surgeon to look at him," said Capt. Derek Mayfield of Columbus, In., Co. C commander. "When we saw the condition of the clinic, we kicked it in to high gear to get them help fixing it up."

The population of more than 15,000 people in Ayn al Ghazal are both Kurdish and of the Yassidi faith and received no funding from the former Iraqi government.

"Saddam had been ignoring them," Mayfield said. "The place was just filthy. They were in desperate need of help."

Through the \$2,500 funding, the clinic has been able to establish a pharmacy with numerous medications, acquire examination tables and equipment and is able to hire a staff to clean and repair the facility.

Now that the clinic is operational, it will receive assistance from the Sinjar Medical Center to help keep it maintained.

Sinjar has a Minister of Clinics that will supply their logistics needs, Mayfield said.

"We have eight nurses working here," Osman said. "What we need now is a general doctor."

The clinic officially re-opened July 4<sup>th</sup>.

## The Judge Says...

### Items of legal interest to soldiers

**Q: If I am 'legally seperated,' am I still married or not?**

**A:** *There are only two possible married statuses: married, and unmarried.*

*An unmarried individual may be single (never married), divorced (once married but now unmarried through divorce), or widowed (the person's spouse died while they were married). In some cases, people who were married can receive an annulment, which sets aside the marriage as if it never existed.*

*A married individual is anyone else.*

*To answer the question then, parties who are legally separated are still married. Does it matter if they have a signed, notarized separation agreement? No; they are still married. What if they haven't lived together or even seen each other in years? It doesn't matter; they are still married.*

*Many soldiers and dependents think that if they get a separation agreement "from JAG," it will be as good as a divorce. A separation agreement can be used as part of the paperwork submitted to the court to obtain a divorce, but a separation agreement by itself is not a divorce. State court action is required to obtain a divorce; there are no exceptions.*

**Q: If money is given to an Iraqi child, could it be claimed as a tax deduction on next year's tax return?**

**A:** *Tax deductions are allowed for certain charitable contributions.*

*No matter how needy the person is however, an individual cannot be considered a charity.*

*So, if you give, do so out of the goodness of your heart...don't try to claim it on your taxes.*

### Preventative tip of the week:

"Out of sight, out of mind" is a bad theory when it comes to legal problems.

People often think if a creditor stops calling or writing about a debt, that means they've given up and the problem has gone away.

This is very rarely the case, as most of the time the creditor sells the account to a collection agency and reports the bad debt to the credit reporting agencies.

Bad debts can still damage your credit, even after bankruptcy, and even after seven years. The best thing to do with a bad debt is to deal with it, rather than ignore it.

## Mosul students take final exams

Pfc. Thomas Day  
40<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

Students at the Thawahi secondary school in East Mosul are joining thousands of other students at 112 schools in Mosul in taking their final examinations for this past school year. The Thawahi School was taken over 6 years ago, according to Saeed Hamed, director of education in Mosul, by Fedayeen fighters loyal to Saddam.

"They shifted them to other schools, and (the students) suffered," Hamed said through an American provided linguist. "The American troops helped us to provide the needs of the tests, like paper, ink, the envelopes and the reconstruction of some schools."

The examinations, which were written and printed by the Ministry of Education in Baghdad, were sealed with hot wax and distributed to local teachers at points throughout Mosul. The final examinations began on July 5 and continue until July 30.

The exams were delayed "a full month and a half," according to Sgt. First Class Rocky Upchurch of New Deal, Texas, 431<sup>st</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion education team, who has worked with Hamed and the Ministry of Education in Baghdad.

According to Upchurch, school will start again Sept. 15, shortly after pre-term examinations. "It will be a short month for these kids," he said.

Upchurch parried attention for the effort towards local authorities, but the 431<sup>st</sup> Civil Affairs public education team has worked closely with local education ministers to make sure the exams were not further delayed. The exams are usually taken from mid-May into early-June, but were delayed because of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Basically, we haven't done a whole lot. They've done the planning," Upchurch said.

The 431<sup>st</sup> education team is also working to deliver air conditioners for the schools.

# Man on the Street

## How much confidence do you have in the economy?



"Ninety five percent of the Mosul people are jobless. I am sure of what I am saying."

- Dawd Ahmed, local citizen



"(The Mosul people) seem to be money wise. They'll work, they'll scrap."

- Maj. Jeffrey Toomer of Durham, N.C., 1-377th Field Artillery Regiment (Fort Bragg, N.C.)

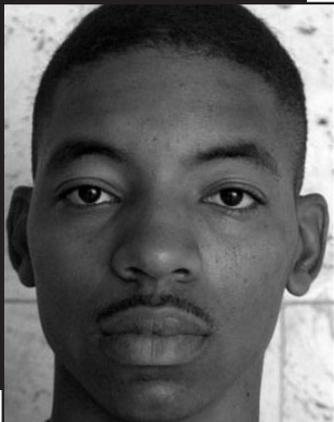
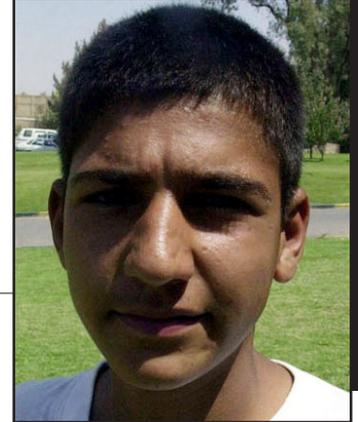
"As soon as we leave, I think it will go back to normal."

- Spc. Timothy Roberts of St. Louis, Mo., 3-327th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)



"The economy is very bad... unemployment is very high, we have four families in one room."

- Younis Ahmed Diabh, local citizen



"I've seen a lot of people that are trying to work. That drive alone should help them."

- Spc. Eddie Brown of Gary, In., 501st Signal Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)



"Based on all the money we're putting into the local economy, I do believe Mosul will be able to recover."

- Capt. Gary Pina of Lawton, Ok., HHB Divarty, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)