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# IRAQI DESTINY

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## New ORHA chief works with 101st

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By Pfc. Thomas Day  
40th PAD

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**L** Paul Bremer, recently tapped by President Bush to take over administrative responsibilities over the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance, visited Sunday with Maj. Gen. David Petraeus, commander, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), and the newly elected interim mayor of Mosul, Ghanim Al-Baso.

Bremer, 61, formerly served as ambassador to the Netherlands under President Ronald Reagan and was the company executive officer of Marsh Consulting before taking over ORHA. He toured the city with Petraeus in a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter before meeting with local officials.

"Our coalition authority is intent on moving forward in any way we can," Bremer said after the half-hour conference. "It's a difficult task, it will take time but it will succeed."

The former ambassador walked the streets of Mosul with Petraeus later in the day, meeting with local citizens in an attempt to assess the local situation.

"It's great to see what the Iraqi people

can do after 30 years" of repression at the hands of Saddam, said Bremer.

Bremer, who arrived last week in Iraq after the Bush administration hurried plans for him to assume control of ORHA from Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Jay Garner, met a wall of protestors gathering outside the Civilian/Military Operations Center in downtown Mosul. The citizens voiced their disappointment with ORHA and the progress of reconstruction.

"We have seen the voice of freedom with these demonstrators," Bremer responded.

ORHA and the 101<sup>st</sup> have worked over the past month to reestablish fuel, drinking water and security as well as an interim government in Iraq's second largest city. Mosul was the first city in Iraq to hold democratic elections since the fall of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, electing an interim city council and mayor May 5.

The interim mayor, former Iraqi General Ghanim Al-Baso, was forced into retirement after the first Gulf War after being connected in a plot against Saddam. Both his cousin and his brother were executed by Saddam's Ba'ath party.



Pfc. Thomas Day

*L. Paul Bremer, former Ambassador to the Netherlands, recently took administrative responsibilities for the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance.*

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## Dollars given to aid Mosul's people

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By Spc. Joshua M. Risner  
40th PAD

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**T**he U.S. government, in coordination with coalition forces distributed five million American dollars to aid the people of Mosul, May 17.

The payment was geared toward people such as policemen and teachers, some of whom have not received a paycheck since the war began, according to Lt. Col. William Hickman, commander, 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment.

"The money will be distributed among the ministries and taken to a number of different locations, each escorted by a

team of U.S. soldiers," Hickman said. "From there, it will be distributed to the individual people."

The payment will start at twenty dollars and increase at the discretion of each ministry, Hickman added.

"It is a gratuitous payment which is designated as a one time occurrence to help the people get back on their feet," Hickman said.

A team of U.S. soldiers provide much needed security to the transactions as such a large amount of money is eyed with much interest by thieves and possibly even terrorists, according to Hickman.

"The people out there know there is a lot of money in this place, so we're here to keep it safe in case they decide to try and take it," Hickman said.

These teams will stop any theft or threat to the officials whose job it is to transport the money to the different distribution points.

Yesterday, the money was distributed to three of the city's ministries and distributed to many of the people who needed it, Hickman added.



*Pfc. Mary Rose Xenikakis*

(Center) Lt. Col. Wade F. Dennis, commander, 503rd Military Police Battalion and Abudal Aziz Omar, Police Chief of Mosul, Iraq answer questions at the assembly for all the police chiefs and deputies to renounce their membership to the Ba'ath Party Wednesday.

# Police renounce Ba'ath memberships

*By Pfc. Mary Rose Xenikakis  
22nd MPAD*

**P**olice officers of Mosul, Iraq signed away their association to the Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party Wednesday, at the police headquarters in Mosul.

"This should be looked upon by the Mosul police officers as a new beginning to the next chapter of police operations in Mosul," said Lt. Col. Wade F. Dennis, commander, 503<sup>rd</sup> Military Police Battalion, from Fort Bragg, N.C.

He said the purpose of the gathering was primarily for the chiefs of police in Mosul to renounce their Ba'ath Party memberships. If they were never a member they could sign a statement declaring that they never were a Ba'ath Party member nor will ever be a member.

The rest of the Mosul police will sign the same statement when they receive their next pay. According to Dennis, if they refuse to sign the statement they will no longer be employed by the Mosul police force. Mosul police officer, Ghalib Hamdon said he's happy the U.S. military police and Mosul police came together to bring safety and peacefulness to the people of Mosul.

Another police officer Hekmet Mahmood said, "I am a policeman. I'm always optimistic to catch the criminals, and the violent, for the peace of our city. This matter is very important and very much needed."

For the past 35 years, the police have been like an arm of the state, Dennis said. Because of this it will take time to regain the trust and confidence of the people of Mosul.

The police station had a change in command after the war

**"Police" continued page 3**

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# Citizens of Mosul speak freely

By Pfc. Thomas Day  
40th PAD

With many civil servants working without salaries and fuel still in short supply, citizens of Mosul are eager to speak out on the issues facing the current rebuilding efforts. Fuel and salary issues dominate many responses.

"If the United States is here to help," commented one civilian, "then they must get us propane and benzene."

Lines of vehicles for several blocks have crowded major streets in downtown Mosul, desperately waiting to fuel their cars. Another pressing issue, according to the people in the streets of

Mosul, is the efforts since the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault) began operating from Mosul, staged a rally outside the 101<sup>st</sup> Civilian/Military Operations Center protesting the apparent pay freeze.

Iraqi officers are hardly the only ones feeling the money squeeze. Abdul Shatar, a teacher in the local schools, has not been paid his salary since the launch of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Our salary is very low," Shatar said of his \$5-a-month stipend. "I can only buy cigarettes, no more. All the people are like me."

In spite of his predicament, Shatar said the schools, which have reopened in recent weeks after the fall of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, have

seen remarkable improvement now that they are no longer run by "fools and fascists."

One citizen attributed the poverty level in the area to the lack of free trade, an issue that could be remedied with the proposed lift of trade restrictions imposed on Iraq by the United Nations. "When will companies come to Iraq?" one citizen asked.

Security is a hot topic as well with gun fire still heard sporadically in the streets of Mosul, mostly of the celebratory nature according to 101<sup>st</sup> officials.

"How can we save our lives from the guns," a local street vendor asked. When the clock strikes 6:00pm, "there is no security," according a local.

## "Police" from page 2

when Abudal Aziz Omar the new senior chief of police came out of retirement to help the city of Mosul have a better future. He took on the responsibility of the new way of business for the police in Mosul.

"I believe that the police force now under Gen. Aziz's leadership will slowly but surely form the opinion that they are here to protect and to serve the people of Mosul," Dennis said.

In addition, we are planning to build a training center to help the police of Mosul learn better ways of securing the city, he said. The U.S. military police will help with the Mosul police training by teaching them at the training camp.

With the rebuilding of the new government, U.S. soldiers have been and will continue to work hand in hand with the police of Mosul.

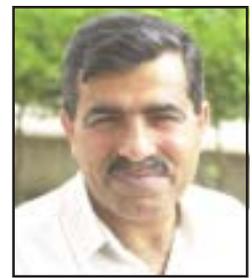
## What is the biggest issue facing the people of Mosul?



"Security, but it's 50% better now." Hishan Fathi, KDP soldier.



"The shortages of gas and propane and benzene, the officials need their salaries." Salim Mustafa Abdullah, linguist.



"The benzene and the propane and the unemployment too." Ahmed Salih, city government employee.



"Salaries have to be paid to the officers and to those who are retired on pension." Hazim Muhammed, linguist.



"The most important thing is security. We need firmness, justice and good advisors." Salim Dael Karmoni, linguist.



"Fuel...for me personally, the transportation is not functional, I cannot get to my job." Manal al Nahas, journalist.

# Example of freedom of speech in Iraq



*Pfc. Mary Rose Xenikakis*

*Ex-Iraqi army officers demand pay in a peaceful demonstration outside a government building occupied by the U.S. Army Thursday morning.*

## Chaplain's Corner

### Ten Commandments of Human Realtions

1. **SPEAK TO PEOPLE.** There is nothing so nice as a cheerful word of greeting.
2. **SMILE AT PEOPLE.** It takes 72 muscles to frown, only 14 to smile.
3. **CALL PEOPLE** by name. The sweetest music to anyone's ears is the sound of his own name.
4. **BE FRIENDLY** and helpful. If you would have friends, be a friend.
5. **BE CORDIAL.** Speak and act as if everything you do is a genuine pleasure.
6. **BE GENUINELY** interested in people. You can like almost everybody if you try.
7. **BE GENEROUS** with praise - cautious with criticism.
8. **BE CONSIDERATE** with the feelings of others. There are usually three sides to a controversy; Yours, the other fellow's, and the right side.
9. **BE ALERT** to give service. What counts most in life is what we do for others.
10. **ADD TO THIS** a good sense of humor, a big dose of patience and a dash of humility, and you will be rewarded many-fold.

## Arabic Expressions

Here are a few phrases translated from Arabic to English to make your all-expense-paid vacation in Iraq a little more comfortable.

English	=	Arabic
<i>book</i>	=	<i>kiTAB</i>
<i>boots</i>	=	<i>boot</i>
<i>exit</i>	=	<i>khaROOJ</i>
<i>far</i>	=	<i>ba'aid</i>
<i>gloves</i>	=	<i>gowWANti</i>
<i>bridge</i>	=	<i>KOObri</i>
<i>hat</i>	=	<i>koBA'a</i>
<i>bandage</i>	=	<i>aassaaBI</i>
<i>coat</i>	=	<i>MItaf</i>