

# IRAQI DESTINY

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## Stop Loss partially lifted

WASHINGTON (May 29, 2003) — The Army has lifted “Stop Loss” for active-component units involved in Operation Iraqi Freedom and for soldiers in about half of the specialties that had been required to stay on active duty.

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Reginald J. Brown approved the partial lifting of Stop Loss May 27.

This lifting of Stop Loss will allow about 16,000 active-component, 4,900 Army Reserve and 675 National Guard soldiers to leave active duty if they want between now and October, personnel officials said.

These soldiers, as they begin their transition from the Army, will be provided time to complete transition and career counseling, along with demobilization activities, officials said. They said the Army’s Stop Loss exit strategy will normally allow 180 days to transition soldiers returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Personnel strength managers from all Army components will regulate separation dates to ensure no adverse impact on Army-wide readiness, officials said.

The Army lifted its “stop movement” order earlier this month to allow many OIF soldiers to report to their next assignments.

The Stop Loss policy was initiated in four separate increments to allow the Army to retain soldiers — who were determined to be essential to the national security of the United States — on active duty beyond their date of retirement or separation for an open-ended period. It began with Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom Nov. 30, 2001. The fourth and last increment, announced Feb. 14, was for units supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Reserve-component Unit Stop Loss, which affects Reserve soldiers assigned to alerted or mobilized RC units, remains in effect.

Contributed by  
(Army News Service)

### MOS-specific information

#### Soldiers in the following specialties are now no longer subject to Stop Loss:

Officers with specialties: 15C35 (Aviation Intelligence); Additional Skill Identifier (ASI) K4 (Special Operations Aviation), K5 (MH-60K Pilot), and/or K6 (H-47E Pilot); 18 (Special Forces); 38 (Civil Affairs); 39 (Psychological Operations).

Warrant Officers with specialties: 153E (MH-60 Pilot); 154E (MH-47 Pilot); 155E (C-12 Pilot); 155G (O-5A/EO-5B/RC-7 Pilot); Pilots with ASI K4 (Special Operations Aviation), K5 (MH-60K Pilot, and/or K6 H-47E Pilot); 180A (Special Forces); 350B (Intelligence Technician); 351C (Area Intelligence Technician); 352G (Voice Intercept Technician);

Enlisted soldiers with Military Occupational Specialties: 00Z (Command Sergeant Major with Special Forces (SF) background); 18B (SF Weapons Sergeant); 18C (SF Engineer Sergeant); 18D (SF Medical Sergeant); 18E (SF Communications Sergeant); 18F (SF Operations and Intelligence Sergeant); 18Z (SF Senior Sergeant); 37F (Psychological Operations Specialist); 38A (Civil Affairs Specialist); 67U (CH-47 Helicopter Repairer); 98C (Signals Intelligence Analyst).

#### The following skills for all components remain affected by the Army’s 12-Month, Skill-Based Stop Loss Program:

Officers designated: 30 Information Operations, 31 Military Police, 34 Strategic Intelligence, 35 Military Intelligence, 45A Comptroller, 48G FAO (Mideast/N Africa), 51C Contract & Industrial Management, 53 Information Systems Management.

Warrant Officers: 152C OH-6 Scout Pilot, 153D UH-60 Pilot, 154C CH-47D Pilot, 311A CID Special Agent, 351B Counter Intelligence Technician, 351E Human Intelligence Collection Technician.

Enlisted: 52E Prime Power Production Specialist, 55D EOD Specialist, 74B Information Systems Operator, 92M Mortuary Affairs Specialist, 95B Military Police, 95C Correctional Specialist, 95D CID Special Agent, 96B Intelligence Analyst, 96U UAV Operator, 97B Counter Intelligence Agent, 97E Human Intelligence Collector, 97L Translator (Minus Russian and Spanish), 98G Voice Interceptor (Language Specific).

## British military cemetery found in Mosul

By Pfc. Thomas Day  
40th PAD

Where Chap. (Maj.) Carlos Huerta, of Brooklyn, N.Y., expected to find a cemetery honoring British soldiers who died in World War I and in World War II, he

found a soccer field.

“If we could bring them honor 60 years later then we did the right thing,” Huerta said. “The dead always live in peace.”

Huerta, a Jewish Chaplain with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 320<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), found a site on a map of Mosul identified as a military burial site. When he found the site shortly after

arriving in Mosul with the 101<sup>st</sup>, all he saw was a soccer field.

The headstones, once a part of the cemetery that held Hindu, Christian, Muslim and Jewish soldiers, were scattered around the site.

“They are the heroes. They are the

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# Dinar: *future economy of Iraq*

By Spc. Blake Kent  
22nd MPAD

The war has been fought, sanctions have been lifted, but what happens now? What is to become of the economy in Mosul and the rest of Iraq?

Though Coalition Forces are working to see that public sector employees are paid for their work, there are still questions concerning the value of the dinar and the future economy, which lay more in the hands of the Iraqi people.

"The Iraqi people have been suffering through 30 years of war, sanctions and dictatorship," said Dr.

Fawaz J. Naif, professor of economics, Mosul University. "These hardships have made the Iraqi people ready to rebuild. Here, we were under sanctions, which closed down trade. All we had was the oil for food program, which turned the Iraqi economy solely to oil, our only export item."

The sanctions that were placed on the country after the first Gulf War caused a migration of much of the Iraqi labor force back to the farms to supply food for the country.

"We had immigration from the countryside to the cities in the 70's," said Talal Qassim, chemistry professor, Mosul University, "but when the war started in 1991, everyone went back to the farms."

According to Naif, "The people tried to develop food sectors to produce grain, barley, rice, and vegetables. We had very good products from the agriculture."

"The majority of people are working in some form of agricultural industry," said Dr. Obay Said Al-Dewachi, dean of the college of economics, Mosul University. "Even the people in the cities are involved with agriculture."

Oil is the center of attention now though.

According to Naif, "Now we have oil revenues that are possible again. I think 50 percent of our oil is sufficient for the Iraqi people.

That is enough to build up the Iraqi industries and society again."

Naif believes that northern Iraq could be improved with highways, tourism and food industries.

"First, we need to construct better roads, like American highways, which will help develop the tourism and trade," Naif said. We have areas in the north and in Mosul that will be good for the tourism industry."

Currently though, the unknown future is keeping Iraqi investors from diving into new projects.

"Iraqi investors are afraid," Naif said. "They are still insecure about the future. They put their money in rent buildings now and won't risk it on other things. They are still waiting for the new government and security in the future."

Finding a job in Iraq is still difficult.

According to Al-Dewachi, people ages 20 to 30 are almost all without work.

People are just looking for jobs now. They prefer to work in the public sector because of job security and retirement benefits."

"Many young people are educated and still unemployed," Naif said. "They are now looking to migrate out of the country to get jobs."

Naif is hoping to see turn-key projects, foreign companies opening factories and businesses in Iraq, which will provide jobs. Not everyone is excited about increasing the strength of the Iraqi dinar, or big industry though.

According to Quassim, it would be better if the dinar value were weaker.

"I prefer the value of the dinar be weaker because if you look at Kuwait and other countries," Quassim said, "they have to buy products outside their own economy. But, if the dinar is weaker here, business will stay within Iraq and help

build the strength of Iraqi businesses."

Though the future of the Iraqi economy is still uncertain, Naif, Al-Dewachi and Qassim all seemed excited about the prospects of a better tomorrow.

"Many young people are educated and still unemployed. They are now looking to migrate out of the country to get jobs."

-- Dr. Fawaz J. Naif

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# 101st delivers goodies to local schools

By Pfc. Thomas Day  
40th PAD

Donations were given to the Khaladia Girls School in downtown Mosul Wednesday as a gift from soldiers in the immediate Mosul area.

For the past month and a half, "The Outlaws," as the platoon affectionately calls themselves, have been delivering "care packages" to local schools, which has been paid out of their own money.

"Some of these kids don't have toothpaste, they don't have toothbrushes. We have more than we need of that (hygiene)," said Sgt. 1st Class Larry Clark of Augusta, Ga., 2nd Platoon platoon sergeant. "You can see the looks in the kids' faces when they see this stuff."

Indeed, Clark and his soldiers saw a great deal of the kids' faces when they arrived to the cheers of students attending the school, all under the age of 12.

Order was not maintained in the slightest bit when the soldiers arrived with their boxes of goodies, mobbed by the over 800 students at the school.

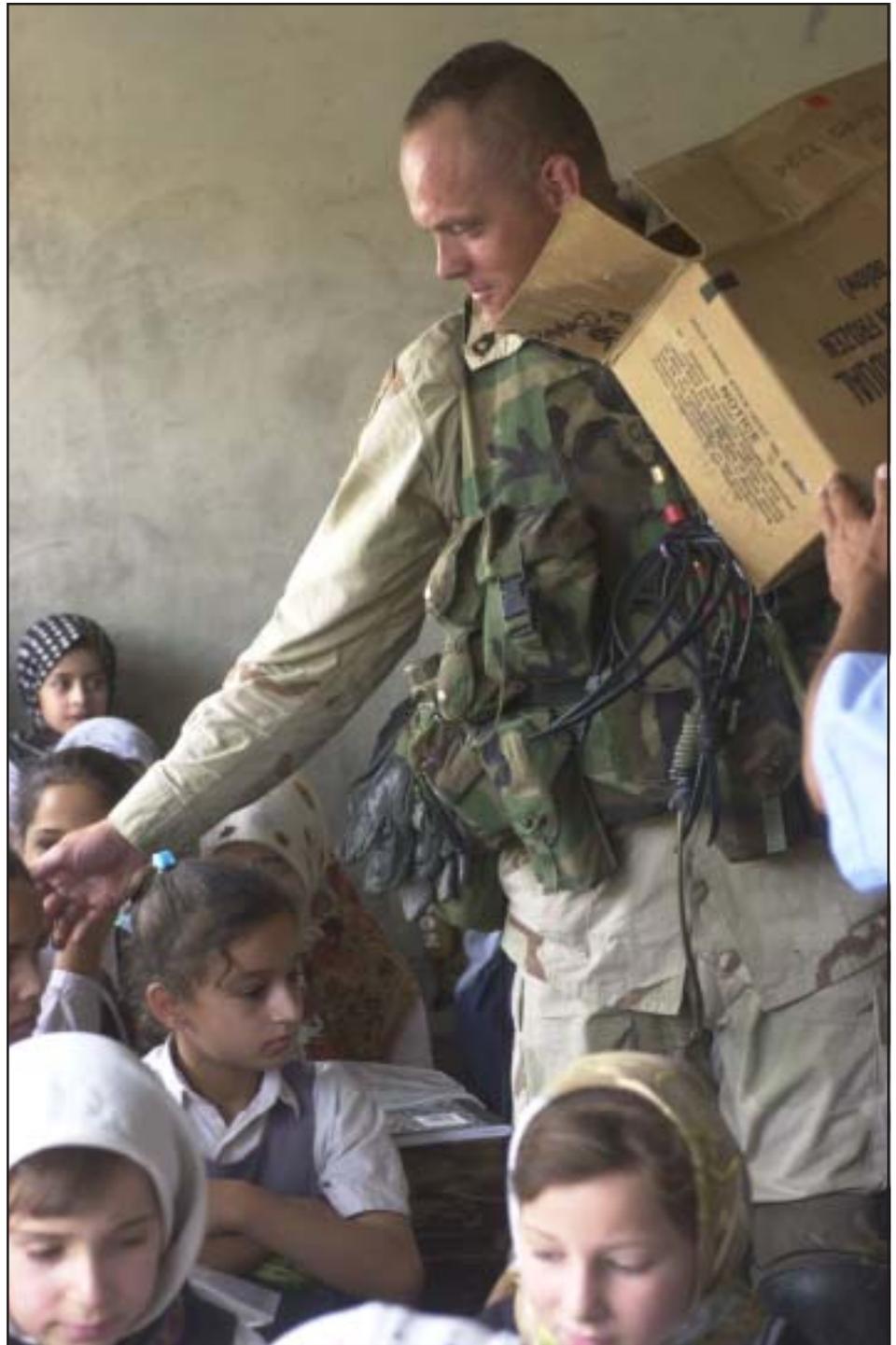
"The children love us," Clark remarked.

The packages included hygiene products, school supplies and candy.

The soldiers also handed out oranges and pears they had bought at a local produce market. The school's teachers, who haven't been paid since the launch of Operation Iraqi Freedom, also received packages.

"It takes about two weeks to put these packages together," Clark said.

The platoon's officers and noncommissioned officers usually contribute about



Pfc. Thomas Day

Sgt. 1st Class Larry Clark hands out "care packages" to students of Khaladia Girls School in downtown Mosul. Clark's platoon (2nd Platoon, "The Outlaws") gave hygiene products, school supplies and food, much of which was bought from their own money.

\$20 to the packages, according to Clark, with the other soldiers in the platoon contributing money also.

"It gives me a sense of accomplishment," said Pvt. Travis Willoughby of Lynchburg, Va. "It's definitely a motivational booster making these kids happy."

In addition to the care packages, the unit has been working with the local schools to rebuild facilities, including giving chalk boards and other supplies for the schools and rebuilding restrooms. There are eight school districts in the platoon's area of operation.

# Soldiers, locals clean streets in Mosul

By Spc. Joshua M. Risner  
40th PAD

**S**creaming Eagle soldiers and local citizens teamed up to beautify Mosul Thursday.

Task Force Neighborhood, as it is called, seeks to clean up trash from the streets and



Spc. Joshua M. Risner

Puyallup, Wash. native Spc. Allan Rivard, Company C, 37th Engineer Battalion, teaches a group of Iraqi children the Macarena, May 29 in Mosul.

residential areas of the city with military and civilian effort combined.

"We're trying to put some civic pride back into the community," said Staff Sgt. Mark Glaze, Company C, 37th Eng. Bn., Marietta, Ga. "The goal is also to build a better relationship between the Iraqi citizens and the U.S. military."

The operation has been going on for two weeks, according to Glaze.

Citizens are given incentives to clean by a cash payment at the end of the work day.

"After we leave, it'll probably be just as bad; I think they're probably just doing it for the money," said Pfc. Blake Combs, Co. C, 37th Eng. Bn. "I don't know, it might do some good."

The money may be a motivator, but apparently not for all,

according to Sgt. Alfred Simpson, Co. C, 37th Eng. Bn. of Fayetteville, NC. "I met one kid who told me that he didn't need money to help clean up his country," Simpson said. "The people as a whole are also showing a lot of gratitude for what we're doing here."

The military is offering manpower and equipment to the people, but the goal is to get them doing it on their own eventually.

"(Maj.) Gen. (David H.) Petraeus gives them ideas and tries to show them what an organized state can do," said Maj. Ben Bigelow, 37th Eng. Bn., Fayetteville, NC.

Organization is a task that will take some time. "It's

going to take a lot of effort," said Spc. Rel Ravago, Co. B, 1st Bn., 502nd Inf. Rgt.

The Glendale, Calif. native went on to say that Saddam had basically taught the people to be unorganized while he was in power. "One guy told me that he had been throwing garbage in the street all his life. It's hard to believe," he said.

The soldiers participating in the mission are proud to be doing the job, according to Glaze.

"I want to be able to look back years from now when Iraq is a stable country and does something great," he said.

Mozul is on its way to a beautiful future.



Spc. Joshua M. Risner

Soldiers from Company C, 37th Engineer Battalion, wrap electrical tape around a fallen power line.

# Antiquities confiscated from thieves

A white, dusty truck heads toward the Iran border, its wheels kicking up clouds of hot sand. When members of the Free Iraqi Forces patrolling the area see the truck, they pull it over for a routine check. While one man questions the driver, a soldier sees an aluminum box in the bed of the truck. When questioned, the driver says the box contains only personal items.

They pry open the box and find a treasure of ancient parchment scrolls, statuettes and priceless antiquities—items stolen from the Baghdad Museum.

Members of Joint International Agency Cardinal Group came to Baghdad on April 22 to investigate and retrieve stolen artifacts from the Baghdad Museum. The museum's collection consists of 170,000 pieces; some pieces date back 7,000 years, according to Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Roberto Pineiro, with the 156 Airlift Wing, Puerto Rico Air National Guard, who is also a member of JIACG. War has been harsh to the museum Pineiro said. Looters

took nearly 2,000 pieces during the first Gulf War, and because the U.S. did not restore Baghdad at that time, the pieces were never recovered. This time, however, JIACG is on the scene, and the team is slowly retrieving the pieces. JIACG is a group of military government agencies formed by the U.S. after Sept. 11, 2001. The team coordinates intelligence and counter terrorist intelligence between agencies such as the FBI, CIA, and U.S. Customs.

"We're here because this is a crime scene," Pineiro said. "This is a slice of ancient history and the beginning of civilization."

Already, the team has been at the museum for 14 days, and they have many hurdles to cross. Presently, JIACG doesn't know which things were stolen, and which things were simply stored away. In addition, Iraqis stored some of the items in different shelters and bank vaults prior to the war.

**"Confiscation" continued on page 6**

## Mosul University students see forbidden sights after Saddam's fall

By Spc. Blake Kent  
22nd MPAD

The veils have been lifted from the eyes of Mosul University students, who can now see the presidential palace complex from their classrooms.

"The windows were sealed off to block the view to Saddam's palace area," said Zachary Ismail, a university employee.

Large metal screens were put over the windows facing the palace complex. The palace complex land was previously the property of the university, but was taken

by the Ba'ath Party.

"This is the first time I've ever been up here," Ismail said from the top of the College of Economics building, facing the palace. "Before, you probably would have been killed if you were found on the roof looking at the palace."

The university was not only stifled by the Ba'ath Party in what you could see, but also in its curriculum.

"We used to study the national culture in college," Ismail said, "but all that was covered was the rise of the Ba'ath Party and the Ba'ath Party philosophy."

Students tore many of the screens off the windows themselves after the war, but

the rest of them are being removed by university staff, opening up the view from the campus buildings.

It wasn't just the university that was required to close off its view. The Nineveh Hotel was also required to close off its windows that faced the palace complex.

"The Iraqi people have been suffering for 30 years of war, sanctions and dictatorship," said Dr. Fawaz J. Naif, professor of Economics, University of Mosul. "It seems almost surreal to suddenly be free from the past constraints. It is a dream you could never really expect."

## Man on the Street

What type of Iraqi cuisine do you like?



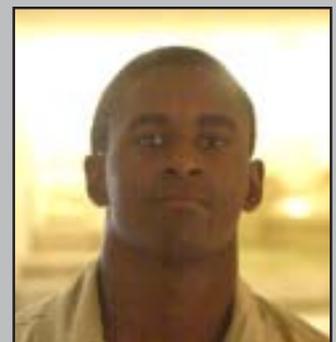
"Dare I say, Kabobs." - Lt. Col. Curtis Craft, Newport, Ark., 431st Civil Affairs



"Shourmas... it's kind of like if the Iraqis did a Philly cheesesteak." - Spc. Derick Gaines, Raliegh, N.C., 982nd Signal Company (COMCAM)



"My favorite local food is from the Strike Cafe!" - Sgt. First Class Kevin Strakal, Philipsburg, Mont., HHC, 101st Abn. Div. (AAslt)



"The pizza inn, they have the closest thing to pizza here." - Spc. Abdunaman Gibson, Little Rock, Ark., 431st Civil Affairs Battalion



Pfc. Mary Rose Xenikakis

## Working hand in hand

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Stewart Allen, targeting officer, 2nd Brigade, Fire Support Element, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), shakes the hand of a little boy in Bashiqa, Iraq, May 27. The FSE facilitated the distribution of propane to the locals of Bashiqa.

### ***“Cemetery” continued from page 1***

ones who didn’t make it home,” Huerta remarked. “They fought together, they died together, they’re buried together. There’s a lesson to be learned here.”

Local citizens tried to help Huerta, who has picked up a good deal of Arabic while deployed to the Middle East, account the history of the site.

The surrounding buildings, all of which are currently reduced to rubble, were once part of a military base used by the British after the fall of the Ottoman Empire in World War I. Locals claim that American forces destroyed the site in the first Gulf War after Iraqi troops used the base to orchestrate attacks on Kurds, but it could also have been destroyed directly by Saddam’s forces.

The soldiers buried at the cemetery provide an interesting historical landmark. Many of the soldiers were likely part of T.E. Lawrence’s push into the Turkish Empire in World War I and the subsequent British occupation. Many of the troops buried were given tombstones written in Hindu script, likely a sign that they were conscripted into the Royal Army from India, at the time a British colony.

“That’s just pure guesswork. I have no way of knowing (for certain),” said Huerta.

### ***“Confiscated” from page 5***

“The museum curator gave us inventory sheets of what the museum owns,” Pineiro said. “So now, we’re trying to determine what’s here, what was here, and then (determine) what’s missing. As of now, JIACG has a list of 38 items known to be missing.”

During the recent war, the Republican Guard used the museum as a fighting position. This continues to pose a problem for JIACG, says Pineiro. Just recently, they found grenades, ammunition boxes, and pins for RPGs in a room on the second floor.

“The Republican Guard used this place as a fighting point, against the rules outlined by the Geneva Convention,” Pineiro said. “This slows our progress because we don’t know what’s in some of the rooms. We have to take our time and make sure the museum is safe.”

Fortunately, some of the artifacts have been returned, while other artifacts were recovered from the black market.

Contributed by  
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