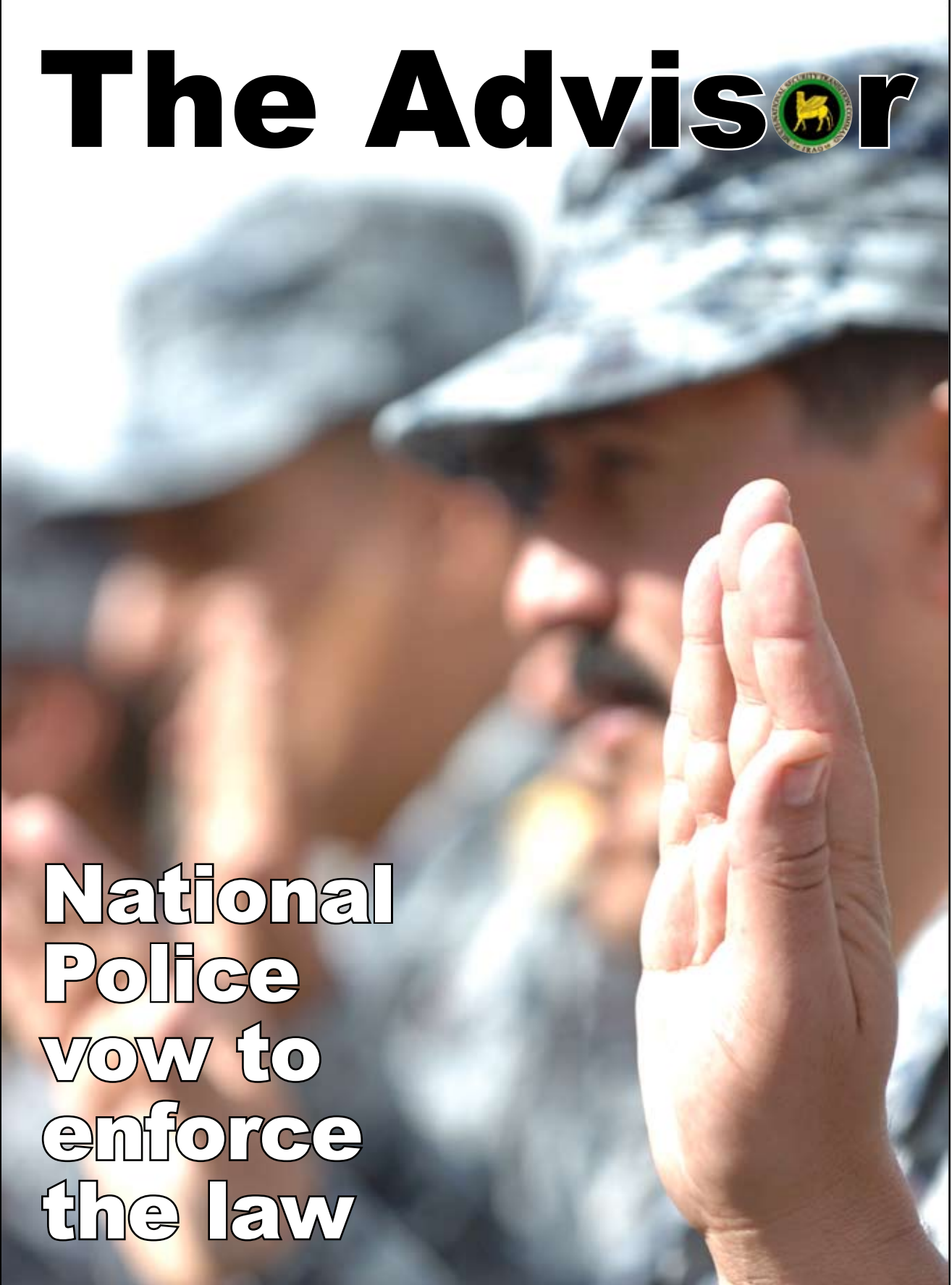


The Advisor



**National
Police
vow to
enforce
the law**

THE ADVISOR

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Commanding General

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Public Affairs NCOIC

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Charlene Sipperly

Editor

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class
Kimberly A. Green

Journalists

U.S. Navy
Mass Communication Specialist
2nd Class Elisandro Diaz

U.S. Air Force

Senior Airman Christie Putz

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

Direct questions and comments to:

pao@mnstci.iraq.centcom.mil

MNSTC-I PAO

APO AE 09316

DSN: 318-852-1334

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ON THE COVER

Members of the 6th Brigade, 2nd National Police Division, raise their hands to recite the oath of service during their graduation from the An Numaniyah National Police Academy June 8.

Photo by U.S. Navy MC2 Elisandro Diaz

Quarterly Iraq report cites progress

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — It's still too early to assess the impact of the new strategy in Iraq, but more progress is expected as additional troops come on line to boost security in Baghdad, according to the latest quarterly report to Congress, released June 13.

The June 2007 report, "Measuring Stability and Security in Iraq," assesses trends in terms of the security environment, political process, economic activity and development of Iraqi Security Forces.

The report measures both progress and setbacks between mid-February and mid-May. It's the first report for which the entire period took place under the new strategy for Iraq that President Bush announced in January. It notes continued momentum in building Iraq's Security Forces, which now number 347,000, up almost 18,000 since the last quarterly report, released in March.

In addition, nine Iraqi divisions, 31 brigades, and 95 battalions are in the lead or operating independently in their areas, the report notes. That's an increase of one division headquarters and two battalions since the last report.

These troops, along with Coalition forces, have increased force levels and instituted new security measures to protect the population, the report notes. Four additional U.S. brigade combat teams are in place in Baghdad, and a fifth team is expected to be fully operational by the month's end.

Meanwhile, three additional Iraqi brigades completed 90-day deployments in Baghdad, and one has been extended until mid-summer. More Iraqi brigades are on alert and are moving to support operations

in the capital, according to the report.

Despite these advances, additional forces are encountering heavy resistance as they operate in areas where they hadn't previously had a large presence, the report recognizes. Although civilian murders and sectarian violence in Baghdad dropped 45 percent early during the reporting period, that trend didn't continue through the rest of the period.

Of particular concern is the rise of high-profile attacks and expanded use of explosively formed projectiles, or EFPs, the report notes. These shaped charges can pierce armored vehicles.

On the political front, the report recognizes the Iraqi government's continued commitment to political, economic and military steps to further reconciliation between competing factions. It also cites increased efforts to help them advance these efforts. Yet the report notes that few key legislative or reconciliation actions were completed during the reporting period.

Meanwhile, oil production and crude-oil exports remain below projected targets — the result, the report says, of poor infrastructure and inadequate security. Additional efforts will be needed to build capacity of Iraqi ministries and provinces to support economic development, it notes.

"Overall, it is too early to assess the impact of the new approach (to Iraq)," the report concludes. "Progress will depend on Iraqi follow-through on their commitments made as part of the new approach."

Insurgents, militia and terrorists working to disrupt reconciliation will be the biggest challenge to the Iraqi government's ability to fulfill its commitments, the report says.

The latest quarterly progress report is the eighth to date. It was submitted to Congress for review under terms of the 2007 Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

NOTICE:

In order to bring you increased coverage and quality content, The Advisor will now be published twice a month, on the first and third Saturday of each month.

The next published edition will be July 7.



Photo by U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Christie Putz

The adjutant, U.S. Marine Sgt. Maj. Daniel Burs, salutes as the colors are posted at the MNSTC-I change of command ceremony June 10. During the event, U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey relinquished command to U.S. Army Lt. Gen. James M. Dubik, incoming MNSTC-I and NTM-I commander.

Dubik takes responsibility for training Iraqi Security Forces

By U.S. Air Force
Senior Airman Christie Putz
MNSTC-I Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Together with our Iraqi partners, there is still much work to be done to protect the Iraqi people, said Multi-National Forces – Iraq Commander U.S. Army Gen. David H. Petraeus during a change of command ceremony June 10 for both the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq and NATO Training Mission – Iraq.

Taking on that responsibility of training the forces to protect the Iraqi people is now MNSTC-I and NTM-I Commander U.S. Army Lt. Gen. James M. Dubik, who Petraeus said is “precisely the right man for this position at this time.”

He has been known throughout his

career for his impressive creativity, resourcefulness, innovativeness and impressive leadership skills, Petraeus added.

Previously, Dubik served as the commanding general of I Corps and Fort Lewis, Wash., where he trained and sent thousands of Soldiers into the fight that he now joins. Both the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division and the 4th Brigade, 2nd Inf. Div., units he commanded at Fort Lewis, are currently deployed to Iraq.

Dubik succeeds U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, who will go on to serve as the deputy commanding general of the United States Central Command, headquartered at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

Petraeus commended Dempsey’s accomplishments throughout his tour,



Photo by U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Curt Cashour

U.S. Army Lt. Gen. James M. Dubik, MNSTC-I and NTM-I commander, speaks at the unit change of command ceremony.

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An Numaniyah National Police Academy continues training



Photos by MC2 Elisandro Diaz

More than 2,000 shurtas of the 6th Brigade, 2nd National Police Division, graduated from the An Numaniyah National Police Academy June 8.

By U.S. Navy MC2 Elisandro Diaz
MNSTC-I Public Affairs

AN NUMANIYAH, Iraq – With the spotlight on the Iraqi Security Forces' ability to sustain stability in Iraq, training of those forces has taken on heightened importance. One of the key elements of providing security is the continual, standardized training taking place throughout Iraq.

As part of the continual development of the security forces, more than 2,000 shurtas from the 6th Brigade, 2nd Iraqi National Police Division, graduated from their four-week standardized training at the National Police Academy in An Numaniyah, June 8.

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Kenneth W. Hunzeker, Civilian Police Assistance Training Team commanding general, tasked with training, equipping and mentoring the Iraqi civilian police forces, talked to the shurtas about their role in Iraq's developing democracy.

"You are the blue line between insurgency and peace," Hunzeker said. "You'll be the champion of justice and an enforcer of the rule of law."

The academy continues to heighten the shurtas' battle readiness by providing

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Shurtas from the 6th Brigade, 2nd National Police Division, hoist their national flag during the ceremony.



Photos by MC2 Elisandro Diaz

The brigade commander salutes members of the 6th Brigade, 2nd National Police Division, as the graduates do a pass and review.

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additional training in policing skills so they can efficiently and effectively carry out their duties.

“Most of the shurtas consider themselves to be soldiers, but because Iraq is becoming a democratic society, they need to understand that they are police. As Iraq heads toward peace, their civil role becomes as important as the military (role),” said Lars Holden, CPATT advisor.

“This trains them to be part of a police force and part of their country,” he said.

The police are trained in democratic policing skills, which Holden described is broken up into two equal parts – theory and practical training.

“Our hope is to empower them with

skills that will help them to survive – their number one priority – and two, to fine-tune their skills in urban warfare, patrolling and force building techniques,” stated Holden.

Wissam, one of the graduates, revealed his motives for joining the National Police.

“I joined because my country is threatened by terrorists and I want to help my country become safe,” Wissam said. “I have a small boy and I want my baby to grow up in a country with no IEDs.”

Wissam acknowledged that as a member of the National Police, he is helping to rebuild Iraq’s democratic institutions.

“Wearing this uniform is my honor because it means I am a member of the Iraqi protectors – that I enforce the government and our constitution,” Wissam proclaimed.



A National Police from the 6th Brigade, 2nd National Police Division, announces the arrival of the graduating class.



National Police celebrate their graduation from courses with a sign that reads Brigade Headquarters, Commandos Company.

Graduates of the An Numaniyah National Police Academy parade past their brigade commander and invited dignitaries.



Open forum allows feedback on IA issues

**By U.S. Air Force
Senior Airman Christie Putz
MNSTC-I Public Affairs**

BAGHDAD – Iraqi military leaders, including the Iraqi Minister of Defense and the Prime Minister attending as the commander in chief, gathered to openly discuss issues the Iraqi Army is facing and upcoming changes affecting the entire ministry during the Division Commanders Conference at the Cultural Center near the Crossed Swords in Baghdad June 6.

The gathering was the fifth conference held at the Iraqi Army level, with commanders from each of the 10 divisions present.

“We meet and are brought to a higher level of establishing our Iraqi Army, represented by taking over security, supply and training aspects,” Iraqi Army Gen. Babakir Zebari, Iraqi Joint Forces chief of staff, said through a translator.

In the general’s remarks, he encouraged audience questions for each of the briefers, creating an open forum on the topics discussed.

“Subjects presented during the conference need to be studied and discussed,” he said. “I hope you will contribute in it via discussing, giving right opinions and proactive ideas to help resolve issues we are facing.”

Each briefers, covering his respective area, was greeted with a series of questions following his presentation. Topics ranged

from personnel and equipment shortages to identifying border control between the divisions.

One subject of high interest was the new military law system being implemented.

“After issuing the Military Penal Code to be followed starting July, you all have to study this code, give your comments and comply with it accurately, for it will increase the level of military discipline by rewarding the righteous and punishing the guilty,” the general said.

The general also highlighted and praised the progress in other areas of the Army.

“The program of Iraqi Army acquisition is progressing,” he said. “We have delivered modern developed equipment such as Mi-17 aircraft, Huey II aircraft, armored vehicles such as the BTR-80, cargo vehicles, specialist vehicles, M-16 rifles, M-4 rifles and many other types of equipment.

“We are moving ahead to provide our army with modern equipment made by well-known origins,” he added.

This new equipment, much of which has been purchased by the Iraqi government under the Foreign Military Sales program, is allowing the Iraqi Security Forces to better protect their people while still accomplishing their mission of securing their nation.

“A few days ago, Kurdistan took over security responsibility, following Al Muthana, Maisan, Al Najaf and Dhi-Qar provinces which already took responsibility,” he said. “Efforts are progressing to take over responsibility of

other provinces within the next coming months.”

In order to accomplish this while still maintaining security in other areas, there has been talk of further expanding the Iraqi Army.

“Expansion of the Iraqi Army creates structures within divisions that need to be expanded due to the size of their responsibility, and also a need to establish new divisions,” he said. “Some of these divisions have reached the final integration phase and final establishment like the 11th Division. Some of these divisions are still under discussion, like the 12th and 13th Divisions.”

“Iraqi Army structures are expanding under hard conditions.”

**Iraqi Army Gen. Babakir Zebari,
Iraqi Joint Forces chief of staff**

The Iraqi Army 11th Division Headquarters is scheduled to be formed and functional by fall 2007, while the others are still in the planning phases.

“Iraqi Army structures are expanding under hard conditions,” Babakir said. “Iraqi Army and Security Forces are moving side by side to fight forces of darkness and terrorism. We will continue doing that with patience, with strong will and power.”

Ceremony marks beginning of command for Dubik

From DUBIK, Page 3

citing examples of progress made. “There are now 350,000 Iraqi Security Forces members in the fight,” he said. “Many thousands more are being recruited and trained.”

He cited the improved living and working conditions for the Iraqi soldiers and some of the equipment they now have to help them in the fight: tracked and wheeled vehicles, up-armored Humvees, patrol cars and boats, helicopters, C-130s, pistols, rifles, RPGs, grenade launchers and heavy machine guns.

Prior to the ceremony, to recognize these advances and other achievements, Dempsey was awarded both the NATO Medal and

the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the highest military award for service.

Dempsey asserted he is confident that the future of MNSTC-I and NTM-I looks bright with Dubik in the lead. “Lt. Gen. Dubik will be a magnificent commander and brother to Iraq’s senior military and civilian leaders,” he said.

In his change of command speech, spoken all in Arabic, Dubik said he is grateful for the opportunity to do his part.

“I am committed to helping Iraq defeat the insurgents and achieve its desire to rule itself in peace and justice, with equality and opportunity for every citizen,” he said. “The future of our children will depend upon our wisdom and determination.”



Recruiting forces

AR RAMADI, Iraq —The 1st Brigade, 1st Iraqi Army Division, processes potential IA recruits at Camp Tiger in Ar Ramadi.

Photos by U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Andrew D. Pendracki



Photos by U.S. Army Spc. Olanrewaju Akinwunmi

Out in the community

An Iraqi soldier from the 1st Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 8th Division, chats with a lady during a clearing mission, code-named Operation Valdez in Uybeaydat, south of Baghdad, Iraq, May 19. Operation Valdez was a search for illegal weapons, explosives and high value targets in the southern town.

IRAQI SECURITY FORCES / in brief

Iraqi Army kills insurgent commander responsible for IED attacks

AS SUWAYRAH – Iraqi soldiers killed the commander of an insurgent militia group during an operation June 14.

The insurgent commander, Sheikh Arkan Hefez Al Zubaydi, was responsible for conducting IED attacks on civilians and Iraqi and Coalition forces in As Suwayrah.

He was also suspected of facilitating weapons transfers, ordering attacks on Coalition bases, conducting judicial killings and coordinating the abduction and murder of an Iraqi Security Forces member.

— *Multi-National Corps – Iraq Public Affairs*

Iraqi Government bolsters security in Samarra

TIKRIT – More than 650 Iraqi Security Forces and Coalition advisory teams arrived in Samarra June 14, to bolster security near the Askariya Mosque – also known as the Golden Dome, where two minarets were destroyed June 13.

The incident is still under investigation by the local police.

— *Multi-National Division – North Public Affairs*

IA, Coalition forces kill extremist, wound 1 while preventing attack in Diyala

BA'QUBAH – Iraqi Army and Coalition forces in charge of security at the Diyala Government Center and the Diyala Operations Center, observed insurgents aiming an RPG at the

Government Center June 13.

The combined forces killed one gunman and wounded another.

— *Multi-National Division – North Public Affairs*

Joint forces kill key Al-Qaida in Iraq leader

MOSUL — Iraqi Army and Coalition forces killed terrorist leader, Kamal Jalil Bakr 'Uthman, also known as Sa'id Hamza, during a search operation in western Mosul June 12.

The leader was known to be the al-Qaida in Iraq military emir of Mosul.

Intelligence reports indicate he planned, coordinated and facilitated suicide bombings in the Mosul area.

— *Multi-National Division – North Public Affairs*

Joint forces uncover large weapons cache in Yarmouk neighborhood based on tip

BAGHDAD — Based on a tip from a local resident, Iraqi soldiers uncovered a large cache of explosives and bomb-making materials while on patrol in the western Baghdad neighborhood of Yarmouk June 13.

The cache contained 113 land mines, 63 grenades, three rockets, three mortars, two gas masks, five washing machine timers, more than 2,000 rounds of AK-47 ammunition and seven boxes of various electronics and other assorted explosives.

It is the largest weapons cache discovery to date in the Yarmouk area.

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs*

IRAQI SECURITY FORCES / in brief

Suspected insurgent leaders detained

BALAD — Iraqi Army forces conducted a series of raids June 13, which resulted in the detention of suspected leaders of two separate terrorist cells in the Al Qaim area.

The Iraqi soldiers detained the primary suspects at separate residences in the vicinity of Karabilah, located on the Euphrates River west of Al Qaim. Multiple documents and a computer were also seized during the operation.

The leaders, who allegedly oversee the al-Qaida in Iraq and Jaysh Al-Mujahidin cells in the Al Qaim area, are believed involved in the planning of attacks against Coalition forces.

— *Multi-National Corps – Iraq Public Affairs*

Local resident provides tip leading to cache

HOR AL BOSH — Based on a tip from a local resident, Iraqi soldiers discovered a 155mm artillery round and a 120mm mortar round near a house in Hor Al Bosh, June 13.

The area was immediately secured and the rounds were removed for disposal.

Iraqi Security Forces are investigating the incident.

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs*

Iraqi fire department puts out electrical fire deemed accidental in Baghdad mosque

BAGHDAD — Iraqi fire department and emergency services put out a fire at a mosque in southern Baghdad June 13.

The Khudir al Janabi Mosque, a Sunni mosque located

in Bayaa, was heavily damaged by a bomb April 24. Fire department officials believe that the fire June 13 was caused by some bad electrical wiring.

Iraqi emergency services went to the location, promptly put out the fire and determined that there were no injuries sustained in the incident.

The fire was ruled accidental despite a report that gunmen seized the mosque and set it on fire in the early afternoon hours.

— *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs*

Tips lead to capture of 7 terrorist suspects

BAGHDAD — Working with local Iraqi civilians, Iraqi troops captured six suspected insurgents during raids in the villages of Cahira and Bulayj, in northwest Iraq, June 12.

The suspects are believed to be al-Qaida insurgents responsible for IED, rocket and RPG attacks against civilians, Iraqi and Coalition forces.

In one house, four suspects were detained. They have been identified as those believed responsible for an IED attack against Coalition forces in the Bulayj area June 11.

Another suspect was detained for questioning after he attempted to flee a neighboring house. A father and son believed to be main players in recent small arms and RPG attacks in Bi'aj were also detained.

In addition to those detained, a recently purchased truck used for attacks in Bi'aj, a Glock pistol, a shotgun, four AK-47 assault rifles and seven cell phones were confiscated.

No Iraqi forces were injured during the operation

— *Multi-National Corps – Iraq Public Affairs*

Iraqi Army, Coalition attacked in Ba'Qubah

An Iraqi Army and U.S. Soldier engage a local citizen in a building near a mosque in Old Ba'Qubah, Iraq, in the Diyala province. Local citizens assisted forces in finding information about al-Qaida terrorists involved in a firefight June 9.



U.S. Army photo courtesy of Combat Camera