



# Task Force Danger Progress Report

July 4, 2004

## Ishaki Health Clinic is renovated, re-opens

Task Force 1-77 participated in the opening of a health clinic on June 23 in the city of Ishaki, Iraq. The Isaki Health Clinic, located approximately 20 kilometers west of Balad, is the main health care center for the city and surrounding area with a population over 20,000 Iraqis.

The Ishaki City Council brought the health clinic to the attention of Task Force 1-77. After an initial proposal was made, the civil affairs team conducted an on-site evaluation of the facility and made recommendations to the council for repairs and renovation. The city council, through their rebuilding committee, sought out and selected contractors and made an official request to the task force for assistance with the clinic.

The clinic renovation was approved at

a cost of \$32,000 and work began on April 26. The project completely renovated the existing building, providing new male and female examination rooms; a reception area; new air conditioners in all rooms; a sterilization station for medical instruments; renovation of the male and female bathrooms; and repaired an existing security wall and gate. The project was completed on June 20.

Ishaki city government and health officials along with CPT Mathew Archambault, Commander of Charlie Company, 1-26 Infantry, hosted the grand opening. The 272<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Group from LSA Anaconda attended to provide donated medical supplies to the clinic and the civil affairs team donated medical books with the help of 415<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion Public Health

Team.

This event, the first in the area, was marked with a celebration at the clinic and praise for Iraqi-American Cooperation. This was the first assistance this clinic had received in over 15 years.



## The Arabic Voice, speaks for the city of Bayji

Local Iraqi residents and Task Force Danger Soldiers recently celebrated the first edition of The Arabic Voice, a newspaper printed for the citizens of Bayji.

The newspaper, which published its first edition on July 1, was made a reality

by cooperation between the Bayji City Council, Task Force 1-7 Field Artillery and a civil affairs team. The initial cost of the project was \$9,500 and continued production of the newspaper will rely on profits gained from the sales of news and advertising.

In his first Editorial Column, Sa'ad Thamir expressed his happiness for being able to finally bring a newspaper to his town of Bayji. He promised "to be neutral in all the information and articles and will never be afraid to tell the truth."

The Bayji newspaper is printed in Mosul, since there is no local printing press, and has a circulation of approximately 3,000 copies per edition. Thamir and his staff of ten local Iraqi men, worked hard to accomplish their goal of publishing the first edition in time to commemorate "the day the government transference to the Iraqi people."



## The 30<sup>th</sup> Iraqi National Guard Brigade unfurls colors, gets new vehicles

TIKRIT, Iraq—During a brief ceremony at Forward Operating Base Speicher Wednesday afternoon the 30<sup>th</sup> Iraqi National Guard Brigade unfurled its colors and received more than 60 brand-new vehicles from Coalition Forces.

Soldiers from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team handed over 31 Mitsubishi 2004 diesel four-wheel pickup trucks and 35 Czechoslovakian-made jeeps. Price tag for each pickup was \$23,000 and \$14,000 per jeep. Funding for the pickup trucks was supplied by the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division with the Multi National Corps Iraq covering the costs for the jeeps.

About 150 of the 2,500 members of the 30<sup>th</sup> Iraqi National Guard Brigade were on hand to pick up the vehicles.

“This will help to more fully equip the Iraqi Security Forces to do the job that they need to do here in Iraq,” said MAJ Eric C. Frutchey, Officer in Charge of the Iraqi Security Force for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team.

Based in Tikrit, the 30<sup>th</sup> ING Brigade umbrellas three separate ING battalions which provide security for the region.

Two pickup trucks can carry an



11-man ING squad with the option of mounting a machine gun in the bed of the vehicle.

Frutchey said by having four-wheel drive pickups for the rough desert terrain, the ING has higher mobility.

“They are efficient and reliable,” he said of the pickups.

COL Randal A. Dragon, Commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, said it was “certainly a good day” to have the 30<sup>th</sup> ING Brigade and its battalion colors unfurled.

## Trade Fair Symposium held in Tikrit

On June 23, the provisional government of Salah Al Din, the 415<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion, and Task Force 9<sup>th</sup> Engineers organized and held a trade fair symposium in the downtown Tikrit Gymnasium.

Over eighty contractors throughout the province including several women attended to learn more about the bidding and award process for upcoming projects in their region. The guest speaker was Basim Hiawy.

Many companies and offices showed up for the first of hopefully many trade fairs. The contractors symposium was attended by engineers and contractors

from all over the Salah Al Din province.

On June 28, quality control was put into the hands of local Iraqi leaders and the ministries, so they could endorse the Iraqi engineer standards and regulations.

In all, the Symposium was a success for local contractors and the municipalities because it reestablished the importance of construction and infrastructure improvements in establishing a better and independent way of life for Iraq.

