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Public Affairs Office**

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## **Country stars Laura Lynn and Lucas Hoge rock Q-West**

By Maj. Scott Cooley  
181<sup>st</sup> Brigade Support Battalion

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq — Country music performers Laura Lynn and Lucas Hoge performed for Soldiers at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation center here Jan. 6.

They performed songs by Johnny Cash, Reba McEntire, Jo Dee Messina and others. One of the highlights of the show was a solo acoustic performance by Hoge of the song “POW 369,” written by Stephen Dale Jones and made famous recently by Darryl Worley.

Toward the end of the concert, Laura called for members of the audience to join the band on-stage to help sing the ever-popular Lynyrd Skynyrd song “Sweet Home Alabama.”

Following the concert, Lynn, Hoge and members of the band stayed to sign autographs and visit with many of those in attendance.

“I thought they were very entertaining,” said 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Alan Conway, provost marshal officer. “They played a wide variety of songs, and they were very friendly. It was a great

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show.”

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Shawna Snodgrass, who works in the communication and events section of the Mayor Cell at COB Q-West, said that the band was great to work with.

“They were very excited to be out with Soldiers, and they put on a fantastic concert,” Snodgrass said.

While on COB Q-West, band members were given the chance to see some of the new Army vehicles designed to safeguard Soldiers as they escort convoys, and had the opportunity to fire several weapon systems.

They also got to watch a controlled detonation, which included various captured explosives, conducted by Capt. Daniel Thoman and his explosive ordnance teammembers Staff Sgt. Eugene Pittman, and Sgt. Mark Kergan.

-30-



Capt. Daniel Thoman, explosive ordnance disposal, and country music performers Lucas Hoge and drummer Nick White watch a controlled detonation on COB Q-West, Iraq, Jan. 6. (Photo by Maj. Scott Cooley)