

## U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army

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### MILITARY POLICE SOLDIERS ASSESS IRAQI POLICE STATIONS AND HIGHWAY PATROL CHECKPOINTS

#### Multi-National Corps – Iraq release

**BAGHDAD, Iraq --** Soldiers from the 230th Military Police Company, 18th MP Brigade, conducted station assessment visits at two Iraqi Police stations and one Iraqi Highway Patrol checkpoint in Diyarrah March 24 and 25.

As part the assessment, a military police platoon conducted a joint patrol with Iraqi Police through a local market in Diyarrah.

The IP officers and MPs demonstrated their ability to protect the community under the common rule of law, MP officials say, adding that the joint patrol gave the MP Soldiers an opportunity to see the Iraqi Police interact with citizens.

"It really feels like progress is being made," said Cpl. Christopher Mathewson, a Soldier

who was on the patrol. "We don't have to do everything for the IPs; they seem to be able to handle things on their own for the most part, and we just guide them along."

The MPs also discussed improvement projects for the IP station and new areas of training with the station commander.



SPC ANTHONY HENDERSON

Spc. Jordan Zollman of the 230th Military Police Company, 18th MP Brigade, speaks with an Iraqi citizen at the Iskan Highway Patrol checkpoint March 25 during a round of assessment visits the MPs made to Iraqi Police stations and Highway Patrol checkpoints.

"The IPs generally pick up and enjoy the on-the-job training we provide to them contrary to the classroom sessions they receive," said 1st Lt. Caleb Oman, a platoon leader with the company. "There is a lot of potential for progress."

"As far as the training is going, the IPs seem very receptive to the guidance provided to them," said Oman.

After completing the station assessments, the platoon visited the highway patrol checkpoints.

The IP officers have learned techniques from the MP platoon to help the flow of traffic while inspecting vehicles.

The station assessments observed during this visit demonstrated the improved capabilities the IP officers bring to Diyarrah while providing a more positive outlook for the citizens of Diyarrah's future, Oman said.



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