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STRYKER SOLDIERS RECOVER REMAINS OF SOLDIER MISSING FOR FOUR YEARS

Multi-National Division - Baghdad

BAGHDAD, Iraq -- The remains of Staff Sgt. Keith Matthew Maupin were recovered northwest of Baghdad by elements the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment March 20.

The recovery was the result of four years of effort by Multi-National Brigade - Baghdad and a number of joint and interagency organizations. The Soldiers of 2nd SCR were able to recover Maupin's remains by approaching the recovery as a criminal investigation.

"Since beginning operations in Abu Ghraib, we made finding Staff Sgt. Maupin a top priority, to clearly demonstrate to every service member, and every family, that we will never leave a fallen comrade," said Col. John RisCassi, commander of the 2nd SCR.

The 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, is currently under the tactical control of 2nd SCR and performed the actual recovery mission. Soldiers of the 1-21st pursued intelligence leads and leveraged relationships made possible by reconciliation, 2nd SCR officials said.

"We were able to produce great synergy by pursuing this investigation in conjunction with our ongoing targeting efforts," said Lt. Col. Omar Jones, 2nd SCR executive officer.

Many of the terrorists involved in this incident have continued to attack coalition forces and Iraqi people for the past four years, he added, and the 2nd SCR has identified and detained the vast majority of these insurgents in recent weeks.

Officials with the 2nd SCR said the unit is honored to return a fallen comrade to his family, and the Stryker Soldiers and the troops of the 1-21st will continue to pursue those responsible for death and those who threaten the security of Abu Ghraib.

The 2nd SCR is a U.S. Army Europe unit headquartered in Vilseck, Germany.



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