

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

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### IRAQI ARMY, 1ST ARMORED DIVISION LEADERS SEE PROGRESS IN SECURITY FOR MADA'IN QADA REGION

By Pfc. Michael Schuch

2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division Public Affairs Office

**FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq --** The commander of the 9th Iraqi Army Division and leaders from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, met here July 8 to assess the security of the Mada'in Qada region.



Maj. Gen. Jassem Nazal Qassim shared his thoughts on increasing the Iraqi forces' security capabilities with Col. Pat White, commander of the 2nd BCT.

"No matter the operation (Iraqi security forces) are capable of providing the necessary forces," said Qassim. "For any needs that arise, we are ready."

PFC MICHAEL SCHUCH

Maj. Gen. Jassem Nazal Qassim, commanding general of the 9th Iraqi Army Division, discusses security in the Mada'in Qada region with Col. Pat White, commander of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, during a meeting at Forward Operating Base Hammer, Iraq, July 8.

Qassim also discussed terrorism and extremist activity in the region, comparing the situation in previous years to the current state of the

Mada'in. The leaders agreed there is continuing success in the cooperative efforts between Iraqi and coalition forces.

“When coalition forces came to the Mada’in Qada, terrorism covered much of the qada,” Qassim said. “Now, because of the joint efforts of coalition and ISF, it has dropped significantly.”

“ISF performing and leading operations are becoming a common occurrence,” said Qassim. “Nearly all planning and operations are being done by ISF with support from coalition forces. With our cooperation, we can continue to work toward our shared goal to get terrorism out of the Mada’in.”

The 2nd BCT is a U.S. Army Europe unit based in Baumholder, Germany.



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