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□Telling the MND-Baghdad Story□

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(Photo by Sgt. Mike Pryor, 2nd BCT, 82nd Abn. Div. Public Affairs)

Another One Bites The Dust

A cloud of smoke and dust envelopes Staff Sgt. Michael Mullahy, of Batavia, Ill. seconds after he fired an AT4 rocket launcher at an insurgent position during a firefight in Baghdad's Adhamiyah District June 16. The rocket ended a 20-minute running gun battle with insurgents, resulting in one insurgent dead and three others captured. Mullahy is a squad leader with Company C, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment. No U.S. Soldiers were injured in the engagement. (See story page 20)

Redeployment: First in, First Out

By Spc. Jeffrey Ledesma
1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq - At three o'clock in the morning and a cool 90 degrees in Baghdad, while harsh rains poured down back home, families of military members in central Texas got further clarification on redeployment dates during a live town hall meeting from Baghdad to Texas' Fort Hood and Fort Bliss June 26.

Reinforcing what Lt. Gen. Raymond Odierno, the commander of Multi-National Corps-Iraq had already put out to dispel a media-provoked rumor of extending an

already 15-month deployment to 18 months, Brig. Gen. (promotable) Vincent K. Brooks, the deputy commanding general of support with Multi-National Division-Baghdad and the 1st Cavalry Division reassured family members that no units who are currently deployed will be extended beyond 15 months, period.

A standing-room-only crowd filled the Ball Room at Catering and Conference Center at Fort Hood, Texas while hundreds more viewed the proceedings hundreds of miles away at Fort Bliss.

This town hall meeting was the first to have the 1st Cavalry Division's 4th

'Longknife' Brigade Combat Team families in attendance, via satellite at Fort Bliss. Because of technology, the families were allowed them to speak, hear and see everything at the southwest Texas post. In addition, the live feed from Baghdad was available through a link on the 1st Cavalry Division website enabling about an additional 500 people to view the proceedings.

Brooks explained to the family gathering that although it is highly uncommon to have an exact outline on the First Team's redeployment schedule this far in advance, he has

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Air Cav Aviators Honored With Awards for Valor (See page 10)

