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## SOLDIERS OF V CORPS TASK FORCE WORK TO IMPROVE MEDICAL EDUCATION IN TIKRIT

*Two stories:*

**TASK FORCE DANGER SOLDIERS DELIVER BOOKS DONATED TO TIKRIT HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL SCHOOL**

[V CORPS TASK FORCE HELPING TIKRIT MEDICAL SCHOOL SET UP PARTNERSHIP WITH HARVARD](#) (Click headline to jump to story)

**1st Infantry Division Public Affairs Office release**

**TIKRIT, Iraq** – Soldiers from Task Force Danger, led by V Corps' 1st Infantry Division, delivered medical supplies, textbooks and journals to the Tikrit Hospital and Tikrit University Medical School July 7.

The division's 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry and the 415th Civil Affairs Battalion coordinated and carried out the delivery.

The University of Tennessee Medical School collected 150 boxes of textbooks from medical students in the United States and the Elsevier Publishing Company provided the shipping from the U.S., said Capt. Donna Kentley, a physician's assistant with the 415th CA Battalion who spearheaded the delivery.



SGT 1ST CLASS CHUCK JOSEPH  
Soldiers from V Corps' 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry and the 415th Civil Affairs Battalion join Tikrit (Iraq) Hospital workers unload textbooks donated to the hospital and the Tikrit University Medical School by medical students in the U.S.

This latest delivery boosted the number of books in the medical school's library to more than 50,000, Kentley said. When the U.S. arrived in Iraq and started the rebuilding process, the university used photocopied texts for teaching medical students and nurses, she added.

## **V CORPS TASK FORCE HELPING TIKRIT MEDICAL SCHOOL SET UP PARTNERSHIP WITH HARVARD**

### **1st Infantry Division Public Affairs Office release**

**TIKRIT, Iraq** – Officials from V Corps' Task Force Danger and the Tikrit University Medical School met July 7 to formalize plans for a new partnership with Harvard Medical School.

The Tikrit University College of Medicine will submit a 200-page report about the school's structure and organization to Harvard, where the report will be analyzed and a five-year plan will be compiled, said Capt. Thamus J. Morgan, a veterinarian with the task force's 415th Civil Affairs Battalion and a faculty member at Harvard.

Everywhere the battalion's civil affairs Soldiers go, the Iraqi people tell them they want more knowledge, Morgan said. The Harvard plan will provide for a free exchange of that much-needed knowledge. Morgan added that Harvard has similar programs in place at 19 other universities worldwide, and the plan is expected to be similar to those programs.

Iraqi faculty and staff members could be studying in the U.S. in September as part of a faculty-staff exchange program, Morgan said. The plan should have Harvard faculty

and staff in Iraq as soon as the State Department lifts the ban on U.S. citizen travel to this country, she added.

The two schools already share a common theme in their teaching methods. The Tikrit medical school adopted problem-based learning years ago, and that method of learning is a hallmark of Harvard, Morgan said.

Students are placed in learning situations from the day they enter the schools, she explained. They are not expected to simply study and regurgitate facts; they are expected to dig into a problem and find a solution using all the resources available to them at the schools.

Morgan said all the universities Harvard has assisted have benefitted from that association, and the resources at Tikrit University Medical School should improve with the program.

“It’s a win-win situation for the people of Iraq,” Morgan said.

“Some day, you will be able to visit Iraq as a tourist and know there is a world-class health facility available here.”

