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IRAQI NATIONAL GUARD BRIGADE UNFURLS COLORS, GETS NEW VEHICLES FROM CORPS, COALITION

1st Infantry Division Public Affairs Office release

TIKRIT, Iraq – During a brief ceremony at Forward Operating Base Speicher here June 30, the 30th Iraqi National Guard Brigade unfurled its colors and received more than 60 brand-new vehicles from V Corps' 1st Infantry Division and the Multi-National Corps.

Soldiers from the division's 2nd Brigade Combat Team handed over 31 four-wheel-drive diesel pickup trucks and 35 Czech-made jeeps. The price tag for the vehicles was \$23,000 per pickup and \$14,000 per jeep. Funding for the pickup trucks was supplied by 1st Infantry Division, with the Multi National Corps Iraq covering the costs of the jeeps.

About 150 of the 2,500 members of the 30th Iraqi National Guard Brigade were on hand to pick up the vehicles.

"This will help to more fully equip the Iraq security forces to do the job that they need to do here in Iraq," said the 2nd BCT's Maj. Eric C. Frutchey.

Based in Tikrit, the 30th oversees three separate Iraqi National Guard battalions which provide security for the region.

Two pickup trucks can carry an 11-man squad, with the option of mounting a machine gun in the bed of the vehicle.

Frutchey said having four-wheel drive pickups for the rough desert terrain gives Iraqi National Guard has higher mobility.

