

Swannack: We've been very effective in either capturing or killing those cells, or having the cells aside no longer by taking out the financier to go ahead and support anti-coalition efforts.

In terms of your question about direct coordination and communication amongst regions, I find that much less effective nowadays than it was before. I say before; in the October-November time frame, I thought it was pretty effective command-and-control structure throughout the nation loosely directed. But since that time, I think we've been very successful -- as an example, intelligence that finally got Saddam Hussein. We've been applying that same kind of methodology and been very successful in taking out the various folks in the nodes that control and direct these activities.

Yes, right here.

Q: Hi, Jill Carrol (sp) with ANSA. A little more on the French nationals. Do you know what they were doing? Are they contractors or something? And where exactly was the shooting -- either in Fallujah or like on the road between Amaan (ph) and Fallujah?

Swannack: First of all, they were French; they were contracted individuals, I believe, coming in here to work associated with Task Force RIE, the Restoration of Iraqi Electricity. And they were attacked along Highway 1 about eight miles to the east, I believe it is, of Fallujah, around the main highway; not close to Fallujah, outside of Fallujah pretty far.

Let me go to the Pentagon for another question, please.

Q: General, Tom Bowman with the Baltimore Sun. I wanted to ask you about the steady increase in non-hostile deaths in Iraq among soldiers. Prior to May 1st, about 20 percent of the soldier deaths were non-hostile, and since May 1st, it's increased to about 37 percent and most of these are vehicular accidents. I talked to some folks in the 101st; they're working with safety officers from Fort Campbell and also putting out safety messages. Could you talk a little bit about your AOR, the problem of non-hostile deaths, and what you folks are doing to try to stem it?

Swannack: Okay, good question. In all cases we try to minimize and reduce the risk to our soldiers. However, out on the roads everyday, on the back roads of Iraq, old minefields, and even more importantly probably, worn roads -- it's a very dangerous place to drive, especially at night. We have a lot of vehicle accidents with Iraqis on the road. Additionally, in some cases we lost a soldier from a rollover because the road gave away, the actual road, because of some of the rains this time of year cause erosion, and the road went away when the equipment went across it. And so we have to be wary of that.

The only way we can go ahead and combat this is to make risk management in everything we do and delegate down to the lowest level possible our leaders to go ahead and decide not to do something if it's too great a risk and it might cause death or permanent disability from some injury.

Right here.

Q: Hi, General. Anne Bernard (sp) from The Boston Globe. I just wondered if you could give us some more specific numbers on a couple of the items you mentioned. On the jobs, do you have a percentage -- unemployment figures in the province and how they've changed since you've been there?

And also, on the number of attacks on coalition forces, when you said they're down 60 percent, can you actually give us the beginning number and the ending number, and exactly what time period you're talking about