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Presenter: Commander, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division Col. Scott McBride

September 04, 2008

DoD News Briefing with Col. McBride from Iraq

(Note: Colonel McBride appears via teleconference from Iraq.)

BRYAN WHITMAN (deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Public Affairs): Good morning. Good to see you all. Thank you for joining us.

I think technically we are all set up. Let me just check with Colonel McBride and make sure he can hear me.

This is Bryan Whitman at the Pentagon.

COL. MCBRIDE: Yeah, I can hear you just fine. Thank you. Good morning.

MR. WHITMAN: Well, good morning, and good afternoon to you, Colonel, and thank you for taking this time to give us a perspective of what your unit is doing and some of the things and responsibilities that you're charged with there. This is, for the Pentagon press corps, Colonel Scott McBride, who's the 1st Brigade Combat Team commander, 101st Division -- 101st Airborne Division, Air Assault. And they are in Multinational Division-North.

Colonel McBride has been in Iraq since October of 2007. As you know, this is his second opportunity that we've had to speak to him about what his unit is doing and the situation in the north.

He is at Contingency Operating Base Speicher in Tikrit, Iraq, and he's going to start by again giving us an overview and then taking your questions. So, Colonel, with that, let me turn it over to you and thank you again for spending some time with us this afternoon.

COL. MCBRIDE: Great. Thank you very much. It's good to be with you all. Good morning.

I'm going to talk just very briefly about the current situation and kind of orient those who don't know to what we're doing here in the Salahuddin province of Iraq.