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NEWS RELEASE

GLASGOW SOLDIER HELPS BRING HOPE TO UMM QASR

A TA soldier from Glasgow has played a key role in working with US and UK civil affairs staff in post-war Iraq, to help bring the country back to commercial normality.

In the southern port of Umm Qasr, Major Peter Carroll from the Civil Affairs Group, a specialist TA unit, worked hand-in-hand with the 304th US Civil Affairs unit to complete a number of high impact projects to improve life for the local community.

Peter, a purchasing manager from Glasgow, is a Royal Highland Fusilier officer in the Territorial Army who was mobilised for duty in Iraq during the war. At the end of his tour, his American colleagues organised a presentation for Peter to thank him for his outstanding commitment to his job.

Most crucially for the people of Umm Qasr, Peter has been involved in restoring supplies of non-potable water from Basrah. The pipeline had suffered previously from age-related deterioration, and also other damage by locals, but engineering work and increased security have provided a more reliable service. In addition, Peter has been involved in initiating a project to construct a new water pipeline from another local source to provide a back-up supply for the town.

Other life-support projects in which Peter played a significant role include restoring grid power to Umm Qasr, providing the hospital with much-needed medical supplies, refurbishing the schools, furnishing the new courthouse, collecting the town's refuse, and supplying the ice factory with ammonia.

Members of the 304th US Civil Affairs unit paid tribute to Peter as he reached the end of his mobilisation, acknowledging his tireless efforts to restore much-needed services to Umm Qasr.

Peter, showing his characteristic commitment to his job, said: "Much as I'm looking forward to getting home, I'm disappointed not to be staying out here to see all of these projects through to the end."

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Major Peter Carroll is now back home in Glasgow.

MORE INFORMATION FROM: Captain Gemma Hardy