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PRESS RELEASE

VISIT OF MAJ GEN WALL GOC 1 UK ARMD DIV

Major General Peter Wall, General Officer Commanding 1 UK Armoured Division, visited the soldiers of The Queen's Royal Hussars Battlegroup in Northern Basrah to find out what life was like for them in Iraq.

In a flying visit Maj Gen Wall met soldiers of Headquarters Squadron QRH and Recce Company 1st Battalion The Royal Scots at their base in the former Shatt Al Arab Hotel. He spent an hour talking to the soldiers.

Corporal Gary Walton, a member of QRH Command Troop, said: "The General was very interested to hear what everyone had to say about life out here."

After a brief from the Battlegroup, Maj Gen Wall then joined a patrol around C Squadron's area of operations in north Basrah. He was shown some of the major sites in this bustling part of town. The highlight was a trip through Five Mile Market, the heart of C Sqn's patch. The market leaves a real impression of the sights, sounds, and smells of Basrah on any visitor, with its bustle of local shoppers visiting an array of weird and wonderful market stalls.

Maj Gen Wall, under whose command the Germany-based QRH fall, had come out to Iraq to see how his soldiers were faring. In his brief stay with the QRH, he definitely saw a busy team enjoying its work and bringing real benefit to the people of Basrah.

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Images are available from Reuters or AFP. Also, the website www.operations.mod.uk/telic contains a library of images that you can download free of charge.