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Subject: Do you know?

Do you know?

By Duncan Harper

Did you know that 47 countries have re-established their embassies in Iraq?

Did you know that the Iraqi government currently employs 1.2 million Iraqi people?

Did you know that **3,100** schools have been renovated, **364** schools are under rehabilitation, **263** new schools are now under construction and **38** new schools have been completed in Iraq?

Did you know that Iraq's higher educational structure consists of **20** universities, **46** institutes or colleges and **4** research centers, **all currently operating?**

Did you know that 25 Iraq students departed for the United States in January 2005 for the re-established Fulbright program?

Did you know that the Iraqi Navy is operational? They have **five** 100-foot patrol craft, **34** smaller vessels and a naval infantry regiment.

Did you know that Iraq's air force consists of three operational squadrons, which includes **9** reconnaissance and **3** U.S. C-130 transport aircraft (**under Iraqi operational control**) which operate day and night, and will soon add **16** UH-1 helicopters and **4** Bell Jet Rangers?

Did you know that Iraq has a counter-terrorist unit and a Commando Battalion?

Did you know that the Iraqi Police Service has over **55,000** fully-trained and equipped police officers?

Did you know that there are **5** police academies in Iraq that produce over **3,500** new officers every 8 weeks?

Did you know there are more than **1,100** building projects going on in Iraq? They include **364** schools, **67** public clinics, **15** hospitals, **83** railroad stations, **22** oil facilities, **93** water facilities and **69** electrical facilities.

Did you know that **96%** of Iraqi children under the age of 5 have received the first 2 series of polio vaccinations?

Did you know that **4.3 million** Iraqi children are enrolled in primary school as of mid-October?

Did you know that there are **1,192,000** cell phone subscribers in Iraq and phone use has gone up **158%**?

Did you know that Iraq has an independent media that consists of **75** radio stations, **180** newspapers and **10** television stations?

Did you know that the Baghdad Stock Exchange opened in June of 2004?

Did you know that 2 candidates in the Iraqi presidential election had a televised debate recently?

OF COURSE YOU DIDN'T KNOW!

WHY DIDN'T YOU KNOW? BECAUSE OUR MEDIA WOULDN'T TELL US!

Instead of reflecting our love for our country, we get photos of flag burning incidents at Abu Ghraib and people throwing snowballs at the presidential motorcades.

Tragically, the lack of accentuating the positive in Iraq serves two purposes:

-- It is intended to undermine the world's perception of the United States thus minimizing consequent support; and, it is intended to discourage American citizens.

The above facts are verifiable on the Department of Defense web site.