

## Army Medics Bring Care to Remote Village

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*By U.S. Army Sgt. Thomas Benoit  
256th Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs Office*

**THINEEYAH, Iraq, April 26, 2005** — Armed with school supplies and multivitamins, U.S. soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment, 256th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division sponsored a medical civil affairs project held at Al Nassir School in Thineeyah, Iraq, April 12.

The team provided basic medical assistance to children and adults as part of the ongoing effort by multinational forces to help rebuild Iraq.

Once the patients were seen by the physician or physician assistant, they received various gifts or a care package containing toys for the children and dental hygiene products and toiletries. School supplies and treats were freely given out to the delight of young Iraqi children; additionally, several pairs of shoes were given along with apparel.

If a patient had a diagnosis which was beyond the scope of the physicians, the families were educated via the interpreters on the importance of the abnormality and stressed the importance of seeking an Iraqi physician.

“Multivitamins and medicines were dispensed to combat epilepsy, congenital abnormalities, and movement disorders in the elderly and post-traumatic palsies. The predominant health problems diagnosed included dermatological, gastrointestinal, and upper respiratory ailments,” said U.S. Army Lt. Col. (Dr.) Joseph Dore, combat team surgeon.

Once the medical civil affairs project in Thineeyah concluded, the team traveled to a remote nomadic settlement where the doctors treated several patients with the principal of “tailgate medicine” ranging from common cold ailments to redressing the bandages of a broken arm.

The remainder of care packages, clothing and school supplies from Al Nassir School were handed out.



U.S. Army Spc. April Clark, from Maryland, Md., C Company, 199th Forward Support Battalion, 256th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, takes time out for a photograph with a young Iraqi girl after giving her toys during a medical civil affairs project held at Al Nassir School in Thineeyah, Iraq, April 12, 2005. U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Thomas Benoit [More Photos](#)

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Once care was complete at the settlement, the team was once again on the move to a new family of nomads herding sheep. The family was very healthy and only required basic medical attention.