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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Investigation ordered into allegation of misconduct

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq – Maj. Gen. Richard C. Zilmer, Commanding General, Multi-National Force—West, has requested that the Naval Criminal Investigative Service conduct an investigation into an April 26, 2006 incident in which Marines allegedly killed an Iraqi civilian in the area of Hamandiyah, west of Baghdad.

Local Iraqis brought the incident to the attention of Marine leadership at a regularly scheduled meeting on May 1, 2006. A preliminary investigation conducted by MNF-W found sufficient information existed to recommend a criminal investigation into the incident.

Several servicemembers from 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment who have suspected involvement in the incident were removed from operations and have returned to the United States pending the results of the criminal investigation.

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