



Print

## IAP Hauls Out Last U.S. Mail from Iraq

With the expectation that U.S. forces will be out of Iraq by the end of the year, the number of service members leaving the country continues to increase while the volume of incoming mail has decreased and many U.S. Army postal service operations are closing down.

On November 13, 2011, the U.S. Army ceased postal operations in Contingency Operating Base (COB) Adder Iraq. The COB Adder Joint Military Mail Terminal (JMMT) started operation soon after the beginning of the Iraq war in 2003 and was in continuous operation for 8 years. Once the largest base in southern Iraq, COB Adder is the last to close as control is formally passed on to Iraq's Receivership Secretariat.

In 2005, as part of the Heavy Lift contract, IAP hauled the U.S. Mail to Iraq and again from January 2009 to the present IAP has provided U.S. Mail service to the troops in the Iraq theater.



*IAP employees **Butte Metz** and **Jason Leigh**, along with **Chamman Lal Dhagat**, a subcontract employee from Mubarrad Company, were part of the Heavy Lift team responsible for hauling out the last mail from Adder/TalilAFB Iraq.*



On November 15 and 16, Heavy Lift employees Jason Leigh, Butte Metz, John Locke, Matt Rogers, Luis Pujales, and Jimmy Riggs hauled the last loads of U.S. Army mail from the country of Iraq to the mail sort facility in Kuwait. Bobtail drivers on these two days were Chaman Lal Dhagat and Bhanwar Lal Ramjat.

Due to the large amount of outgoing mail at the southern Iraq bases, the COB Adder JMMT ceased operations several days after the northern Iraq bases served out of Baghdad and

Anaconda.

"For many years we were privileged to perform this high priority mission for our U.S. Army customer as part of their Morale, Welfare, and Recreation program," said Trevor Packham, IAP Director, Transportation Logistics Centre. "Our drivers worked 24/7/365 to ensure a constant flow of inbound and outbound mail to U.S. military soldiers, DoD personnel, and contractors on bases throughout Kuwait and Southern Iraq working throughout devastating sandstorms and hostile environments. It was an honor to haul out the last of the U.S. Army mail for the Iraq war as our heroes return home to their families."