

## RECENT TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST



Inspector General Howard Krongard, shown above, with the Head of the Iraqi Inspectors General Association and other Iraqi Inspector Generals, addressed all of the Iraqi IGs in Baghdad on September 26, 2007. IG Krongard had previously addressed the Iraqi IGs in November 2006, opening with the words below. Because the words were still true, and the Iraqi IGs remembered them, he repeated these words again:

“It is an honor for me to be with you today. Each of your Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister have recently identified corruption as one of the two greatest threats – along with violence – to the stability and long term success of Iraq as a free and democratic country. Indeed, violence and corruption go together: corruption feeds and funds the insurgency, and contributes to an environment where both can thrive. You are in the very front line of this great battle against corruption, and I look forward to seeing how we can assist and support you in this crucial fight for your country.”