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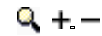
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UPDATED: 12:27, February 11, 2006

Salvador sends sixth batch of soldiers to Iraq



El Salvador, the only Latin American country with troops in Iraq, on Friday sent a sixth contingent of 380 soldiers to Iraq, said reports from El Salvador on Friday.

The 380 soldiers boarded two U.S. planes at the military base in Comalapa, 50 km south of San Salvador, capital of El Salvador.

The new group of engineers and special forces are replacing 380 soldiers who will return to El Salvador at the end of February.

Salvadoran troops are stationed in the Iraqi city of Al Kut, 160 km southeast of Baghdad. During their six-month stint, they build schools, hospitals and roads and help with utility supplies.

El Salvador began humanitarian operations in Iraq in 2003, five months after the U.S.-led invasion deposed Iraqi President [Saddam Hussein](#).

Two Salvadoran soldiers have died in Iraq, one killed by Iraqi rebels and the other in an accident.

Source: *Xinhua*

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