

## News We All Can Use

### Description

[Army National Guard Captain adopts an Iraqi orphan](#), From AOL News:

By CARRIE ANTLFINGER,  
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MAUSTON, Wis. (Dec. 23) — Capt. Scott Southworth knew he'd face violence, political strife and blistering heat when he was deployed to one of Baghdad's most dangerous areas. But he didn't expect Ala Eddeen.

Scott Southworth makes dinner as his adopted son, Ala, watches TV in their Mauston, Wis., home in November. Southworth first met Ala, who has cerebral palsy, at a Baghdad orphanage in 2003 while serving in Iraq.

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Ala was 9 years old, strong of will but weak of body — he suffered from cerebral palsy and weighed just 55 pounds. He lived among about 20 kids with physical or mental disabilities at the Mother Teresa orphanage, under the care of nuns who preserved this small oasis in a dangerous place.

On Sept. 6, 2003, halfway through his 13-month deployment, Southworth and his military police unit paid a visit to the orphanage. They played and chatted with the children; Southworth was talking with one little girl when Ala dragged his body to the soldier's side.

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Quite a Christmas present for a young man. Go and refresh your soul with this story of an incredible act of kindness.

### Category

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