



New re-up options for deployed reservists

Sgt. Jennifer Eidson

22nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Deployed Soldiers in the National Guard and Army Reserve now have access to re-enlistment bonuses that were previously available only to active-component troops.

As part of the Army-wide Selective Re-enlistment Bonus Program, highly-trained Soldiers in the Guard and Reserve can now receive cash bonuses of up to \$15,000, tax free, if they re-enlist while serving in Iraq, Kuwait or Afghanistan in the year before they are due to leave the service.

The program mirrors the Selective Re-enlistment Bonus-Deployed Program available to Soldiers in the active component.

Sgt. 1st Class David H. Owen, retention noncommissioned officer, 42nd Infantry Division, Task Force Danger, Iraq, said there are different levels of bonuses available later to individual Soldiers' needs.

"We have two options. The first option we have is \$15,000 for a six-year enlistment. The second option is a three-year enlistment for \$7,500, and at the end of that re-enlistment, if

they want to re-enlist, there is an option for another \$6,000," Owen said about the National Guard program. "The old standard was you could only re-enlist 90 days out for a bonus, or six months out if you were non-bonus eligible."

Owen said he believes the program is giving Soldiers in theater who are thinking about getting out another reason to stay in the Army.

"Some people who are sitting on the fence ... are now re-enlisting for the money," Owen said.

For active guard and reserve Soldiers who work full time, this new program provides them with an incentive that the old one did not, he said.

"If you are deployed and you are a technician or a state AGR Soldier, which means you are full-time for the state, you can re-enlist for the bonus now," Owen said.

Sgt. Michael Walczak, a personnel service sergeant, said he re-enlisted Feb. 19 for a lump sum bonus of \$15,000. Walczak is a New York Army National Guard Soldier who also works full time as a technician for the division's armory. One job prerequisite as a technician is

that he serves as a National Guard Soldier. Before the new re-enlistment program, Soldiers in his position were not allowed to receive a bonus.

"Usually technicians in AGR are not eligible for bonuses. This is one time when we are, so I took advantage of that opportunity," Walczak said.

"I do it full-time, so I would have re-enlisted even if there wasn't a bonus," Walczak said. "I have to hold my National Guard status to hold my full-time job at the armory, so I would have re-enlisted anyway, but it was nice to get the bonus."

The program is a great opportunity for the Soldiers, who would not normally qualify for a bonus while in the United States, to receive a tax-free bonus on their current deployment, said Sgt. 1st Class Jorge Garcia, career counselor for Task Force Dragon, Camp Victory.

Garcia said not every Soldier will qualify for the \$15,000 bonus. The Soldiers will be classified based on their pay grade and time in service.

See **RESERVISTS**, Page 3

Soldier loses foot in Iraq, returns for 2nd OIF deployment

Pfc. Matthew Clifton

MNC-I PAO

An Army captain who lost his lower right ankle and foot while deployed during the initial stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom has returned to Iraq for a second tour.

Capt. David M. Rozelle, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Carson, Colo., is the first amputee to return to a combat zone.

"When I deployed for the first time, I was the K Troop commander for 3rd ACR, and my area of operation was around Hit, Iraq," Rozelle said. "While conducting an operation, I ran over an anti-tank mine with my Humvee. The mine destroyed both my Humvee and my right lower leg, causing the amputation of my foot and ankle.

"I was immediately evacuated to a combat support hospital outside of Baghdad," Rozelle said. "From there I was flown to Qatar, then to Germany where I received a couple of operations before being taken to Walter Reed Army Medical Facility in Washington D.C., where I stayed for about three weeks.

"The first reaction from my family and friends upon hearing about my injury was shock and horror," Rozelle said. "They said to me, 'This is something Dave can handle. Let's give him some time and see what he does.'"

There was, however, a silver lining, Rozelle said. After three weeks at Walter Reed, he was rushed home to be present for the birth of his son, Forrest.

"If this accident wouldn't have happened, I would not have seen my son until he was nine months old, so

I guess it was really a blessing in disguise," Rozelle said.

"My family and friends knew I would not give up, and that's when I charged head-on into my recovery," Rozelle said.

"Like anyone who is injured in a war, an amputee has to come back and prove to the Army medical system they are fit to fight," Rozelle said. "You have to be able to pass an Army Physical Fitness Test, and basically you are re-entering the service."

Officer evaluation reports, letters of recommendation from a soldier's chain of command and job performance are accounted for, Rozelle said. Potential to continue, lead and serve in a Military Occupational Specialty are evaluated, along with the obvious medical considerations when being qualified as "fit for duty."

Rozelle received word through



photo by Pfc. Matthew Clifton/ MNC-I PAO
Capt. David M. Rozelle is the author of *Back in Action: An American Soldier's Story of Courage, Faith and Fortitude*. Rozelle returned to Iraq after losing his lower right foot during the first phase of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Rozelle is the first amputee to return to a combat zone.

See **AMPUTEE**, Page 2

Preventive Points:

Tips from Multi-National Corps - Iraq's Force Health Protection

Signs and Symptoms of Heat Casualties

■ It's the time of the year when one has to become concerned with the effects of the sun. As you begin to plan your day, start thinking about ways to protect yourselves from heat injuries by being able to identify some of the signs and symptoms.

■ **Sunburn:** After being in the sun for awhile, your skin may feel hot, turn red and blister. If this is the case, drink plenty of water and apply a cold compress and moisturizing lotion to the affected area. Do not break the blisters.

■ **Heat cramps:** After several hours in the sun, you may experience painful muscle cramps or spasms in your legs and arms. This can be controlled by replacing salt loss, massaging the affected areas, drinking plenty of water and moving to a cool or shaded area.

■ **Heat exhaustion:** After an extended amount of time working in the sun, you may experience unexplained fatigue, dizziness, weakness or nausea with a rapid pulse and shortness of breath. If these symptoms occur, immediately begin cooling your body by the best means possible. Move to a shaded area, loosen your clothing, lay flat with your feet elevated and immerse yourself in water by spraying or pouring it. You may need to seek medical attention.

■ **Thirst** is not necessarily a good indicator that you need to drink. By the time you are thirsty, your body is already nearly a quart low on fluids.

Dehydration is just around the corner.

■ **Heat stroke:** If you experience a much more severe case of the previously mentioned symptoms, an altered mental status, seizures or becomes unconscious, medical attention should be sought immediately. Heat stroke is a medical emergency. Until aid arrives, apply ice packs, check for consciousness and monitor the airway and breathing path. Never give water to an unconscious person.

■ Knowing the signs and symptoms of heat casualties can save lives. Watch out for your buddy. Avoid being in the sun as much as possible. Eat all of your meals and stay hydrated.

AMPUTEE

his chain of command that if he could recover from his injury, another position waited for him with the 3rd ACR, he said. His first goal was to be declared fit for duty when the regiment returned to take command again.

Nine months after the injury, he was found fit for duty.

"I had many different job opportunities within the Army that would have taken me away and given me a lighter duty for a period of time, but I turned them all down," Rozelle said. "I wanted to come back to Iraq and serve with my regiment."

Just like his Soldiers, Rozelle's friends and family thought he was crazy since he had the opportunity to leave, he said. "I could have retired as a captain and had a pretty good retirement, but when I took the Oath of Office, I knew I was going to spend my life in the military."

"The troops I commanded in the beginning of the war are very proud of me," Rozelle said. "They come to check on me all of the time to make sure I am doing okay. It is a good feeling to hear your troops say how much they miss you after two years."

"I have an enormous amount of respect for the Captain's decision to come back to Iraq," said Pfc. Joshua Cartee, driver, 3rd ACR. "He is a good commander and leads by example."

Although Rozelle used to command a unit of 22 tanks, he has been promoted in title. On June 17, 2004, he took command of the Regiment's Headquarters Troop.

"I will keep this command until June, at which time I will return to Walter Reed to become a program manager for the new amputee center there," Rozelle said. "I will take the knowledge of what

is required to return to theater back with me to Walter Reed.

"The Armed Services are going to get used to seeing guys with mechanical parts because there are many others who want to continue to serve after suffering a serious injury."

His main focus at the amputee center will be to help the Army in making decisions on programs that will allow Soldiers to continue service after injury, Rozelle said.

"We will also help Soldiers make the transition into civilian life if their injury is too serious to return to service. There are a lot of Soldiers counting on me to give them the right advice," Rozelle said.

"I want Soldiers in a similar situation as mine to know the only way to recover from a major injury or surgery is to take the physical therapy very seriously and never give up," Rozelle said. "Meet your goals. The therapy is continuous and will be something you do every day to stay fit for your prosthetic device."

He doesn't see these injuries any differently than someone who might have a bad knee or back and has to go through rehabilitation, Rozelle said. It is necessary to be conscious about the injury; to be prepared.

"I can run, jump or walk on my leg, but obviously just not as fast as I used to," Rozelle said. "I pass the normal APFT, so I think that speaks for itself."

Rozelle asks people not to feel sorry for him or others in his situation. They are not quitters and give just as much if not more than anyone else in the Army, and that is commitment, he added.

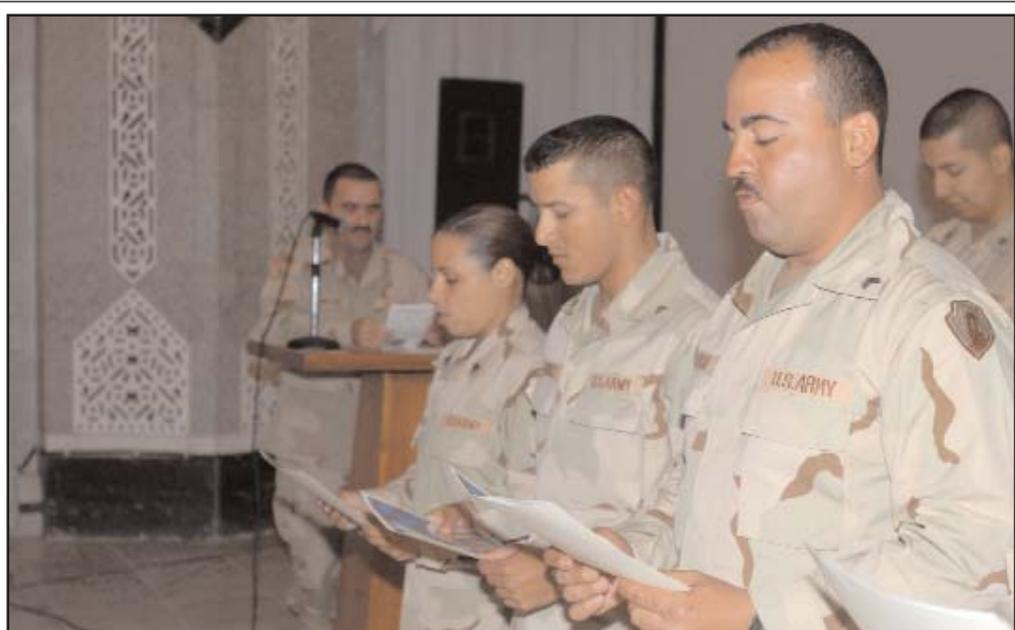


photo by Pic. Matthew Clifton/MNC-I PAO

Welcome to the Corps

New noncommissioned officers from the 166th Area Support Group lead a recital of the NCO Creed during an NCO induction ceremony April 5 at the Al-Faw Palace ballroom on Camp Victory.

Unraveling mystery of Camp Victory's wildlife

Spc. Jeremy Crisp
MNC-I PAO

There has been some question as to the identity of the big black and white bird that has been flying all over Camp Victory. Is it a crow? Maybe a magpie?

I've heard these questions on numerous occasions and just thought I'd clarify for you curious bird-watchers out there.

According to silflayhraka.com, the bird you've been seeing is a Mesopotamian Crow, also known as the Iraqi Pied Crow. It is found only in the Tigris/Euphrates river basin of Iraq and Southwestern Iran. It looks similar in all facets and is a subspecies of the United Kingdom's Hooded Crow.

The Hooded Crow is omnivorous, and the major difference between the two is the white plumage of the Mesopotamian Crow is more of a smoky gray on the Hooded Crow.

On another side of the wildlife spectrum, the Al-Faw palace lake is home to the Common Carp. According to www.biokids.umich.edu: "Carp are relatively broad, heavy-bodied fish. Carp often grow one to two feet in length and weigh one to eight pounds, but it is not uncommon for the Common Carp to reach 30 or 40 pounds.

"Carp are freshwater fish that live their entire lives in pools, streams, lakes and reservoirs. They prefer larger, warmer, slower-moving bodies of water with soft muddy bottoms, but they are tolerant and hardy fish that thrive in a wide variety of aquatic habitats," according to the Web site.

And for you anglers out there, Carp

eat anything. Especially nuts, beans and bread. They even eat candy. Sgt. David Foley, photojournalist, Multi-National Corps-Iraq Public Affairs Office, fishes regularly for Carp during his free time. He said he caught one recently that weighed about 10 pounds.

"I catch them all the time, and it's a blast," Foley said. The best way to catch them is to "ball up some bread, put it on the hook and throw it in near some small fish." he said. "The little fish will start pecking at it and that gets the smell in the water. Then the big ones come around."



photo by Spc. Jeremy Crisp/MNC-I PAO

The Mesopotamian Crow is indigenous to Iraq and Southwestern Iran and is sometimes mistaken for the United Kingdom's Hooded Crow.



photo by Sgt. Michael J. Carden/MNC-I PAO

A Common Carp nabs a piece of bread April 11 in the Al-Faw Palace Lake at Camp Victory, Iraq. The common carp is indigenous to the inland fresh bodies of water in Iraq, including the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

RESERVISTS

First-term Soldiers who have served between 17 months and six years fall into zone A and will be given 1.5 times their monthly base pay multiplied by the number of years they re-enlist, whereas Soldiers who have served between six and 10 years fall into zone B and will qualify for their base pay multiplied by the number of years they re-enlist.

Owen said Soldiers interested in finding out more about their re-enlistment options should contact their unit re-enlistment NCO.

(Editor's note: Some information in this story was gathered from an article written by Sgt. David Foley, Multi-National Corps - Iraq Public Affairs Office.)

Leishmaniasis leads to disfigurement, death

Sgt. 1st Class Helen Gillespie
44th MEDCOM

With all the scrapes and injuries Soldiers receive while performing their duties, a little bump may be something they easily overlook. However, if that little bump is the product of a sand fly bite, it may be more serious than suspected. It may be Leishmaniasis.

According to the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Leishmaniasis is a parasite that can be deposited in the skin by sand flies. Female Phlebotomine Sand Flies contract Leishmaniasis from dogs, rodents and even humans.

Only in rare cases can victims infect each other. Sand flies are the main carriers. "The only way to get the disease is from bites by infected sand flies," said Ron Ross, physician, 261st Area Support Medical Battalion. "It is not possible to tell whether an animal has Leishmaniasis without medical testing."

An occurrence of Leishmaniasis called Leishmaniasis, but is also known as Kala-azar, Oriental Sore, Espundia, Jericho Boil, Baghdad Button and Delhi Sore. The specific medical name for Leishmaniasis of the skin is Cutaneous Leishmaniasis.

See **LEISHMANIASIS**, Page 4

Voices of Victory:

What are you doing to cope with the upcoming heat?



"I'm going to stay out of the sun and wear sunscreen."

Spc. Noemi Martinez,
Headquarters and
Headquarters Company,
35th Signal Brigade



"I'm drinking lots of water."

Theodore A. Kinder,
switch technician,
Information Technology Systems



"I'm going to be inside where it's air-conditioned."

Staff Sgt. Tony Ball,
Headquarters and
Headquarters Company,
327th Signal Battalion,
35th Signal Brigade

Operating Hours

Coalition Cafe

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Dinner 5:30 - 8 p.m.
Midnight Dining 11:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Sports Oasis

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Dinner 5:30 - 9 p.m.

Shopette

Everyday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Camp Liberty Post Exchange

Everyday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Fitness Center

Open 24 Hours

Chapel

Sunday:

Protestant Worship 7 a.m.
Protestant Worship 9 a.m.
Catholic Mass 10:30 a.m.
Gospel Service Noon
Mormon (LDS) 2 p.m.
Episcopal 4 p.m.
Full Life Service 6 p.m.

Saturday:

7th Day Adventist 11 a.m.
Catholic Mass 8 p.m.

Hometown Greetings

There will be no hometown greetings this week due to other Multi-National Corps - Iraq public affairs missions. However, they will reconvene for the following week. Currently, the time and location has not been determined.

LEISHMANIASIS

Ross stressed the necessity for Soldiers to seek medical treatment if they have bumps or sores that are growing or not healing. "The disease will usually not go away unless treated," he said.

As for sand fly bites, skin bumps are the good news. The bad news is that some strains of CL can spread into the nose and mouth to become Mucocutaneous Leishmaniasis. This can become disfiguring and can happen long after the CL bumps have healed.

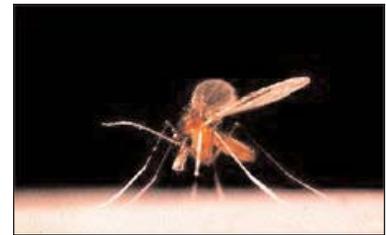
Visceral Leishmaniasis is the third form of Leishmaniasis and is deadly. It causes damage to the liver and spleen. VL is characterized by an irregular fever, but can only be diagnosed by an organ biopsy or by checking for the parasite in aspirated fluids by inserting a long needle into internal organs.

"It is not possible to predict whether an individual with or without cutaneous disease will get the visceral type of disease," Ross said.

Ross offered a solution that will prevent all types Leishmaniasis. "Getting early treatment is not the answer," he said. "Not getting bitten is. If someone is getting bitten, they need to find ways to stop getting bitten."

On the USACHPPM Web site, <http://www.apgea.army.mil/news/Leishmaniasis.asp>, several links explain how Soldiers can protect themselves from Leishmaniasis.

There are documents, pocket cards and flyers that can be printed for command use. The Web site stresses that Soldiers treat their uniforms with permethrin and spray mosquito netting with insect



Sand flies are the main carriers of Leishmaniasis and are very common in Iraq.

repellent that is at least 33 percent DEET.

Sand flies tend to bite at dusk and during the evening hours. Even during the day sand flies will bite if they have been disturbed. At night, sand flies can sneak through loosely-meshed mosquito netting.

"The rate of disease in U.S. troops is low, but in some areas the rate is many times the average," Ross said. "The rate in the Iraq population is high, especially in rural areas."

Victory MWR Events April 12 - 18

Today: Halo at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Crimson Sky at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Basketball coaches meeting at 12:30 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Classes at the Gym: Tae-Kwon-Do from 6 - 7 p.m.; Fencing from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Wednesday: Chess at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Island night at 7 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Classes at the Gym: Aerobics from 5 - 6:30 a.m. and from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.; Boxing from 8 - 9 p.m.

Thursday: Country night 7 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Ping Pong at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Classes at the Gym: Tae-Kwon-Do from 6 - 7 p.m.; Ping-Pong at 8 p.m.

Friday: Latin night at 7 p.m. and Salsa lessons at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Classes at the Gym: Aerobics from 5 - 6:30 a.m.

and from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.; Fencing from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Saturday: Hip-Hop night at 7 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Dominos at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Classes at the Gym: Aerobics from 6 - 7 a.m.; Tae-Kwon-Do from 6 - 7 p.m.; Boxing from 8 - 9 p.m.; 10-kilometer run at 7 a.m.

Sunday: Ping Pong at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Eight-Ball at 3 p.m. and Spades at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Classes at the Gym: Fencing practice from 9 - 11 a.m.; Fencing from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Monday: Spades at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Halo at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Aerobics 5 - 6:30 a.m. and from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.; Boxing from 8 - 9 p.m.

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