



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

The brass ensemble from the 3rd Infantry Division Band, played a number of patriotic songs as part of the May 30 Memorial Day remembrance ceremony held at Al-Faw Palace on Camp Victory.

Memorial Day ceremony held at Camp Victory

Spc. Mary Rose
MNC-I PAO

More than 200 Coalition troops and civilian contractors gathered to honor the fallen May 30 during a Memorial Day remembrance ceremony at Camp Victory's Al-Faw Palace.

Since April 2004, more than 860 U.S. and Coalition troops have lost their lives while serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. For many, the ceremony was more meaningful because they were not only remembering their forefathers, but their peers as well, said Staff Sgt. Leonard E.D. Alejos.

Alejos is the plans and operations noncommissioned officer-in-charge for Multi-National Corps -- Iraq's Chaplain's Office. He said Memorial Day is simply a wonderful opportunity for Americans to express themselves and to remember the many who sacrificed their lives for their country.

"Memorial Day is a chance to honor the fallen who stood to fight for the freedoms and things we enjoy as Americans," he said. "This

See CEREMONY, Page 2



Col. Arnaldo Claudio, provost marshal, Multi-National Corps -- Iraq, bows his head during the benediction of the May 30 Memorial Day remembrance ceremony at Al-Faw Palace, Camp Victory.

Executive Logistics Review Board meets at Al-Faw

Lt. Col. Glen Hince
MNC-I Logistics Office

More than 70 staff logisticians attended an Executive Logistics Review Board conference May 27 at Camp Victory's Al-Faw Palace.

The attendees included 14 general officers; leaders from seven major subordinate commands and separate brigades; and senior civilian contractors. The conference was held by the Multi-National Corps -- Iraq logistics section to provide an opportunity to review policy issues and decisions affecting the lives of Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines in the Operation Iraqi Freedom theater.

"The reason for the conference was to discuss challenges that require general officer and executive level support on policies and procedures that impact logistics in theater," said Lt. Col. Rich Bethel, staff officer, MNC-I Logistics Readiness Center.

The meetings were facilitated by Brig. Gen. James Huggins, MNC-I chief of staff. Huggins led discussions focused on critical logistical challenges facing Coalition forces, including Humvee refurbishment, armor for tactical vehicles, base closures, fielding of Enhanced Small Arms Protective Inserts for individual body armor vests and development of the Iraqi National Supply System, said Bethel.

Humvee refurbishment discussions centered on rebuilding damaged vehicles and adding additional protective armor. The new ESAPI protective armor has already been fielded to many deployed units, and talks centered on making it available to as many personnel in theater as possible. The INSS is in development, with key timelines established to provide Iraqi Security Forces long-term self-sustainment capabilities. As Coalition forces transition battle space to the Iraqi Security Forces, requirements exist for key leaders to provide policies, procedures and effective means to execute closure of base camps.

The ELRB is a continuing process used to review and improve existing policies that support logistical capabilities throughout Iraq and the supporting theater. Although many logistical topics were discussed, one common theme throughout the group of executive level officers was "improving logistical capabilities and meeting the needs of our Soldiers," Bethel said.

Chaplain's Corner

Thoughts from Multi-National Corps - Iraq's Chaplain's Office

What A Returning Spouse Should Remember

1. Don't disturb the family set-up that has been working well without you. Ease back into the system gradually. Try to enjoy being an honored guest for a while. Enjoy it!
2. Take it easy on the kids, especially where discipline is concerned. It's best for kids to have constant routines; let the current rules stand.
3. Don't try to alter the financial affairs. Chances are, your spouse has been handling them just fine. Remember that prices have probably soared while you were gone!
4. Expect your spouse to be a little envious of your travels. Go easy on the descriptions of seven-course meals or visited landmarks. Bring your spouse a gift!
5. Don't ask your spouse to pack the kids off to Grandma's so the two of you can have an intimate reunion. It's vital to reaffirm your bond with your children and for them to understand that you're back together as a family again. Later the two of you can slip away for a "second honeymoon."
6. Expect that sex may be awkward between the two of you at first. Talk it over; whatever you've imagined while you were gone, it serves no purpose to bring it up now. Respond to the present!
7. Expect your spouse to be different. Your spouse has become a more confident, independent person. The fact that a spouse can cope without you doesn't mean that he or she wants to continue to do so.

What A Stay-At-Home Spouse Should Remember

1. Expect your spouse to be different. Think how much you changed. So has he or she.
2. Remember that your spouse has been subject to daily regimentation and routine. He or she may rebel against schedules and preplanned events. Leave some room for spontaneity!
3. Expect your spouse to have trouble sleeping for a while. Adjustment to one's bed takes time.
4. Don't be defensive about the way you've handled the children. Discuss any of your spouse's criticisms calmly.
5. Expect that it will take time to re-establish sexual intimacy. The goal is an intimate relationship and not simply the act!
6. Your spouse may want to celebrate the return with a spending spree. If you can't afford it, hold tightly to your budget. The urge to spend will pass.
7. Expect your spouse to be surprised or hurt that you've coped so well alone. Reassure him or her that he or she is needed, without giving up your independence.

CEREMONY

particular ceremony is even more meaningful because we are in Iraq."

The brass ensemble from the 3rd Infantry Division Band performed patriotic songs, welcoming the guests to the ceremony. Chaplain (Col.) Daniel Miller, command chaplain, MNC-I, led the invocation and shared a few thoughts about the importance of Memorial Day.

"We assembled this day to remember those who, as principles, placed their bodies as barricades between our country and her enemies," he said in prayer.

Lt. Col. Robert A. Bullock Jr., MNC-I civil affairs officer, followed Miller's prayer with a song. He sang "On This Day," written by Charles Strouse, which represented the spirit, heart and memory of those lost in battle.

Brig. Gen. Daniel Bolger, deputy commander, MNC-I, spoke about troops who have gone to war in years prior.

"They went because they believed in America and to protect their families," Bolger said.

He made reference to the 101st Airborne Division's motto "Rendezvous with Destiny" and the destiny troops are now facing while serving in OIF.

"Much has been expected of this generation who has been called upon," he said. "Men and women, who we know well and remember today, lie in a final formation flanked by their comrades on green hills on the other side of the world."

With a list of the fallen service members from OIF projected on a screen, the ceremony concluded with a prayer of remembrance and then the echo of a bugler playing "Taps."

People in America are celebrating the Memorial Day holiday with family traditions like camping, picnics and spending time with family members who have been in the military, said Capt. Victor E. Trujillo, executive officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 20th Engineer Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C.

FAST Team Training

Camp Victory's First Assistance Support Team will hold a training event June 11 at 1 p.m. at the Golby Troop Medical Clinic to teach the proper tactics, techniques and procedures of packaging a patient for medical evacuation.

It will include how to strap patients to a litter, securing intravenous injections and loading patients in an ambulance and helicopter.

The FAST team will also hold a combat lifesaver re-certification class June 25 at 1:30 p.m. at the Golby TMC.

All personnel are welcome to attend.

For more information, contact

Sgt. Maj. James Richard at 318-822-3159, or e-mail him at james.richard@iraq.centcom.mil



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

This traditional memorial of a Soldier's boots, rifle with fixed bayonet, "dog" tags and helmet was displayed during a Memorial Day remembrance ceremony at Al-Faw Palace on Camp Victory in honor of the U.S. and Coalition service members who lost their lives while serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as well as those who have gone before.

Trujillo has been in the Army for five years. He deployed in support of OIF in 2003 with the 4th Infantry Division and is in Iraq for a second time with the 20th Eng. Bde.

"I think we are in a unique situation. Before, it was about our grandfathers and uncles. Now we are taking the time to remember those we have actually served with who have given the ultimate sacrifice -- people we have known, platoon sergeants, squad leaders," Trujillo said. "I've gained a new appreciation for the service having been in the Army and then having family who have served overseas as well."

The enemy regularly changes his tactics.

Do you?

STAY ALIVE

0006 IEDs KILL

Voices of Victory:

What is the most convenient luxury we have at Camp Victory?



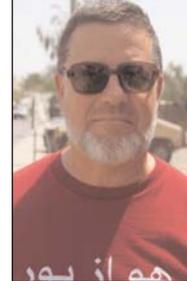
“The Red Cross provides a lot of support that I value, such as phone cards.”

Staff Sgt. Chris Major,
personnel
administration NCO,
Multi-National Corps - Iraq



“Being able to stay in touch with my family through phone calls and e-mails.”

Pfc. Kristi Crozier,
personnel
administration specialist,
Dragon Brigade,
XVIII Airborne Corps



“The centralized location of important facilities. You never have to go too far to get anything done.”

Kevin M. Smith,
intelligence office,
Multi-National Corps - Iraq

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

Open 24 Hours

Camp Liberty Post Exchange

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

Fitness Center

Open 24 Hours

Chapel

Sunday:

Protestant Service 7 a.m. and 8:45 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.

Mini-Chapel (Bldg. 2)

Friday:

Jewish Service 6:30 p.m.

Golby Troop Medical Clinic

Sick Call Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon

Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

Dental Sick call:

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Mental Health Clinic:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - noon

Post Deployment Health Briefings:

Monday - Friday 1 p.m.

Pharmacy:

Over the counter prescription refills

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon

Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon



photo by Pfc. Matthew Clifton/MNC-I PAO

Mass casualties

Soldiers use their combat lifesaver skills to load a mock casualty on to a litter during a camp-wide mass casualty exercise June 3 at Camp Victory. The concept of the operation was to make sure the Soldiers knew how to react and what to do during an insurgent attack on the camp. Look for the complete story in next week's issue.

Victory MWR Events June 7 - 13

Today: Spades at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Nine-ball at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Classes at the Gym: Tae-Kwon-Do from 6 - 7 p.m.; Fencing from 7:30 - 9 p.m.; Kajukenbo from 9 - 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Chess at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Spades 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.; Boxing from 8 - 9 p.m.

Thursday: Country Night at 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.; Kajukenbo from 9 - 10:30 p.m.; Volleyball coaches meeting at 12:30 p.m. at the Gym.

Friday: Halo at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Latin 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.; Fencing from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Saturday: Talent show and hip-hop night at 7 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Dominoes at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Classes at the Gym: Tae-Kwon-Do from 6 - 7 p.m.; Boxing from 8 - 9 p.m.

Sunday: Ping Pong at 8 p.m. and Volleyball Tournament at Bldg. 124; Eight-Ball Tournament at 3 p.m. and Chess 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.; Kajukenbo from 9 - 9:30 p.m.

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

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Victory Weekly welcomes columns, commentaries, articles and letters from our readers. Send submissions or comments to
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