



Voluntary Anthrax vaccine now available

Troops in 'high-risk Iraq' can get immunization through recent Defense Department legislation



photo by Pfc. Matthew Clifton/MNC-I PAO

Soldiers deployed to certain "high-risk" areas of the world, such as Iraq, are now given the opportunity to receive the Anthrax vaccination thanks to emergency use legislation allowing military personnel to volunteer for the injection.

Pfc. Matthew Clifton
MNC-I PAO

Troops and military personnel deployed to certain "high-risk" areas who have not been vaccinated for Anthrax will now be given the opportunity to receive the injections voluntarily thanks to an emergency Department of Defense authorization.

Recognizing the need to provide some kind of protection from Anthrax, the DoD requested through the Secretary of Health and Human Services that Anthrax vaccinations be available through what is known as an Emergency Use Authorization, said Col. Steve Jones, director, Military Vaccine Agency, Office of the Army

Surgeon General, Washington D.C.

"This authorization was crucial because the injunction put on the vaccinations restricted the voluntary administering of the vaccine as well as the mandatory," Jones said.

The EUA allows personnel to receive protection against chemical, biological and nuclear threats, such as Anthrax, through voluntary treatment. The EUA was approved Jan. 27, but there were many procedures that needed to be followed before the vaccinations could be distributed to where they were needed, Jones explained.

Prior to Oct. 27, 2004, the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program was a mandatory program

See **ANTHRAX**, Page 3

Service members carry on 'hash' tradition at Victory

Senior Airman Chawntain Sloan
MNC-I PAO

The chase is on, and the hounds are hot on the hare's trail, but this isn't an ordinary scavenger hunt led by the Easter Bunny. This conniving hare will do almost anything to throw even the most skilled hound off track.

It's a challenge that about 35 service members, Department of Defense employees and contract civilians who are part of the Lost Lake Hash House Harriers at Camp Victory welcome every Sunday at 7 p.m.

While the Lost Lake hashers have been pursuing the hare for about three months, the worldwide tradition of hashing, as the running sport is commonly known, stems back a couple centuries. During times and in locations where hunting game was sparse, men were substituted for

hares and hunted by their peers in a non-lethal game called Hares and Hounds or Paper Chase, said 1st Lt. David Dixon, the Lost Lake Hash House Harriers' master of ceremonies, or songmeister, as fellow hashers call him.

Since a man's sense of smell is not as keen as a hound dog's, the "hare" would lay a trail for the hunters to follow using scrap paper.

"It's a running game, but you don't realize you're actually running," said Dixon. "You're running hard, trying to catch the hare. If you are the hare, you're running to try to not be caught, but you're having fun doing it, so you don't really realize the workout you are getting."

In 1938, Albert Stephen Ignatius Gispert recreated the age-old Paper Chase game with his fraternity, which met weekly at the Selangor Club Chambers in Malaysia. Because of its bland

food, the club became known as the Hash House, and the Hash House Harriers were born.

Currently, about 1,500 other groups -- including the Lost Lake Hash House Harriers -- are listed in the World Hash House Harriers Database, maintained online by Global Trash, the world hash publisher, at www.gthhh.com.

"There is a hash in just about every major city in the world," said Dixon, who has been a participant in several hash groups stateside and overseas since 1996. "Each hash has different ways of doing things, but essentially, there are traditions, not rules."

While some groups may only meet on a monthly basis or to commemorate special holidays, the Lost Lake Hash House Harriers attempt to recreate the social camaraderie founded with

See **HASH**, Page 2

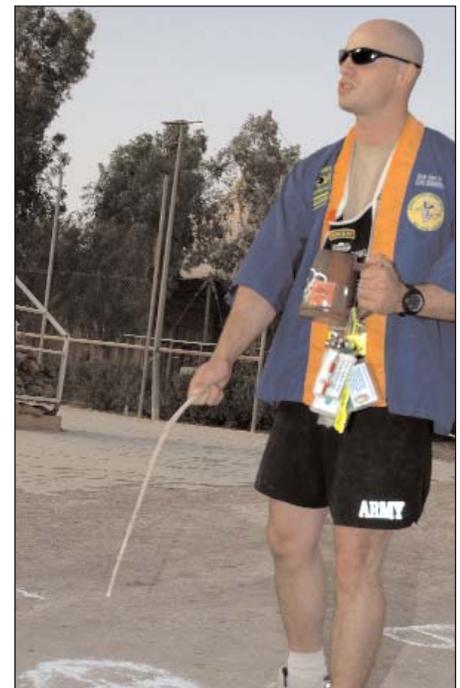


photo by Senior Airman Chawntain Sloan/MNC-I PAO

1st Lt. David Dixon, the Lost Lake Hash House Harriers' songmeister at Camp Victory, talks about the various markings the Lost Lake hashers may encounter along the trail while pursuing a hare.

HASH

the original non-competitive sport every week.

"We meet up at a different location each week, which is usually disclosed at the previous hash," said Dixon.

The Lost Lake hashers start each hash by introducing who they are, where they are from and what hash group they belong to.

Most people who have hashed with other groups have nicknames that were given to them based on the stories they shared with their group. Those who don't already have nicknames are usually given a name by the Lost Lake hashers after their fifth time hashing, Dixon said.

"Some of the names and songs are not politically correct, but it's all in jest. People have to have a thick skin and a sense of humor, or they are not going to enjoy what we do," he said.

Once everyone has been formally introduced, the hare is blessed with a traditional song and sent on his or her way.

"The hare usually gets a 10- to 15-minute head start, during which we socialize, sing a few songs and stretch out," Dixon said. "When I determine that it has been 10 to 15 minutes, I announce 'On on!' and everyone breaks the circle and starts following the trail."

Using flour in place of scrap paper, like the traditional game, the hare maps out the trail along with several detours designed to confuse the hounds.

"The hare's goal is to not get caught but still lay a trail that is easily followed by the pack," said Dixon. "One dot of flour marks the trail until there is an intersection. Once they reach the

intersection, the runners are left to their own devices to try and figure out which is the right trail to follow. The pack usually breaks up a little bit at this point, which helps the hare get further ahead."

The runners work as a group to decipher the meaning of the different markings and try to snare the hare before reaching the end of the trail.

"Trying to find the right trail is my favorite part because it's like a big mystery," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Cheryl Migas, who recently joined the group. "You have to follow it to figure it out."

"Depending on the hare, the trail can be anywhere from a half-mile to as long as four miles," said Dixon.

To ensure that the hashers don't get dehydrated, there are beverage checkpoints along the way.

"The preferred beverage of hashers is beer," said Dixon. "Here, we are a dry hash, but we have a variety of nonalcoholic beers and Gatorade available."

The beer checks, as they are called, also serve as a means for the hare to get further ahead. They usually slow everyone down for about five to 10 minutes because people start to socialize and don't realize how much time they are wasting, said Dixon.

"Eventually, the trail will come to an end, and it's usually never at the same place it starts," said Dixon. "It's usually at an undisclosed location that nobody knows about except the hare. That way, no one runs straight to the end, and if the hare decides to run back to the start, no one will be



"Traction No Action," of the Lost Lake Hash House Harriers at Camp Victory, lays flour to set the trail for a June 12 hash.

there waiting for him or her. The objective is not to win the hash, it's to find the right trail and catch the hare."

At the conclusion of the hash just as at the start, the songmeister takes accountability to make certain that no one went missing along the way.

"We then circle back up, and I initiate punishment or reward," said Dixon. "We bring people in the circle and sing songs to embarrass them for things like missing a couple of hashes in a row, being the first or last person to finish and shortcutting the trail."

"Hashes all have different aspects, so you never know what's going to be a violation," said Migas, who started hashing in 1997 with Osan Bulgogi Hash House Harriers at Osan Air Base, Korea. "But, it's all in fun. You don't have to do anything you don't want to do. If you don't like it, you can always walk away."

For more information about the Lost Lake Hash House Harriers, log on to their homepage at www.sports.group.yahoo.com/group/lostlakeh3/ or contact Dixon at 822-1662.

For more information about the history of hashing or other hash groups, log on to Global Trash at www.gthhh.com.

The Lost Lake Hash House Harriers will continue the chase with a new hare and a new trail this Sunday starting at 7 p.m. in the parking lot near the Sports Oasis dining facility stage.

"I don't want to discourage anyone from joining, but if you're easily offended, this is not the group for you," said Dixon. "If you're not a runner, that doesn't matter. It's not a race, so it's not about winning."



photos by Senior Airman Chawntain Sloan/MNC-1 PAO

Service members, Department of Defense employees and contract civilians of the Lost Lake Hash House Harriers at Camp Victory spend their Sunday evenings hashing, which is a worldwide tradition that stems back a couple centuries to a time when Paper Chase and Hares and Hounds were popular games.

ANTHRAX

implemented by the DoD that required personnel stationed in specific regions of the world to be vaccinated.

"On Oct. 27, a Judge from the United States District Court for the District of Columbia put an injunction on the program, effectively halting the mandatory vaccination for Anthrax," Jones said.

The judge put an injunction on the program because the Food and Drug Administration needed to properly comply with certain procedures before stating that the anthrax vaccine was specifically effective against the inhalation of Anthrax, Jones said.

"The FDA has repeatedly stated that the vaccine does in fact protect against all forms of Anthrax exposure, but the judge has required cer-

tain procedures be followed before reinstating the mandatory vaccinations," Jones explained.

To implement the voluntary program in Iraq, U.S. Central Command published an implementation message. Multi-National Corps - Iraq then followed by publishing a fragmentary order, pushing information about the program down through each subordinate command, Jones continued.

"Now that we have authorization of the EUA, our goal is to go out and educate our troops and personnel as to the benefits of the vaccination program," Jones said.

An individual who volunteers must either be briefed on the specifics of the vaccination through a PowerPoint presentation, or be given an EUA pamphlet which explains the specifics of the vaccination procedures, according to www.anthrax.mil/EUA, a Web site providing more specific information about the program and its history.

"The individual must also be able to ask any questions or address any concerns about the procedure before deciding whether or not to accept the vaccine," Jones said.

Also, the military medical providers of the vaccine are required to take a refresher course reviewing the correct way to administer the shots, Jones added.

After the individual decides to accept the treatment, it is just like any other vaccination. They sign in, get screened, roll up their sleeve and get the shot, Jones continued.

"We began administrating Anthrax vaccinations in this theater on June 11," Jones said. "The vaccinations can be received on the major Troop Medical Clinics of each base.

"The vaccine used for this program is the same vaccine licensed by the FDA back in 1970," Jones said. "We have given over 5 million doses of the vaccine to over 1.3 million military and civilian personnel since we started the mandatory vaccinations in 1998."

Find the potential Improvised Explosive Device.



Answer: E
All of the above.

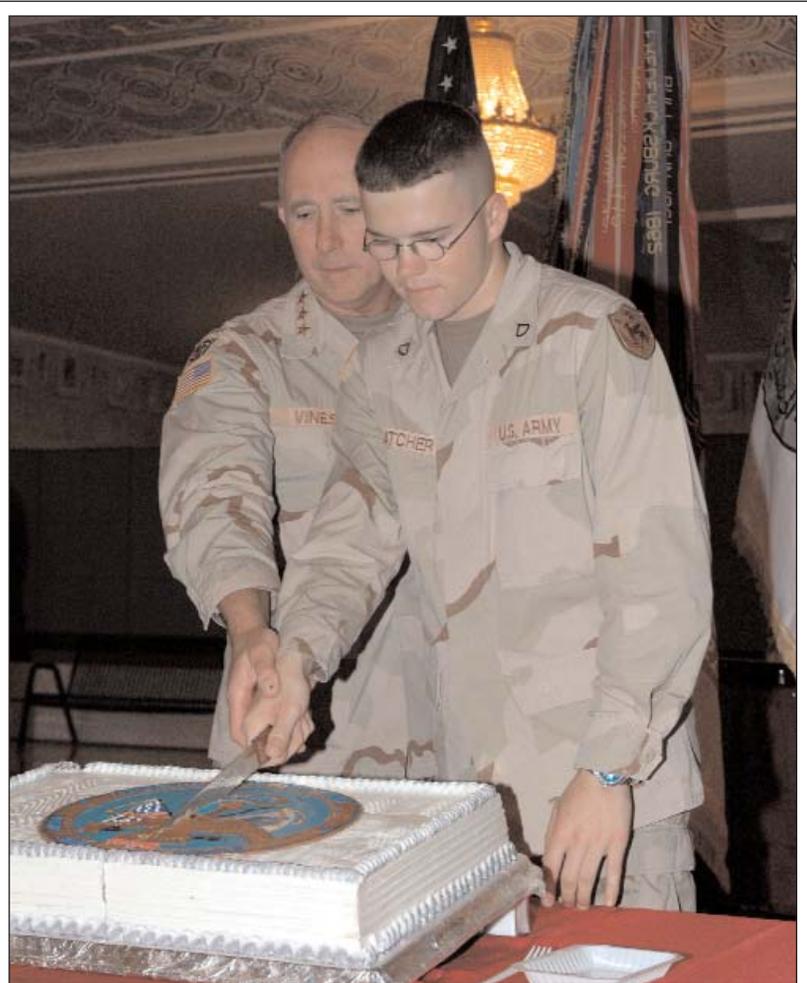


photo by Spc. Jeremy D. Crisp/MNC-I PAO

Happy 230th, Army

Lt. Gen. John R. Vines, commander, Multi-National Corps - Iraq, and Pfc. David L. Bratcher, Multi-National Force - Iraq's most junior Soldier, cut the first piece of cake in a June 14 celebration of the Army's 230th birthday at Al-Faw Palace on Camp Victory.

Voices of Victory: What item do you want at the post exchange that's not available?



"A more up-to-date music selection."

Staff Sgt. Mortrick Barry, fitness and recreation, Expeditionary Services, 447th Air Expeditionary Group



"Pants."

Anita Thompson, Information Technology, Kellogg Brown & Root



"A Sony (Play Station Portable)."

Spc. Roderick Williams, military police, 42nd Military Police 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 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.

Post Office Hours

8 a.m. - 8 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 - 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



courtesy photo by Kim Minh Gibbon

Come home soon

Saterra Sang Gibbon, 5, sends a message to her father, Maj. Sinh Gibbon, May 28 from their home in Boise, Idaho. Maj. Gibbon, an operations officer with Multi-National Corps - Iraq, is deployed to Baghdad in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

MNC-I Courts Martial results

April 3 -- A specialist, 1st Corps Support Command, was convicted by a special court-martial of wrongfully receiving and concealing stolen property. Sentence: To be reprimanded, forfeiture of \$625 pay per month for three months and hard labor without confinement for three months.

May 4 -- A specialist, 1st Corps Support Command, was convicted by a special court-martial of disobeying a noncommissioned officer and violating General Order 1. Sentence: Reduced to E-1, forfeiture of \$823 pay per month for seven months, confinement for seven months and discharged with a bad-conduct discharge.

May 24 -- A sergeant, 1st Corps Support Command, was convicted by a special court-martial of violating General Order 1, dereliction of duty, driving while intoxicated and drunk on duty. Sentence: Reduced to E-2, forfeiture of \$500 pay per month for four months and confinement for four months.

May 24 -- A sergeant, 1st Corps Support Command, was convicted by a special court-martial of violating General Order 1, attempting to flee apprehension, damaging military property through neglect, driving while intoxicated, drunk on duty and wrongfully and willfully discharging a firearm that endangered human life. Sentence: Reduced to E-1, forfeiture of \$823 pay per month for eight months, confinement for eight months and discharged with a bad-conduct discharge.

Victory MWR Events June 21 - 27

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.

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: Reggae and hip-hop night at 7 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Softball coaches meeting at 6 p.m. and 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. 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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