



22-year veteran receives purple heart



photo by Sgt. David Foley/ MNC-I PAO

Brig. Gen. Peter M. Vangjel (left), commander, XVIII Airborne Corps Artillery, Fort Bragg, N.C., pins the Purple Heart on Sgt. Maj. Dave Jenkins, fire support sergeant major, XVIII Abn. Corps Arty., March 24 in Al-Faw Palace for injuries he suffered while conducting a security operation during the investigation of a shooting incident that involved Italian journalist Giuliana Sgrena.

Sgt. David Foley

MNC-I PAO

An XVIII Airborne Corps sergeant major was awarded the Purple Heart March 24 during a ceremony on a balcony at Al-Faw Palace.

"Wrong place, wrong time," said Sgt. Maj. Dave Jenkins, fire support sergeant major, XVIII Airborne Corps Artillery, Fort Bragg, N.C., of the events that led to his injuries. "It could have happened to anyone. It just happened to me."

Jenkins was tasked to perform personal security for Brig. Gen. Peter M. Vangjel, XVIII Abn. Corps Arty. commander, and an Italian ambassador, during the investigation of a shooting incident in Baghdad that resulted in the death of an Italian intelligence officer who rescued Italian reporter Giuliana Sgrena who was kidnapped by insurgents.

While the dignitaries were examining the site, Jenkins said he noticed an unusual amount of activity near a bridge in the area, which told him something wasn't right.

"I thought that with the amount of VIPs who were present, we should start moving back to the vehicles and depart the area," he said. "About five minutes later, I put the

Italian ambassador and General Vangjel into their up-armored Humvee, and I was moving back to mine."

Jenkins stayed outside his vehicle to pull security so he would be able to take action quickly in the event there was an attack on the vehicle containing the VIPs.

"Moments later, I heard an explosion and felt a blast come from the rear of the vehicle," he said.

Jenkins said he first thought the explosion came from an improvised explosive device, but then realized that it was a smaller device -- a hand grenade thrown from the bridge overhead. Fragments struck him in the lower left leg and buttocks.

"As soon as I recognized I was injured, I checked my wounds, got into the vehicle and made recommendations to get out of the local area," he said.

Despite being pelted with hot shrapnel, Jenkins determined that his wounds were not too severe and remained in the vehicle for the duration of the trip back to Camp Victory.

Once the convoy made its way to the Camp Victory Troop Medical Center,

See **PURPLE HEART**, Page 3

Bugling paratrooper carries on family tradition

Sgt. Michael J. Carden

MNC-I PAO

He was six years old when his grandmother first showed him the bugle. She told him its history and the stories of the Shoults men who carried it to war, and of how the family tradition began in 1916 when his grandfather, a former U.S. Army sergeant with the Minnesota National Guard, carried the bugle to the Mexican border during the U.S. Army's search for Pancho Villa, the rebel general of the Mexican Revolution. His grandfather also carried the bugle during World War I.

His grandmother also spoke of how his father, an Army fighter

pilot, never learned to play the bugle, but still carried it to battle during World War II. His uncle, an Air Force pilot, continued the tradition during Vietnam.

"My grandmother told me that the bugle had been sitting at her house since my uncle got back from Vietnam, and one day the bugle may belong to me," said Maj. Hugh Shoults, operations officer, Task Force Dragon, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, N.C.

His grandmother's premonition was correct. Shoults is the current caretaker of the family's bugle. He began playing Army bugle calls, such as "assembly," "veille" and "Taps" as a youngster in Spokane, Wash.

"My father couldn't play, but being a WWII veteran, he knew the different bugle calls," Shoults said. "He would hum the bugle calls to me, and I would play them. That's how I learned."

Shoults continued with his musical interests in high school. He played the trumpet, which is a sister instrument of the bugle and is played in a similar manner.

Although Shoults played the trumpet in high school, he never played his family's bugle publicly until he was in college.

As a Reserve Officer Training Corps cadet at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Shoults, proud of his family's tradition, kept the bugle with him. He played his family's

bugle for the first time in public during a memorial ceremony the university held for the crew of the Challenger Space Shuttle, who were killed during the shuttle's explosion shortly after take-off Jan. 28, 1986. Shoults played "Taps," in their honor, he said.

"It was an emotional ceremony, but I was happy to play," Shoults said.

Upon completion of ROTC and college, Shoults was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army's Chemical Corps. He was stationed in Vicenza, Italy, with 3rd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division.

See **BUGLE**, Page 2

Preventive Points:

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

Eye Protection

■ Many people are aware that using sunscreen protects their skin from the harmful effects of the sun, but our eyes also need protection. If not properly protected, the eyes are just as vulnerable to disease and degeneration as the skin.

■ According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology, exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays can cause cataracts and macular degeneration. Both are leading causes of blindness. Wearing sunglasses or broad-brimmed hats are a couple of ways to prevent damage.

■ Wearing protective goggles while in a swimming pool and also while performing duties outside will lower the risk of potential eye damage.

■ Wearing protective eyewear while playing games such as basketball, volleyball and soccer may minimize harm too.

■ If sand or small debris gets into your eye, use eyewash to flush it out. Do not rub your eye. If the debris doesn't come out, lightly bandage the eye and see a doctor.

■ If you receive a blow to the eye, gently apply small, cold compresses to reduce pain and swelling. Do not apply any pressure. Seek emergency medical care if there is pain, reduced vision or discoloration, such as a black eye. If you receive cuts or punctures to your eye, place a bandage on it without pressure. Seek emergency medical care immediately. Do not attempt to wash your eye or remove any object from your eye.

BUGLE

While he was assigned there, he deployed to the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Desert Storm. He also deployed to Liberia.

"I didn't really let anyone know that I had the bugle with me," Shoultz said. "I pretty much carried it around in my rucksack."

In Bosnia as a young lieutenant, Shoultz worked with Maj. Richard Hooker, who is now a colonel and Shoultz' brigade commander in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Colonel Hooker remembered from Bosnia that I had my family's bugle," Shoultz said. "He made sure to remind me to bring it to Iraq with me this time."

Since January, when Shoultz deployed to Camp Victory in support of OIF, he has played his bugle for one memorial ceremony. On Valentine's Day, he played "Taps" at a service held for an explosive ordnance disposal Soldier who was killed in action earlier that week.

"When I heard about the EOD Soldier who was killed, I offered to play my bugle at his memorial," Shoultz said. "I thought it would mean more to the troops, rather than "Taps" being played on a sound system or tape recorder."

Playing "Taps" at the Soldier's memorial ceremony was more difficult than anticipated for Shoultz. This was the first time he had played for a memorial service since November 2003, when he played at his own father's funeral service, fulfilling a promise that he made to his father many years before he passed away, he said.

"The EOD memorial was very emotional for me," Shoultz said. "I almost lost it right there. I had not played since my father's funeral."

Although playing the bugle at future memori-



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

Maj. Hugh Shoultz, operations officer, Task Force Dragon, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, N.C., is the third generation of Shoultz men to carry this particular bugle to combat. The family's tradition began with his grandfather in 1916. Shoultz father and uncle carried the bugle in battle in World War II and Vietnam.

al services may resurface sad memories for Shoultz, he'll continue the family tradition to carry and play his bugle in honor of his fallen comrades, he said.

"It's a great tradition," Shoultz said. "I feel honored and proud to carry my family's bugle."

Since Shoultz' grandfather first carried the bugle nearly a century ago, the old brass bugle has been through eight American and allied conflicts, representing almost 90 years of sacrifice and selfless service by American Soldiers, Marines, airmen and sailors. It has traveled over three oceans and four continents, serving in battle with those service members in the hands of three generations of Shoultz.

"I've got two children," Shoultz said. "Shelly is 6, and my son, Nick, is 7. If either of them choose to serve in the military, I will give them the bugle and expect them to carry on the tradition. If not, they can keep it and give it to their children. I'm sure someone in our family, down the line, will serve again."

Tax services available for active and retired service members on Victory

Client Services Office

Multi-National Corps - Iraq

Soldiers on Camp Victory can now file their tax returns while deployed to the Operation Iraqi Freedom theater.

Multi-National Corps - Iraq's Client Services Office offers tax services to individuals who are entitled to Judge Advocate General legal service. This includes all active duty military, Department of Defense employees here under orders and retirees with an ID card.

These services will not be offered to civilian contractors

unless they are retirees or widows.

The tax services will be offered on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 3 - 7 p.m. Client Services is located off of Jackson Street in the trailers next to buildings 93 and 94, near the courthouse and mosque.

Personnel who are interested will need to gather their W-2 forms, any 1099 forms they may have received and any other tax documents that the Internal Revenue Service generates. This includes, but is not limited to, student loan interest payments and mortgage interest payments.

Soldiers also need to bring their checking or savings account information, including their account number and financial institution's routing number, if they want their refund electronically deposited.

If Soldiers want their deposit to go to the same account as their military pay, the information can be found at www.mypay.dfas.mil, under miscellaneous EFT. W-2 forms may also be downloaded from the Web site.

Personnel who are serving in a combat zone during the tax year for which they are filing, or during the filing period for that tax year, qual-

ify for a 180-day extension to file.

The extension is automatic, and there are no forms to fill out. The extension begins on the Soldiers' first day of return to a non-combat zone. Personnel who deploy to a qualified combat zone on or before April 14 will automatically have 180 days after their return to a non-combat zone to file their taxes for the year 2004 without penalties or interest.

For more information, contact Capt. Sarah Brennan Dejesus and Spc. Jason Cooley at 318-822-2864, or e-mail at MNC-IClient@iraq.centcom.mil.

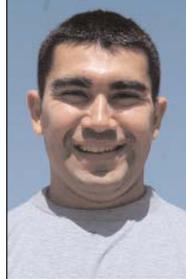
Voices of Victory:

What do you do in your free time on Camp Victory?



"I like to sit in my room reading books or watching movies."

Sgt. Claudia Brown,
topographical analyst,
175th Engineer Company,
20th Eng. Brigade,
Fort Bragg, N.C.



"I go to the gym."

Pfc. David Balderama,
intelligence analyst,
Multi-National Corps - Iraq



"I like to do some extra PT and read."

Capt. Lauren Miller,
operations officer,
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 - 9 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

Send a greeting to your family, friends and loved ones. The MNC-I Public Affairs Office wants to put you on T.V. We will be videotaping shout-outs on Friday at Task Force Dragon Headquarters near Building 12 from 1:15 - 2:15 p.m.

PURPLE HEART

Jenkins was initially treated for his wounds. Once the medics at the TMC patched Jenkins up, they called for a medical evacuation team to take him to the 86th Combat Support Hospital in Baghdad for further evaluation.

The doctors at the CSH verified that Jenkins' wounds were not life-threatening. In fact, they were much less severe than they could have been.

"Having been in this type of work for 22 years, I know that any type of explosive and/or hand grenade-type device being thrown off a bridge or over your position becomes a dangerous situation," he said. "Most are designed to blow up over the top of a vehicle or person, and that could have very easily happened in my case."

Jenkins said he would have probably suffered serious wounds to the head and upper body if the grenade had exploded before it hit the ground.

"I believe I'm very fortunate," Jenkins said. "I believe everybody has an angel, and I think my angel was active that day."

Despite feeling lucky for being alive after such a close encounter with a grenade, Jenkins said he sees some level of irony in the event.

Jenkins served with Special Forces for 10 years. He was in situations that appeared much more dangerous but remained unscathed.

"I think it's incredible that I would have been down

there with six men guarding people when the events occurred. I have been with 12 men in a built-up area with hundreds of people; I've walked away unhurt, so there is quite a bit of irony there," he said.

One of Jenkins' comrades, Lt. Col. Michael Moore, Iraqi Security Forces chief, XVIII Airborne Corps, knows how valuable Soldiers like Jenkins are to the Army, and said he was thankful that the damage the grenade inflicted was minimal.

"In two short words, he is a stellar Soldier," Moore said. "He started working for me in the ISF cell, and I recognized his capabilities immediately in the mission of building Iraqi security forces here in country."

"When I heard he was injured, I said what probably anybody would have said: 'How bad is he hurt, and is he going to be ok?' I was relieved at the fact he just received minor injuries," he said. "To have lost a stellar Soldier like that would have really impacted the Army."

When the incident occurred, Jenkins was already on orders to return to Fort Bragg to prepare 1st Battalion, 377th Field Artillery Regiment, XVIII Abn. Corps Arty., for its deployment to Iraq in November, something Moore said he is fully capable of.

Jenkins said he plans to take some time off to spend with his family and nurse his wounds when he returns to the U.S., but is prepared to assume his new duties of command sergeant major and lead his men to battle.

Victory MWR Events March 29 - April 4

Today: Karaoke at 8 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Splinter Cell 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.

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

Thursday: Halo at 8 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.

Friday: Salsa Lessons at 8 p.m. and Salsa night at 9 p.m. at Bldg. 51; Classes at the Gym: Aerobics from 5 - 6 p.m. and Fencing from 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Saturday: Basketball at the cage; Hip-Hop night at 9 p.m. at Bldg. 124; Dominoes 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.

Sunday: Basketball at the cage; 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 7:30 - 9 p.m.

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

MNC-I Commanding General: Lt. Gen. John R. Vines **MNC-I Production Chief:** Sgt. Mark St.Clair
MNC-I Public Affairs Officer: Col. Billy J. Buckner **Victory Weekly Chief:** Sgt. Michael J. Carden
MNC-I PA Sergeant Major: Sgt. Maj. John E. Brenci **Victory Weekly Staff:** Spc. Mary Rose

Victory Weekly is an authorized electronic publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of this electronic publication are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. Government or the Department of Defense. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Public Affairs Office of Multi-National Corps - Iraq.

Victory Weekly welcomes columns, commentaries, articles and letters from our readers. Send submissions or comments to michael.carden@iraq.centcom.mil, or drop by Trailer 40 behind Building 0.

We reserve the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity and space.