

# TIGER

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Designed by: Spc. Chris Foster

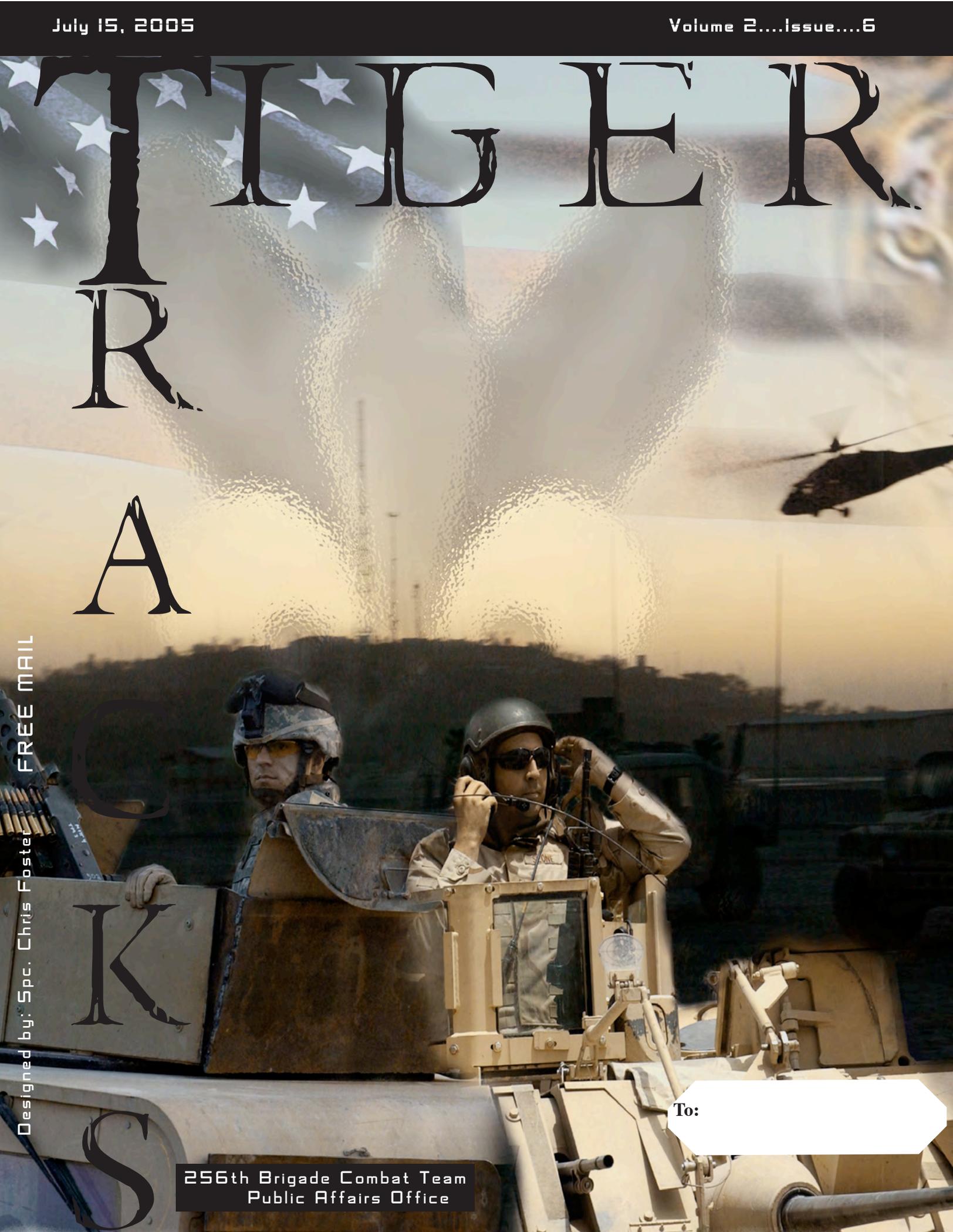
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256th Brigade Combat Team  
Public Affairs Office

To:



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# TO THE FAMILIES AND TROOPS

**BG John Basilica, Jr.**  
256 BCT Commander



It has been another eventful two weeks since the last edition of the Tiger Tracks and across the Brigade Combat Team, our Soldiers have distinguished themselves in combat and in many other non-lethal missions. All of them contribute to the Tiger Brigade's total mission and it takes the kind of

team effort that I am seeing to achieve the level of success we currently enjoy. The 256 BCT is making a difference every day and I could not be prouder of you.

Speaking of pride, there is an issue that I would like to discuss in the remainder of my message to you in this edition. As the final months of our combat tour in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III approach, the vast majority of Soldiers in the BCT have distinguished themselves by their courageous and dedicated performance. You are all heroes in the fullest sense of the word and no one can take that away from you. But there is something that can overshadow this enormously positive accomplishment in

your life and that is conviction of a criminal act. I am extremely disappointed with the number of Soldiers who have engaged in illegal and inappropriate activities. Most prominently are those Soldiers who have engaged in the use and distribution of controlled substances. My position on this subject has not changed since our activation some 14 months ago; zero tolerance. Unfortunately, there have been too many Soldiers that have risked much for some short lived gratification or profit and many have been caught. You have read in the Tiger Tracks the sentences of some of those Soldiers as a result of their court martial. Many have been sentenced to significant jail time and forfeiture of most of their pay. Many have received bad conduct discharges. Sadly, there are more to come. These Soldiers will return home in disgrace. They will return home with a criminal record that will follow them for the rest of their lives. Instead of getting every advantage a decorated war hero deserves, they will instead be denied and face an up hill battle to regain their reputation.

You have all risked much in battle. You and your families have sacrificed much to defend your country. Do not take any other foolish risks with the rest of your life. You owe it to yourself and your family to maintain and protect your good name. If you need help, please call on your chain of command for assistance.

**TIGER BRIGADE!**

**CSM James Mays**  
256 BCT Sergeant Major



Soldiers of the Tiger Brigade, it's time to start packing your bags and loading the conexes! You need to take accountability of your TA-50 issued at Ft. Hood. Some of this gear will be turned in and some will go with you to your home of record.

If you don't want to be charged for any missing items you need to make

sure you account for everything. Do not throw anything away, no matter how worn out it is. Bring it to your supply section and let them make the call. The TA-50 you do not use will be packed away in a conex here, and you will not see it again until you get back to your home armory. At that time you will be able to clean everything and turn it in.

As for your personal items, especially if it is a large amount, mail it all home. Make sure you do not send anything that is illegal. You all have come too far to get into trouble for that. If you have any doubts as to what is acceptable or not, talk to your first sergeant, and he will

pass on the information you need. Continue to do the right thing, and we will have a good transition home.

## Editor's Note:

*Dear Soldiers and Families,*

*We currently have two in-country editions of the Tiger Tracks remaining. Please send us your story ideas, submissions, and comments. If you have an event or mission you would like us to cover, please contact the PAO office or go through your chain of command.*

*We welcome photos, letters to the editor, story ideas or even your own submissions. When sending photos, please include a description of the photo (the 5W's) and send the highest resolution version available. We look forward to your input.*

*1Lt. Taysha Deaton  
256th BCT PAO*

# Chaplain's Corner

**Lt. Col. Robert Baker**  
**256 BCT Chaplain**

This month, I wish to focus on something most of us know little about. John 15 records the teaching by Jesus on the Vine and the Branches. "I am the true vine and my Father is the vineyard keeper. Every branch in ME that does not produce fruit He removes. HE prunes every branch that produces fruit, so that it will produce more fruit."

There has been much discussion over the years on just what Jesus is teaching here. Is he saying that branches that do not produce fruit will be destroyed? The word removed in this passage has been translated incorrectly by many. The Greek word for removed is "AIRO" which literally means to lift up or take away. The teaching of Jesus is that each vine is very valuable and each one is cultivated and tended by the One who keeps the vineyard.

Anyone who grows vineyards will tell you that as each new vine grows, it naturally wants to run along the ground. The Vineyard Keeper comes in and carefully picks the vine from off the ground, washes the dust off, and tenderly places and secures it to a trellis so that the vine can stay dry and not mildew and produce little fruit. The vine that stays clean and dry and receives plenty of sunshine will prosper and produce much fruit. What a beautiful picture of how we are cared for by the Father. He does not cut us off because our fruit bearing is lacking, but He cares for us so that we can bear much fruit. Our challenge is to stay off the ground, get plenty of air and sunshine so that we can be the fruit bearers that the Father expects us to be.

"I am the true vine and my Father is the vineyard keeper."

--John 15:1

## New Tiger Chapel Schedule

### Sunday:

- 0900 Roman Catholic Mass - CH Sanchez
- 1030 Contemporary Protestant - CH Madrid / Gillett
- 1230 Gospel Protestant - CH Baker
- 1500 Traditional Protestant - CH Lucas
- 1900 Non Denominational Christian - CH Staunton

### Monday:

- 1830 Roman Catholic Mass - CH Sanchez (p)
- 1900 "R.C.I.A. Catechetical Instruction" - CH Sanchez (p)
- 1900 "The Gospel of John" - CH Lucas (s)
- 2000 "Tough Questions Bible Study" - CH Wagenmaker (s)

### Tuesday:

- 1800 "Every Man's Battle" - SFC Martin (c)
- 1900 "Wild At Heart" (Men's Bible Study) - CH Madrid (s)
- 1900 Financial Peace University - SFC. Bucy

### Wednesday:

- 1300 Marriage Enrichment -CH. Staunton
- 1800 Catholic Choir practice - SPC Istre (s)
- 1830 Roman Catholic Mass - CH Sanchez (p)
- 1900 "Band of Brothers" -CH Gillett (c)
- 2000 "Old Testament Shadows of Christ" - CH Lucas (p)

### Thursday:

- 1900 Contemporary Praise Team Practice - SPC Istre (s)
- 1900 Gospel According to Isaiah" - CH Lucas (p)

### Friday:

- 1000-1600 Dads read to kids DVD - CH Staunton (c)
- 1830 Roman Catholic Mass - CH Sanchez (p)
- 1830 Wicca Circle meeting - 1LT Antezak (c)
- 1900 Bible Study - SPC Dotson (s)
- 1900 Catholic Apologetics - CH Sanchez (p)
- 2000 Gospel Choir - Instrumental only practice- SGT Amis (s)

### Saturday:

- 1800 Women's Bible Study - CH Madrid (p)
- 1900 Roman Catholic Mass - CH Sanchez (s)
- 1900 Intercessory Prayer Group - Full Gospel Service (c)
- 1900 General Bible study - SFC Martin (p)
- 2000 Gospel Choir practice - SGT Amis (s)

### KEY:

- (s) = Sanctuary
- (p) = Prayer Room
- (c) = Counseling

# Five C's simplify improvised explosive device fight

By Staff Sgt. Mark St.Clair  
Multi-National Corps

**F**ive potentially life-saving words are being driven home to Coalition service members and civilians throughout the Operation Iraqi Freedom theater.

Confirm, clear, call, cordon, and control are the "Five Cs" that represent a simple set of guidelines that Coalition forces can and should use when encountering a suspected improvised explosive device. "The reason we teach the Five Cs is because they make an easy to remember guide for (service members) to follow if they suspect or find an IED," said Alex Szigedi, operations officer, Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Task Force, Camp Victory.

Using methods like the Five Cs simplifies IED awareness and "helps in the decision-making process, helping it become second-nature. They're also on the IED Smart Card," said Lt. Col. Ted Martin, chief, JIEDDTF. The IED Smart Card is produced by the Victory-based IED Working Group.

The IED Working Group, led by British Maj. Gen. Mark Mans, MNC-I deputy commander, meets weekly. Liaisons from major subordinate ground units, information operations delegates, ordnance-destruction contractors and others come together to discuss advances being made in the IED fight, changes in insurgent tactics and the most important issue: how to get valuable information down to where it matters — the troops on the ground.

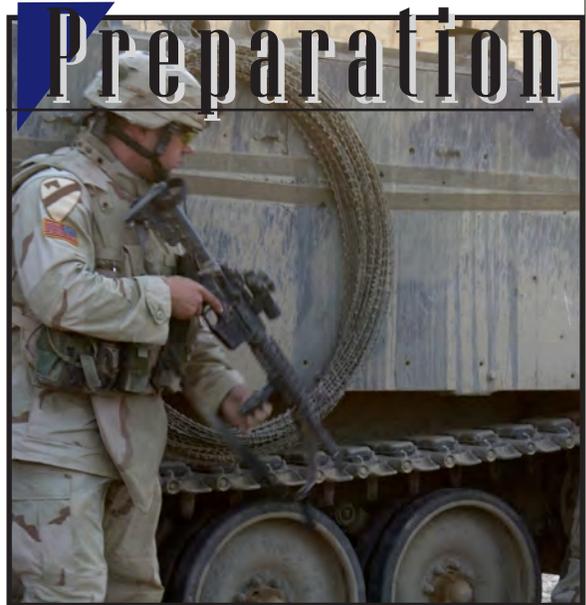
"We'd never encountered anything like (IEDs) on the battlefield, and we're not shy about going to people with expertise," said Lt. Col. Ted Martin, chief, JIEDDTF. Some of the "people with expertise" have

been Coalition Soldiers in the British Army, who have been dealing with IEDs in theaters like Northern Ireland for years. The British used a Four-C model to counter IEDs in the past, and Coalition forces in Iraq used that as a framework and adapted it to the present fight, said Martin.

The first step when encountering a suspected IED is confirming its existence. If service members suspect an IED while performing 5- and 25-meter searches of their positions, they should act like it could detonate at any moment, even if the suspected IED turns out to be a false alarm. Using as few people as possible, troops should begin looking for telltale signs of IEDs — like wires or pieces of ordnance sticking out of the ground. As Martin said, "There's no place like Iraq when it comes to ammunition on the ground." So what looks like an IED may be a piece of unexploded ordnance but it should be treated like an IED until it is determined that it's not.

While searching, troops should try to stay as safe as possible, using anything available for protection. If a better view is needed while searching, soldiers should move as safely as possible while maintaining as much distance as they can from the suspected IED to continue searching. Rifle scopes, binoculars and even cameras can be used to search from a safer distance. It also may be helpful to ask local Iraqis for information, but troops should never ask them to search too. Personnel should never try to touch a suspected IED and should never try to do the job explosive ordnance disposal technicians are specially trained to do.

Continued on Page 6



## A Soldiers key to success

Elements of the 256th BCT participated in an exercise in west Baghdad on June 27 to test their reactions to threats against themselves and the surrounding areas.

Soldiers from 1-11th ACR, 1088th Eng. Bn. and 3-156th Inf. Bn. joined forces with the 36th Eng. Group to set up security and guard the perimeter of their area of operations, while under a simulated attack.

Capt. Greg St. Romain, commander of B Co., 1088th from Baton Rouge, La., said his Soldiers successfully provided security in their sector and were instrumental in decreasing the reaction time to their battle positions by more than half, thanks to aggressive rehearsals.

"They are well rehearsed on the duties and responsibilities in relation to their mission, and during this operation they continuously scanned their sectors of fire and indirectly assisted the units in the surrounding area," he said.



Continued from Page 5

If an IED has been confirmed, the next step is to clear the area. The safe distance is determined by several factors: the tactical situation, avoiding being predictable and moving several hundred meters away from the IED. Everyone within the safe distance should be evacuated. If more room is needed, such as when the IED is vehicle-borne, soldiers should clear a wider area and constantly direct people out of the danger area. The only people going near the IED should be those who are there to diffuse it, such as EOD personnel. While clearing the area, soldiers should constantly be on the lookout for secondary IEDs. If any such devices are found, they should reposition to a safe area and report the find to the ranking service member on the scene. Soldiers should try not to set patterns while performing clearing procedures, so the enemy will not be able to learn from our tactics and techniques. By not setting patterns and monitoring non-Coalition personnel watching the situation, troops are better protected.

While the area surrounding the IED is being cleared, a nine-line IED/UXO report should be called in. The report is much like the nine-line report used for medical-ly evacuating casualties, and includes the necessary information for the unit's Tactical Operations Center (TOC) to assess the situation and prepare an appropriate response to clear the IED as the threat.

**Cordon**

After the area has been cleared and the IED has been called in, Soldiers should establish blocking positions around the area to prevent vehicle and foot traffic from approaching the IED; make sure the safe area is truly safe by checking for secondary IEDs; and make use of all available

cover. The effected area's entire perimeter should be secured and dominated by all available personnel, and any available obstacles should be used to block vehicle approach routes.

Troops should scan both near and far and look for an enemy who may be watching and waiting to detonate the IED. Insurgents often hide in locations where they can see the device and ascertain the right moment to detonate. Personnel should randomly check people leaving the area to deter attacks, again avoiding setting patterns. Establishing obstacles to control approaches to security positions is another tactic the JIEDDTF stresses, since insurgents may try to attack local security forces using a vehicle-borne IED.

**Control**

Since the distance of all personnel from the IED directly affects their safety, service members should control the site to prevent someone from straying dangerously close to the IED until it is cleared. The task force stresses that no one should leave the area until EOD gives the "all clear." While controlling the site, make sure all the troops in the area know what to do if attacked with small arms or rocket-propelled grenades.

If troops are a part of a patrol or convoy that finds an IED, they should remember the Five Cs in order to deal with the situation as quickly and safely as possible. An IED that is found is still an IED attack, said the JIEDDTF. By finding the IED, it's the enemy's attack that has been disrupted.

"(The Five Cs) reinforce IED awareness and training. It's a checklist that helps you think; it's a common-sense thing ... to help people remember the proper steps when encountering an IED, said Szigedi.

## Soldiers of B 1-126th Upgrade their Hi-tech search equipment

A unit of the Wisconsin National Guard, B Batt., 126th FA, attached to 1-141st FA, is one of the first to use the Scout, developed at the Pacific Northwest National Lab. The Scout uses a high tech methods to objects that may be hidden beneath clothing, and is used to screen people who could pose a threat, such as potential suicide bombers. It was selected as one of the Top 100 R&D (Research & Development) Technologies in 2004.

The system is still in operational test mode to replace standard pat down searches of workers entering Camp Liberty, home of the 256th BCT. Soldiers of B Batt., 1-126th FA run a checkpoint on Liberty and are testing the new technology, which is being commercialized under an exclusive license by SafeView, a Silicon Valley based California start up company.

Capt. Craig Van Kirk, from Brookfield, Wis., praised the system and said it makes the job of his Soldiers that much easier.

"So far this technology is awesome. It allows our Soldiers to be and feel much safer as we screen people for threats, and because the scanner is remote from the operator station, our Soldiers can react better when we have issues," he said.

Van Kirk also said his Soldiers can screen for objects not a direct threat, but can be in the wrong hands, such as cell phones and global positioning systems, or GPS, and even contraband items like money and drugs.

The Soldiers said they like it because it removes the task of constantly having to hand search the Iraqis entering the facility.

"We screen between 600 to 1000 people a day and asking Soldiers to go through the strenuous bending and stooping with 60 pounds of battle gear while standing in 120 degree temperatures is a tough task and takes a toll," said Sgt. 1st Class Scott Schraeder, from Waterford, Wis., non-commissioned officer leading the effort to test the system.

"They are also often in a vulnerable position if there is an issue and they need to defend themselves," he said.

Continued on Page 9

# Cooper Sling

**Making the ride more bearable for gunners**

*By Spc. Erin Robicheaux*

When Sgt. Kip Allen Cochran from Mooringsport, La., a gunner with HHC 1-156th AR, went online to research the Cooper Sling, he had no idea how his curiosity would ultimately benefit his fellow Soldiers.

"We were running missions in duration of anywhere from eight to 24 hours, and when you sit on a skinny little strap for that long, things start to get tired and numb," he said.

Cochran saw a newspaper article about a new type of sling, one that is more durable, safer, and much more comfortable than the slings he and his peers used. The seats used by gunners of the 256th BCT, and all units throughout the Army, are no wider than a seat belt. There is another one, made of black mesh that is a little bit thicker, but according to Cochran after a week or two it bunches up so badly, the Soldier is back to sitting on a thin strap.

In an effort to make the deployment more comfortable as a gunner, Cochran emailed his family about the new equipment, in hopes they might be able to purchase one for him. His father discovered each sling costs \$360 so Cochran gave up on the idea, but his family did not.

"My father called Capt. Culver's wife, Tracey, to find out if the Family Readiness Group possibly had the funds to purchase a few for the unit," said Cochran.

Capt. Ronald Culver, from El Dorado, Ark., commander of HHC 1-156th AR, said the FRG did not have that kind of money, but the company he works for full-time did.

"The president of the company told me they'd buy 10

seats for my Soldiers," he said. Culver works for AmerCable Inc. as an accounting supervisor.

He said he is very grateful to work for someone who not only takes care of their employees on the job, but also those in service.

The Cooper Sling, invented by Kyle Greenwood, from College Station, Tex., is made of seven inch wide saddle leather, much more durable than the mesh material of the previous gunner seats. The thicker, wider material is more comfortable for the Soldiers, according to Cochran.

"With the old slings, sometimes I would get up and my whole lower body would be asleep, but not with these," he said.

He added that comfort, or lack of it, can affect safety by making it hard to concentrate on what is going on around him.

"The discomfort of being a gunner is added stress. If I could be a dismount everyday I would, at least you get to come back into the air conditioner of the vehicle."

He added, "The gunner is up there in the heat, up in the sun and exposed to anyone who wants to take a shot. We get all of the dust in our faces, and it's just no fun. The last thing you want is to add more discomfort, like sitting on something that feels like a thong bikini."

Spc. Carlos Gomez from Shreveport, La., a gunner for HHC 1-156th AR, agreed that on long missions discomfort definitely equals a less safe experience.

"Your feet fall asleep, your back feels like it's going to break, after just a few minutes in the old sling," he said. "Now that we have these, I don't notice any of that anymore and it makes it easier to concentrate on what I'm supposed to during these eight to 12 hour long missions."

The sling also comes with a safety belt that attaches to the harness on each side of the gunner, to prevent him

*Continued on page 8*

## Joint Forces Discover Weapons Cache

During a routine patrol in the Ameriyah District July 10, Soldiers of Alpha Company, 4-1 Iraqi Army noticed a black BMW parked in the driveway of a house that was typically unoccupied.

The Soldiers stopped to talk to a local citizen about it, and observed that the man's demeanor seemed very suspicious.

With assistance from Soldiers of 1-69th Inf. Bn., the Iraqi Soldiers searched the house and found a bag of raw C-4 plastic explosives and four other containers believed to be filled with explosives.

Also hidden in the house were 20 hand grenades, one



machine gun, a sniper rifle, an AK-47 assault rifle, a loaded 9 millimeter pistol with a silencer, and 500 to 700 rounds of ammunition.

A team of explosives experts safely removed the munitions.

"It was a joint Iraqi and US patrol. The Iraqi Soldiers took the lead," said Capt. Mike Benoit of 1-69th Infantry. "They were aggressive and used their insight, which led us to the cache."

***SPECIAL POLICE GRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING***

On June 30 and July 7 battalions of the 8th Iraqi Special Police Mechanized Brigade graduated from a Medic course conducted by Soldiers of 1-69th Inf. Bn. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalions learned skills in patient evaluation, wound care treatment, and rapid vehicle extraction.

The course, five days long, consisted of patient evaluation, wound care and treatment, and rapid vehicle extraction. The students received a wealth of knowledge regarding health care and day to day protocol, as well as life saving techniques.

In the upcoming weeks, the 1-69th medics will implement an advanced version of the course to include combat life-saver training, and how to set up a battalion aid station.

Officials from 1-69th Inf. Bn. said the success and enthusiasm of both the students and instructors demonstrated a clear example of the unified effort in defeating the insurgency.



*Sgt. Youn Hun Jung, a medic with Task Force 1-69 Infantry, offers medical advice and treatment to members of the 3rd Battalion, 8th Mechanized Special Police Brigade on 5 July, 2005 at the Special Police Headquarters.*

*Spc. William Etsch, a medic with 1-69th Infantry, watches an Iraqi medic administer intravenous fluids during medical training on July 7 to Soldiers of 8th Iraqi Army Brigade.*



**Cooper Sling**

*Continued from page 7*

*Sgt. Kip Cochran, a gunner with HHC 1-156th AR, sits in the turret of his 1114 up-armored humvee, in the new Cooper Sling seat. The seat is more comfortable, more durable, and ultimately safer for the gunners.*



from being thrown from the vehicle in an accident. But Cochran said he is a little skeptical about that, and he doesn't use it.

"My friend was involved in a rollover and was trapped underneath some water. If he would have been wearing this safety belt it might have taken so much time to undo it, it could've been too late," he said.

There are a couple of adjustments the Soldiers said can be made on the sling, such as the adjustment on each side of the equipment.

"The only issue with it I found is that if we set it to the lowest setting with

the buckle, it's still a little too high for me to be comfortable," said Cochran.

He fixed this with some string, and made the seat lower inside the vehicle.

"That's the only issue I have with it, though, I hope that this becomes an option for all Soldiers, and that it becomes an issued item," he added.

The sling has to be purchased commercially by the individual Soldier, or of course, by anyone willing to go above and beyond for the troops in Iraq, such as AmerCable.

"I'm thankful there are employers and citizens out there willing to do things like this for the Soldiers overseas," said Culver.

Cochran added, "I never knew a simple question to my mother about how much something costs would turn into actually acquiring ten of these for my company."

## Hi-tech search equipment

*Continued from page 6*

"No one likes to be touched (by a stranger) and if we can avoid that while ensuring security, it is a plus for both the relations with the Iraqis and how our Soldiers react to the tough and dangerous task of searching at the checkpoint," added Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Tippet, from Kenosha, Wis., another of the battery's leadership team. Sgt. Guy Morse from South Milwaukee, Wis., another Soldier using the system said, "After nine months here, I must admit I was getting to the point of being burnt out handling personnel search, but now I like come to work again with the Scout system in place."

Spc. Kristopher Allen, from Waukesha, Wis., feels more relaxed on the job, yet also feels he can detect more objects that need further examination than with the hand search method. He said he is not only faster in his searches, but also feels that he is actually finding more objects.

Spc. Thomas Neuhengen, from Franklin, Wis., said the system brought a positive reaction from the Iraqis.

"They really like it because they feel safer, and it is also faster, so they're not in long lines. But they know that nothing will get through," said Neuhengen.

Rick Rowe, chief executive officer of SafeView, helped install the system and made several trips to Iraq, living with the unit while coaching them in its use.

"This is just another example of how great these young Soldiers are adapting to new technologies and how motivated they are in their mission," he said.

Rowe added, "It makes you very proud to be an American and (to be) doing what you can to support these fantastic Soldiers. I also appreciate, as former military from the Vietnam era, how far the Guard units have come. They clearly perform at the same level, if not exceed the Regular Army unit who has the other system. It is a real testimony to the battery and their superior performance while deployed in Iraqi with a very difficult and dangerous mission."

**RIGHT: Shown is Sgt. Guy Morse, a scout operator, from B Battery, 126th Field Artillery, attached to 1st Battalion, 141st FA. The system, created by SafeView, is safer, more efficient, and more comfortable for Soldiers to protect their camp.**

# Significant blow

*to insurgents in Abu Ghraib*

**By Capt. Marc Pelini  
1-11th ACR UPAR**

The people of Baghdad are safer today after a cordon and search, conducted by Bravo Troop, 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, attached to the 256th Brigade Combat Team, uncovered a



significant cache in Western Abu Ghraib.

Off the intuition of Staff Sgt. Doug Benson, from Philisburg, Mont., assigned to 3rd Platoon, Bravo Troop, the platoon searched a house near the location where a roadside bomb maker and trigger man were detained two days earlier. The platoon uncovered a cache consisting of a SA-7 surface-to-air missile, two anti-armor

missiles, several rocket propelled grenades and warheads, AK-47 machine guns, homemade grenade launchers, a mortar tube and other material that could be used to conduct attacks against Iraqi Security and Coalition Forces.

"Something just didn't look right when we arrived at the house", 2Lt. Michael Ziegelhofer of Lexington, Ohio stated. "Pvt. Christopher Miller of Perryville, Missouri, was using a mine detector when he got a hit in the backyard of the target's house. We started digging and found the first ammunition box. The platoon then broke up into search teams and started digging throughout the yard. From there on out, all I heard were yells from various places saying 'I have something over here!' – it was a good time."

After completing the search of the property, the platoon moved into the adjacent house where Staff Sgt. Doug Benson had another critical find. Buried in the floor of the house was a SA-7 surface-to-air missile, significantly delivering a blow to terrorist organizations operating in Western Abu Ghraib.

"This is yet another example where the tenacity of the American fighting soldier carries the day," Lt. Col. Jim Blackburn of Washington, Pennsylvania, 1-11th battalion commander stated.



# THE BEST OF THE BEST

By Spc. Erin Robicheaux

Through the duration of the deployment of the 256th Brigade Combat Team, Soldiers and non-commissioned officers showed exemplary performance, both on and off the battlefield. Recently, a panel of judges made up of senior NCOs of the 256th awarded two such Soldiers for their outstanding displays of professionalism.

"How do you know when the soles of your boots are worn out?"

Spc. Jason Gregory, from Gretna La., a mortar with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry, was chosen as the Soldier of the Quarter, said of all the questions he studied for the board, this was not one he expected the judges would ask.

"But they asked it, and luckily I'd looked at it in the study guide just the night before," he said.

The answer?

"When you can roll a pencil behind any corner of the sole," said Gregory.

The panel for the Soldier and NCO of the Quarter Board consisted of ten judges, made up of battalion command sergeants major and company first sergeants. Each judge asked the Soldier two questions covering a variety of topics, everything from uniform standards to weapon knowledge and current events.

Gregory, who has previous active duty service to his credit, was selected by his platoon sergeant to go before the battalion board, and from there, he advanced to the brigade level. His overall performance, and the way he conducted the day to day business of Soldiering, are what struck his leadership to choose him for the honor.

The judges consider more than the Soldier's knowledge when making the selection, according to Gregory.

"You're judged on your uniform appearance, whether you're clean shaven, and on your haircut," he said.

He also claimed the Soldier is being judged even before he steps a foot through the door.

"You're judged on how you knock on the door and enter the room. When you present yourself the panel knows you're nervous, but you're judged on how you handle that," said Gregory.

Sgt. Gerard Conrad, from New Orleans, La., a team leader and bradley dismount with B Company, 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry, attached to 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry, was named the NCO of the Quarter by the senior NCO panel.

When Conrad found out the battalion selected him, he had very little time to study for the board. Luckily, as a law school student with a bachelor's degree from Louisiana State University in creative writing, he developed the ability

over the years to retain a lot of information in a short amount of time. For three days he studied the 140 page study guide front to back. His first question, however, was not in the study guide. It was something the judge felt Conrad should know just from being a Soldier in Iraq.

"I was asked why the first body of government in Iraq was selected, which was to draft the constitution, not just merely make laws," he said.

A bit different from the Soldier's board questions, the judges asked NCOs about leadership principles, in addition to basic Soldiering functions. Conrad said there were some things he could not have known, considering his short time as an NCO.

*Continued on page 16*



Spc. Jason Gregory, from Gretna La., a mortar with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 156th Infantry, chosen as the "Soldier of the Quarter."



Sgt. Gerard Conrad, from New Orleans, La., a team leader and bradley dismount with B Co., 2 -156th Inf. Bn., attached to 1-69th Inf. Bn., was named the NCO of the Quarter.

# COMBAT SECURITY TEAM



**By Spc. Erin Robicheaux**

“Until the possible becomes the actual, it is only abstraction. Be mindful of what is and what may be.”

The words of Sgt. 1st Class Derek Shire, from Hessmer, La., are the motto of the 256th Brigade Combat Team’s Combat Security Team, made up of Soldiers from 199th Forward Support Battalion, the Lightning element, and 1st Battalion, 52nd Maintenance Company, Black Bear, out of Augusta, Maine.

“We don’t know what we’ll be doing tomorrow, but for now we’re running with this,” said Shire, non-commissioned officer in charge of the 256th BCT CST.

The team’s missions vary in diversity and can be anything from escorting high ranking officials to transporting vehicles across Baghdad. Maj. Andre Vige, from St. Martinville, La., the officer in charge of the team, said the concept was born out of sheer necessity.

“The 199th was supposed to have a battle space and the team started out as a quick reaction force. However, because another unit was also tasked with that and our team was trained in all the battle drills, the CST was created,” he said.

A combat security team is much like a quick reaction force in that Soldiers answer a call at a moment’s notice. Unlike a QRF, the CST not only tends to calls of distress, but also, calls to escort,

to pull security, and to provide transportation, and so on.

“We’ve escorted VIPs, EOD elements, and we’ve been the escorts for every detainee release mission,” said Vige. “You name it, we’ve done it.”

In addition to providing security in the inner and outer areas for various cordon and search missions, the CST also transported the criminal evidence documents of Saddam Hussein from the International Zone to a designated location in Baghdad.

As a whole, the team has over 203 missions, and to date they ran every route in the Baghdad area of operations.

They did all of this with no physical orientation to the land. Each area of operation is different and the team had to gain knowledge of all of them, without the luxury of being trained by an outgoing unit.

“It was pretty much the school of hard knocks, just get out there and run,” said Vige. “But in spite of that handicap, on top of the 203 missions we’ve had, we haven’t sustained one casualty, on the team or anyone in our convoys,” he said.

That’s not to say the CST has not had some close calls. On their third mission, they were the target of a coordinated attack on Route Irish, and were hit with two improvised explosive devices, two rocket propelled grenades, and they took heavy small arms fire from roughly eight insurgents on the ground.

**Continued on page 14**

## Making a DIFFERENCE in Hateen

**Elements of the 256th Come  
Together to Provide Care**

**By Spc. Erin Robicheaux**

Soldiers from A Co., 3-156th Inf. Bn., C Co., 199th FSB, and 1-141st FA held a medical clinic and distributed supplies at a school in the Hateen area of Baghdad July 5.

Maj. Kathy Champion, from Olympia, Wash., commander of A Co., 448th Civil Affairs Bn., attached to 256th BCT, is also a physician in civilian life.

“As long as I’m helping the Iraqi people I’m doing my job, whether I’m serving as a doctor, or as a civil affairs officer,” she said.

Champion said this was her second Iraqi clinic with the 256th and there were noticeable differences in the illnesses she treated. She saw simpler cases in Hateen, such as respiratory infections, whereas at the previous clinic, she saw a few rare cases.

“I saw diseases I don’t commonly see, such as skin diseases,” she said.

Champion doesn’t mind the double duty, in fact, she’s grateful that she is able to provide service in the area of medicine.

Spc. Carl Abbott, from Springfield, Ill., with HHC 3-156th, keeps the flow of medicine rolling smoothly, which makes the entire process of screening patients that much faster.

“I keep the medication organized so that when doctors need something, I can give it to them quickly,” he said.

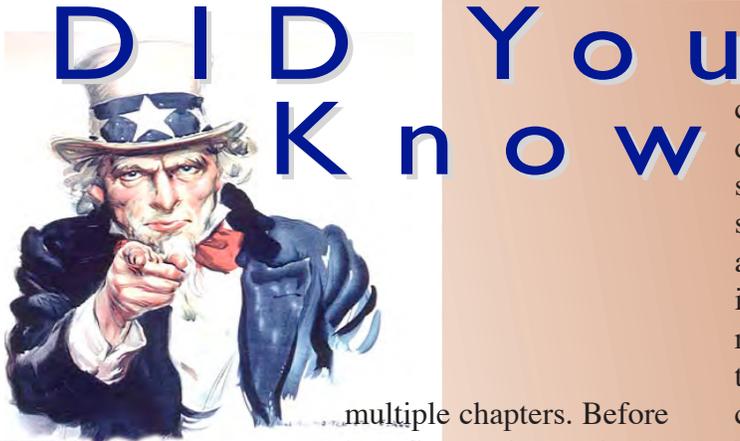
Abbott said the range of medicines available is fairly wide, including remedies for children.

“We have a lot of pediatric meds and antibiotics, and most medicines that can cure one-course ailments,” he said.

He said illnesses which must be monitored, such as cardiac diseases and diabetes, are not within the medics’ range of capabilities, but stressed they can cure the common discomforts.

Staff Sgt. Jessica Kelly, from Lafayette, La., assistant to the 256th BCT Surgeon, reiterated the importance of an organized pharmaceutical area.

**Continued on page 15**



### VETERAN'S EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

VA education benefits are authorized to veterans and qualified dependents under specific chapters of Title 38, US Code. Eligibility for benefits can only be determined by the US Department of Veterans Affairs, except with individuals eligible for Chapter 30 or Chapter 1606, Department of Defense determines eligibility. Benefits can be received from only 1 VA educational chapter at a time, even if there is eligibility under

multiple chapters. Before benefits can be received the program will need to be approved by the LA State Approving Agency, which is part of the LA Department of Veterans Affairs. The following is a listing of the various chapters and their general eligibility requirements:

#### **MONTGOMERY GI BILL - ACTIVE DUTY (CHAPTER 30)**

This educational entitlement provides up to 36 months of education benefits to eligible veterans. You may use this education entitlement program for degree programs,

certificate or correspondence courses, independent study programs, apprenticeship/on-the-job training, and vocational flight training programs. Remedial, refresher and deficiency training are available under certain circumstances.

**Eligibility Requirements**  
You may be an eligible veteran if you have an honorable discharge, and you have a High School Diploma or GED or, in some cases 12 hours of college credit, and you meet the requirements.

#### **CATEGORY IV**

On active duty on 10/9/96 AND you had money remaining in a VEAP account on that date AND you elected MGIB by 10/9/97 • OR entered full-time National Guard duty under title 32, USC, between 7/1/85, and

11/28/89 AND you elected MGIB during the period 10/9/96, through 7/8/97  
• Had military pay reduced by \$100 a month for 12 months or made a \$1200 lump-sum contribution.

The monthly benefit paid to you is based on the type of training you take, length of your service, your category, and if DOD put extra money in your MGIB Fund (called "kickers"). You usually have 10 years to use your MGIB benefits, but the time limit can be less, in some cases, and longer under certain circumstances. One example would be: If the veteran was ordered to active duty and served the full period to which activated, the veteran would have a new 10 years from the date of the last period of service as long as individual has entitlement remaining.

This new benefit will increase the monthly GI BILL payments for Activated Reservist. The rate is \$401.60 if activated 90 days, \$602.40 if activated one year, and \$803.20 if activated for two years.

The maximum number of months of entitlement is 36. The maximum number of months of entitlement when combined with another chapter, such as Ch. 30 or Ch. 1606, is 48. For instance, if you have already used 20 months of chapter 1606 then you will be eligible for 28 months of the New Chapter 1607 GI BILL.

If you have already used all of your previous GI BILL, you will now be eligible to receive 12 months of this NEW benefit.

**YOU MUST REMAIN IN AN ACTIVE DRILLING STATUS TO MAINTAIN BENEFITS.**

See your Retention NCO for more information or email questions to:

[terrence.j.delcambre@us.army.mil](mailto:terrence.j.delcambre@us.army.mil)

or

[philip.flowers@us.army.mil](mailto:philip.flowers@us.army.mil)

**The NEW Chapter 1607 GI BILL**

# WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

## IF YOU WERE IN HIS SHOES

By Spc. Chris Foster

Being able to react to and maintain control of a situation in a combat environment can be a difficult task for Soldiers. They must be able to quickly react and assess a situation, in order to ensure their survival and the safety of those around them.

“Stay alert, stay alive” is the reminder that is driven into the minds of Soldiers since the first day of basic training and echoes throughout their military careers.

This axiom was driven home for at least one Soldier on June 2.

Pfc. Stephen Tschiderer, a native of Mendon, N.Y., and a medic with E Troop, 101st “Saber” Cavalry Division, attached to 3rd Battalion, 156th Infantry Regiment, was shot in the chest by an enemy sniper, during a routine patrol in west Baghdad.

While Tschiderer was relaying information to the truck commander of his M114 Humvee, an enemy sniper team prepared to engage him from inside of a cushioned silver van being used as a mobile sniper’s nest. This nest was lined with numerous bed mattresses to muffle the sound of a Dragonoff sniper rifle fired through a hole just big enough for the shooter to engage his target of choice.

Tschiderer was knocked to the ground from the sudden impact of the sniper’s bullet. The bullet only seemed to have fazed this Soldier as, adrenaline pumping, he sprang right back up in order to take cover and locate the enemy’s position.

The sniper was unsuccessful in his mission, due to the stopping force of the Tschiderer’s daily wardrobe, his protective body armor, which saved his life.

“I knew I was hit, but was uncertain of the damage or location from the hit,” Tschiderer said. “The only thing that was going through my mind was to take cover and locate the sniper’s position.”

“The shot came from my 12 o’clock position from a silver van parked across an intersection about 75 meters from my location.” said Tschiderer.

After Tschiderer alerted his fellow Soldiers of the enemy location, they immediately began to pursue the terrorists.

Due to his heroic actions and quick decisions, Tschiderer located the enemy while he took cover and alerted the rest of his team on patrol. As the Saber team engaged and disabled the sniper’s position, two terrorists fled on foot, leaving a blood trail that came from the wounds of the enemy sniper.

A cordon and search was immediately set up and Tschiderer assisted his team in the search of the two terrorists. The driver of the silver vehicle was detained by a team from B Co. 3-156th Inf. Bn. while Tschiderer and a team from B Company, 4th Battalion, 1st Iraqi Army Brigade, continued to follow the blood trail which led them to the yard where the wounded sniper lay in pain. As Tschiderer secured the terrorist with a pair of handcuffs he gave medical aid to the wounded terrorist—the same one who tried to take his life.



**Pfc. Stephen Tschiderer, a native of Mendon, N.Y., and a medic with E-Troop, 101 CAV, attached to 3-156th Inf. Bn., was shot in the chest by an enemy sniper during a routine patrol in west Baghdad.**

## NEED CAR INSURANCE ?

Starting July 1, 2005, Active Duty Military Personnel who are based in Louisiana can apply for a 12.5% reduction in their car insurance premiums. Active duty soldiers who are deployed overseas or out-of-state whose spouse and/or dependents remain in Louisiana are also eligible for the discount. Proof of your status as active duty military must be provided to your car insurance company in the form of a copy of the your military identification card or a

copy of your orders. The insurance company will require that you send the registration papers or title for each vehicle insured by the company. If your spouse or dependent applies for the reduction on your behalf, then a copy of the spouse’s or dependent’s military identification card shall be submitted with a copy of your orders. The insurance company may ask for additional documents. Contact your car insurance company for more details.

Continued from page 11

## COMBAT SECURITY TEAM

Cpl. George Wells, from New Orleans, La., is a mechanic by trade, but said he would not want any other job than to be a gunner with the CST.

"I really enjoy it, and there's nothing else I'd rather be doing. I can't stand being in the FOB (forward operating base); it doesn't matter what the mission is, if it comes, I'll go," he said.

Wells said the biggest joy he found in his mission is interacting with the Iraqi people, and it is a view that changed since his arrival into Baghdad.

"When I first got here, I saw them all as the enemy, but after going into the city and talking with people, I realized not everyone out here wanted to kill us," he said. "It feels good to help people, and once you sit down and actually talk to them, you understand what this is all about," said Wells.

He learned one of his biggest lessons in the traffic of Baghdad.

"Don't get me wrong, I've had my days with some of them, but the majority of these people are just trying to get from point A to point B," he said. He realized Iraqis, like Americans, cannot wait to get home after a long day at work. There were times, however, mother nature tricked him into thinking otherwise.

"Some days you're trying to stop a car and the sun is right in your face and you can't really see what's going on inside. All you know is that car is not stopping. So you holler, you blow your whistle, you even run your siren," he said. "They don't stop so you go to draw (your weapon) on them, then as they pull forward the view becomes clear and you realize they couldn't see you either," he added.

"You apologize with as much body language as you can and so do they, and most times they even smile and wave as they pass by."

Wells also claimed some drivers will not take a chance on passing by without knowing the Soldier saw them.

"One guy wanted to make sure we knew he wasn't doing anything dirty. He had his hands in the air, his flashers going, and his horn blaring, all at the same time," recalled Wells.

Chief Warrant Officer Dale Cullivan from Palermo, Maine, officer in charge of the 1-52nd Black Bear element,

said he is amazed at how the teams came together, both logistically and as a family.

"We've made multiple adjustments in the trucks to make sure we have the right crews in the right trucks," he said.

"The guys get along like brothers, fight like brothers, argue like brothers, but can talk to each other like brothers, and that's important when you run the amount of missions that we do," said Cullivan.

He is proud of the Soldiers, in both the Lightning and Black Bear teams. Their record is strong, and they have trained over 100 Soldiers, including units of the 3rd, 7th, and 11th Armored Cavalry Regiments.

Vige agreed with Cullivan, that the Soldiers became like brothers after sharing this experience.

"This is a close-knit group and they share a brotherhood that has grown from their experiences outside the wire," he said.

Vige also affectionately claimed his Soldiers are pranksters, all in good fun, of course.

"I feel like Lee Marvin with the Dirty Dozen," he smirked, "They



***Soldiers from the 256th BCT Combat Security Team, comprised of elements from 199th FSB and 1st Battalion, 52nd Maintenance Company, search local men on a mission in the Baghdad area of operations.***

can pull some fast ones on you."

No matter how many times the Soldiers try to pull the wool over his eyes, Vige maintained they are

all heart when it comes to their job.

"Their service to this country has been impeccable. They're a very unique group of guys who give 200% every time we go outside the wire, which is everyday. I'm very proud of them," he beamed.

Cullivan said after the 256th, along with the Lightning element of the CST, goes back to the United States, he does not know what is in store for Black Bear. His goal, though, is to keep his Soldiers focused.

"We'd love to continue doing a mission like this, but we are going to take whatever we've done with pride and if we go back to doing maintenance, we'll do it well," he said.

"I talked to everybody on the team, and told them to be proud of what we've done and what we'll do in the future. We don't know what it holds for us, but for now we're accepting these challenges and we wouldn't want it any other way," claimed Cullivan.

Continued from page 11

## Making A Difference

"Having an organized pharmacy is the key to having a good clinic," she said.

This, paired with the interpreters, is what it takes for the mission to operate smoothly, she added.

"The goal is to find out what's wrong and then cure it, the faster, the better."

Kelly also said a new tactic used at this particular clinic was preliminary assessments. Normally she examines patients, but this time she screened each person to decide if there was anything the doctors could do for them.

"Sometimes people will come to us and have a problem that we can't fix. When that happens, we've just wasted their time, and our time, when we could have been seeing someone that was within our reach," she said.

Kelly felt the new methods used today, as well as the civil affairs combination, made the clinic very successful.

The event was coordinated by leadership of A Co. 3-156th. First Lt. Jeremy Falanga from Baton Rouge, La., executive officer for the company, said the collaboration of many elements, beginning with the Iraqi population, is what made the day a success.

"We set everything up through the local officials, and they spread the word to the community that we were going to provide medicine and health care today," he said.

He added that another group of Soldiers gave the citizens something to go home with.

"We also had the 1-141st doing 'Kids for Kids,' passing out school supplies, school bags, and toys," said Falanga.

Kids for Kids is a program started in February 2005 by Soldiers from 1-141st FA. It began as a tasking from their higher command which they developed into the website, [www.childrenofbaghdad.com](http://www.childrenofbaghdad.com), asking for clothing, toiletries, and everyday necessities for Iraqi children. The site resulted in thousands of donations from the United States over the past several months, and it will soon expand even more.

"The website is about to become a conglomeration of multiple websites that will be monitored through a group in Cincinnati," said Sgt. Keith Bonnet from Slidell, La., co-creator of the website.

"The shipping will be free so no one will have to worry about postage anymore," he said.



**Sgt. David Champagne from Cecilia, La., a medic with C Co., 199th FSB, teaches an Iraqi boy how to "give him five" at a medical clinic in the Hateen area of Baghdad on July 5.**

**First Lt. Will Vasquez, from Alexandria, La., physician assistant for 3-156th Inf. Bn., provides medical care for an Iraqi woman at a clinic in the Hateen area of Baghdad on July 5.**

The main concern for Soldiers performing missions within the community is first and foremost, security, so locals coming into the school for health care concerns

were searched prior to entering the building.

Sgt. Erin Reski, from Moorehead, Minn., a communications technician with B Co., 134th Signal Bn., 256th BCT, volunteered to screen females for the mission.

"It's been interesting. The women were very cooperative and seemed to understand why I had to do it," she said.

Capt. Aaron Duplechin, from Moss Bluff, La., commander of A Co., 3-156th Inf. Bn., said missions like this one are what will turn the war on terrorism around.

"We do things like this, quite frankly, to get the message out, and a great thing today was that we had the Iraqi media here as well," he said, of the Baghdad Press Club's appearance at the clinic.

"They asked me why we don't do things like this more often. I was able to tell them, 'This is my sector and I'd love to do more of this, but we have to spend too much time focusing on security,'" he said.

He added, "The intermediate Iraqi government and Coalition Forces have a plan. The insurgents don't. If we could eliminate the insurgents, we could do more of these things."

Maj. Jason Yeates, from Lafayette, La., executive officer for 3-156th Inf. Bn. agreed, and said having the Kids for Kids Soldiers with them played a big role, because in the end, it is the children of Iraq who will determine the outcome.

"The 1-141st being out there really helped attract attention. Until they started handing out school supplies and toys, people were a little hesitant to come here," he said.

"Over the long haul, it's the kids



who are going to make a difference," added Yeates.



# SOLDIERS on the HUNT

*One terrorist cell at a time*

Soldiers from 2nd and 3rd platoons, D Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Iraqi Army Brigade and a scout platoon from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 156th Armor Regiment, conducted a cordon-and-search mission in the early-morning hours of July 6 in west Baghdad in order to confirm or deny the presence of terrorist cells.

The end result was the capture of seven detainees, five AK-47 rifles, two pistols, up to 20 fully-loaded magazines, and assorted weaponry and documents, including badge-making material, and possible imagery maps of the area.

Not long after the first detainee was positively identified, he provided intelligence to the U.S. and Iraqi Soldiers of a meeting site in the vicinity. Upon searching the specified location, forces arrested a male and female who were making false badges. Second Lt. Brent Warren from

Alexandria, Va., platoon leader for HHC 1-156th AR Scouts, said the mission was a joint operation between the U.S. and the 2-1 IA. The collaboration ended in success.

"We did our best to adapt to the situation, and in the end, we found more suspicious activity and stolen military equipment," he said.

Lt. Col. Thomas Plunkett from New Orleans, La., commander of 1-156th AR, said his Soldiers cordoned the perimeter, while the 2-1 IA conducted detailed searches of residences and businesses. Plunkett said the presence of the IA was recognized by the citizens.

"The 2-1 Soldiers were a very positive aspect of the operation, based on their ability to interact with the locals," said Plunkett.

The success of the mission is one more step toward the Iraqi Army taking over operations and maintaining a positive presence in their own home.

## **Continued from Page 10** **BEST OF THE BEST**

"I had to do some studying, because this is stuff that comes with years of experience," he said.

Ironically, he claimed fulfilling his leadership role helped him be more prepared for the board's questions. In the past, he helped his own Soldiers study for the Soldier of the Quarter Board.

Conrad said in addition to the questions and the Soldier's appearance, the judging is largely based on military courtesy and customs. He joked that the questioning was held in a tent, a very small space, on purpose.

"When I walked in I had to do facing movements and there were a bunch of poles, basically, in the way. I couldn't just walk straight in and do a right face and walk to my chair—I had to do about six facing movements just to get to my seat," he said.

Once he made it around the maze of poles, saluted the board, and introduced himself and his unit, Conrad said he had to sit at attention, straight up with his hands on his knees, and answer his questions as formally and knowledgably as possible.

Being chosen as the NCO of the Quarter is not only a credit to his military career, but to his civilian career, as well, according to Conrad.

"I think this experience will reflect quite well on my civilian resume. I noticed, even with a bachelor's degree, after I joined the (Louisiana National) Guard and was able to add military experience, I got a ton of more responses from potential employers," he said.

"Working in this kind of environment, companies are able to see that you're someone who can work well within an organization, especially at the NCO level," said Conrad.

He added having been a leader in the military, he has learned how to handle different types of people, which he thinks is very important and relates well to the job market back home.

Conrad said he felt honored to be selected by his leadership to represent his unit at the brigade level. "They saw something in me and trusted me to go before the brigade board and do well," he said. Gregory shared his sentiments.

"Going in I felt pretty confident," he said. "We were all good Soldiers, we wouldn't have been there if we weren't."

He added by being chosen to participate in this event, he read his leadership's message loud and clear.

"This was a good thing, not only for the battalion, but it's a big thing for me because it tells me that I'm doing a good job," he said.

# OPERATION COPELAND'S

**JULY 12**



Spc. O.J. Johnson from Moss Bluff, La., with Task Force 2-156th Inf. Bn., gives chickens to children in Baghdad.

An Iraqi family anxiously reaches for frozen chickens being distributed by Soldiers of 2-156th Inf. Bn. during Operation Copeland's.



A Soldier from 2-130th Inf. Bn. hands out frozen chickens



to locals in their Baghdad area of operations.



Soldiers from 1/11th ACR, and 2-1 Iraqi

Army, distributing one of 1200 chickens to people in West Baghdad.



A grateful family receiving chickens given to them by Soldiers from 1-156 AR, and 2-1 Iraqi Army.

*"WE COULDN'T BRING THE IRAQI PEOPLE TO COPELAND'S RESTAURANT, SO WE BROUGHT A LITTLE SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY TO IRAQ."*

TIGER BRIGADE

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6

FAMILIES IN THE TIGER BRIGADE



Brothers Spc. Alfonso Lebron, intel analyst with 256 Military Intelligence Co., and Sgt. Arturo Lebron, a mechanic, with HHC 2-156th Inf. Reg.

Commander of the 1st U.S. Army, Lt. Gen. Russell Honore, visits his son, Sgt. Michael Honore from A Co. 1-156th AR., attached to A Co. 1-69th Inf. Reg., as a gunner.



Sgt. Timmy Rivet, from Prairieville, La., works along side his brother, Spc. Justin Rivet, from Plaquemine, La., as a mechanic for HHC 1088th Eng. Bn.



Sgt. Cory Peltier, supply sergeant with HHC 2-156 IN (M), and Sgt. Chad Peltier, an infantryman with B Co. 2-156 IN (M), attached to 1-156th AR, are brothers from New Iberia, La.



1. During a rehearsal exercise, Soldiers take cover behind the barrier and scan their sector.
2. An Iraqi Soldier with 2nd Bn., 1st Bde, interacting with children of a local village in west Baghdad.
3. An Iraqi Soldier with 5th Bn., 1st Bde. rushes the target during close quarter combat training with 2-156th Inf.
4. Soldiers with 4th Bat. 1st Bde. Iraqi Army practices their four-man stack during a training exercise taught by 3-156th Inf.
5. Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Lasseter, with 1-69th Inf. Reg., adjusting an Iraqi Soldiers helmet before conducting close quarter combat training.
6. Sgt. Jacob Pitts with 2-156th Inf., coaches Soldiers from 5th Bn., 1st Iraqi Army.
7. The QRF team perfects their reaction time to an simulated attack during a rehearsal exercise at Abu Ghraib prison.
8. Soldiers with B Co. 1088th Eng. Bn. training during a simulated attack on the Abu Ghraib prison.
9. Two Soldiers with A Co. 3-156 Inf. rehearsal tactical movement in a simulated attack on Abu Ghraib prison.

