

DESERT



BULLS

RED BULLS
MOVE IN

Brotherhood: Brother administers oath of reenlistment

APRIL 17, 2006

Ziggurat of Ur built for moon god Nanna

Story by
Staff Sgt.

Thomas Murray
1/34 BCT UMT
NCOIC

What is over 4,000 years old, 28 meters high and stands as a prominent landmark in our Area of Operation?

It is the Ziggurat of Ur. The Sumerians built this temple under the rule of King Shulgi for the moon god Nanna. It is said that the Sumerians chose the moon god as the patron deity of Ur due to the moons amazing reflection off the water of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.

Sumerians used the four compass points to help construct the large structure; each of the temples corners is oriented toward a compass point. It consisted of a series of platforms each one smaller than the one below with a single shrine at the top. Today, due to the elements, only the bottom two platforms remain.

The ancient city of Ur was, in its time, considered to be the capital of a small wealthy empire during the third millennium B.C. Sumerians of this land had developed paved roads, the arch and vault, writing, schools, epic literature, law codes, banking, joint-stock corporations and even are said to have invented the wheel. Most of the great Ziggurat of Ur is still standing. Located between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers near the Persian Gulf, the area was known as Mesopotamia. Because of the geographic location the city had fertile soil and was the perfect place to irrigate the land and raise productive crops.

Today, the waters of the Euphrates



Photo by Capt. Bill Hamann, S8

The Ziggurat is more than 4,000 years old, 28 meters high and stands as a prominent landmark in our Area of Operation. Sumerians used the four compass points to help construct the structure.

receded, leaving the area arid and nearly barren of vegetation. What has been left behind is nothing short of an archeological treasure trove. But, don't take my word for it. Check it out for yourself. Come to the Brigade Anti-Stress Room. There you can view a 17 minute film that describes the site, its treasures and the people whose ingenuity and tireless effort put the city of Ur back on the map.

Once you have viewed the film, consider making time to visit the site. Your Unit Ministry Teams will assist you. The tours last two-and-a-half hours, so bring water and plan accordingly. You will also need to bring your Interceptor Body Armor and helmet. But don't worry you shouldn't have to wear it. It just needs to be easily accessible. The tour guide is a third

generation resident of the area. Both his father and grandfather participated in the archeological digs during the 1920's and again in the early 1960's. He adds an authentic and personal tone as he walks you under the oldest known arch, still intact. Watch your step as you descend into the ancient burial tombs of former kings and queens. Learn how the life of a palace servant isn't all it's touted to be. Our guide will also take us to the House of Abraham, the father of the Jewish people, whose descendant's number more than the stars in the heavens. Walk through the maze of courtyards, climb the stairs, and see it from a different perspective.

While we are guests here in 'the cradle of civilization', make the time to visit this wonderful, historical site.

Correction/clarification

Soldiers are not allowed to have their last names embroidered on their boonie hats as reported in the Desert Bulls published at Camp Buehring,

Kuwait. This type of embroidery is against the Army's policy. A velcro strip is allowed to be sewn on the back of this hat.

Day in Red Bull history

Tuesday , March 25, 1944
Near Anzio, Italy

We landed on shore at 0740 hours and had to walk about a half mile through the streets to get to the trucks. Some of the men left waiting for more transportation were in the town of Anzio when a couple of large shells came in, landing in an intersection, killing one man from the Anti-Tank Company of our Regiment.

Arriving at an open area about two miles inland, the men were instructed to

dig in, but only temporarily, as we are to move to another area very soon. *T/5 Young* heated a five-gallon can of coffee for the Company, which was really appreciated. It has started raining, and has turned very cold in this area.

At 1630 hours the kitchen served a hot meal, with homemade biscuits which were very good. Nearly everyone went to bed early as they did not sleep too well coming up on the boat. There were no air raids during the night; GIs who have been here since D-Day [two months earlier] tell

us this is very unusual. Only two shells came close to this area, those landing about a thousand yards to our left.



DESERT BULLS

APRIL 17, 2006

ISSUE 16

1/34 Brigade Combat Team
Commander: Col. David Elicerio
Command Sgt. Maj. Doug Julin

The Desert Bulls Staff:
OIC: Capt. Mark Lappegaard
Editor: Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood
Broadcast journalist: Sgt. Kent Westberg
Print journalist: Pfc. Brian D. Jesness

For more information
on the 1/34 BCT
go online to www.redbullweb.com

On the cover: Spc Thomas Fox waits for Sgt. Hector Colon as they pick up their gear and head toward their tent on this southern Iraq base last week. Both are members of Company A, 2nd Battalion, 135th Infantry attached to the 1-34 Brigade Troops Battalion. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood, 1/34 BCT PA.

The Desert Bulls is an official publication of the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team. It is produced by the 1/34 BCT Public Affairs Office. This Soldier newsletter is in compliance with the provisions of AR 360-1. Any questions, comments, photos, story ideas that you would like to present should be forwarded to the 1/34 BCT Public Affairs Office. E-mail Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood at clinton.wood@us.army.mil.



8 SECONDS

This week's full ride

NCOs, it's time to earn your money

To all noncommissioned officers, bases like the forward operating base we are stationed on are where we are going to earn our money.

Here are some words of advice: Please inform Soldiers to tell family/friends not to put their FOB or building numbers on mail due to security reasons. Also don't have your Soldiers put Unit 60000 on mail as directed earlier.

Capt. Ryan Swafford of the 1/34 BCT S-1 said he has already received mail that the Soldiers included their forward operating base's name or camp name.

"It should be just name, unit, and APO," he said.

Soldiers can also send items home via the U.S Postal Service up to 70 pounds in the footlockers available at the PX. There is a mailing fee. They must remember that these boxes should not be locked. They have to be inspected.

Regarding inspections, you also may want to inspect your Soldiers that they are abiding by these rules, which include reflective belts have to be worn at all times on their PT uniforms and at night while wearing their Army Combat Uniforms, headphones are not allowed while Soldiers are walking, running or riding bicycle, helmets and seatbelts must be worn while driving utility vehicles like the John Deere Gators and of course Humvees. Always walk on the sidewalks as much as possible and always drive or ride their bicycle with the traffic and don't drive down a one way street the wrong way.

Just a suggestion for the reflective belts, tell your Soldiers to put them in their ACU lower leg pocket during the day.

Also, don't let your Soldiers wear an ID card holder over their uniform

-- Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood

Just the Facts for HHC 1/34 BCT, 1-34 BTB, and 134th BSB

DFAC Hours

Breakfast 0530-0830

Lunch 1130-1400

Dinner 1700-2000

Midnight Dinner 2330-0100

PX 0900-2100

Shops outside PX 0900-1800

MWR Buildings 24/7

Fitness Center 24/7

Sick Call 0800-2000

Brother hood: Brother administers oath of reenlistment to brother

Story by Pfc Brian D. Jesness
1/34 BCT PA

CAMP BUEHRING, Kuwait — Sgt. Mike Hamann of Alexandria, Va., was determined to be the first Soldier of the 1/34 Brigade Combat Team to reenlist while overseas during the BCT's deployment to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. And with the help of his brother, Capt. Bill Hamann, he was.

Bill Hamann of the BCT headquarters, swore in Mike Hamann of the 134th Brigade Support Battalion for his six-year reenlistment on March 20 just one day after their arrival at the camp.

Days later, 20 more Minnesota Guard soldiers of the 1/34 BCT reenlisted. Of those, 18 chose the six-year reenlistment option, the longest available.

Spc. Jacob Riggs of Princeton, Minn., among those 18, said he reenlisted "to do my part for my country and family."

The subcontractor said he will use his bonus of \$15,000 to build a house.

Sgt. 1st Class Dave Heil of Rosemount, who also reenlisted for six years, said he is going use his bonus to build fencing for his three dogs and build a gazebo and hot tub.

For Cpl. Allison Garrett of Alexandria, Minn., she said reenlisting for another six years is a great opportunity for female soldiers. "Because the military needs higher ranking females to play a role," she said.

She said she intends to use her bonus to help fund her marriage ceremony and build a house.

For Sgt. 1st Class Kent Lande of Forest Lake, Minn., his three-year reenlistment means he is building on his 20 years in the Guard. He is in his 19th year of service.

Like the above mentioned Soldiers, The Hamann family also values military service.

"Our great grandpa was in the civil war in the 3rd Minnesota regiment and served at Vicksburg, Miss," said Bill. "Our dad was in World War II as a merchant Marine. In fact he was in the English Channel as part of a supply line that

fed the Normandy invasion. Our oldest brothers was in the Air Force in Thailand during Vietnam."

The Hamann brothers grew up in a large family of eight children in Northfield, Minn., and have combined to spend more than 35 years of service in the military.

Bill Hamann began his military career in the active Army in 1984. A few years later while stationed in Germany, he advised Mike about enlisting.

"I told him not to go in the Army, not to go enlisted, and not to go to Germany," said Bill.

Mike disobeyed all of his brother's advice. After enlisting in the active Army in 1986 and after a couple months of initial training he surprised his brother by showing up in Bill's barracks for his first duty station in Germany. "He walks into my room and the section chief says 'Is this your brother?'" said Bill. "I remembered him as a scrawny little punching bag. He walks into the room and he is six-foot tall, broad shouldered and he's got this big old tattoo. 'I think he's my brother.' I said. I barely recognized him."

Both brothers later joined the Minnesota Army National Guard after completing their active service. To date Bill Hamann has served more than 17 years in the Guard and works as a medical device development engineer. Mike Hamann has served more than eight years in the Guard. He works as a civilian contractor for the Army Materiel Command in Virginia but still drills in Minnesota. "I don't want to leave the unit," he said. "I enjoy it."



Capt. Bill Hamann (right) administers the oath of reenlistment to his younger brother, Sgt. Mike Hamann, on March 20 at Camp Buehring in Kuwait.

While deployed, Bill Hamann is serving as the BCT's resource manager in the Comptroller section. He said this position challenges him because the 1/34 BCT is the first National Guard BCT to have a resource manager on staff. There are no examples to follow so he is learning as he goes.

Mike Hamann is serving with the BSB's S6 communications shop. He did not have to deploy, but he volunteered to take the place of a recently married fellow Soldier in his unit.

When asked what their goals are for their future in the guard they replied.

"I don't have any plans to retire at this point," Bill said. "We'll see how this mobilization goes."

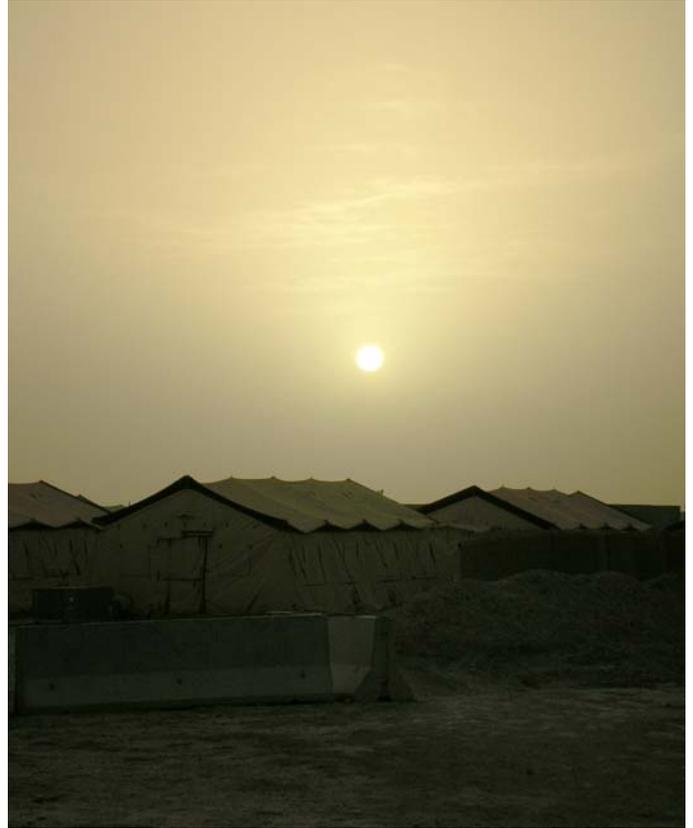
"I figure I have about 12 years left," Mike said.

Other Minnesota Guard Soldiers who reenlisted March 25 are Sgt. Arthur Wiegele, Staff Sgt. Eric Emery, Spc. Kyle Lindemer, Spc. Tamara Heibel, Spc. Nathan Wendland, Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood, Spc. Kevin Budke, Sgt. Scott Peer, Spc. Wendell Robinson, Spc. Thomas Stevens, Staff Sgt. Nathan Carlsrud, Sgt. Daniel Johnson, Spc. Dustin Vollmer, Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Seelen, Staff Sgt. Matthew Hordyk and Sgt. Steven Guptill.

DAILY LIFE



There are several laptops connected to the Internet in the MWR Building behind the 48th BCT Headquarters. The building is open 24/7 and there is a 30 minute time limit on the Internet.



The sun sets on tent city last week. The air conditioned tents provide a comfortable night's sleep.



The post office is near the dining facility. The hours are from 0800-1700 Monday through Friday, 0900-1500 Saturday and 1300-1600 Sunday.



The fitness center offers free weights, Nautilus-like equipment, treadmills and a boxing area. It is open 24/7 and Soldiers must sign in each time they use it and towels are available..



There are several small shops outside the Post Exchange including ones that sell jewelry and souvenirs. The hours are from 0900 to 1800.