

2nd Brigade Combat
Team Forward
Camp Buehring, Kuwait



Striker Torch

25th

EDITION 16 JUL 06

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Top: Capt. Neil Chitwood (foreground) and Spc. Tomasz Kopec (top) of Troop G, 1st Cavalry Regiment stand in front of their Humvee before a parade held on 4 July, 2006. Photo by Sgt. Raul Montano

Bottom Left: Capt. Charles Dayton of Battery C, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment pulls security during a stress shoot competition held outside of Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class L.C. Thames

Bottom Right: Soldiers of the 47th Forward Support Battalion secure their position at a halt during Combat Logistics Patrol training outside Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by Capt. Mark Bednarczyk



Top: Maj. Gen. Doug Robinson visits with Soldiers of 2nd Brigade Combat Team during a visit to Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by Spc. Joshua Ramey

Middle Left: Spc. David Whidbee (left) and Spc. Pedro Cruz (right) of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment maintain a perimeter defense during a vehicle recovery exercise outside Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by Spc. Adam Nolte

Middle Right: Sgt. Michael Paccarelli of Troop G, 1st Cavalry Regiment removes munitions from a simulated weapons cache discovered during MOU training in Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by Capt. Jeff Barta

Bottom: Vehicles of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Battalion 27th Field Artillery Regiment are lined up prior to movement during training outside Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by Spc. Michael Cyphert

Quote of the Week

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, learning from failure."

- Colin Powell



Task Force Regulars has Arrived!

Story by Capt. Herbert Flather

After long months of training in the hot sands of Kuwait, Task Force Regular from 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division has moved up north. The Regulars are now under the operational control of 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division, the "Ready First Brigade Combat Team."

Task Force Regulars has relocated near the city of Ar Ramadi, located in the Al Anbar Province along the Euphrates River. Across the river, near the city, the Regular Headquarters is located at Camp Blue Diamond. This new home-away-from-home has a little taste of everything - very lush green farmland with villages scattered along the road ways near the river. It even has open desert further to the north for those who miss Kuwait. The local children are cautious of Coalition Forces, but like kids everywhere, they start to warm up when you bring out a present for them.

Task Force Regulars has been keeping busy. The Regulars patrol day and night along the roads and fields. Hardened checkpoints and observation posts (OPs) are manned throughout the sector to ensure security for the main roads and scattered villages.

With the temperature averaging 115 degrees Fahrenheit, Task Force Regulars

needs somewhere other than Camp Blue Diamond for patrols to rest and re-supply. Team Warrior of 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment has established Combat Outpost (COP) Warrior in an unused house, away from Camp Blue Diamond. It's a bit cramped, but they have some of the amenities from home, including electricity, field showers, and makeshift latrines.

When units need re-supplying, they go to the Mission Support Site, which is run by the mortar platoon from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment. Patrols can pick up chow, ammunition, and water there before continuing their mission. The mortar squads also have their



The leadership of Task Force Regulars stand in front of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment's Tactical Operations Center at Camp Blue Diamond, Iraq. Photo by Pfc. Michael Williams

120mm mortar tubes established to support any of our troops in sector with indirect fire.

Team Aggressor of Company A, 1st Battalion, 35th Armor Regiment recently set up COP Aggressor. The conditions at COP Aggressor are tight, but

they do have air-conditioning to take the edge off the heat. Team Aggressor continues to improve its position and are now in the process of getting more bunks.

The missions in the sector can be challenging sometimes, but all the Regulars rotate back to Camp Blue Diamond to provide security, perform maintenance, and enjoy the better living conditions of Camp Blue Diamond. Soldiers there live between two to four to a room in Container Housing Units (CHUs). The CHUs are small self-contained barracks rooms that provide some air-conditioned privacy so Soldiers can rest after long days of patrolling. There are Morale, Welfare, and Recreation facilities with a gym, computers with internet access, pool tables, and video games to take Soldiers' minds off of the challenges of patrolling. There is even a small Marine Corps Exchange on camp and an AT&T phone center so Soldiers may call their families back home.

All in all, Task Force Regulars has successfully moved into its new area of operations and has settled in, performing the mission it has trained to do for over a year.



Task Force 1-6 Mortar Platoon. The mortar platoon leader 1st Lt. Dan Gregory (far right) speaks with Lt. Col. Daniel Walrath (middle), and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Eyer (left) at the Task Force Regulars Mission Support Site. Photo by Capt. Danny Pedersen

47th FSB Visits Kuwait City

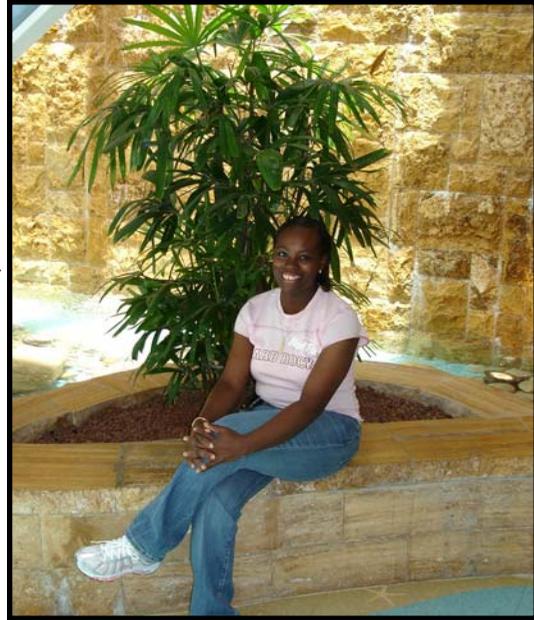
Story by Capt. Heather Jangraw

The 47th Forward Support Battalion conducted an MWR trip to the Kuwait Towers and the Al Kout Mall on 17 June, 2006. Twenty-five Soldiers had a chance to wear civilian clothes and explore a bit of Kuwait City. Spc. Ashly Hernandez of Co. B, 47th Forward Support Battalion (FSB) summarized the day when she said, "I felt like I had a weekend mini-vacation instead of just a few hours off. It was just really relaxing."

First the Soldiers headed to the Kuwait Towers which were built in the 1970s and are now the most prominent landmark in Kuwait City. Two of the towers hold a combined 4,500 cubic meters of water which then flows into the homes and businesses of Kuwait City. The third tower is used only for lighting. The towers have white bases and circular holding tanks decorated in blue and green

tiles. One of the towers has a revolving restaurant and cafeteria above the circular holding tank. The 47th FSB Soldiers had an opportunity to take pictures of the towers and visit the restaurant. Sgt. Tina Currie of Co. B especially enjoyed the towers. "This was the best part of the day. We had a very clear day and the view was amazing," she said.

Following a chance to tour the Kuwait Towers, the trip took the Soldiers to the mall for some shopping. The Al Kout Mall is a new structure that opened in January, 2005. Built right on the Arabian Sea, the Al Kout Mall has breath taking views of the ocean and its own harbor



Sgt. Tina Currie of Company B, 47th Forward Support Battalion sits outside the Al Kout Mall in Kuwait City. Photo by Spc. Ashly Hernandez



Spc. Ashly Hernandez (left) and Sgt. Tina Currie, both of Company B, 47th Forward Support Battalion enjoy the view while touring the Kuwait Towers. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Gregory Moses

for yachts to pull up. The mall is shaped in a giant "U." The left side is filled with various stores designed like most American malls. Outside, individuals have the opportunity to sip cappuccino while feeling

the warm mist from the large fountain that fills the interior of the structure. On the right side of the mall is a massive meat and fish market. Soldiers had an opportunity to wander around and observe lambs strung up for sale and some giant fish on ice. Sgt. Tina Currie talks about her experience at the mall, "It was a nice mall, but the stores were geared toward women. I do not think the guys had a whole lot of fun with the limited male selection. I did enjoy myself though."

The outing offered a chance for the hard working Soldiers of the 47th FSB to unwind, socialize, and see something new.

Maintenance Leaders Certification Course

Story by Capt. Scott Snyder

In the 40th Engineer motor pool there were exactly one Major, five Captains, three Lieutenants, and three Platoon Sergeants all laying on their backs under a Humvee conducting Preventative Maintenance Checks and Services (PMCS). Seeing that many officers and noncommissioned officers under one vehicle conducting a PMCS is not a sight seen everyday. It was day two of Task Force Ram's Maintenance Leaders Certification Course designed to teach Company Executive Officers, Platoon Leaders, and Platoon Sergeants the basic maintenance standards of the Army and the specific standards expected by the 40th Engineer Battalion or "Task Force Ram."

During day two of the course, the class received hands-on training conducted by Staff Sgt. Terry Lane, Sgt. Patrick Herndon, and Sgt. Davis Endries, all mechanics from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 40th Engineer Battalion. The training included basic checks conducted during PMCS. During Sgt. Endries' class on Humvee PMCS, he had all the students crawl under the vehicle to demonstrate how to inspect universal joints and lubrication points. The course was designed to give company and platoon level leaders a chance to expand their maintenance knowledge and work one-on-one with the mechanics. Staff Sgt. Jose Macedo, the Battalion services NCO, was pleased to see that the officers were asking lots of questions and getting as much out of the classes as possible, especially his class on services.

On day three, Capt. David Kretz, the Shop Officer from the 47th FSB, taught a class on different capabilities that the 47th FSB provides for 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division. He then gave a walk-through of the



Top: Sgt. Ricky Essman (front) of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 40th Engineer Battalion gives a class on proper tow bar hook up during Task Force Ram's maintenance leaders course. Photo by Capt. Kris Haley

Bottom: Sgt. Ricky Essman (left) of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 40th Engineer Battalion assists Capt. Logan Kerschner (right) of Company B, 141st Signal Battalion in hooking up a tow bar to a Light Medium Tactical Vehicle. Photo by Capt. Kris Haley

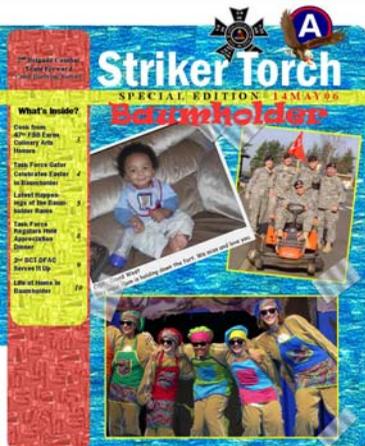


Camp Buehring Supply Support Activity (SSA) compound with Maj. John Kuenzli, the 47th FSB Executive Officer. The knowledge gained in this

course will serve as a great jump start for future Task Force Ram leaders and their knowledge and enforcement of maintenance standards.



Top Left: Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment secure a landing site while conducting Medical Evacuation training outside of Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by Spc. Michael Cyphert
Bottom Left: Participants in the Camp Buehring 4th of July 5k run begin their run on Independence Day, 2006. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class David Dockett
Right: Sgt. Cory Horras of Troop G, 1st Cavalry Regiment displays a block of primed C4 explosives during explosives training held outside Camp Buehring, Kuwait. Photo by Capt. Neil Chitwood



Just a reminder that the Striker Torch Team is planning a Special Edition for Families during the month of August and we are asking for photo submissions from the families. If you are interested, please send photos and photo information to the contact information located on the back page no later than the 31st of July, 2006.

Upcoming MWR Events

Sunday, 16 July 2006

1300: Teamed Halo Tournament @ Palms
 1600: Teamed Foosball Tournament @ Rec. Center
 1700: Volleyball Tournament @ Volleyball Courts
 1700: 3 on 3 Blacktop Basketball Tournament
 @ Basketball Courts

Monday, 17 July 2006

1930: Spades Tournament @ Oasis

Tuesday, 18 July 2006

1200: Brown Bag Po-Ke-No @ Oasis

Wednesday, 19 July 2006

1830: 2.5 k Fun Run @ Green Beans
 1930: Texas Hold Em Tournament @ Oasis

Thursday, 20 July 2006

1930: Ping Pong Tournament @ Rec. Center

Friday, 21 July 2006

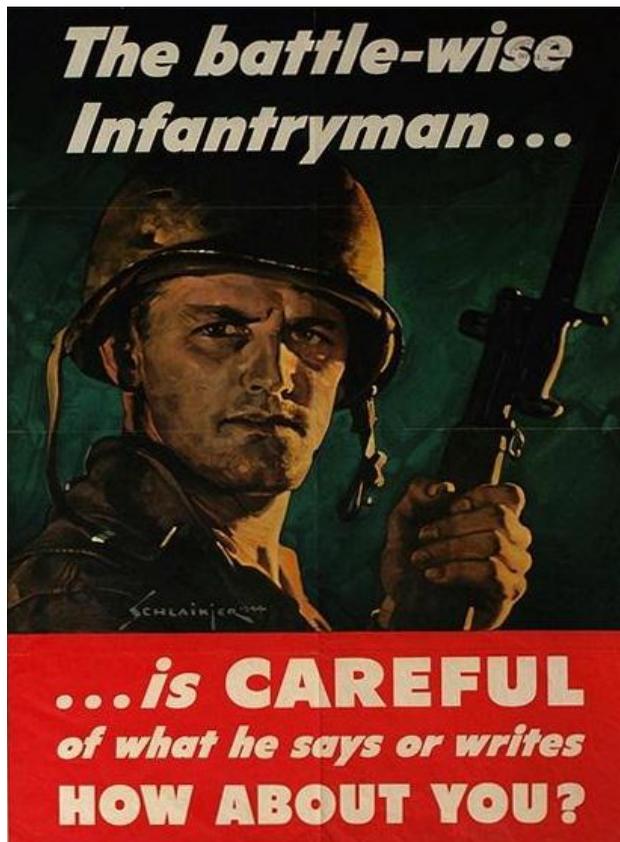
1930: Bingo @ Events Tent

Saturday, 22 July 2006

1500: Hot Dog Day BBQ @ DSN / Internet Office
 1600: Power Lift Competition @ Gym
 1700: 3 on 3 Blacktop Basket Ball Tournament
 @ Basket Ball Courts

Sunday, 23 July 2006

1600: Sand Castle Judging @ Courtyard



What Do *YOU* Think?

“What Would You Do To Improve Morale At Camp Buehring?”

Questions and Photos By Sgt. Raul Montano and Spc. Joshua Ramey



SGT Reonel Mina
C, 4-27 FA

More organizational
days



PFC Kerissa Simpson
HHD, 47th FSB

Build a swimming
pool



ILT Christian Fierro
SVC, 4-27 FA

A full weekend off



PFC Sandra Pockwinse
HHD, 47th FSB

More concerts



SFC Tricia Agee
HHD, 47th FSB

More Kuwait City
MWR trips

Next Week: “What Is The Most Memorable Thing That Has Happened To You Since You Deployed?”

What's in a Crest?

35th Armored Regiment

The Crest:

Green on the crest represents the original color of armor forces. The Armadillo is characteristic of cunning, courage, and armor protection.



The Fleur-de-lis:

represents the units action in France during World War II.

The palm:

for victory during World War II and the red represents courage in battle.

The Motto: Vincere Vel Mori (Conquer or Die!)

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This Edition can also be found online at
<http://www.1ad.army.mil/2BCTNewsletters.htm>

**We are looking for any type of submissions to include:
letters, articles, comic strips or artwork, and photographs.**

If you would like a copy of this issue please contact your Battalion UPAR

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